



Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority

NOTES FROM THE WILMINGTON MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER STAKEHOLDER MEETING

April 6, 2016

Brooklyn Arts Center

STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT

Emily Barizs
Nina Bays
Bryan Cournoyer
Braedon DaSilva
Allen Davis
Tom Davis
Beth Dolibou
Erik Hemingway
Josh Lopex
Tony Miller
Suraiya Motsinger
Peter Oehl
Daniel Pena
Larry Retchin
Kevin Rhodes
Dave Spetrino
Amber Taggart
Ed Wolverton

STAFF PRESENT

Albert Eby, Executive Director, Wave Transit
Steve Kelly, Facilities Committee Chair, Wave Transit
Mike Kozlosky, Executive Director, Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization (WMPO)
Andy Koeppel, Board Member, Wave Transit
Megan Matheny, Director of Planning & Development, Wave Transit
Laura Padgett, Former Wilmington City Council Member
Ann K. Ryan, Board Member, Wave Transit
Malissa Talbert, Communications Manager, City of Wilmington

STAFF REPORT

- Mr. Kelly opened the meeting with a brief overview of the project
- He stated that the goal of the Authority throughout the project was to be transparent
- He stated that the Authority wanted to be a good neighbor the current residents
- He stated that the meeting was an opportunity for feedback from stakeholders
- Mr. Kelly recognized Mr. Eby to respond to stakeholder inquiries

STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

- A timeframe for the project was requested
- Mr. Eby stated that the transit portion of the project has been funded
- He stated that if the project continues to progress with no major issues, the project should take 24 to 36 months to complete
- Stakeholder expressed concern about individuals camping out at the facility, particularly after hours when the facility is closed, and asked what steps will be taken to prevent this

- He stated design would focus on preventing vagrancy and loitering
- Mr. Eby stated this was a management issue and indicated this will be addressed through proper management of the facility
- He stated the Authority does an effective job at curtailing loitering at Forden Station, Wave Transit's main transfer facility
- Stakeholder indicated that Greyhound leaving downtown is the best thing that happened to the downtown Wilmington
- She stated that the construction of the bus facility will attract loiters just as Greyhound did
- She stated this facility is different than the one behind Costco as this facility will be located in a neighborhood
- Stakeholder inquired as to whether or not the facility will contain a fence or manned security
- Mr. Eby stated that security measures will be vetted through the design process
- Stakeholder wanted to ensure the facility does not become a place for loiterers to congregate
- Stakeholder inquired about the timeframe for design and if stakeholders would be engaged in the planning process
- Stakeholder inquired about the prospect of implementing a municipality tax to generate revenue for the area
- Ms. Padgett stated the objective of the project is to enhance the neighborhood
- She stated the historic buildings will be preserved and there will be a police presence
- Stakeholder asked if the design of the neighborhood would be taken into consideration through the facility design phase
- President of the Brooklyn Arts District Community Organization (BADCO) offered some suggestions to increase safety of the facility after hours
- He indicated that the facility and grounds should be well lit, a camera system should be included and communication with the WPD should be strong
- Stakeholder commented on quality of life issues and expressed concern about the facility adversely affecting the quality of life for neighborhood residents
- Mr. Kelly asked the group if they would like to see renderings of the building and then provide feedback or would they like to offer feedback prior to the development of the renderings
- The group replied "both"
- Stakeholder stated he had an overall concern of the public's perception of Wave Transit and public transportation in our community
- He asked if Wave Transit could engage in an overall marketing campaign to help change perception so that individuals such as himself will be more inclined to utilize the system
- He stated he drives down Market St. and sees customers waiting for the bus with no place to sit and under no shelter
- Mr. Eby replied addressed the many challenges facing the Authority
- Stakeholder asked if Wave Transit has an advertising program that could generate some revenue to support the cost of providing amenities
- Mr. Eby stated Wave Transit currently has an adverting program
- Mr. Kelly stated that Wave Transit has plans in place to replace existing bus stop amenities and install amenities at several new locations within the system
- He stated the construction of the facility is not meant to detract or pull funding away from other Wave programs
- He stated the funding for the facility has been secured and must be used for this purpose
- Stakeholder inquired what will happen to the security of the facility when it closes at 9:00pm
- Stakeholder stated the transportation services provided by Wave Transit through the new facility will allow for better transportation through downtown
- He inquired if gates will be located along 4th St.

- Stakeholder indicated the North 4th St. area contains a lot of families, a diverse group of individuals (not just younger folks) and a significant amount of pedestrian traffic
- He stated the neighborhood is very weary of the increase in vehicular traffic and noise that has taken place over some time
- He expressed concern that bus traffic will only add to the traffic and noise issues the neighborhood is already experiencing
- He wondered if the facility will discourage businesses from relocating to the area
- Stakeholder stated that street scraping be taken into consideration prior to construction
- Stakeholder commented that loitering at the facility does not have to be a negative thing
- He indicated that green space at the facility would be asset to the community and provide various opportunities, such as bike share, for the community
- Stakeholder inquired about an opportunity for a multiuse path to connect to the new facility
- Mr. Kozlosky stated there are plans with the rail component of the project for a City trail that will extend to McCrae St.
- Stakeholder asked why this location was selected for the multimodal center
- Ms. Padgett replied that this location was selected by NCDOT as it is next to the NCDOT rail bed
- Stakeholder stated he is interested in the potential for a public private partnership that this project may bring
- He also expressed concern regarding the parking, or lack thereof, once the rail component of the project is implemented
- He stated he wants to ensure that this project does not negatively impact the capital investment in the community that has already been made
- Mr. Eby stated further stakeholder meetings would be held as the project progresses
- He stated that these meetings will most likely be held after 30%, 60% and 90% design completion
- Mr. Eby stated that the Authority shared stakeholder concerns in providing a safe transit center which would be an asset to the area and downtown as a whole
- Ms. Matheny stated that all materials pertaining to the meeting, agendas and minutes will be posted to the home page of the Wave Transit website (www.wavetransit.com).