



City Of Raleigh
North Carolina

CHARLES MEEKER
MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

FROM: Charles C. Meeker

DATE: September 14, 2006

RE: Fresh Look at Regional Transit

In view of the Triangle Transit Authority's decision not to pursue Federal funding and in the absence of another plan for regional transit, let me suggest that CAMPO take a fresh look at regional transportation through the following steps.

1. Objective Data. CAMPO should expedite work on the Transit Infrastructure Blueprint to obtain objective data on the public's travel and the potential transit corridors, including estimates of the costs of the transit options. We should request our staff to let us know what consulting help may be required to assist on its work. Should additional funding be required, we could consider asking the Triangle Transit Authority to provide that funding.
2. Public Guidance. CAMPO should appoint in the near future a group of community and business leaders (a) to formulate a set of guiding principles for public transportation, (b) to analyze the above objective data as to where public transportation makes sense, and (c) to establish priorities.
3. Regional Coordination. We should coordinate with the DCHC MPO each step of the way and request that DCHC undertake a similar fresh look. Once the initial work is done, CAMPO and DCHC should jointly establish a regional plan for transit. Our joint meetings with DCHC would be a good forum for this.
4. Funding. Current funding for public transportation should remain in place pending the outcome of this fresh look. Should one or more public transportation corridors appear viable, CAMPO should ask our public group to recommend appropriate funding options to proceed ahead. The relatively small amount of local funds has been impediment to regional transportation in the past.

With all the growth in our region, it makes sense to take a fresh look as of the fall of 2006 to see how public transportation can be a meaningful part of our mobility plans in the years ahead.

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