

**Lenoir CTP Steering Committee
Meeting #4
September 14, 2016, 10:00 AM
Lenoir County Tax Administration Building
101 North Queen Street, Kinston, NC 28501**

Members Present

Harold Thomas (Lenoir County Economic Development), Dustin Walston (Lenoir Community College), Bill Whaley (Lenoir County Transportation Committee), Amanda Conner (Lenoir County Economic Development), Nathan Rhue (Town of La Grange), Rick Barkes (Global TransPark)

Staff Present

Lauren Tuttle (Eastern Carolina RPO), Jeff Cabaniss (NCDOT Division 2), Andy Bailey (NCDOT – Transportation Planning Branch), Brian Wert (NCDOT – Transportation Planning Branch)

The meeting began with introductions of those present.

Ms. Tuttle introduced the final draft of the public survey for use in collecting public feedback concerning the Lenoir County. This public survey will be released by the Eastern Carolina RPO next week and run through October 31, 2016. Ms. Tuttle would email out links to this survey (using Survey Spot) for both the English and Spanish versions that the county, municipalities, and other organizations involved in the CTP can share on their respective websites, flyers, etc.

Mr. Bailey introduced the Lenoir County CTP Socio-Economic Forecasting Methodology to the committee. In it, he explored various data sources, including past and present census data, the North Carolina Office of State Budget Management demographic projections, and the Kinston Travel Demand Model, the latter of which was approved by the Lenoir County Commissioners in 2012 as the base (2011) and future (2040) year growth control totals for north and central Lenoir County, including Kinston and La Grange. A discussion ensued about the flat growth rates from 1980-2010 in Lenoir County and why there was a slight upward projection in population over the next 30 years in the Kinston Travel Demand Model Area. Others stated that the past 3-4 years had seen growth, both in some population, but especially in employment sectors within the county.

After discussion, the CTP Steering Committee approved the control totals for the base and future year population and employment for Lenoir County. Mr. Whaley said that he would take these projections approved by the CTP Steering Committee to the Lenoir County Transportation Committee for their approval on October 12, 2016. After their approval, the projections will need to be approved by the Lenoir County Commissioners

at their October 17, 2016 meeting. Mr. Bailey plans to present these projection control totals to the Lenoir County Commissioners at this meeting.

Mr. Bailey then presented maps showing the Kinston Travel Demand Model area and the growth from 2011 to 2040 in population and employment. These population and employment projections were broken down into Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) and there were several keys areas of growth.

Discussion ensued about the population projections by TAZ and the committee felt overall, the model represented the accurate areas of growth for the region. Discussion ensued about the employment projections and several areas were indicated to have changed. The committee felt that there would not be as large of increase in employment (compared to the Kinston TDM) in the following areas: on NC 11 south of Green Haynes Road, on Tilgnman Mill Road just west of NC 11, on US 258/NC 58 south of Lincoln Street to the Neuse River, and near downtown La Grange. The committee felt that there would be more growth to employment (compared to the Kinston TDM) in the following areas: Downtown Kinston, east of downtown La Grange along the railroad, and in current and future industrial areas to the west of town near NC 148, US 258, and US 70. This information will be discussed in further detail at the next CTP Steering Committee meetings.

Mr. Cabaniss indicated that the preferred alternative for the Harvey Parkway Extension has changed to a more northern location. He would check with the project manager about getting an updated shapefile for this project.

Because the base and future year population and employment control totals will not be approved by the Lenoir County Commissioners until October 17, 2016, the CTP Steering Committee will not meet until November.