



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS / NC DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
WORKSHOP**

Wednesday, August 21, 2013; 3:00 p.m.

Call to order

The Town of Nags Head Board of Commissioners and NCDOT met in the Board Room of the Nags Head Municipal Complex at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21, 2013.

Agenda

Town Manager Ogburn summarized the agenda as follows:

Little Bridge (Nags Head/Manteo Causeway) safety

- Pedestrian laws in North Carolina
- Pedestrian crosswalk criteria and signage
- Melvin Daniels Little Bridge pedestrian crosswalk alternatives analysis

Little Bridge Safety

Town Project Manager/Engineer David Ryan provided a powerpoint slide presentation.

Little Bridge safety - What's been done: Town mobile message board; Two large advance pedestrian crossing warning signs from NCDOT have been installed; Roadway markings on east side of refuge island in addition to hi-visibility delineators to alert motorists turning into the public access are scheduled to be installed.

The original crossing went in because of pedestrian safety – it has been made safer but pedestrians have a false sense of security; this issue deals with the behavior of drivers and pedestrians; add advance signage to catch drivers' attention ahead of time – NCDOT will add additional advance signage.

Mayor Pro Tem Remaley said that it seems that the ultimate answer to this issue is a pedestrian activated traffic signal – Mr. Jennings pointed out that the site does not meet the 400/pedestrians per hour regulation (current readings based upon recent observations are 3/pedestrians per hour) – but he will look into it more extensively for the Town and report back.

Comr. Walters spoke in favor of advanced flashing lights and rumble strips.

Mayor Oakes spoke in favor of a speed limit reduction especially in that specific area (as did Comr. Sadler); he spoke of lights in the roadway as a way to alert drivers. Board

members agreed that the Town of Manteo should be contacted to see if both Towns can come together on a decreased speed limit determination.

NCDOT agreed to re-install the "Reduced Speed Ahead" sign on the bridge.

Malcolm Fearing said that he hopes there will be some flexibility – today there won't be a long-term solution but hopefully some short term resolution.

Board members were in agreement for some additional advance signage. It was noted that this would be done within the next few days.

South Old Oregon Inlet Road

There was discussion of lowering the speed limit on South Old Oregon Inlet Road and the addition of a crosswalk - in the vicinity of Outer Banks Fishing Pier.

Mr. Jennings pointed out that more signs mean more visual clutter – he also said that they will be glad to look at those locations (OB Fishing Pier, Jennette's Pier, and the NH Fishing Pier) and return with a recommendation for crosswalks. He asked that the Town submit a request to NCDOT and they will respond.

Police Chief Brinkley said that he will increase police patrol in South Nags Head and will also prepare a speed survey to record vehicle speed data – in response to concerns from the public.

Malcolm Fearing noted that there will be an impact on municipalities because of reduced funding for NCDOT; he stressed the importance of participating in the Albemarle Commission – Rural Planning Organization (RPO) meetings.

South Nags Head Ditches

Comr. Sadler said that the ditches in South Nags Head are still an issue and need cleaning. She received concurrence from Mr. Jennings for a partnership between the Town and NCDOT for the Town to take over maintenance of these ditches and for NCDOT to participate in the cost of that maintenance. Mr. Jennings stated that he would follow up with Town Manager Ogburn on this issue.

Adjournment

The Workshop adjourned at 5:00 p.m.