

**Governor's Logistics Task Force
Regional Hub Design Subcommittee Meeting
NC Department of Transportation
Raleigh, NC
January 12, 2011**

Minutes

Chairman John Atkins called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Additional subcommittee members in attendance were David Willauer, David Congdon, and Dan Danieley. Stephanie Ayers of the NC Ports Authority attended the meeting on behalf of member Tom Eagar.

Additional attendees included Roberto Canales, Bradford Sneed, Seth Palmer, Moy Biswas, Jed McMillan, George List, Larry Goode, Bob Foyle, Tom Bradshaw, Catherine Campbell and Charlie Diehl.

Mr. Atkins expressed gratitude to Dan Danieley for chairing the December 2, 2010 Regional Hub Design Subcommittee that he was unable to attend.

Upon a motion by Dan Danieley and a second by David Congdon, the minutes for the December 2nd meeting were unanimously approved.

Dr. George List presented an update on the Seven Portals Study, stating that today's objectives include reporting on the status of the project, describing upcoming information gathering meetings, and the team's process of developing assessments. A part of that process involves an evaluation tool for purposes of making objective comparisons. List stated that this methodology is more of a process than a result.

Dr. List discussed the criteria used for initial evaluations and assessments. Categories of criteria included Geographical Reach, Economic Sectors, Preparedness, and Upfit Cost. The evaluations for each location take into account "what they are" and "what they want to be." . Where applicable, cross-border influences were considered.

List stated that a summary explanation would be provided for the assessment levels within the criteria and categories. David Congdon commented that categories should be weighted by overall importance. For the purposes of today's discussion, "air" refers to freight and not transportation of people. John Atkins commented that it will be important that the end results of the study are based on objective findings. Roberto Canales reminded the group that the entire research team will be involved in additional fact-finding outreach and assessments.

David Willauer inquired as to why tourism is being considered when the discussion is mostly about inland ports for containerized freight. List responded that this is a broader investigation about infrastructure development that certainly includes inland ports, but not just that. Roberto Canales and Jed McMillan stated that the Executive Order was broad in nature and the charge of the Governor's Logistics Task Force is about creating jobs, and effectively moving people, freight, and information. Seth Palmer added that regional hubs or logistics villages don't necessarily have to be in one physical place, as "virtual logistics villages" have potential as well.

David Congdon stated that the work of the Study team will provide a good picture of the respective regions' existing and potential niches, and also where future investments should be. Congdon added that is important to make investment decisions based in part on where people and business want to be. Seth Palmer stated that the assessments also reflect where strong investment has already been made, and it is important to maintain this work as a state-wide project. Roberto Canales agreed that it is important to look at who has already benefitted from investment, and who hasn't. Jed McMillan added that economic development has largely evolved into a "build it and they will come" scenario. Sites must be ready for development.

John Atkins commented on the importance of this evaluation process, and also noted that uncertainty over future maritime activity makes the process more difficult. Dan Danieley added that getting a better feel for maritime trade developments would be beneficial. Roberto Canales advised the group that a maritime issues study is being conducted, and that the subcommittee will be "kept in the loop" as it develops.

David Willauer asked about "available land" as a consideration, and Dr. List answered that available land is certainly part of what is being looked at under "preparedness." There was a great deal of discussion about passenger rail, including discussion of high-speed rail, commuter rail, transit rail, and potential new regular and seasonal passenger rail destinations. It was generally agreed that "people moving" should remain a topic of consideration in this analysis. The presence of Foreign Trade Zone status was also widely acknowledged as an area of consideration that should be included. Moy Biswas stated that "port accessibility" is at least as important to note as "port proximity." Stephanie Ayers commented also about the importance of accurate and useful maritime information in this process.

Dr. List stated that today's discussion has been very instructive and will be helpful in the Study and the team's progressing efforts. John Atkins re-iterated that the exercise has been productive, and added that it may well provide the data needed to appropriately list the strengths and weaknesses of various potential sites for consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Diehl
Subcommittee staff