

Karyl Fuller

From: Shannon Baldwin <cdd@townoflakelure.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2014 2:57 PM
To: 'Rep. Mike Hager'; dlevbrown@bellsouth.net; jswain@ncdot.gov
Cc: Karyl Fuller; 'Solberg, Kristina L'
Subject: Facilitating Better Strategic Transportation Investment
Attachments: Res Petitioning NCDOT.pdf

Dear Honorable Mike Hager; NCDOT Board Member Brown; and Mr. Swain, Division 13,

Attached is a resolution passed by the Lake Lure Town Council petitioning NCDOT and the North Carolina General Assembly to consider adding "economic competitiveness" into the transportation evaluation formula at the division and regional levels to better facilitate strategic transportation investments in the local and regional economy.

The new Lake Lure Parkway (relocation of 64/74A), identified in the recently adopted Comprehensive Transportation Plan, will facilitate safe access to a major tourist destination (Chimney Rock State Park) and bring commercial growth and investment to our community, county, and region. Using the formula currently written into the law, the Lake Lure Parkway did not appear on the list of projects the Isothermal RPO is recommending to NCDOT for funding. As a result, tourists are having use substandard ingress/egress to access the State Park, an existing major tourist destination and economic engine.

Your assistance is sorely needed and will be most appreciated regarding this matter. Our hope is that others will see the strategic importance of facilitating investment in our community to increase safe access the State Park.

C. Shannon Baldwin, AICP
Community Development Director

2948 Memorial Highway
Lake Lure, NC 28746

Office: 828.625.9983, Ext. 107
Web: townoflakelure.com



Karyl Fuller

From: Shannon Baldwin <cdd@townoflakelure.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 12:44 PM
To: 'Solberg, Kristina L'
Cc: Karyl Fuller; 'Rep. Mike Hager'; dlevbrown@bellsouth.net; jswain@ncdot.gov; 'Bob Keith'; 'John Moore'; 'Mary Ann Silvey'; 'Diane Barrett'; lakelureelectric@bellsouth.net; thomas.mckay@sothebysrealty.com; 'Charlie Ellis'; 'Ric Thurlby'; 'Bruce Barrett'; 'David Goins'; 'Lake Lure Town Manager'
Subject: STI Comments
Attachments: STI Comments.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Kristina,

Attached are comments from the Town of Lake Lure for NCDOT's consideration. We have a very worthy project (Lake Lure Parkway) relative to investing strategically in transportation projects. The Lake Lure Parkway will provide safe access, enable Chimney Rock State Park to implement its master plan, and enhance the local and regional economy via increased tourism. The current evaluation process from the top to bottom is not working from our unique perspective.

I want to express appreciation to Mr. David Brown and all Division 13 staff for their kind assistance yesterday in Marion during the public comment session. Everyone was sincerely interested in our issues and extremely helpful.

Sincerely,

Shannon

From: Shannon Baldwin [<mailto:cdd@townoflakelure.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2014 2:57 PM
To: 'Rep. Mike Hager'; 'dlevbrown@bellsouth.net'; 'jswain@ncdot.gov'
Cc: 'Karyl Fuller'; 'Solberg, Kristina L'
Subject: Facilitating Better Strategic Transportation Investment

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Your assistance is sorely needed and will be most appreciated regarding this matter. Our hope is that others will see the strategic importance of facilitating investment in our community to increase safe access the State Park.

Respectfully,

C. Shannon Baldwin, AICP
Community Development Director

2948 Memorial Highway
Lake Lure, NC 28746

Office: 828.625.9983, Ext. 107
Web: townoflakelure.com



JUL 22 2014

915 US 221 S Hwy
Rutherfordton, NC 28139
July 17, 2014

Mr. Karyl Fuller
Isothermal Planning & Development
111W. Court St.
Rutherfordton, N.C. 28139

Dear Mr. Karyl Fuller:

Being a resident of Rutherford County N. C. for the past sixty-three years, and a taxpayer for forty-seven of these years, I would like to express my discontent to the people responsible for the decision not to complete the 221 Bypass project through Rutherford County that the State initiated 8 plus years ago. This is how I see the situation from my perspective. Eight plus years ago, Rutherford Countians were informed that strategically many people would be affected by the new bypass going through the county. Phase one, two, and three were shown being funded on the DOT website. Although funding for phase 3 changed to unfunded to everyone's confusion. We all struggled to find out how we would fit into these plans. Finally surveyors and environmental engineers started showing up. Surveyors invaded our privacy by placing stakes and red ribbons over our property. Even our septic tank was staked out.

The DOT representatives scheduled several meetings at our local high School to look at maps and to discuss the process. Many people took the time out of their busy schedules to attend and ask questions. One question asked many times was what should we do with our property as far as maintenance or improvements knowing our property would be condemned. We were basically advised to do the obvious things that had to be done and nothing other. So my property has suffered because it didn't make sense if the property would be condemned to maintain it like I normally would. People in Phase 1 and 2 had major changes in their lives because they have had to relocate and people in other phases were trying to prepare for future life changes. Most, I would say, accepted the future changes for the sake of modernization.

