

RIDE II Committee Meeting
Monday, November 10, 2003 @ 1:00 p.m.
Horry County Administrator's Conference Room

In Attendance: Chairman Mike Wooten, Edsel "Coupe" DeVille, Mitchell Flannery, James R. Frazier, Donald Helms, Jim Hulen, John Kost, Gary Loftus, David Norris and Darrell Ricketts.

Guests Mark Hoeweler, Waccamaw Regional Planning, Katherine Jenerette, Congressional Field Representative, Representative Henry Brown's Office and Ted Prehodka

Absent: Thad Viers and Tee Hooper.

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order.

General discussion: Mr. Hulen recommended establishing a web site for the RIDE II Committee. He stated that his company would be happy to establish the website so that updates and email connections could be provided to the public. The cost would be approximately \$300.

Mr. Kost agreed that it was important to get the news out to the public so that when it came time to vote on a sales tax increase (or any other funding mechanism the committee might recommend) that the citizens wouldn't feel the committee's recommendations are being shoved down their throat and that they have no input. However, he felt that the County's website could be used for the RIDE II information and we wouldn't need to re-invent the wheel.

Mr. Gosnell suggested that this would be an excellent item to add to the I&R Committee agenda as a discussion item for the December 4th agenda. He will update the RIDE II Committee at the December 8th meeting of the Council members response.

Mr. Loftus stated that it is important to go to locations throughout the County and take the Committee's recommendations to the people. Mr. Gosnell said that, while he agreed with Mr. Loftus, it's extremely difficult to get the citizens to attend.

Approval of Minutes from October 20, 2003. A motion was made by John Kost, to approve the minutes, seconded by James Frazier and approved by the Committee.

Recognition of Guests: Chairman Wooten introduced Ted Prehodka and welcomed him to the meeting. Mr. Prehodka would like to be instrumental in the Murrells Inlet area when it comes time to get the word out to the citizens of Horry County regarding RIDE II. Mr. Wooten thanked him for his commitment.

Recap of Transportation Summit: Mr. Loftus stated that the Transportation Summit emphasized how woefully underfunded the SCDOT is and that we'll need to find additional funding options if we are to be successful. The State needs multiple sources of

revenue since we are currently getting 92% of our funding from the gas tax. *No action required.*

Discussion Regarding Locations for Future Roadway Improvements in Horry County:

Each committee member listed their selections for potential improvement projects. When the list was completed it was agreed that an Excel spreadsheet would be prepared showing each of the individual recommendations, the original long range improvement RIDE I list, as well as the GSATS recommendations. Mr. Kost recommended that we sort the list by geographical areas and run the traffic model with various scenarios to see if one of the recommended projects is completed can other projects be eliminated? We need to answer this because the entire list that we've indicated cannot be done.

The list will also be sorted by priority order, as well as by jurisdiction, i.e. County and State road projects.

One of the items is to pave 250 miles of County dirt roads. Mr. Gosnell said that staff would identify the top 100, 200 and 300 miles by ADT's and return with maps showing their locations. Mr. Kost stated that our choices should be connecting roads and not roads within subdivisions.

Chairman Wooten stated that a Local Option Sales Tax would definitely be needed to complete these projects. Mr. Gosnell recommended that we have the Finance Department determine the amount of revenue that could be generated over the next seven (7) years with a \$0.01, \$0.01 ½ and \$0.02 increase. What could we bond? Mr. Gosnell will discuss this with Beth Fryar, Director of Finance, and report back to the committee.

Mr. Helms pointed out that a mechanism for the Transportation Authority must be identified before any monies are collected as well.

Goals/Objectives – Where are we? Chairman Wooten stated that at the next committee meeting some subcommittees would be established so we can move forward and meet our goal of April 2004.

Mr. Gosnell will prepare a list of locations where road plan, stormwater and local option sales tax meetings have been held in the past for the committee's review. Chairman Wooten stated that we'll have to start having public meetings in January to get the word out and therefore it will be necessary to start making plans next month.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Wooten.

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24th AT 1:00 P.M.
HORRY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S
CONFERENCE ROOM