

Charter

NORTH CAROLINA INTERAGENCY LEADERSHIP TEAM



Background

The quality of life for the citizens of North Carolina, both urban and rural, is heavily dependent on transportation. Highways provide the overwhelming proportion of that transportation. Our transportation system also provides our country with an advantage in the world marketplace, as the transportation cost in the US, compared to gross domestic product, is lower than most countries. Again, highways move the major share of commodities within this country. There is consensus among the Interagency Leadership Team that the transportation system should be planned hand-in-hand with economic development and the protection and enhancement of our State's cultural and natural resources. These resources are also extremely important to the quality of life in North Carolina.

Various stakeholders at the national and State level are concerned with highway project development issues and timing. The public process that this country enjoys often leads to issues that can become polarized and lead to indecision or lengthy studies in the project delivery process. Our State is growing in population, jobs, leisure activities, and travel demand. Our State must increase transportation system capacity through expanded transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, better operations of the current highway system, and expansion of highways. But mobility must be accomplished in a manner which is compatible with and enhances the natural and human environment.

We, the undersigned, represent agencies that are integrally involved in the planning, development, and implementation of North Carolina's highway and transportation system. This group came together because it believes that it is essential, and possible, to develop future transportation projects in a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach that involves all stakeholders and preserves the scenic, historic, natural environment, and community values setting while efficiently meeting the mobility, economic, and safety needs of our citizens.

Our Mission

Develop an interagency leadership plan for North Carolina to balance successfully mobility, natural and cultural resource protection, community values, and economic vitality at the confluence of our missions.

Our Goals

Through a series of work sessions, the Interagency Leadership Team (ILT) has identified the top concerns and issues facing transportation, the environment and the economy in North Carolina. Those discussions helped form the mission and the team goals. Among the issues identified were involving state and federal agencies earlier in long range mobility planning, improving the Merger 01 process and ensuring efficient staffing, resource allocation practices, and developing a comprehensive shared GIS database.

Benefits of the ILT

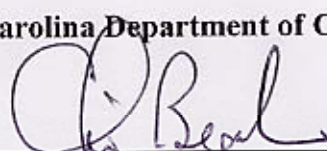
- The ILT meetings provide a forum to explain to each other what our individual agency missions are and how each of use prioritizes our activities.
- The ILT provides an opportunity for us to review our mission in light of the missions and activities of other agencies. We can find areas of confluence and look for opportunities to share activities, enhance collaboration, and create mutual benefits.
- The ILT provides an opportunity for each agency to develop personal relationships with members of other agencies. It paves the way for improved communication and continued cooperation between agencies.
- The ILT provides an organized platform for sharing the information necessary to move forward productively toward achieving the goals of our respective missions.

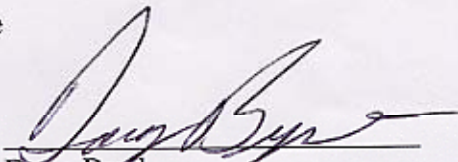
Our Commitment

The team will continue to meet to ensure that the strategies agreed upon are being implemented by the different work groups and that the strategies are generating the desired goals. The team will also address new areas for improvement and avenues to discuss policies, regulations and laws that affect the agencies. The team will provide an outlet for the representatives to discuss how the new measures are working after implementation and it provides a forum for the different agencies to bring forth areas of concern. The team will keep track of new initiatives started at the different agencies that may impact the other members or duplicate efforts already underway at the statewide level.

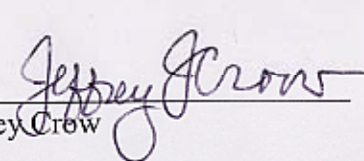
We, the undersigned, pledge our commitment to the mission and goals of the Interagency Leadership Team.

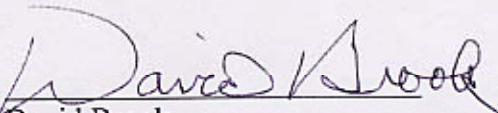
North Carolina Department of Commerce


Chris Beacham

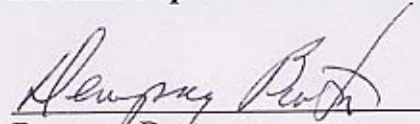

Doug Byrd

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

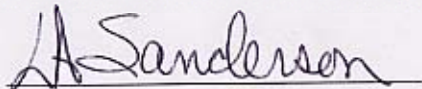

Jeffrey Crow

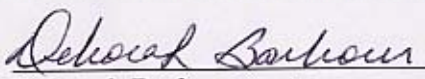

David Brook

North Carolina Department of the Environment and Natural Resources

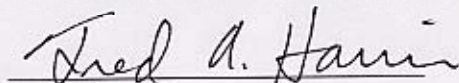

Dempsey Benton

North Carolina Department of Transportation:

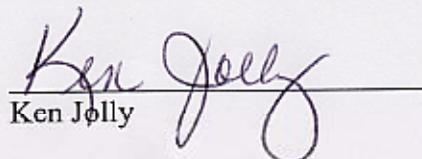

Len Sanderson



Deborah Barbour

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

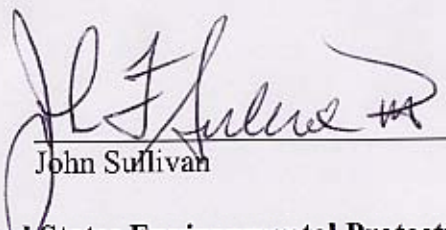

Fred Harris


United States Army Corps of Engineers


Ken Jolly

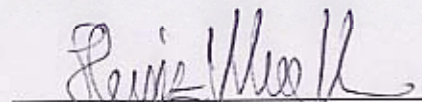

Scott McLendon

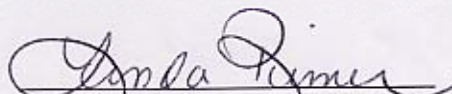
United States Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration


John Sullivan

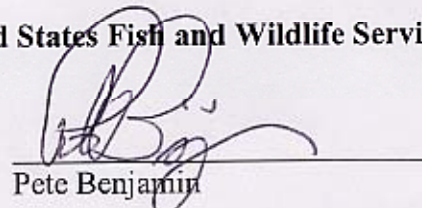

Don Voelker

United States Environmental Protection Agency

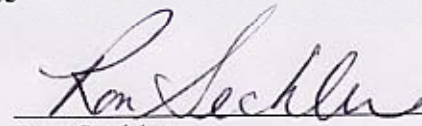

Heinz Mueller


Linda Rimer

United States Fish and Wildlife Service


Pete Benjamin

United States Department of Commerce – NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service


Ron Sechler