

**Martin County Comprehensive Transportation Plan  
Steering Committee Meeting #4  
Martin County Government Offices, Williamston NC  
Tuesday August 25, 2015 - 5:30 pm.**

**Attendees:**

- ✓ **Carlos Moya-Astudillo – NCDOT – Transportation Planning Branch (TPB)**
- ✓ **Behshad Norowzi – NCDOT – Transportation Planning Branch (TPB)**
- ✓ **Lee Cowhig – NCDOT – Transportation Planning Branch (TPB)**
- ✓ **Gretchen Byrum – NCDOT – Highway Division 1**
- ✓ **Bryant Buck – MERPO – RPO Planner**
- ✓ **Nancy Winslow – Citizen, Oak City/Hamilton**
- ✓ **Brent Kanipe – Planning & Development Director, Town of Williamston**
- ✓ **Eric Pearson – Town Administrator, Town of Williamston**
- ✓ **David Bone – County Manager, Martin County**
- ✓ **Dempsey Bond – Eastern Commissioner, Martin County**
- ✓ **Lula Council – Mayor, Town of Parmele**
- ✓ **Gene Powell – Airport Commissioner Chairman, Martin County**
- ✓ **Charlotte Griffin – Mayor, Town of Bear Grass**
- ✓ **Dean McCall – Martin General Hospital, Town of Williamston**

- ❖ Carlos Moya-Astudillo began the meeting by reviewing the Title VI and non-discriminatory procedures workbook distributed to steering committee members. Both Carlos and Behshad Norowzi discussed the need to document outreach for Title VI compliance. A comment was made by Charlotte Griffin stressing that outreach was difficult without participation from the community. Additionally, David Bone commented that community outreach had been happening since last meeting.
- ❖ Carlos reviewed CTP elements for the August 2015 Martin County Highway Map and executive summary. Crash Locations Map and index were also reviewed by Carlos and opened for comment whether the map and crash data made sense locally. A crash section on the index sheet would be added by next meeting. Comments were made on US 17 and Bear Grass Road specifically on left turns being an issue at this location. Gretchen Byrum addressed a comment on how NCDOT uses benefit to cost ratio to factor into crash improvements. She also discussed discretionary funds and scoring for local projects by NCDOT.

- ❖ Carlos discussed the Bridge Deficiency Appendix F of the CTP work map. A comment was made on issues such as flooding at a bridge or culvert on NC 125 not allowing EMS vehicles to pass, and a need for replacement or improvement of this bridge. The comment was noted by NCDOT TPB and Division 1. Comments were also made on Bridge #11/#12 of the deficient bridge list sheet. Bridge #11 was commented as being newly built and should not be shown as functionally obsolete or deficient. Carlos added that these preliminary maps should be double checked by locals and Division 1.
- ❖ The “Cut the Corner” Initiative for Martin County was discussed by Nancy Winslow and information was handed out to steering committee members. The initiative is meant to bring more people to attractions and towns as well as to highlight Martin County’s features. The new routing shown would also save trip mileage over the use of I-95 and US 64. David Bone made comment that it also saves time and locals in the area already use it.
- ❖ A comment from Behshad Norowzi was made that including this initiative as a bicycle or multiuse improvement would be best to utilize the initiative in the Martin County CTP. The recommendations included in the CTP documentation could include bicycle and pedestrian improvements, signage, etc. Another comment was made that the initiative be included as a separate chapter rather than added in as an appendix as an improvement and enhancement.
- ❖ Martin County and its surrounding counties were discussed by Carlos with regards to a shared use and bicycle facilities map. He added that although few facilities are shown in Martin County, this is only preliminary data shown, and that extra emphasis should be placed on improving and implementing bike facilities in Martin County. Bryant Buck went over making recommendations within each area on a base map and then viewing potential interconnectivity county-wide. Preliminary work and recommendations would be completed tentatively by next meeting.
- ❖ David Bone commented to possibly move up the scheduled spring dinner meeting for municipalities to better meet the committee’s needs. Further discussion may be required by committee members.
- ❖ Aviation information for Martin County airport was distributed and Carlos discussed NCDOT TPB inclusion of aviation elements in the CTP process going forward. David Bone commented that a new parallel taxiway was not shown on the Martin County airport handout and should be included in the future.

- ❖ A discussion on the status of the public surveys was made by Carlos that only an estimate of one hundred surveys had been completed and that more should be completed. More surveys were handed out and the discussion was opened as to how to reach more surveys completed in order to better understand the community goals. Bryan commented that Martin County Community College could possibly be used to get surveys handed out and completed. Bryan also updated that an inclusion of “Cut the Corner,” River Road, and bicycle and pedestrian elements would be incorporated in the vision statement.
- ❖ A comment was made on census data being inaccurate for a town resulting in difficulty in the past. Behshad Norowzi stated that census data should only be a starting point for the CTP process, and is not the only thing in consideration.

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:44 pm.**

