

**RED LINE REGIONAL RAIL TASK FORCE**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**September 26, 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 (absent)  
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:** John Muth, Deputy Director for Development  
Brian Nadolny, North Corridor Project Manager  
John Joye, City Attorney

**OTHERS:** Paul Morris, NCDOT Deputy Secretary for Transit  
Carroll Gray, Lake Norman Transportation Commission  
Jack Flaherty, NCDOT Transit  
Ruffin Hall, Charlotte Assistant City Manager  
Adam Guerino, Charlotte Finance  
Jonathon Wells, Charlotte Mecklenburg Planning  
Bill Coxe, Transportation Planner, Huntersville  
Matt Gallagher, Gandy Development

Meeting time 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

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**I. Call to Order**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

**II. Norfolk Southern – John Muth**

The Red Line Task Force, with support from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS), has requested Norfolk Southern Railway (NSR) conduct a rail capacity study of the proposed commuter rail Red Line concept. The Red Line, as currently envisioned, would use the Norfolk Southern “O” Line between Charlotte and Mooresville. A multi-phased approach would be pursued.

The first meeting to discuss this approach was held on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012. CATS, NCDOT and Norfolk Southern Railway were all present at the meeting. The first step of the study will be to jointly develop and agree upon the assumptions for the study. During this period, the organizations will also develop a study agreement which will include payment to NS for any study costs. Continuation beyond this point is contingent upon reaching this agreement.

The first phase of the study would be to use the Rail Traffic Controller (RTC) model, developed by Berkeley Simulation, LLC. This initial phase will include the determination of freight infrastructure that can be placed in the existing right of way. NCDOT will then determine what future passenger services are planned for the NCR Mainline. This includes

all commuter, intercity and future Southeast High Speed Rail trains, which impact the NCRR Mainline between Greensboro and Charlotte. CATS will also then determine the level of proposed Red Line services, including number of frequencies, proposed station locations, equipment, approximate timing, and days and hours of service.

The members will meet every 30 days, either in person or by conference call, and will continue to define the study's scope of work. Mayor Woods stated that as this work moves forward, a communication plan will be important to inform people where the project is in the process.

### **III. New Station Report - Brian Nadolny**

The Red Line Task Force received an informal request for consideration of a new transit station to be added to the proposed Red Line Regional Rail Project. A city working group was asked to do a Tier 1 analysis of the proposed new station. Since the RLRR Financial Plan is on hold until a Rail Capacity Study is completed, staff recommends we re-evaluate the potential station at the conclusion of that study. The primary factors yet to be fully analyzed and evaluated are 1) whether the developer has the required control of the entire proposed development site and 2) whether the developer has demonstrated specific progress in advancing the development plan that generates the required revenue as determined by the RLRR Financial Plan. The NCDOT consultant's forthcoming analysis on the value capture and revenue generating potential of the site is key to the evaluation of the economic development portion of the Tier 1 analysis.

### **IV. Charlotte Gateway Station - Paul Morris**

The RFQ for the CGS is on schedule and all responses to the RFQ has been received. A short list of preferred prospective partners will be announced on October 5<sup>th</sup>. These firms will be interviewed on October 25<sup>th</sup> by the Technical Panel and October 26<sup>th</sup> by the Stakeholder Group. NCDOT plans to select the preferred partner by November 1st.

### **V. CSX/NS Grade Separation - Paul Morris**

The grade separation project is on schedule and the environmental documents have been submitted for review. Construction is scheduled to start in the Fall of 2013.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on October 24th at Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center in Conference Room 266.

RED LINE TASK FORCE  
MEETING ATTENDEES

September 26, 2012

<u>Print Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Email</u>
Brian Nadelny	CATS	bnadelny@charlotten.c.gov
Jonas Moore	CATS	jmoore@charlotten.c.gov
Jack Flaherty	NC DOT	JFlaherty@ncdot.gov
Ruffin Hall	City of Charlotte	r/hall@charlotten.c.gov
Carol Gray	LNTC	CG.Assoc@kellsart.net
<del>John Woods</del>	C-U PLANNING	JBUS@C.U.PLANNERS.NC.US
<del>Bill Thompson</del>	<del>MOORESVILLE LNTC</del>	<del>BILLTHOMPSON@GMAIL.COM</del>
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