

REVISED

(Added Agenda Item No. 1a)

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

1:00 P.M. Worksession

AGENDA

1. **Citizen Comments**

5 min.

Thelma White has requested time on the agenda to speak to the Commissioners about turn signals at Fayetteville Street and Riddle Road, and at Highway 55 and Riddle Road. She also seeks support for traffic signals at Riddle Road and Old Alston Avenue.

1a. **Recognition of Sister Cities of Durham September Concert for Peace Day**

5 min.

On September 13, 2009, Sister Cities of Durham Incorporated (SCD) and Durham Children's Choir (DCC) will celebrate September Concert for Peace Day. SCD Inc. and the Durham Children's Choir (DCC) will stage a musical concert on this date that will present music from the peoples of four sister cities—Arusha, Tanzania; Durham, United Kingdom; Kostroma, Russia; and Toyama, Japan. The music at this concert will speak for the wishes of citizens of the combined sister cities for mutual understanding and world peace.

Resource Person(s): Chairman Commissioner Michael D. Page

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager's recommendation is that the Board suspend the rules and approve and present the proclamation to Ms. Scott Hill of the Durham Children's Choir.

2. **Review of August BOCC Directives**

5 min.

It was requested that at each month's worksession, the Board of County Commissioners have the opportunity to review the previous month's directives for staff and make comments as necessary.

Resource Person(s): Mike Ruffin, County Manager, and Laura Jensen, Assistant to the County Manager

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board review the August BOCC directives and make comments to staff as necessary.

3. **RDU Airport Authority Annual Update**

20 min.

RDU Airport Authority members will provide the Board of Commissioners with an annual update relative to the Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

Resource Person(s): Tommy Hunt and Craigie Sanders, RDU Airport Authority

County Manager's Recommendation: The manager recommends that the Board receive the presentation and advise the staff if any additional information is necessary.

4. **Presentation by Representatives of the National Children's Study**

15 min.

Representatives of the National Children's Study have met with a number of County staff over the past 6-12 months and would like to inform the Commissioners about the study. The study will be a 21-year, longitudinal study of 100,000 children from 105 representative American communities and will examine a broad range of environmental, social, behavioral, and biomedical factors that may affect children's health. The study is funded by the National Institutes of Health and has been contracted to the Carolina Population Center to conduct the study in six counties in North Carolina; Durham County has been selected as one of the six. The local principal investigators for Durham County consist of an investigator from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Dr. Anna Maria Siega-Riz, and a pediatrician from Duke University, Dr. Chip Walter.

No fiscal cost is associated with the community's participation in this study. Aside from a wealth of public health information that will benefit the nation and, more particularly, the Durham community, the investigators also estimate that they will be hiring 30-40 temporary part-time local personnel and 10-15 permanent local staff to help carry out the study.

Resource Person(s): Gayle Harris, Public Health Director

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board receive this report from the representatives of the National Children's Study.

5. **Camp Butner Joint Land Use Study**

20 min.

The Planning staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners consider this item and accept the report.

Resource Person(s): Steven L. Medlin, AICP, City-County Planning Director

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board receive the Camp Butner Land Use Study report.

6. **Transportation Briefing**

1 hr.

The purpose of the Transportation Briefing is to update the Commissioners on recent transportation plans, legislation and issues. Several years ago, the Triangle region was notified that the proposed regional rail project would not qualify for federal New Start funding. This action motivated the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) to appoint the Special Transit Advisory Commission (STAC) in 2007 to develop a transit vision for the region. In May 2008, STAC submitted its

recommendations to the MPOs, which included rail transit extending from Raleigh to Durham to Chapel Hill and investments in bus transit to expand service coverage and to improve service quality. The STAC recommendations also included local options for a ½-cent sales tax and an increase in the motor vehicle fee to pay for the transit improvements. The DCHC MPO incorporated the STAC recommendations into the recently approved 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (2035 LRTP) along with many highway, bicycle, and pedestrian projects.

The Congestion Relief/Intermodal Transport bill was approved in August 2009, enabling local areas to fund public transportation using an increase in the sales tax, car registration fees, and special district property taxes, and requiring a Transit Plan to guide the use of such funding. At some time in the future, the BOCC may be asked to act on the Transit Plan called for in the bill and consider authorizing a referendum for a ½-cent sales tax for transit and/or approving a motor vehicle fee of up to \$7 for transit.

Staff will also update the BOCC on the status of major Durham projects in the 7-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and some of the transportation projects that will be implemented with funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (also known as stimulus funding).

Resource Person(s): Andy Henry, City of Durham, and Mark Ahrendsen, City of Durham

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board receive the presentation and advise the staff if additional action is necessary.

2 hrs. 5 10 min.