

**Governor's Logistics Task Force
Regional Hub Design Subcommittee Meeting
NC Department of Transportation
Raleigh, NC
April 13, 2011**

Minutes

Chairman John Atkins called the meeting to order at 12:49 p.m.

Additional subcommittee members in attendance were Dan Danieley, Tom Eagar, Secretary Dee Freeman, Pat Long, Earl Brinkley, and David Willauer.

Additional attendees included Secretary Gene Conti, Col. Beth Austin, Tom Bradshaw, Roberto Canales, Bradford Sneed, Seth Palmer, Moy Biswas, George List, Larry Goode, Bob Foyle, Alix Demers, Mustan Kadibhai, Richard Wiley, Laura Blair, Mark Sutherland, and Charlie Diehl.

Transportation Secretary Gene Conti was able to attend the early part of the meeting, and Chairman Atkins thanked him for his leadership. Secretary Conti thanked the Task Force members for their time and hard work.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2011 Regional Hub Design Subcommittee meeting. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Mark Sutherland of North Carolina's Eastern Region and the Military Growth Task Force gave a presentation on Marketing North Carolina for Department of Defense Joint Ground Systems Maintenance. This presentation was a follow-up to the one he made to the full Governor's Logistics Task Force at Fort Bragg on March 14th.

Sutherland cited many factors that make eastern North Carolina a logical place for DoD to focus on initiatives involving "Transportation of Things." Among those factors are the expected need for cost-saving opportunities, this state's large population of "warfighters" (military personnel), this state's expected standing in the BRAC process, and the efficiencies that would be gained by developing vehicle/equipment maintenance systems near our highly populated military bases.

He spoke of the military's coming need to shift towards a better mix of contractors/employees to allow for flexibility. Similarly, non-DOD-owned maintenance systems would also need to be flexible enough in size to expand and contract based on changing levels of conflict scenarios.

Sutherland stated that the bottom line is that we should exploit opportunities in a logistically agile North Carolina military region. This should be incorporated into the state's overall strategy for BRAC. Also, given our state's advantageous standing at least for now on BRAC issues, it would make sense to allocate at least some of North Carolina's BRAC dollars on offense, rather than just working to maintain the military assets currently located here.

Col. Austin discussed the North Carolina National Guard's "reset" activities, and how the National Guard is already doing in small part what Sutherland and the Military Growth Task Force are proposing on a larger scale. Chairman Atkins noted that North Carolina has two ports, the NC Global TransPark, rail infrastructure, and highway infrastructure that collectively make this state particularly attractive for this initiative. The "inland port"-type potential of this initiative at the GTP or elsewhere in the state dovetails well with this subcommittee's work. Earl Brinkley added that it is important to remember to protect key corridors such as Highway 70 from encroachments that could damage the growth and development of this initiative and our military assets as a whole.

Dr. George List gave an update on the Seven Portals Study. He discussed the developments leading up to a final report being submitted. A discussion ensued which clarified that there are still remaining steps that will shape the report. Among those steps is continued Regional Hub Design Subcommittee input, interaction, and guidance. Also, the contracting agency (NCDOT) will be providing further guidance to the Study team.

List described how the Report will include a discussion of infrastructure investments, organized by economic sectors. The sectors that he expects to be included are: agriculture; military support; aerospace; transportation and logistics; general manufacturing; health and wellness; and tourism.

List also gave illustrative examples of potential locations highlighting the various sectors. Pat Long asked about the example used for Health and Wellness, noting Wilson's burgeoning pharmaceutical industry. David Willauer asked about the military support example of Maxton.

Chairman Atkins commented on the shift from an emphasis solely on inland ports to a more broad focus to include other types of facilities, systems, and the “logistics village” and “virtual logistics village” concepts. David Willauer stated that there is an emerging shift from focusing on just freight to include both freight and passenger transportation issues. He commented that the shift to include passenger mobility is not apparent in the study.

Charlie Diehl was asked to provide members with both presentations from today’s meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Diehl
Subcommittee staff