



Mid-Carolina Rural Planning Organization

Bladen, Cumberland, Harnett & Sampson Counties

Harnett County CTP Steering Committee Minutes May 19, 2008, 9:30 am

Members Present

Pamela Addison, Town of Erwin
Alvin Bess, FAMPO
Tyler Bray, NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch
Maurizia Chapman, FAMPO
Ed Johnson, CAMPO
Samantha Ficzko, Harnett County
Joseph Jeffries, Harnett County
Mark Locklear, Harnett County
Jim Roberts, Campbell University
Joel Strickland, Mid-Carolina RPO
Scott Walston, NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch
Diane Wilson, CAMPO

I. Introductions

Mr. Tyler Bray opened up the meeting introducing himself to the committee and allowed the other committee members to do likewise.

II. Previously Held Meetings Recap

Mr. Bray recapped the March meeting and asked for approval of the minutes. The minutes were accepted without change. He then covered what would be discussed as part of today's agenda.

III. Analyzed Roads

Mr. Bray asked the group if the analyzed roads addressed all of the needs of the group. Mr. Mark Locklear suggested adding Highway 82. The committee agreed that the analyzed roads were satisfactory with the addition of Highway 82.

IV. Vision and Goals

Mr. Bray described the general goals and objectives. Ms. Samantha Ficzko then stated that the goals and objectives list that Harnett County compiled was a combination of staff ideas that expounded upon Mr. Bray's list and gave more specific details of what Harnett County had in mind. Mr. Mark Locklear stated that the staff was trying to get a wide spectrum of goals but that the number could be decreased. Mr. Scott Walston suggested that some re-wording could be beneficial for several of the goals and objectives including goal #3. Mr. Jim Roberts stated that the I-95 interchange at Benson is very important to Campbell University. Mr. Locklear stated that it could

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be beneficial to have a separate sub-group of goals that would benefit Campbell University much like the goals that the individual towns may have. Ms. Diane Wilson stated that CAMPO would be sure to include that Benson interchange in their planning for Johnston County.

Mr. Bray suggested keeping the more specific goals of Harnett County as a supplemental document to the general goals of the plan. He then attempted to see where their goals fit in with the general goals to see if additional goals needed to be created to include the specific Harnett goals. Mr. Walston proposed combining general goals #7 and #8 and questioned the best way to measure goal #9. He then proposed changing #10 to say “reducing impacts” versus “protecting”. Mr. Walston then asked for clarification on goal #11, to which Mr. Joseph Jeffries suggested that the intent was to make sure that this plan is coordinated with other plans and vice versa. Mr. Bray suggested changing overall goal #4 to read “urban areas”, instead of specifying Raleigh and Fayetteville. He then proposed changing overall goal #4 to read more like general goal #5. Mr. Lee Jernigan suggested that access management could also be a very important piece to this plan. Ms. Pamela Addison agreed, stating that access management is a major concern in Erwin. Mr. Jernigan stated that a plan like this can assist local areas in controlling access management.

Ms. Ficzkko then explained the list of goals assembled by the Harnett County planning staff. Ms. Maurizia Chapman suggested that it might be beneficial to avoid getting into multiple sub-goals for each portion of the county. Mr. Locklear responded that the goals proposed by DOT were broader than the goals that they had in mind. Ms. Ficzkko mentioned having general goals for every area with more specific sub-goals for those areas. Ms. Wilson stated that each area would have the opportunity to endorse the plan for their area to make sure it meets what they want it to. Mr. Bray mentioned that understanding what is to be expected of a Comprehensive Transportation Plan would help everyone better understand what type of information would come from the plan. He mentioned that getting extremely specific gets outside the realm of a county CTP and would be extremely time consuming. Mr. Bray suggested starting the vision and goals fairly broad, and then getting more specific as issues arise, including the changes. Mr. Jeffries mentioned that defining the scope of work expected with the CTP could be beneficial to them. Mr. Walston mentioned that identifying these goals and visions early is extremely important to eliminating re-do loops later in the process. Mr. Walston also suggested re-wording #3 under Harnett County Goals to read “Consider alternate routes” versus “create alternative routes”.

Mr. Walston suggested for Mr. Bray to re-hash the list and make sure everything is covered. Mr. Bray stated that he would be setting up meetings with each local area to make sure their concerns are included in the vision and goals and objectives. Mr. Jernigan stated it will be important to make sure that the local area goals agree with the overarching county goals.

V. Public Participation Plan

Mr. Bray covered the list of media outlets and mentioned that this will be a coordinated effort between the RPO, Harnett County, and DOT. Mr. Roberts suggested adding Cable Channel 18 as well as looking into radio station WCCE.

VI. Goals and Objectives Survey

Ms. Ficzkko stated that she had talked with her GIS person about acquiring the random sample list and that they could get a list of addresses, but that it would be up to staff to pick the random sample. Mr. Bray asked if the county could provide him with the addresses, which Mr. Jeffries responded

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that they could. Ms. Wilson described the post card that they had used in coordination with another survey and stated that it had about a 23% success rate.

Mr. Bray suggested that the county get a price for sending out the postcards or having a line on the water bill guiding people to the survey. Mr. Joel Strickland stated that the RPO should be able to foot the cost of the survey.

Ms. Chapman talked about how she was pleased that the letter no longer opened with the funding paragraph. Mr. Locklear covered the major changes of the letter that Harnett County had proposed. Mr. Roberts suggested adding “education” to the introduction of the letter.

Ms. Ficzkowski covered the changes to the survey which they were proposing. Mr. Roberts suggested adding safety as a part of question #1, which Ms. Chapman responded that safety is a relative term that can be misconstrued. Mr. Ed Johnson said he had some concerns with the length of the survey as well as the open-ended nature of many of the questions. Mr. Bray then suggested changing question #1 to a ranking system. Mr. Jeffries agreed that a ranking system would probably yield more quantifiable results. Mr. Jeffries also suggested possibly eliminating “Environmental Protection” as part of question #1. Mr. Bray responded that he could eliminate “Environmental Protection” and that he would change question #1 to a ranking system. Mr. Johnson then suggested re-phrasing the questions to give them more flexibility for the responders to be “for” or “against” different aspects. Mr. Bray responded that all of the options describe unique ways of thinking. Mr. Bray questioned the changes to question #10. Mr. Locklear responded that they were trying to create a unique set of questions that would only apply to businesses. Ms. Chapman mentioned that FAMPO’s survey did include a separate piece for businesses to respond.

VII. Conclusion/Next Meeting

Mr. Bray gave a recap of the meeting and stated that the survey will be decided upon at the next meeting in June. He then asked for the RPO and Harnett County to assist in gathering media contacts, to which they responded they could. The next steps will be setting up the meetings with the locals, which hopefully will happen by July and starting roadway inventories and environmental data collection.

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