

GOLDSBORO URBAN AREA MPO

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY

Amended: _____

In order to insure the public is given ample opportunity to participate in the urban transportation planning process, the Goldsboro Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization has established a policy which will actively seek comprehensive public input. The Policy's objectives are as follows:

- Inform the public early and continuously with regard to the transportation planning process in the Goldsboro MPO;
- Allow for public input on general and specific transportation projects in order to ensure that the interests and needs of the community are reflected accurately;
- Provide the means for a well-informed public to help in the decision-making process with regards to transportation issues.

This Policy does not in any way preempt any public involvement activities conducted by the North Carolina Department of Transportation or any local governmental unit within the Goldsboro Urban Area MPO region.

1. Stake Holders

Based on information contained within the Transportation Prospectus, two groups have been assembled in order to serve as public representatives pertaining to transportation issues.

- a. The **Technical Coordinating Committee** is made up of representatives from the following:

City of Goldsboro (Lead Planning Agency)

City Manager
Development Services Director
City Engineer
MPO Coordinator/Senior Planner

County of Wayne

County Manager
Planning Director

Wayne County Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Representative

NCDOT Division 4 Office

Division Engineer

Wayne County Development Alliance

Village of Walnut Creek

GATEWAY Transportation System Rep.

Seymour Johnson AFB

Goldsboro-Wayne County Airport Authority

NCDOT District 3 Office

District Engineer or Assistant Engineer
Assistant District Engineer

Federal Highway Administration

NCDOT Public Transportation Division

NCDOT Transportation Planning
Branch
Area Coordinator

Eastern Carolina Rural Planning Organization

The Technical Coordinating Committee makes recommendations to the Transportation Advisory Committee.

- b. The **Transportation Advisory Committee** is made up of the following voting members:

Goldsboro City Council (2 Representatives and 1 Alternate)

Wayne County Board of Commissioners (1 Representative and 1 Alternate)

Village of Walnut Creek (1 Representative and 1 Alternate)

Board of Transportation Representative

In addition, the following persons are notified of meetings and given notice of action by the Transportation Advisory Committee.

Goldsboro/Wayne County Public Transportation Authority

Federal Highway Administration

Administrator
Planning and Program Development Engineer

NCDOT Regional Traffic Support Engineer

NCDOT Division 4 Engineer

NCDOT District 3 Engineer

NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch Engineer

City of Goldsboro MPO Coordinator

2. Public Notification of Meetings

The Goldsboro MPO Technical Coordinating Committee and Transportation Advisory Committee meet on a quarterly basis and as the need arises. Notices for such meetings are submitted to the City Clerk for the City of Goldsboro in order to allow for dissemination to various entities including the Goldsboro News-Argus, WGBR Radio WFMC Radio, WTVD

Television (Wilson and Durham), WRAL Television, WITN Television, and News Channel 14. Notices of all meetings are given and disseminated at least twenty-four hours in advance.

All such meetings are open to the public and, upon request; comments from the public may be made at the discretion of the Chairman. Any such comments will be recorded and included as part of the official meeting minutes. If a response to comments is requested or required, such response shall be issued in writing to the appropriate party within ten (10) working days of the meeting.

3. Other Public Notification

In the case of surveys or workshops to be held, in addition to the above notifications, the City of Goldsboro will publish a non-legal advertisement in the local newspaper (Goldsboro News-Argus) at least ten (10) days in advance of the survey or workshop date.

4. Press Releases

When appropriate, the Goldsboro Urban Area MPO may periodically issue press releases detailing significant actions. All press releases will be approved by the Chairman of the TAC prior to issuance.

5. Assurance of Environmental Justice through Participation by Low-Income and Minority Households

The staff will work closely with the City of Goldsboro Community Development Department and GATEWAY (Goldsboro Area Transportation Express of Wayne County) to ensure that those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems (low-income and minority households) are included within the public participation process through dissemination of notices and general information regarding the transportation planning process.

6. Assurance of Participation by Persons with Disabilities

The Goldsboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in the MPO's public involvement process.

7. Adoption of New Documents or Major Amendments to Documents

When new transportation-related documents or major amendments to transportation documents are proposed, such amendment will be made available for public review and comment for a period of at least 30 days prior to adoption. An advertisement will be placed in the local newspaper (Goldsboro News-Argus) indicating that such documents are available for review and indicating the location of such documents for examination. In addition, notice of the meeting date, location and time for consideration of the documents will be given.

In the specific case of proposed amendments to the TIP as they relate to the Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority and the Goldsboro MPO, a legal advertisement will be placed in the local newspaper and advertised at least once thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. The legal advertisement will indicate that this notification will satisfy the Program of Projects notification for the Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority and the Goldsboro MPO.

