

**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & PARKING COMMISSION**  
**August 17, 2011**

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

Members Present: Ms. Marsha Wyly, Mr. Warren Daniels, Mr. Ronald Dunbar, Mr. Eric Foushee and Mr. Neil Edwards.

Staff Present: Mr. Thom Moton, Assistant City Manager; Mr. Bill Little, Assistant City Attorney; Mr. Corey Barrett, Code Enforcement Officer; Mr. Wes Anderson, Director of Public Works; Ms. Nancy Harrington, Transit Manager; Ms. Stacey Pigford, Engineer I; and Ms. Geraldine Teel, Secretary.

Council Liaison: Ms. Kandi Smith

Guest: Mr. Marvin Best, City Cab; Mr. James Early, Aladdin Taxi; Mr. Frank Peterson, Eagle Cab; Ms. Jon Shaw, Mr. Scott Poag and Ms. Denise Walsh, Executive Director of Uptown Greenville.

**WELCOME:** Ms. Geraldine Teel, Secretary, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ms. Teel stated that a quorum was established; however, due to the absence of Ms. Lisa Simmons, Chairperson, Ms. Marsha Wyly, Vice-Chairperson conducted the meeting.

**AGENDA:** The agenda for the August 17, 2011 meeting was approved.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Neil Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2011 meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Eric Foushee. The motion carried unanimously.

**INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER UPDATE:** Mr. Thom Moton gave a brief update on the ITC project. Mr. Moton stated the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), which is the conclusion to the environmental study, was submitted to the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) for approval on June 6, 2011. Mr. Moton noted that approval was received on June 30, 2011. Mr. Moton stated that staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for appraisal services and noted three (3) proposals were received on July 29, 2011 for residential and two (2) for commercial. The City is now in the process of executing a contract with Bruce Sauter and Associates Real Estate Agency. The residential appraisals are expected to be completed by October 25, 2011 and the commercial appraisals by November 17, 2011. He noted that once the initial appraisals are completed, another firm will be hired to do the required review appraisals. In addition, Mr. Moton stated it is anticipated that the review appraisals will be completed by February 2012. At this point, staff will present the appraised fair market value of the properties for City Council consideration and direction on offers to purchase. Mr. Moton stated the work on Real Estate Acquisition Management Plan (RAMP) is ongoing. He noted that the RAMP has to be approved by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) before any offers to purchase occur. Mr. Moton stated after numerous meetings with East Carolina University officials it now appears they have concerns about traffic entering and exiting Cotanche Street. Nevertheless, Mr. Moton advised, staff will continue to move forward with the project until

otherwise informed. Ms. Marsha Wyly stated the project has been ongoing since 2008. A great deal of time, money and energy has gone into this project she said. In addition, she further stated that with the economic situation of today, she feels it is too late to look for another location.

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

**POTENTIAL AMTRAK SHUTTLE:** Mr. Wes Anderson gave a brief report on the potential AMTRAK shuttle. He stated a meeting was held with City staff, ECU, and the Hospital to discuss a location for the shuttle service. ECU suggested using the parking lot across from the School of Nursing on ECU's medical campus and after touring the site, AMTRAK officials agreed that this would be a good location for the shuttle. Mr. Anderson stated the shuttle will be for Amtrak passengers only and will travel from New Bern to Greenville to Wilson. He stated an agreement between ECU and AMTRAK concerning use of the location would be developed by AMTRAK. Mr. Ronald Dunbar asked if the AMTRAK shuttle service will become a part of the Intermodal Center. Mr. Anderson stated at this time, it is a test for AMTRAK, but if the shuttle is successful, hopefully the pick-up point will be re-located to the Intermodal Center.

**DISCUSS PROPOSED CHANGE TO VEHICLE FOR HIRE ORDINANCE:** Mr. Bill Little, Assistant City Attorney, discussed proposed changes to the Vehicle for Hire Ordinance. He stated under the current ordinance obtaining a taxi franchise is a long process. He reported it has been proposed that the City Council designate the Chief of Police as the person to approve the franchise and the taxi driver as this would expedite the approval process. Mr. Little noted the Greenville Taxi Association recommended limiting the number of franchises available in the service area. He said other proposals include a change to the inspection of taxies, transport services and limousine services follow the same rules and add a section that addresses what is expected of the drivers and passengers. Mr. Little also proposed an addition to the ordinance that gives the City Manager, Chief of Police and the Director of Public Works the authority to approve the establishment of taxi stands and waiting areas around town. Ms. Wyly had questions about shuttle services and Mr. Little stated he will review that portion to determine if changes are required to the basic ordinance. Mr. Little informed the Commission that taxi rates are also a concern. He stated currently Greenville operates under the zone system and discussed the zone maps and charges. Zone maps are posted in taxies for passengers to view, he noted. Mr. Neil Edwards responded that there was only one instance in which he had seen a zone map and fare system posted in a taxi in Greenville and it was small and not very legible. Mr. Little stated taxies will be required to comply with child seat law and be ADA compliant as well. Mr. Little discussed the usage of taxi meters or zone systems by different municipalities. He said that Chapel Hill at one point used the zone system then switched to the meter and later switched back to zone. He noted it was recommended by Uptown Greenville and other organizations to use a meter because most people are familiar with that system. He stated the taxi association prefers the zone system as it reduces the possibility of drivers overcharging. Mr. Little stated there are pros and cons to both systems and that recommendations and suggestions are welcomed. A discussion was held. Council Member Kandi Smith suggested finding out why Chapel Hill switched from zone to meter then back to zone. Mr. Little said he would contact Chapel Hill officials and provide more information for the Commission on this issue. Mr. Little stated he will be conducting another meeting in the near future before recommendations go to City Council concerning the meter or zone system.

**PARKING UPDATE:** Ms. Stacey Pigford gave a brief update on parking. She stated that the City is proposing a change to the time limit of leased parking hours in the uptown Greenville area. Ms. Pigford said the recommendation is to change the hours from the current 7am to 7 pm to the proposed 7 am to 5 pm because most of the leased parking is available after 5pm anyway and this change will provide additional parking spaces earlier in the evening for Uptown patrons. Ms. Pigford stated that she has a letter of support from Uptown Greenville. Mr. Ronald Dunbar made a motion to change the time for leased parking in the uptown Greenville area from 7am to 5pm. This was seconded by Mr. Neil Edwards. The motion carried unanimously.

**GREAT DATA & RGP SERVICE REPORT:** Due to time constraints, there was no oral report. The written monthly report was provided to each member.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2011 at 9:15 a.m. in Public Works Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Teel, Secretary  
Public Transportation & Parking Commission