



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

1501 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, N.C. 27699-1501

EUGENE A. CONIL JR.
SECRETARY

March 4, 2011

Mr. Amos C. Dawson, III
Williams Mullen
RBC Plaza
301 Fayetteville Street
Post Office Box 1000
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-1000

Subject: Walthour-Moss Foundation

Dear Mr. Dawson:

Thank you for your letter dated February 9, 2011, expressing the concerns of the Walthour-Moss Foundation in regards to the Moore County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) study and specifically to the future of the US 1 corridor. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is aware of the foundation's contributions and stewardship of its natural and historic resources and shares your diligent commitment to the protection and preservation of our state's natural resources.

In review of your letter, there are several points that warrant clarification. The map that was enclosed with your letter was the working highway map from the CTP developed in 2005. The plan was never adopted locally and has since been abandoned. For a CTP to be implemented and its recommendations developed into transportation improvement projects, the CTP must first be mutually adopted locally and by the Department. In order for a project to be implemented, it must go through a process of project prioritization, be funded in the STIP, and undergo a rigorous environmental review process. There are usually many years between the identification of needs in a CTP and when that project is open to traffic. Failure to address an area's transportation needs over time can have serious implications on existing routes, an area's economy, and the health and welfare of the local citizens. In the 2005 study, there were several recommendations, which did not receive local consensus including improvements to the US 1 corridor. The CTP study that is underway will seek to resolve local concerns, and develop a CTP that meets the needs of the area and the state as a whole. There have been numerous public meetings held to date where these facts were presented. Future meetings are also planned to provide your client and other members of the public an opportunity to find a viable solution for US 1 that represents the interests of all Moore County and others in the region that rely on US 1 for their transportation needs.

The Department's planning staff in tandem with Moore County's Planning and Community Development Department, have made a concerted effort to incorporate individuals affiliated with the county's horse country on committees involved with the CTP study.

Mr. Amos C. Dawson, III

March 4, 2011

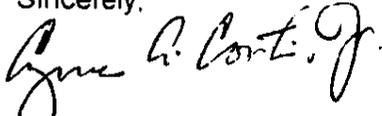
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The representatives which are Mr. Larry Best, Mr. Harry Huberth, and Mr. Hugh Poston should be able to convey your client's concerns during upcoming meetings. These meetings are also open to the public and afford your client and other members of the public the opportunity to participate directly.

In summary, there are no current transportation plans that would impact the Walthour-Moss Foundation's property. In order to meet the state's mobility and connectivity needs in the region, US 1 is designated a freeway on the Department's Strategic Highway Corridor Plan. Every effort will be made by the Department to ensure that local visions and priorities are integrated into the Moore County CTP study. The public involvement plan for the CTP study allows all Moore County residents and stakeholders the opportunity to participate in the long-range planning process as required under state and federal law. We greatly appreciate your effort in making us aware of your client's belief that the property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Having checked the records of the State Historic Preservation Office, we are unable to find that the property has been determined eligible for listing in the National Register or that it is on the State Study List for possible nomination to the Register. If you have information regarding National Register eligibility, please forward it to the State's Historic Preservation Office.

Based on the interest conveyed in your letter, we urge your client, as well as all Moore County residents, to be active participants in the CTP study process to establish a US 1 route that will best serve the future needs of the county, its communities and the State of North Carolina.

Sincerely,



Eugene A. Conti, Jr.

EAC/fdb

cc: David L. Burns, Board of Transportation Member
Tim Johnson, PE, Division Engineer
Mike Bruff, PE, Transportation Planning Branch Manager
Scott Walston, PE Triangle Planning Group Leader
Frances D. Bisby, EI
Joey Raczkowski, AICP