Governor's Logistics Task Force Meeting  
September 20, 2011  
Raleigh, NC

Lt. Governor Walter Dalton, Chairman of the Logistics Task Force, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2011 in Raleigh with the following members present:

Gene Conti, Dee Freeman, Nelson Cole, Dan Danieley, John Atkins, Larry Wooten, Beth Austin, David Willauer, Jed McMillan attended on behalf of Keith Crisco and Laura Blair attended on behalf of Tom Eagar.

Earl Brinkely participated via conference call.

Chairman Dalton introduced Durwood Stephenson, Executive Director, US 70 Corridor Commission. Mr. Stephenson discussed the NCGTP and how they have a commonality with the US 70 Corridor. He feels the two go hand in glove. Each of these will promote the assets of Eastern North Carolina. Mr. Stephenson stated the importance of promoting agriculture, military, Global TransPark, railroads, Morehead City Port and tourism. He stated that in this global economy logistics and connectivity to freeways, rail, ports and air travel are an absolute necessity if we are going to be a participant. Mr. Stephenson shared information with the Task Force regarding what the US 70 Corridor Commission has accomplished and what they are currently working on.

Chairman Dalton introduced Pat Simmons, Director, NCDOT Rail Division. Mr. Simmons shared information with the Task Force regarding the various rail projects, some having a positive impact on logistics in North Carolina. He discussed the Piedmont Improvement Program (PIP), these are a program of projects between Raleigh and Charlotte. Several things the Rail Division is working toward are modernized rail and highway. They put a lot of thought into freight and intermodal because they are big parts of their business. Intermodal is the fastest growing component of rail. A grant award was announced in January 2010 in the amount of $545M for high speed rail development. In order to secure passenger funds we had to have passenger trains. The Rail Division has 38 projects totaling $364 million. These projects include 28 miles of double track, 18 new bridges, 12 miles of new highway construction, 4 miles of passing sidings and 24 at grade crossings to be closed. Mr. Simmons stated that double track projects are like new interstates.

Chairman Dalton asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2011 meeting. A motion was made by Dan Danielley, which was seconded by John Atkins. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Gene Conti introduced the new Deputy Secretary of Transit, Paul Morris.

Chairman Dalton introduced Scott Saylor, President of the North Carolina Railroad. Mr. Saylor shared a video with the Task Force regarding the history of the NC Railroad. Their mission is to maximize the value of the North Carolina Railroad Company’s properties for the people of North Carolina through partnerships that drive economic growth, enhance freight and passenger service, improve safety and respect the natural environment. NCRR is a private company
whose shareholders are the citizens of North Carolina. CSX crosses at 7 areas. Therefore they are a partner. 24% of North Carolina industrial economic output relies on the NCRR line for freight service. Traffic on NCRR lines is up 30%. Mr. Saylor shared information with the Task Force regarding the NCRR major capital improvements schedule and commitments through 2015.

Chairman Dalton stated that we are getting down to the last rows. Staff has compiled information that was distributed to the Task Force members. He asked the members to look at the 7 Portals Study, as well as the information compiled by staff. He would like to get input from everyone as quickly as possible.

Chairman Dalton introduced Seth Palmer. Mr. Palmer discussed the information that was distributed. He stated that all of these documents are tools.

David Willauer asked the Chairman if it would be possible to have another meeting once the maritime study is complete. The Chairman will consult with the Governor and inform the Task Force at the next meeting.

The next Logistics Task Force meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, 2011 in Raleigh.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.