

## YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is holding a series of three informal public meetings to receive comments on the draft report of the **North Carolina Maritime Strategy**. The draft report will be available for review beginning Monday, February 27, and can be downloaded at that time by visiting the project website at [www.ncmaritimestudy.com](http://www.ncmaritimestudy.com).

### WHEN AND WHERE:

- > **Tuesday, March 6, 2012:** Brunswick Community College — Odell Williamson Auditorium, 50 College Road NW, Supply, NC 28462
- > **Wednesday, March 7, 2012:** Coastline Conference & Event Center, 503 Nutt Street, Wilmington, NC 28401
- > **Thursday, March 8, 2012:** Crystal Coast Civic Center — upstairs meeting room, 3505 Arendell Street, Morehead City, NC 28557

### HOW IT WILL WORK:

#### **4:00pm–6:00pm: Open House**

NCDOT staff and consultants working on this study will be on hand to answer questions, provide information and hear your thoughts. There will be multiple stations displaying the information gathered thus far.

#### **6:00pm–8:00pm: Public Comment Period**

After a short presentation, participants may stand and make brief verbal comments. There will also be a station set up so that written comments can be received.

The State of North Carolina initiated the development of the **North Carolina Maritime Strategy** to serve as an open evaluation of North Carolina's position, opportunities and challenges as a portal for global maritime commerce. The study examines the role that North Carolina ports play in sustaining and strengthening the State's economy, and identifies specific strategies to optimize benefits received from the State's investments in ports and associated transportation infrastructure. The North Carolina Maritime Strategy is being prepared as the expansion of the Panama Canal nears its scheduled 2014 completion, and the United States recognizes the increasing importance of exports to national and regional economic growth.

For more information on these meetings, contact **Roberto Canales P.E.**, Secretary's Coordinator of Strategic Initiatives, North Carolina Department of Transportation, 1501 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1501 or at [rcanales@ncdot.gov](mailto:rcanales@ncdot.gov).

The public may also visit the project website at [www.maritimestudy.com](http://www.maritimestudy.com) or call the project hotline at **1-855-568-1373**.