

**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC TRANSPORTION & PARKING COMMISSION**  
**March 18, 2009**

The Public Transportation and Parking Commission met on the above date at 9:15 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Public Works Facility.

Members Present: Ms. Lisa Simmons, Mr. Ronald Dunbar, Mr. Donald Anderson, III and Mr. Michael Glenn.

Council Liaison: Mr. Max Ray Joyner, Jr.

Staff Present: Mr. Wes Anderson, Public Works Director, Mrs. Nancy Harrington, Transit Manager, Mrs. Geraldine Teel, Secretary and Mrs. Stacey Pigford, Civil Engineer I

Guest: Mr. Thom Moton, Assistant City Manager and Mr. Scott Eaton.

**WELCOME:** Ms Lisa Simmons, Vice-Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**AGENDA:** The agenda for the March 18, 2009, meeting was approved.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Ronald Dunbar made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2009 meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Michael Glenn. The motion carried unanimously.

**INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER UPDATE:** Mr. Scott Eaton, intern in the City Manager's office, and Mr. Thom Moton gave an update on the Intermodal Transportation Center. Mr. Eaton stated that the Request for Proposals for the property appraisals was advertised. He said three firms submitted proposals to perform the appraisals, but due to insufficient and/or incomplete information, those proposals will be rejected. Mr. Eaton said that another Request for Proposals was sent out with a deadline of March 16, 2009. He noted that two firms responded and that the selection committee is in the process of reviewing the proposals. He stated that the target date to begin the appraisals is March 27, 2009. Mr. Moton added that review appraisals will be done on each property, although not required unless a property appraises for over \$500,000 and FTA will review appraisals of any properties over \$500,000. Mr. Eaton also informed the Commission that Proposals for Legal Services are due by March 20, 2009. Mr. Eaton stated that a meeting was held with the North Carolina State Historic Office, the ITC Consultant (MMPA) and City Staff on February 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the impact the project will have on the Jones-Lee House. He also stated a meeting was held with the owners and residents of Campus Walk Apartments on February 19, 2009 to provide project information and guidance on the relocation process. City staff participating included Thom Moton, Assistance City Manager, Gloria Kesler from the Housing/Community Development, Nancy Harrington, Transit Manager, and Scott Eaton, Intern. Mr. Eaton said that the Environmental Assessment is ongoing and a draft has been prepared by the consultant. He noted that the draft will be reviewed by City staff for completeness prior to presenting the Draft Environmental Assessment for Public Input at two public information meetings to be held in May.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments at this time.

**ECONOMIC STIMULUS FUNDS (TRANSIT):** Mrs. Nancy Harrington stated that stimulus funds in the amount of \$1,478,464 have been allocated to the City of Greenville. She said that these federal funds will be used for the purchase of two hybrid transit buses, shelters, benches, a transit storage shelter, and improvements to the current transfer point on Reade Street. She stated there is also \$70,000 included for oil separator. Mr. Wes Anderson explained the process of the oil separator. Mr. Anderson stated that the additional buses are for planned expansion. Mrs. Harrington added that an ID card system will be purchased to provide reduced fare customers with a more professional identification card. Mrs. Harrington said that there will be no City cost involved as the stimulus monies are 100% federal dollars with no matching requirement.

**PARKING UPDATE:** Mr. Wes Anderson gave a brief update on parking. He stated that after checking the parking area around the Courthouse, he realized the court employees are using the unrestricted parking on the East side and the North side of the Courthouse for all day parking. He stated that an analysis is being done on the unrestricted parking and he will be meeting with the City Manager and the Public Transportation and Parking Commission with a recommendation on how to change the parking limitations in the area to make it more available to the public. He noted that the County is responsible for handling parking for their employees. Mr. Anderson stated that once the Greene Street lot is paved, it will no longer be a two hour public parking lot, but rather a City employee parking lot. He stated that paving should be completed by the summer. Mr. Anderson said that GUC has informed the City that they will execute the Crepe Myrtle Lot Agreement by the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. Mr. Joyner asked if a master plan is being done for parking in downtown Greenville. Mr. Anderson stated that Carl Rees from the City's Community Development Department is doing a parking study and that he will get an update from Mr. Rees. Mr. Joyner stated that he thinks someone from the Public Transportation and Parking Commission should be on the Parking Study Committee. Mr. Anderson stated that once a firm is selected a Steering Committee will then be selected also.

**SCOPE OF THE COMMISSION ON PUBLIC PARKING:** Mr. Wes Anderson discussed the scope of the Commission as it relates to public parking. Presently the Commission's scope is limited to the "uptown" area. He stated he looked at the public parking issue City wide. He presented a proposal for consideration by the Commission that would give the Commission review authority over policy changes on public parking across the City. Mr. Anderson stated that staff by City ordinance presently has the ability to manage the common on street parking issues to protect the safety of the residents. He stated this is critical for staff to maintain and that typical requests include changing areas to no parking due to sight limitations or narrow roads. Mr. Anderson gave the following example to demonstrate how this change would work:

That if the Commission was the recommending authority for public parking policy during the recent change to the City Ordinance on Controlled Residential Parking Areas, the Commission would have reviewed staff's recommendation and the Commission would have made a recommendation to the City Council. Once the policy was codified in the City Ordinance, then staff, without coming to the Commission, would follow the procedures established in the City Ordinance to implement controlled residential parking on a block when requested by residents and City standards are met for these areas.

Mr. Anderson stated that private parking is established for development purposes and that the Community Development office requires a minimum number of parking spaces for each

development. He said that handicap spaces are covered under federal and state laws regarding the number and distribution of handicap spaces in a parking area.

**MARKETING REPORT:** Mrs. Nancy Harrington gave a brief update on marketing. She stated that a new GTV advertisement was filmed which highlights the new route structure that began on November 1, 2008. She noted that the new segment should be up and running this month.

**GREAT DATA & RGP SERVICE REPORT:** Mrs. Nancy Harrington stated that regular GREAT ridership has increased significantly for the month of February 2009. She stated that several factors have contributed to the increase such as the economy, more student riders at Pitt Community College and the addition of a new route last fall. Mrs. Harrington stated that tour bus passenger numbers are down because the service was discontinued for a few weeks due to budget constraints; however, she added that the service has started up again. She noted that GREAT's overall expenses have increased due to the expanded service and other cost increases, but that the net cost per passenger is lower because of the higher ridership.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2009 at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Teel, Secretary  
Public Transportation & Parking Commission