

Edgecombe County CTP Meeting Minutes Summary–April 24, 2008

Julie Bollinger	NCDOT-TPB	Brian D. Hassell	Edgecombe Co. Planning
Joel K. Bourne	Tarboro Citizen	Rusty Holderness	Tarboro Citizen
T.C. Cherry	Edgecombe Co. Comm.	Ronnie Keeter	NCDOT-District Office
Vines Cobb	Town of Pinetops	Anna Meares	NCDOT-TPB
Josh Edmondson	Edgecombe Co. Planning	Kerry Vallant	NCDOT-TPB
Danny Ellis	Town of Hobgood, Halifax Co.	Scott Walston	NCDOT-TPB
Wilbert Harrison	Town of Speed	Lorie A. Webb	Town of Macclesfield

1. Items Discussed:

(a) Remaining Steps:

Scott Walston reviewed the list of Remaining Steps for Edgecombe County CTP. The list includes Capacity Deficiencies of CTP, which we looked at later in the meeting. The next step includes working on Multi-Modal elements of the plan. The third step is working on Draft Recommendations of CTP. Then we would take that to the elected officials for their consensus. The last steps include Preparing “Draft” CTP Maps, Holding Public Drop-In Sessions/Meetings, Getting CTP Adoptions/Endorsements, and Preparing Final Report for Review/Publication.

(b) Capacity Deficiencies Map:

Spreadsheets were distributed and two large draft Capacity Deficiencies Maps were placed in front of the committee for review. Julie Bollinger explained what the map showed. The colors representing roads that were “Near,” “Over,” and “Significantly Over” capacity, which was determined by dividing the Projected 2035 Volume by the Existing Road Capacity (the V/C Ratio). The colors on the map match the spreadsheet colors in the “V/C Ratios” column. The projected volumes were calculated from the growth rates the committee previously assigned to the road sections. The capacities were determined based on the properties of the road, such as the type of facility, speed, width, access points per mile, signals per mile and other properties. We asked the committee to look and see if the deficiencies looked reasonable to them.

There was discussion about the existing TIP project, Daniel St. Extension. It was not included in the capacity deficiencies map since it is not on the ground, but with its connection of Daniel St. to the junction of NC 122 and US 258 it will change traffic patterns. It will alleviate some traffic going through downtown on NC 33/Main St. Another TIP project is the bridge on NC 33 that connects Tarboro and Princeville.

A question was posed about minor widening. Does minor widening of a road increase its capacity? It does increase capacity some, for example if a substandard roadway of 18 feet wide was upgraded to 24' wide, but it does not increase capacity as much as adding another lane. It would increase the capacity because drivers would be more comfortable driving on a wider road, so it would be more attractive to use even if the speed limit was not changed.

With the growth rates established in a previous meeting, the group was expecting certain roads to exceed or be near capacity. Some roads such as Colonial Rd. did not exceed or come near capacity like expected, but overall the group was satisfied with the draft map.

With this draft map okayed by the group, NCDOT will then put it in GIS form and post it on the web for others to comment. The committee agreed that it would be beneficial to take the draft Capacity Deficiencies Map to the elected officials for their consensus.

(c) Bicycle Map and Other Multi-Modal Maps:

The Bicycle Map was discussed briefly. Scott asked about bicycle use for non-recreational purposes where its use would be in place of using a car. That kind of bicycle use is what NCDOT looks at, but we can still include bicycle plans that do not solely focus on that kind of use. We would incorporate the Town of Tarboro's Bicycle Plan in the map and what other uses or locations the committee would like to add. The committee agreed that we should talk more about this with Troy Lewis with Tarboro, since he helped create their Bicycle Plan and then get back with the group on any suggestions or ideas we come across.

A map of existing rail will be created as well.

(d) Plan Documentation:

Scott distributed a draft layout of what recommended projects may look like in the plan document. This is a step forward in that the layout makes the description of a project easier to navigate by being less wordy, using photos of the area, a project vicinity map, tables, and a cross-section. Scott asked if the committee would look it over and let us know if they think of anything to add or change.

(e) Other Comments:

General comments about recommendations were mentioned. The improvement of US 64 Alt. and Kingsboro Rd., which is at the edge of the Rocky Mount MAB (Metropolitan Area Boundary), was mentioned. It's considered in the Rocky Mount MAB study. The intersection of NC 111 and NC 42 was mentioned as needing improvement. The need for a North/South route to tie the county together was mentioned. The need to know what kind of through and internal traffic the county has was mentioned. US 17 was discussed to be the area's major North/South route. A possible need for an East/West connector was mentioned as well.

(f) Monthly Meeting Dates and Times:

Our next regular committee meeting will be in June. A date is yet to be determined. Julie and Brian will look at possible dates and will let the group know.

2. Action Items:

- ✓ *Capacity Deficiencies Map* –The draft map was reviewed by the group. Julie will put it in GIS form and place it on the web for further review. After committee consensus, we will take the maps to local elected officials for their consensus.
- ✓ *Bicycle Map Planning* –A bicycle map will be discussed with Troy Lewis, Planning Director for Tarboro, and we will report back to the committee on what is discussed.
- ✓ *Rail Map* –A draft rail map will be created.

3. Next Meeting: *Not yet determined.*

(a) Regular Monthly Meeting in June 2008:

- Discuss outcome of Capacity Deficiency Map, possible draft Bicycle Map, draft Rail Map and taking of the Capacity Deficiency Map to the elected officials. We will further discuss Highway recommendations.