

**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & PARKING COMMISSION**  
**August 18, 2010**

The Public Transportation and Parking Commission met on the above date at 9:15 a.m. in the Conference Room 337 at City Hall.

Members Present: Ms. Lisa Simmons, Ms. Marsha Wyly, Mr. Ronald Dunbar, and Mr. Calvin Garris.

Staff Present: Mr. Wes Anderson, Director of Public Works; Mr. Carl Rees, Senior Planner; Mr. Niki Jones, Planner I; and Mrs. Geraldine Teel, Secretary.

Council Liaison: Ms. Kandi Smith

Guest: Mr. Rajendra Jagad and Mr. Brian Jacobs of Gurusnetworks, Inc.

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

**AGENDA:** The agenda for the August 18, 2010, meeting was approved with an addition; Annual Report.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Ronald Dunbar made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2010 meeting. This was seconded by Ms. Marsha Wyly. The motion carried unanimously.

**INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER UPDATE:** Mr. Wes Anderson gave a brief update on the Intermodal Transportation Center. He stated that conversations and meetings with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) are on-going and work continues on the 4-F portion of the Environmental Analysis (EA) which relates to the historic property included in the project. He advised that the EA must be complete and approved by the FTA in order for the federal funding to be available for the project.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Rajendra Jagad of Gurusnetworks made a presentation on Pervasive Computing. He stated that this means having computers everywhere to help create an intelligent environment for the benefit of the public. He stated that this will help in monitoring the buses, and passengers will be able to download information to their IPod, cell phone, computers, etc. Mr. Jagad stated some potential possibilities such as increased machine to machine communication, increased consumer interaction with locations' base computer, implementation of diagnostics control for efficient maintenance and better planning and increased safety for the public via sensor applications. Mr. Jagad stated that the computer equipment will be provided at no cost to the City of Greenville. He stated that Gurusnetworks will use advertisement revenue to cover the equipment and maintenance costs for these computers. He stated that the next step is to develop a model by February 2011 to present to the Public Transportation and Parking Commission. A discussion was held and questions asked. Mr. Wes Anderson stated that some larger cities do have this type system called an intelligent system that has a Wi Fi network. The Commission members expressed interest in seeing the model.

**POTENTIAL AMTRAK SHUTTLE:** Mr. Wes Anderson stated that he has met with the representatives of Amtrak in regards to a potential shuttle from Greenville to AMTRAK in Rocky Mount or Wilson. He noted there may be shuttle service from Rocky Mount and Wilson to Greenville, New Bern and Jacksonville with the times to coincide with the AMTRAK schedule. He noted that the current model provided by AMTRAK officials indicates that service from the three cities to the AMTRAK stations would be successful. However, Mr. Anderson cautioned that this is a model and the ridership numbers would have to be high enough for the shuttle to be a success. He indicated that the City is currently looking for a possible location for the Greenville stop.

**FREE RIDE DAY RIDERSHIP:** Mrs. Geraldine Teel reported that the ridership for the recent Free Ride Day was approximately 2,000 riders. She stated that the free ride day was in connection with annual Police National Night Out held on August 3, 2010. She noted that the GREAT busses operated until 9:30 p.m. to ensure that everyone got home safely. She stated that GREAT has a Free Ride Day twice a year, during Pirate's Fest and National Night Out. She said that ridership for National Night Out was slightly higher than the ridership for Pirate's Fest. Council Member Kandi Smith stated that there was more advertisement for National Night Out than for Pirate's Fest.

**PARKING UPDATE:** Mr. Wes Anderson gave a brief update on parking. He stated that the Fifth Street/Evans parking lot will be impacted by construction on the Five Points Plaza project in November or December and the project will be completed before the Umbrella Market begins. Mr. Anderson stated the project has been bid. Mr. Rees responded that he will have the plans available at the next meeting. Mr. Rees added that electrical and water service will be installed, lighting will be improved, old trees will be removed and new ones planted. There were questions about the funding of the project. Mr. Rees explained that funding is provided through the bonds for the Center City Revitalization project. Mr. Garris had concerns about who determines how the money is spent. Mr. Rees explained that in 2003, the City Council established a Redevelopment Commission to work with City staff and developers. Mr. Rees stated that in 2006, the City Council adopted the Center City/West Greenville revitalization plan. Mr. Calvin Garris requested to see a map of the improvements that are funded by the federal government. Mr. Rees suggested that Mr. Garris visit the City of Greenville's web site as information about the projects is posted there. Mr. Rees noted that if further information is needed, he should contact the Community Development Department.

**UPTOWN PARKING PAY STATIONS:** Mr. Niki Jones of Community Development gave a presentation on pay stations. He stated that pay stations are devices that take payments for parking. They allow more flexibility in enforcement, data collecting, and in streetscapes, he said. Mr. Jones discussed the two options that were chosen, Pay-and-Display and Pay-by-Space. He noted that the benefits are: 1) multiple payment options, 2) effectiveness and efficiency through data collection, wireless monitoring, and less human error, 3) less meters to service. He said that Pay-by-Space is the one of choice as it is more efficient. Mr. Jones said that RFP's were sent out in March 2010 and three vendors responded. He said that interviews were held on March 29, 2010 and that the two finalists selected were Southern Times and Duncan Solutions. On July 1, 2010 Duncan Solutions was selected. Mr. Jones reported that the City of Raleigh has Duncan Solutions Pay Stations and he travelled to Raleigh to see how the pay stations are working for them. The information was positive and the City is very satisfied with Duncan Solutions. Mr. Jones advised that the recommended locations for the Pay Stations are the Georgetown lot, Hodges lot and Reade Street. A discussion was held on how many are needed.

in each lot and the rate. Mr. Jones distributed a survey of parking rates throughout the state of North Carolina. It has been recommended by staff that the parking rate for the proposed pay stations be set at \$ .75 an hour. A motion was made by Ms. Marsha Wyly to convert the Chico's lot from current individual meters to pay-by-space. The motion carried. Mr. Calvin Garris made a motion to leave the Hodges lot as is for now. The motion was opposed by Ms. Marsha Wyly. A discussion was held and it was tabled until the next meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Ronald Dunbar to change Reade Street parking to pay-by-space. This was seconded by Mr. Calvin Garris. The motion carried. Mr. Ronald Dunbar made a motion to adopt the parking rate of \$ .75 an hour as recommended by staff. This was seconded by Ms. Marsha Wyly. The motion carried. Ms. Lisa Simmons requested a more detailed discussion of the two hour parking limit at the next meeting.

**ANNUAL REPORT:** Mr. Wes Anderson asked that Commission members come to the next meeting prepared to discuss information to include in the Public Transportation and Parking Commission Annual Report to be presented at the City Council meeting in November.

**GREAT DATA & RGP SERVICE REPORT:** Mr. Wes Anderson reported that ridership for the month of July is slightly higher than last year, paratransit trips are down and tour bus usage is less compared to July 2009. The Pitt Area Transit (PATs) Rural General Public Service (RGP) is up from last year. He pointed out that total expenses are lower as compared to this time last year and total revenues are comparable.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2010 at City Hall in conference room 337.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Teel, Secretary  
Public Transportation & Parking Commission