

Infrastructure Committee Update

February 21, 2012

- The Nature Conservancy presented an overview of environmental data and spatial information available for planning efforts to the Pender County Comprehensive Transportation Planning committee in September. The goal is that this information is incorporated and referenced when delineating future road projects.

General Update on Area Infrastructure Projects

- International Port
 - Draft North Carolina Maritime Strategy plan recommends four sites for expansion or creation of new port facilities if officials decide the state should have a larger presence in container shipping. Three of the sites are along the Cape Fear River in Brunswick/New Hanover Counties: the Southport site, a site along River Road and the expansion of existing facilities in Wilmington. The fourth site is in Carteret County. The final report is due in April 2012.
 - Interim Statewide Logistics Coordinator has been hired to replace Ports CEO. Transition continues as Ports Authority was transferred from the state Commerce Department to the Department of Transportation.
- Titan Cement
 - Draft air permit for plant is still in review by the NC Division of Air Quality. This one of the first regulatory stages for the plant to move forward.
 - ICF International, an independent consulting firm, produced a report on the health ramifications of the Titan plant. The detrimental conclusions reached in the report were rebuked by Titan.
- Wilmington Bypass/Cape Fear Skyway
 - Connection between Hwy 17 and 74/76 will be completed in 2013. Section from 74/76 to 421 in 2016.
- Proposed I-74 route through the Green Swamp
 - No news to report.
- Cape Fear Lock & Dam
 - Construction of fish passage at Lock and Dam #1 is about halfway completed. Building moratorium for the spawning seasons push back completion until spring 2013.
- Miscellaneous
 - NCDENR issued a site permit for a septage land application off of Highway 211 in the Columbus County portion of the historic Green Swamp. This is the site of the formerly-proposed Riegel Ridge landfill.