

MINUTES
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & PARKING COMMISSION
JUNE 17, 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. Michael Glenn, Mr. Donald Anderson, III, Ms. Marsha Wyly and Mr. Mike Hamer.

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

Guest: Mr. Thom Moton, Assistant City Manager

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

AGENDA: The agenda for the June 17, 2009, meeting was approved.

MINUTES: Ms. Marsha Wyly made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2009 meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Mike Hamer. The motion carried unanimously.

INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER UPDATE: Mr. Thom Moton gave an update on the Intermodal Project. He stated that staff has been working very diligently on the many required elements of this ongoing project. Mr. Moton stated that the environmental review process continues and that until complete and findings approved, no property can be purchased. Mr. Moton stated that new information was received in June indicating that a more detailed review is required due to the historic property on the site (Jones-Lee House). He noted that staff is working with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to complete the process in a timely manner. Mr. Moton said that appraisals on properties in the selected site were in process and that residential appraisals had been completed. He said that appraisals on commercial parcels should be completed soon and all appraisals would be reviewed by staff and then a Review Appraisal would be performed. As this time, he stated a letter would be sent to the property owners to bring them up to date on the project and what to expect within the next six months. Mr. Moton encouraged everyone to visit the project website at GREATnc.com to obtain the latest information and distributed a written project update to the Commission. In addition, Mr. Moton said that Congressman G. K. Butterfield visited with City officials on June 12, 2009. He was updated on Greenville's transportation center project and the need for his support for the continuation of grant funding for the center.

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

GREAT SAFETY AWARD: Ms. Nancy Harrington stated that GREAT was awarded the 2008 Safety Award from the North Carolina Public Transportation Association (NCPTA) in the category of Urban Fixed Route Bus Service 999,999 miles or less. She noted that this is third time in a row that GREAT has received the award. She said the award is given for having the fewest at-fault accidents or incidents in a calendar year. Ms. Harrington added that the award was presented by NCPTA at their annual conference in Wilmington, NC. She stated that Charlotte Transit System won the safety award in the one million miles or over category. She explained that the award is based on the number of miles and the number of at fault accidents

and the cost of those accidents. Mrs. Harrington stated that GREAT had no at fault accidents during the calendar year. Mrs. Harrington said that all the bus drivers should be commended because they work hard to maintain a good safety record and she is very proud of all of them. The City Council recognized GREAT at the June meeting.

PARKING UPDATE: Mr. Anderson informed the Commission that to date there has not been a meeting scheduled with Courthouse officials.

DRAFT OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO ORDINANCE CREATING THE COMMISSION: Mr. Wes Anderson distributed a copy of the current ordinance on parking and a copy of a draft the working group put together. He stated that the intent is to update the ordinance to include language that the Commission may recommend and review City policies on public parking in the City right-of-way. Mr. Anderson said the Commission will be able to review the draft before it goes to City Council. He noted that changes will be highlighted for easy viewing.

SIDEWALK/CURB CUTS UPDATE: Mr. Wes Anderson displayed a map of all the sidewalks that presently exist. He noted that a grant was received from the State to allow the City to add sidewalks on certain roads. He stated that primary streets on bus routes have some form of sidewalk in the area. On Greenville Boulevard, Mr. Anderson said that the idea is to plan for eight foot sidewalks on both sides of the street in the Convention Center area in order to make it safer and easier for conference attendees and others. Mr. Anderson also noted that grant money was received to extend the sidewalks on Charles Street from Greenville Boulevard to Red Banks Road. He advised that the City wants to extend the sidewalk from Red Banks Road to Fire Tower Road if there is enough money. He explained that these sidewalks will be the standard five foot width.

MARKETING REPORT: Mrs. Nancy Harrington stated that GREAT participated in the Migrant Fiesta held in May at Welcome Middle School. GREAT set up a table and distributed schedules and gave out information on GREAT. Mrs. Harrington stated that GREAT also will participate in the Police National Night on Tuesday, August 4, 2009 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm on the Town Common. GREAT will have a table set up with schedules, maps and drivers will be there to answer questions. In addition, GREAT will offer free rides all day and will extend service with the last pick up downtown at 9:20 pm.

GREAT DATA & RGP SERVICE REPORT: Mrs. Nancy Harrington reported that ridership has increased significantly since last year. She said that the addition of another route has been very successful. She noted that Pitt Area Transit's RGP service continues to increase also. She added that expenses as well as revenues show an increase from this time last year. She added that the major increase in expenses was due to the spike in fuel costs.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2009 at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Teel, Secretary
Public Transportation & Parking Commission