



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 9.

DATE OF MEETING: February 18, 2014

REQUESTED BY: Kyle M. Breuer, Director, Planning and Community Development

SHORT TITLE: Resolution Requesting that the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization (WMPO) Update the Coastal Pender Collector Street Plan

BACKGROUND: The Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WMPO) is the regional transportation planning agency for the Lower Cape Fear region of southeastern North Carolina. The WMPO is composed of officials from each of the Wilmington area governments as well as the Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority and the North Carolina Board of Transportation. The WMPO facilitates a cooperative, comprehensive and continuing transportation planning process that serves as the basis for the expenditure of all federal transportation funds in the area for streets, highways, bridges, public transit, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

In August 2006, the WMPO's transportation planning jurisdiction was enlarged due to the urbanizing areas of Pender County to encompass a portion of Coastal Pender County along the US Highway 17 corridor in Hampstead and Scott's Hill.

In May 2007, the Pender County Board of Commissioners adopted the "Coastal Pender Collector Street Plan" to assist in future transportation planning decisions as they pertain to developing a sufficient transportation network to accommodate all modes of travel to best serve its citizens. This plan provided useful recommendations for land use and zoning decisions by evaluating needs of certain areas affected by growth and development. Staff also utilizes this document when evaluating and recommending new transportation projects through the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and prioritization processes for funding opportunities.

In 2012 the WMPO planning boundary was again expanded to include southern US Hwy 421 near the Pender Commerce Park due to inherent job creation and close proximity to the Port of Wilmington as well as a majority of the Rocky Point area along the NC 210 corridor.

Recent public and private investments within Pender County will serve as a catalyst for growth and development. It is imperative that the existing transportation network be maintained and enhanced for Pender County's future prosperity.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: Planning staff is requesting the Board to adopt a resolution requesting that the WMPO and Pender County planning staff evaluate and develop a new or revised Collector Street Plan for the current WMPO boundary within Pender County.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Respectfully recommend approval.


Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that:

the Board hereby requests that the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization develop a collector street plan for the recently revised jurisdictional boundary. The Chairman/County Manager is authorized to execute any/all documents necessary to implement this resolution.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____ UNANIMOUS _____

YEA VOTES: Williams ___ McCoy ___ Brown ___ Tate ___ Ward ___

J. David Williams, Jr., Chairman Date

ATTEST Date