

**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC TRANSPORTION & PARKING COMMISSION**  
**May 20, 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, Ms. Marsha Wyly, Mr. Ronald Dunbar, and Mr. Mike Hamer.

Staff Present: Mr. Wes Anderson, Public Works Director, Mrs. Geraldine Teel, Secretary and Mrs. Stacey Pigford, Civil Engineer I

Council Liaison: Mr. Max Ray Joyner, Jr.

Guest: Mr. Thom Moton, Assistant City Manager, Steve Hawley, Public Information Officer, Mr. Jonathan Edwards and Mr. Bob Thompson

**WELCOME:** Ms. Lisa Simmons, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. At this time Ms. Simmons presented Mr. Bob Thompson with a certificate of appreciation for his time served and a job well done on the Commission.

**AGENDA:** The agenda for the May 20, 2009, meeting was approved with one addition requested by Ms. Marsha Wyly under new business: Sidewalks in relationship to different routes.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Ronald Dunbar made a motion to approve the minutes of April 15, 2009 meeting as amended. This was seconded by Ms. Marsha Wyly, as amended, to add her name to the members present for the Month of April. The motion carried unanimously.

**INTERMODAL BUS TRANSPORTATION CENTER UPDATE:** Mr. Thom Moton gave a brief update on the Intermodal Transportation Center (ITC). He stated that the project efforts are moving forward. Mr. Moton stated that the Environment Assessment report draft is being finalized. He stated that he made an ITC presentation to the Redevelopment Commission on May 5, 2009 and the request will be forwarded to City Council in June. He noted that the City's appraiser is approaching completion of the residential appraisals. He stated that two public meetings were held on May 7, 2009 to allow the public to comment on the Environmental Assessment draft report. He said that two people attended the meeting. Mr. Moton stated that an additional public comment meeting was also held during the City Council meeting on May 14, 2009. He noted that no comments were made at that time. Mr. Moton stated that the City is trying to minimize the impact the ITC project has on the residents and the property owners that are being affected. Mr. Moton continued to encourage everyone to visit the website at [www.greatnc.com](http://www.greatnc.com) for updates on the project.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Bob Thompson expressed concerns about an accessible bus stop in the Tobacco Road area. He stated that several residents that utilize wheelchairs have to sit in the street because there are no curb cuts. Mr. Mike Hamer had concerns about the bus stop across the street from the Social Security office. He noted that it would be more accessible if there was a pedestrian crossing. Mr. Wes Anderson stated that NCDOT will not consider putting a crossing there unless a sidewalk is there. Ms. Lisa Simmons asked how to go about getting the curb cuts. Mr. Anderson explained that his staff is responsible unless it involves

NCDOT right-of-ways and he would have to obtain permission from NCDOT. Ms. Simmons asked Mr. Anderson to let the Commission know what his plans are for these areas of concern at the next meeting.

**ITC LETTER OF SUPPORT:** Mr. Wes Anderson made comments about the Greenville Transportation Center letter of support and asked the Commission for their approval. Ms. Marsha Wyly made a motion to approve the letter as written and Mr. Ronald Dunbar seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**GTV SPOT ON WORK OF THE COMMISSION:** Ms. Lisa Simmons stated that she did a spot of GTV. She stated that she gave an update on what the Commission has been involved in and it will be airing soon.

**GREAT ON TWITTER:** Mr. Wes Anderson discussed GREAT on Twitter. He stated that Twitter is a cell phone based messaging system. He noted that everyone who signs up for it on the website will be notified of updates through their cell phones. Mr. Anderson said he would like to encourage the passengers of GREAT to sign up for Twitter to receive notifications of major delays or events affecting service. Mr. Anderson anticipates that Twitter on GREAT will be available soon. Mr. Steve Hawley made comments as well. He stated that Twitter is a free service that allows people to communicate via short messages. Mr. Hawley noted that information on Twitter is being advertised on posted, handouts, GTV, and the website.

**SIDEWALKS IN RELATION TO DIFFERENT ROUTES:** Ms. Marsha Wyly said she had great concerns about the sidewalks. She stated that she would like for the Commission to encourage City Council to add sidewalks where the bus routes are located. She stated that there are programs out there for getting sidewalks. Ms. Wyly also stated that during the bus tour after a previous meeting that there were not enough bus stops along some streets. She stated that she would like to see more sidewalks developed on both sides of the streets as this would help support the bus system. Ms. Wyly stated that she would like the Commission to form a committee to work toward a sidewalk project. She stated that she would like to be on that committee. Mr. Wes Anderson stated that the Metropolitan Planning Organization has been approved to study issues on sidewalks and a bicycle master plan beginning the next fiscal year. A steering committee will be formed for the bicycle plan, he noted, and the pedestrian aspect will probably be added to that committee. Mr. Anderson stated that the RFP's will go out after the beginning of the fiscal year. Mr. Anderson stated that information on the sidewalk projects is on the website. He stated that it is his hope to get the illuminated type street signs on the mast arm pole that are lit at night and are easier to read when approaching intersections. Mr. Mike Hammer asked what complexities are involved in getting sidewalks down Charles Street with a pedestrian cross walk. Mr. Anderson stated that a request has been made to NCDOT to install a cross walk. These requests are waiting for NCDOT to establish a policy since there have been so many requests. Mr. Max Joyner made a suggestion to try to include sidewalks where there are bus stops even if only a few can be done each year. Mr. Anderson stated that resources are needed; therefore, it will have to be budgeted. Mr. Hamer asked if a map of the bus stops with an overlay of sidewalks could be available at the next meeting. Mr. Anderson stated that he will bring it to the next meeting.

**PARKING UPDATE:** Mrs. Stacey Pigford distributed a map of the downtown parking around the Courthouse. She discussed the map showing the spaces with no time restriction, 2-hour, 30 minutes and 30 minute metered parking. She stated that staff is recommending that the

no time restriction parking spaces be changed to 2-hour maximums. Mr. Wes Anderson stated that this is not a request at this time because it still has to be coordinated with the Courthouse and County officials. Mr. Max Joyner stated that once the meeting is held with the County about parking recommendations, he would like Mr. Anderson to update the Commission.

**REVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO ORDINANCE CREATING THE COMMISSION:** Mr. Wes Anderson gave a brief update. To bring the new members up to date, Mr. Anderson stated that according to the City Ordinance, the Public Works Department has the ability to make quick changes to parking and no parking areas, based on safety issues. He stated that any policy change would have to be presented to City Council for approval. Mr. Anderson stated that the Commission will have a chance to review the change to the ordinance before it goes to City Council. Mr. Anderson said he would work on a draft for the next meeting.

**MARKETING REPORT:** Mrs. Geraldine Teel gave a brief report on marketing. She stated that Pitt County Schools will hold their tenth annual Migrant Fiesta at Welcome Middle School on Sunday, May 31, 2009 from 2:00pm -6:00pm. GREAT will participate in this event in order to provide information on available transportation in the Greenville area. Welcome Middle School is located at 3101 N. Memorial Drive, Greenville, NC. She encouraged everyone to attend if possible.

**GREAT DATA & RGP SERVICE REPORT:** Mrs. Geraldine Teel gave a brief report on GREAT Data and RGP Service Report. She stated that for the month of April GREAT fixed-route and paratransit ridership is up from last year this time. Tour bus passenger trips are down from last year as well as the RGP service. She stated that the total expenses are up from last year. Mr. Anderson added that the main reason for the increase was the additional route. Mrs. Teel noted that revenues have increased also.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2009 at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Teel, Secretary  
Public Transportation & Parking Commission