

**RED LINE REGIONAL RAIL TASK FORCE**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**February 22, 2012**  
**DISCUSSION SUMMARY**

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**MEMBERS:** Mayor John Woods, Mayor of Davidson, Chair  
Vacant, Mecklenburg County Representative  
Mayor Jeff Tarte, Mayor of Cornelius  
Mayor Jill Swain, Mayor of Huntersville  
Mayor Miles Atkins, Town of Mooresville (absent)  
Bill Thunberg, Lake Norman Transportation Commission  
Vacant, Iredell County Representative

**CATS**

**STAFF:** Carolyn Flowers, CEO, Director of Public Transit  
Brian Nadolny, North Corridor Project Manager  
Tina Votaw, Transit Planner  
Jean Leier, Manager, Public and Community Relations  
John Joye, Senior Assistant City Attorney  
Penny Traywick, Office Assistant

**OTHERS:** Paul Morris, NCDOT Deputy Secretary for Transit  
Jack Flaherty, NCDOT Regional Transit Planner  
David Howard, Charlotte City Council  
Anthony Roberts, Cornelius Town Manager  
Greg Ferguson, Huntersville Town Manager (via conference call)  
Neil Burke, Town of Mooresville (via conference call)  
Bill Russell, Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce  
Leamon Brice, Davidson Town Manager  
Andrew Grant, Cornelius Assistant Town Manager (via conference call)  
Zac Gordon, Town of Huntersville  
Ruffin Hall, Assistant City Manager  
Carroll Gray, Lake Norman Representative  
Bobby Shields, Mecklenburg County  
Dana Fenton, Intergovernmental Relations Mgr, City of Charlotte  
Adam Guerino, City Finance  
Eric Hershberger, City Budget and Evaluation  
Mark Briggs, Parsons Brinckerhoff  
Katherine Henderson, KKH Consulting  
Jim Bensman, Private Citizen  
Eric Spannberg, The Business Journal  
Christina Rogers, Cornelius News  
Channels 9, WBTV

Meeting time 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

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**I. Call to Order**

**II. The minutes of the January 25, 2012 meeting were approved.**

### **III. Discussion – Finance Plan Work Groups**

Katherine Henderson reported that each of the nine entities has named a senior staff individual to serve on the Review and Adoption working group. The group has been convening to help facilitate the sharing of knowledge and successful processes. Review committee recommendations are due in March.

Katherine reported that the Finance Working Group had a reunion meeting to discuss the districts and ensure they are fair and equitable. KKH's goal is to issue an interactive map of the benefit district in the next couple weeks.

Ruffin Hall reported that on February 23 the City's Transportation and Planning Committee will be reviewing the questions and comments that have been submitted and again on March 22, and plan to update the City Council on March 26.

Leamon Brice reported that on February 27 there is a follow-up meeting with the Davidson downtown property owners and merchants, and on February 28 they will meet with the Town Board.

Andrew Grant reported there is a Cornelius meeting scheduled for February 27 to start looking at recommendations for the plan.

Greg Ferguson reported Huntersville's February 23 workshop is postponed due to schedule conflicts, but that Huntersville will be hosting the P3 meeting on February 23.

Neil Burke reported that Mooresville assembled a review committee of citizens and elected officials who meet every other week. The committee is divided into four groups, united benefit allocation district, tax plan, economic development and governance. These working groups have almost completed their report, and plan to present the completed document to Mooresville elected officials within the next few weeks.

Bobby Shields reported Mecklenburg County provided a 10 comment response to the plan a month ago, and have received further comments that will be submitted.

Deputy Secretary Morris reported that in the December through February timeframe the pre-draft of the finance and business plan was presented to the technical and executive teams, the multi-modal committee, and the joint legislative oversight committee. A work session of the full board was held in February. NCDOT is continuing to evaluate their financing participation. Policy questions and the schedule of financial support are still being studied.

Mark Briggs said meetings with all the jurisdictions are on-going. Meetings have been held with the developers, property owners, Chambers, Rotary Club and others. All the issues and concerns are being discussed and addressed. Preliminary conclusions are planned for mid-March. At that time, the financial model will be updated with the new assumptions and the plan will be revised. The same underwriters will be asked to review the plan again to see if the financial plan still works according to the bond market.

### **Norfolk Southern Railroad (NSRR)**

Deputy Secretary Morris updated the task force on his communication with Norfolk Southern over the past couple months. He described NCDOT's understanding of the communications with John Edwards of NSRR indicate he is willing to work with NCDOT on the project. Mr. Edwards stated in a letter to NCDOT that the project infrastructure and operational assumptions are no longer valid and need to be reanalyzed. NCDOT will continue to work with Norfolk Southern on developing an appropriate solution. CATS may need to provide additional technical resources to work with the State. The infrastructure and operations study would be completed in the spring and summer of 2012. NCDOT recommends that the group formally invites Norfolk Southern to meet with the whole task force. Mayor Swain stated that the task force appreciates that Norfolk Southern is providing input and taking part in the discussion.

### **Schedule Changes**

The current timeline in the Financial Plan calls for the TIF districts to be in place by December 31, 2012 to capture the current TIF base year and for the Special Assessment Districts be completed before the legislative sunset of June 30, 2013. Mayor Woods said the task force will need to address possible schedule changes due to NSRR new assumptions while maintaining the December and June financing deadlines. The task force will explore whether the June 2013 special assessment date can be extended.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. on March 28 at Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center in Conference Room 266.

RED LINE TASK FORCE  
MEETING ATTENDEES

February 23, 2012

<u>Print Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Email</u>
BILL THUNDER	MOBILEVIEW	BILLTHUNDER@SMAC.COM
Katherine Henderson	KHIT Consulting	kkhenderson@gmail.com
MARK BRICES	TORSONS ENGINEERING	bruggm@torson.com
Ruffin Hall	City of Charlotte	rthall@charlotteac.gov
CARROLL GRAY	LNTC	ccassoc@bellsoff.net
LEARNED BRICE	DAVISON	lbrice@ci.davidson.nc.us
JEFF TAUTE	CORNBUS	MAJOR.CORNBUS.ORG
Jill Swain	Mayor, Huntersville	jswain@huntersville.org
PAUL MORRIS	NC DOT	pfmorris@ncdot.gov
John Woods	DAVISON	
Brian Nading	CATS	bnading@charlottesville.gov
JACK FARMERY	NC DOT	JFARMERY@NC DOT.GOV

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MEETING ATTENDEES**

February 23, 2012

<u>Print Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Email</u>
Fenny Braywick	CATS	pttraywick@charlottenc.gov
CAROLYN FLOWERS	CATS	cflowers@charlottenc.gov
Jean Heier	CATS	jheier@charlottenc.gov
Zac Gordon	Town of Huntersville	zgordon@huntersville.org
Adam Guerinio	Charlotte Finance	aguerinio@charlottenc.gov
Eric Hershberger	City of Charlotte Budget & Evaluation	ehershberger@charlottenc.gov
Bill Russell	LKN Chamber of Commerce	Russell@lakenorthern.org
Christina Rogers	CorneliusNews.net	editor@corneliusnews.net
Jim Bensman	Private Citizen	jbensman@attglobal.net
Diana Fenton	CLT	dfenton@charlottenc.gov
John Joye	CATS	Jjoye@charlotte.nc.us
Lina Votaw	CATS	lvotaw@charlottenc.gov