

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
May 1 2008**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Heidi Perry, Chair
Dave Deming, Vice Chair
Tom High
John O'Leary
Katie Schwing
Charlie Hileman

STAFF

Adena Messinger

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT

Daniel Amoni

The meeting was preceded by a joint advisory board review item: Peak Oil Resolution

I. Call to Order

Heidi Perry called the meeting to order at approximately 8:15 pm.

II. Discussion if Peak Oil presentation

There was the thought that there does not seem to be any harm in supporting the resolution, and there was the comment that the resolution doesn't seem to have any substance, so there is no point supporting the resolution. Several members questioned how the resolution would impact real life decisions and actions. Several members agreed that in order for anything to happen there needs to be political support and *everyone* needs to make sacrifices. Members also expressed that the Town doesn't necessarily need to get involved in the peak oil debate to address the issues that the resolution seems to be targeting.

Several staff members had made revisions to the original resolution prepared by the presenters and TAB requested a copy of this resolution.

As an aside, Heidi gave the TAB a heads up about a congressional resolution on bicycling.

III. Discussion of Traffic Calming

Staff explained that this item was added to the agenda to a) continue the conversation that developed while reviewing the Simpson Street request for traffic calming and spilled over into a few emails, and b) help staff revisit the Residential Traffic Management Plan (RTMP) in light of the new requests that have been coming to the Town.

Several items that were raised include:

- What are the emissions impact of speed tables and stop signs?
- Enforcement still needs to be an important part of a traffic calming plan
- Does the Fire Department have the ability to incorporate speed table location when mapping a response route?
- Should the TAB recommend lowering the speed limit across town?
- Would the Town consider a camera/speed monitor approach?

One member expressed frustration with taking yet another look at the RTMP.

Heidi suggested that for the next/future meetings the TAB revisit the matrix.

IV. Updates from the Chair

Heidi reported on the request to the Board of Aldermen regarding signs for bicycle routes in Orange County. She had made a brief presentation to the Board at their April 22 meeting. The Board supported her request. Heidi explained that the next step is to contact Tom Norman at NCDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Division. She also expressed an interest in filming the bicycle activity on the weekend.

Heidi then reported on the April 22 Transit Partners meeting. Typical items were discussed (budget, etc...); talked about the long range plan and also a short range plan; CHT has applied for a grant to help get service to the Rogers Road neighborhood; applied for a grant to help with the failing engines; BCX will not continue in the fall due to low ridership.

As an aside, John O'Leary asked members if they had viewed the link he sent out from the Town of Garner, regarding use of Google Maps to inform citizens of criminal activities (via push pins).

V. CHT letter

Charlie Hileman reported that just a few more changes were needed and after that it would be ready to go. Members discussed what would be the best way to present the letter to the Board of Aldermen. Some ideas were: as a memo; present in person at a meeting.

VI. Approval of minutes from April 17.

A motion to approve the minutes from April 17th was made by Tom High and seconded by Heidi Perry. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Other Business

1. Staff asked the TAB if there is an interest in inviting Chris Richmond from the Blue Urban Bikes program, to speak with them. There is interest, only if he is able to come with quantitative data about the program, and share ideas about how to make the program better.
2. Staff responded to the question about the bicycle racks for the new building on Lloyd Street, explaining that the CUP required that the applicant provide more racks but did not say anything about their location or being covered.
3. Charlie Hileman had three questions:
 - a. Where is UNC's transit study for Carolina North? (How are they planning to address the additional traffic on Estes, when already there is a long back up during the evening rush hour?)
 - b. Are there any plans to widen and add bike lanes to Homestead Road? (Staff responded that while this is on the local TIP priority list, it is not in the State TIP and it is not likely that it will get there in the near future).
 - c. Thinking about Carrboro Day and other events held in Carrboro where certain street are closed, has the Town considered closing Weaver St. on Sundays? Heidi suggested that she run it by Mayor Chilton to see what his reaction is.
4. Tom High requested a copy of the Smith Level Road project CIA and an update on the project.

VIII. Summer Schedule

The TAB agreed to follow the same summer schedule as the Board of Aldermen: taking off for the month of July and the first Thursday in August. August 21 will be the first meeting after the summer break.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:25 pm.