



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PAT MCCRORY
GOVERNOR

ANTHONY J. TATA
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

To: Attendees

From: Dan Havener, PE,
Project Engineer
NCDOT Rail Division

Subject: Minutes from March 15th P-4405I/J/K Meeting to Discuss Orange County Planning Comments - Proposed Private Crossing Closures and Alternate Access Improvements North Carolina Railroad (NCR)/Norfolk Southern (NS) Railway at Gordon Thomas Drive (TIP No. P-4405I), Greenbriar Drive (TIP No. P-4405J), and Byrdsville Road (TIP No. P-4405K), Orange County

Date: March 27, 2013

A meeting was held on March 15, 2013 at the office of Florence & Hutcheson in Raleigh to discuss the PCSI crossing closure projects at Gordon Thomas Drive (P-4405I), Greenbriar Drive (P-4405J), and Byrdsville Road (P-4405K) in Orange County.

Attendees:

Craig Benedict, Orange County Planning & Inspections Department
Abigaile Pittman, Orange County Planning & Inspections Department
Ed Lewis, NCDOT 7th Division
Chuck Edwards, NCDOT 7th Division
Jahmal Pullen, NCDOT Rail Division
Dan Havener, NCDOT Rail Division
Dave Waller, Florence & Hutcheson
Mark Reep, Florence & Hutcheson
Will Kerr, Florence & Hutcheson

Meeting Minutes:

A summary of the meeting discussion is provided below and organized using the original agenda topic headings:

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862 CAPITAL BOULEVARD
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A. Introductions

B. Meeting Purpose

- Mark Reep explained the purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues raised by the Orange County Planning & Inspections Department.

C. Discussion of Orange County Planning & Inspections Department Comments

1. Clarify locations of proposed private drives and public roads.

- Will Kerr presented the location of proposed private drives and public roads using displays.

2. Clarify NCDOT construction standards for the three projects.

- Roadways in the three study areas will be designed in compliance with NCDOT's subdivision design guidelines.
- NCDOT would accept a design with a 50-foot right of way in all three study areas in order to lessen property impacts.
- Initial planned designs for Paschall Drive, Byrdsville Road/Walter Clark Drive, and the new Greenbriar Drive/Spruce Pine Trail connector road include 10-foot lanes, 2-foot shoulders, 8 feet to center line of ditches from roadway shoulder, and 5-foot back slopes.
- Orange County's roadway design standards should also be used as a reference.

3. In applying zoning setbacks, the Orange County UDO would treat lots with two street frontages as double frontage lots.

- The project team will consider additional landscaping as a screening along Walter Clark Drive and Byrdsville Road to minimize the creation of double frontage lots.

4. Some suggested routes are more circuitous and increase commute times.

- The project team acknowledged the creation of the more circuitous access roads could create increased commute times. The increased commute time is anticipated to be increased at most by 5 minutes.

5. Provide anticipated schedules for right of way acquisition, structure relocation, and construction [see dates in project overview from the 2/19/13 BOCC meeting]. Provide County Planning staff with map revisions and detailed design drawings

Will Kerr presented the following project schedule:

- Spring 2013 – Complete Environmental Assessment
- Fall 2013 – Complete Finding of No Significant Impact

- Early 2014 – Complete Final Design
- Early 2014 – Begin Right of Way Acquisition
- Early 2015 – Begin Construction

6. Comments on Greenbriar Drive improvements.

- The proposed plan for Greenbriar Drive should include turnaround space at the northern and southern ends of the road.
- Greenbriar Drive addresses must be changed to meet Orange County emergency response standards. Southern Greenbriar Drive addresses could potentially become NC 10 addresses.

7. Comments on Byrdsville Road improvements.

- The existence of failing septic systems at some mobile homes could make the relocation of the mobile homes difficult.
- Abigaile Pittman will check into the reasons for the Jaspers Lane closure.
- Orange County requests NCDOT investigate the possible extension of Byrdsville Road near the rail crossing northward along Stony Creek to connect to Workman Road.
- The proposed plan for Byrdsville Road should include turnaround space where the road ends at the railroad corridor.

8. Comments on Gordon Thomas Road improvements.

- Coordination with Paschall Road residents will be conducted to determine whether the road will be public or private. NCDOT will conduct investigations to determine if easements are in place or need to be developed to allow access to all residents.
- A 30-foot Paschall Road easement may exist. ROAM register of deeds may have information on existing easements using parcel PIN numbers.
- Orange County would have to sign a private road maintenance agreement if Paschall Drive remains a private roadway.
- Orange County may regulate the number of residences that can have access to a private road. This needs to be investigated further.

D. Discussion/Next Steps

- Any railroad track improvements affecting the NC 10 bridge will be handled as a separate project.
- The project team should produce mapping to clearly show project recommendations.
- Orange County's roadway design standards should be investigated by the project team.
- The project team will conduct an environmental screening of the Byrdsville Road to Workman Road alignment.

- The project team will investigate existing easements along Paschall Road, Walter Clark Drive, and Greenbriar Drive.
- Abigaile Pittman will investigate the reasons for the Jaspers Lane closure.
- Abigaile Pittman will provide the Project Team with the Orange County ordinance restricting the number of homes allowed on a private road.

DH/WK

cc: Marc Hamel, NCDOT Rail Division