Now we understand that our leaders, because of a reprioritization plan, has changed the rules in the middle of the game, and put a hold on the project. No one seems to know if this is a permanent cancellation or a temporary postponement of the project. Apparently someone or some group has determined that our bypass is not a priority. It is inconceivable that DOT personnel have spent 8 plus years in the planning stages in preparation for this project, but now it is classified as not a priority. It's inconceivable that at a minimum seventy five million dollars have already been spent and the project has been deemed not a priority. I am waiting for the media to pick up on a story about the seventy five million dollar road in Rutherford County to nowhere. I figure the seventy five million dollars of our tax money is a very conservative figure. It is inconceivable that the state would treat the citizens impacted by this project over the past 8 plus years, by manipulating them like puppets on a string and then cutting the strings. These citizens are real people with feelings. It is inconceivable to me that the 221-

915 US 221 Hwy
Rutherford, NJ 07070
July 17, 2014
Honorable Mayor
111 W. Court St.
Rutherford, N.J. 07070

Dear Mr. Kelly:

I am a resident of Rutherford County, N.C. for the last six years. I have been involved in the town's development of the new town center and in the town's efforts to improve the town's appearance. I have been a member of the town's planning commission and have been involved in many of the town's projects. I have been a member of the town's planning commission and have been involved in many of the town's projects. I have been a member of the town's planning commission and have been involved in many of the town's projects.

The DOT representatives scheduled several meetings at our local high school to discuss the process. Many people took the time out of their busy schedules to attend and ask questions. One question asked many times was when should we be able to start the project? The DOT representatives advised us that the project would be completed in 2015. We were advised to do the obvious things that had to be done and not to worry about the project. We were advised to do the obvious things that had to be done and not to worry about the project. We were advised to do the obvious things that had to be done and not to worry about the project.

This is a very important project for the town and the county. It will improve the town's appearance and make it a more attractive place to live and work. I am waiting for the media to pick up on a story about the project. I am waiting for the media to pick up on a story about the project. I am waiting for the media to pick up on a story about the project.

bypass project would not be grandfathered in considering it was started eight plus years before the new state reprioritization came out to stop the project. I have always been taught to finish what you start. I believe I could have accepted the decision not to begin the project in the beginning, but to start and finish 2 phases (seventy five million dollars) and stop and not finish the last three phases is a terrible example. It looks like a lack of leadership from our decision makers.

Apparently Rutherford County and its citizens are not a priority to the decision makers, a slap in the face to Rutherford County. No doubt this new road would help the economics of a struggling county.

This project, which we had accepted, will impact us in two different phases. Hopefully, you can understand my frustration in that we have for years now been planning for changes in our future. This has been a total roller coaster ride for us, and many other citizens. A representative from the Asheville DOT office has told us that there will be a meeting in Marion, N.C. (I guess to appease us) in the future to explain the reprioritization. What incentive do we have to attend the meeting knowing that we have already taken time to attend several meetings at our local high school in Rutherford County and everything said has been a falsehood and totally misleading?

I would entertain at your convenience some truthful and factual correspondence from you in reference to your feelings and to the future of the 221 bypass that has already used 75 million dollars of our tax money on a road to nowhere.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacy Lail".

Stacy Lail

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 before the new state requirements came out to stop the project. I have to say I have
 begun to finish what you start. I believe I could have accepted the decision not to begin
 the project in the beginning but to start and finish 2 phases (seventy five million dollars
 and stop and not finish the last three phases is a terrible example. It looks like a lack of
 leadership from our decision makers.

apparently, Richardson County and its citizens are not a priority to the decision makers
 who are in the face of Richardson County. No doubt this new road would help the economic
 of a struggling county.

This project, which we had accepted, will impact us in two different phases. Initially,
 you are concerned and my frustration is that we have for years now been planning for
 the future. This has been a total effort to coordinate the future and not to
 coordinate the future.

What incentive do we have to speed the meeting knowing that we have
 already spent time to attend several meetings at our local high school in Richardson
 County and every thing said has been a total and total misreading.

I would maintain as you conveyance some maintain and total road and road work. You
 in relation to your feelings and to the time of the bypass that has already had
 millions of dollars of our tax money on a road to nowhere.

Sincerely yours,

[Handwritten signature]
 State Rep.

Karyl Fuller

From: Bob Boyette <bboyette@marionnc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2014 4:11 PM
To: Karyl Fuller
Cc: Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd Cuthbertson; Heather Cotton
Subject: City of Marion STI Project Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Karyl,

The City of Marion, by unanimous direction of the City Council, makes the following comments on the STI projects that are in line to receive points from the Isothermal RPO. The City of Marion supports providing points for all listed McDowell County projects in line to receive RPO points, with the following exceptions:

1. NC 226 Widening from US 221 Bypass to I-40 (SPOT# H090504) - The Marion City Council noted that this section of highway had been widened to three lanes with curb and gutter several years ago, except for a small section under the CSX Railroad bridge. The City Council does not believe that further widening of this section is feasible or needed and would recommend that no RPO points go toward this project, at either the regional or division levels.
2. Norfolk Southern Railway Station Improvements between Asheville and Salisbury (SPOT# R142238) - The Marion City Council noted that train stations in Marion and Old Fort have already been renovated to accommodate future passenger rail service, so this project is not needed. The City Council would recommend that no RPO points go toward this project at either the regional or division level.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you need any additional information.

Thank you,

Bob Boyette
City Manager
City of Marion
P.O. Drawer 700
194 North Main Street
Marion, NC 28752

(828)652-3551 (telephone)
(828)652-1983 (fax)
bboyette@marionnc.org

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