PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & PARKING COMMISSION MINUTES August 15, 2012

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

Members Present: Mr. Ronald Dunbar, Ms. Marsha Wyly, Ms. Lisa Simmons, Mr. Bob Thompson, and Mr. Neil Edwards.

Members Absent: Mr. Eric Foushee and Mr. Warren Daniels

Staff Present: Mr. Thom Moton, Assistant City Manager; Mr. Scott Godefroy, Interim Public Works Director; Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Operations Manager; Mr. Stephen Mancuso, Transit Manager; Ms. Stacey Pigford, Engineer I; and Ms. Geraldine Teel, Secretary.

WELCOME: Ms. Geraldine Teel, Secretary established there was a quorum. Ms. Wyly asked that Mr. Ronald Dunbar conduct the meeting given that she would not be staying for the entire meeting; therefore, Mr. Ronald Dunbar, Vice-Chairperson, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

AGENDA: The agenda for the August 15, 2012 meeting was approved.

MINUTES: Mr. Bob Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2012 meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Neil Edwards. The motion carried unanimously.

INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER UPDATE: Mr. Thom Moton gave an update on the ITC project. Mr. Moton stated that the Technical Steering Committee and the Stakeholders Steering Committee met with staff over a two day period and toured potential sites. He stated the next meetings are scheduled for August 27th and August 28th. The Technical Steering Committee will meet on the 27th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the Stakeholders Steering Committee will meet on the 28th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Mr. Moton noted the City's Public Information Office is working with Public Works staff on an analysis of the ITC website www.greatnc.com. He advised they have proposed a plan to revise, update and organize the site which should be completed within a few weeks. In addition, Mr. Moton said the ITC project has been linked to terms such as bus stop, bus station, etc. and he believes that the project needs a name that inspires a positive feeling. For working purposes, the project is being called the Greenville Transportation and Activity Center (GTAC) which clearly suggests a multi purpose facility. He noted that ultimately, the two committees will decide on an appropriate name that will fit the projects overall objectives. This name should convey that it not only serves transportation needs but other needs as well.

Mr. Moton informed Commission members that a preliminary discussion was held with staff concerning establishment of a Development Service Office. Mr. Bob Thompson expressed concern about the rail crossings and sidewalks on Arlington and Greenville Blvd. Mr. Thompson stated the sidewalk project that the rail company is responsible for has been delayed for some reason. He noted it is impossible to cross the tracks in a wheelchair; therefore, one has to enter into the street which is very dangerous. Mr. Thompson asked who to contact about this.

Mr. Moton suggested the Commission pass a resolution identifying the rail crossings that require pedestrian access and also to request that the Greenville Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission and the MPO pass a resolution of support identifying the rail crossings for pedestrian access as well. In addition, he advised staff to submit the resolutions to City Council and ask City Council to make a formal request as well. Mr. Scott Godefroy suggested contacting NCDOT rail division about the issue as well. Further discussion was held. Mr. Bob Thompson made a motion that the Public Transportation and Parking Commission pass a resolution asking City Council, Greenville Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to contact the railroad regarding accessibility or barrier removal on sidewalks in Greenville relating to railroad crossings. This was seconded by Ms. Marsha Wyly. The motion carried. Mr. Moton suggested Mr. Thompson or a representative from the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) ask to be put on the agenda for the next MPO meeting and speak on that issue. Mr. Thompson said he would love to attend and voice his concerns.

RESIGNATION: With much regret, Commission member, Ms. Lisa Simmons, presented her letter of resignation effective immediately as she is moving from Greenville. She thanked the Commission members and staff for the opportunity to serve and added that she hoped her contributions have been constructive and helpful. The Commission thanked her for a job well done. A discussion was held on replacement and attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. Ronald Dunbar made comments on behalf of the public. He suggested offering a GREAT Free Ride Day on Election Day in November. It was discussed and decided that it might be against state and federal regulations to use public transportation for voting purposes. Mr. Dunbar asked if staff could research the matter for future possibilities.

GREAT DATA & RGP SERVICE REPORT: Mr. Stephen Mancuso gave a brief report on GREAT. He stated that the June report ended the fiscal year with an increase in ridership and he noted it was a successful year. Mr. Mancuso stated that ridership for July has increased from last year and the expenses are less. He noted that the AMTRAK service has been finalized. The service is scheduled to start the first week of October 2012 at the Reade Street transfer location twice a day. He said more information will be forthcoming about the fares. Mr. Mancuso announced that Ms. Nancy Harrington's induction into the Transportation Hall of Fame is scheduled for August 27, 2012 in Rocky Mount, NC. He extended an invitation to the Chair or Vice-Chair to attend the ceremony along with other city employees.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2012 at 9:15 a.m. in Public Works Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Teel, Secretary Public Transportation & Parking Commission