

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(2)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2009

TITLE: Smith Level Road Transportation Improvement Program Project U-2803

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING	PUBLIC HEARING: YES __ NO _X_
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution options B. Post-hearing meeting memo C. Summary of three options for moving forward D. Responses to Board of Aldermen questions	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia McGuire, Planning Administrator – 918-7327

PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to provide an update on NCDOT's post-public hearing meeting held on April 28, 2009 for the Smith Level Road project. The Board of Aldermen is also being asked to consider a preferred option for moving forward with improvements to Smith Level Road, based on the three options presented by NCDOT.

INFORMATION

Additional information can be found in the materials for the April 21, 2009 Board of Aldermen meeting, located at http://www.townofcarrboro.org/BoA/Agendas/2009/04_21_2009.htm.

A public hearing on the Smith Level Road TIP U-2803 project design was held at Carrboro Town Hall on April 21, 2009. The comments received were similar to those expressed at the March 9, 2009 NCDOT public hearing:

- opposition to widening the road to four lanes
- opposition to constructing a median restricting turning movements in and out of Willow Oak Road
- concern about a roundabout at Rock Haven Road
- questions about the data used in forecasting future traffic volumes

On April 28, 2009 NCDOT held a post-hearing meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to review the public comment and respond to any issues. Two members from Carrboro's planning staff attended this meeting: Adena Messinger, Transportation Planner and Roy Williford, Planning Director. Attachment B includes the memo that was provided to the Board of Aldermen following the meeting. The memo summarizes the content of the meeting and outlines three options for the Town to consider. Attachment C discusses these options in greater detail.

Staff received several questions from Board of Aldermen members in advance of the June 2, 2009 meeting. Responses to those questions are found in Attachment D.

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If the Board of Aldermen does not come to a conclusion on June 2nd, NCDOT would ideally like a response by July 1st. If the Board of Aldermen would like additional time beyond July 1st, NCDOT has requested that the Board provide a date for when a decision will be made.

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT

Each option has a different fiscal impact for the Town. These are outlined in Attachment C.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen select one of the three options for moving forward with improvements to Smith Level Road. Please note as described in attachment C, the staff does not recommend that the Board of Aldermen pursues option three.

Three resolutions are provided for the Boards consideration.