

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY



JOINT LEGISLATIVE TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

REPORT TO THE 2015 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

JANUARY 27, 2015

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

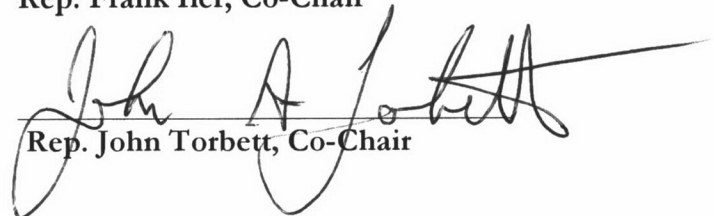
January 27, 2015

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE 2015 GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The JOINT LEGISLATIVE TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE respectfully submits the following report to the 2015 General Assembly, pursuant to G.S. 120-70.51.


Sen. Kathy Harrington, Co-Chair


Rep. Frank Iler, Co-Chair


Rep. John Torbett, Co-Chair

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COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

The Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee met two times following the 2014 session of the General Assembly. The following is a brief summary of the Committee's proceedings. Detailed minutes and information from each Committee meeting are available in the Legislative Library or at the Committee's website.

December 5, 2014

The first meeting of the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee following the 2014 session of the General Assembly was held December 5, 2014, at 9:00 am in Room 1228 of the Legislative Building. The Committee first heard a presentation on the status of structurally deficient and functionally obsolete bridges by Greg Perfetti, Director of Field Support, North Carolina Department of Transportation. Next, the Committee heard a presentation on improving project delivery, bids, and contracts process by Ron Hancock, State Construction Engineer, Construction Unit, North Carolina Department of Transportation. Next, the Committee heard a presentation of the draft 2016-2025 State Transportation Improvement Program by Calvin Leggett, Director of Program Development, North Carolina Department of Transportation. The final presentation was a Division of Highways staffing efficiency progress report by Mike Holder, Chief Engineer, North Carolina Department of Transportation.

January 27, 2015

The second meeting of the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee following the 2014 session of the General Assembly was held January 27, 2015, at 9:00 am in Room 1228 of the Legislative Building. The Committee first heard a presentation of the Eastern Infrastructure Improvements Study from Paul Worley, Director, Rail Division, North Carolina Department of Transportation. Next, the Committee heard several presentations on the issue of moped policy, which the Committee was directed to examine pursuant to S.L. 2014-114, Sec. 4. The first two moped policy presentations, addressing accident analysis and enforcement, were made by Kelly Thomas, Commissioner, Division of Motor Vehicles, North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Kevin Lacy, State Traffic Engineer, North Carolina Department of Transportation. The third moped policy presentation, covering moped liability insurance, was made by Tim Lucas, Personal Lines Manager, North Carolina Rate Bureau. The fourth moped policy presentation was by John Hill, member, North Carolina Motorcycle Dealers Association. The final presentation to the Committee, covering outsourcing of preconstruction/technical services and pavement preservation activities, was made by Mike Holder, Chief Engineer, North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Rodger Rochelle, Director of the Technical Services Division, North Carolina Department of Transportation. Following this presentation, the Committee adopted this report and adjourned.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

2013-2014

President Pro Tempore of the Senate
Appointments:

Sen. Kathy Harrington (Co-Chair)
Sen. Warren Daniel
Sen. Joel D. M. Ford
Sen. Malcolm Graham
Sen. Rick Gunn
Sen. Ralph Hise
Sen. Neal Hunt
Sen. Wesley Meredith
Sen. Bill Rabon
Sen. Dan Soucek
Sen. Michael Walters

Speaker of the House of Representatives
Appointments:

Rep. Frank Iler (Co-Chair)
Rep. John Torbett (Co-Chair)
Rep. William Brawley
Rep. Rayne Brown
Rep. Becky Carney
Rep. Nelson Dollar
Rep. Charles Jeter
Rep. Chuck McGrady
Rep. Rodney W. Moore
Rep. Phil Shepard
Rep. Paul Tine

Advisory Members

Sen. Brent Jackson
Sen. Bill Cook
Rep. Dana Bumgardner

COMMITTEE CHARGE/STATUTORY AUTHORITY

§ 120-70.51. Purpose and powers of Committee.

- (a) The Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee may:
- (1) Review reports prepared by the Department of Transportation or any other agency of State government related, in any manner, to transportation, when those reports are required by any law.
 - (2) Monitor the funds deposited in and expenditures from the North Carolina Highway Trust Fund, the Highway Fund, the General Fund, or any other fund when those expenditures are related, in any manner, to transportation.
 - (3) Determine whether funds related, in any manner, to transportation are being spent in accordance with law.
 - (4) Determine whether any revisions are needed in the funding for a program for which funds in the Trust Fund, the Highway Fund, the General Fund, or any other fund when those expenditures are related, in any manner, to transportation may be used, including revisions needed to meet any statutory timetable or program.
 - (4a) Examine the importance of railroads and railroad infrastructure improvements to economic development in North Carolina, including improvements to short line railroads.
 - (4b) Study issues important to the future of passenger and freight rail service in North Carolina.
 - (4c) Determine methods to expedite property disputes between railroads and private landowners.
 - (4d) Study all aspects of the operation, structure, management, and long range plans of the North Carolina Railroad.
 - (5) Report to the General Assembly at the beginning of each regular session concerning its determinations of needed changes in the funding or operation of programs related, in any manner, to transportation.

These powers, which are enumerated by way of illustration, shall be liberally construed to provide for the maximum oversight by the Committee of all transportation matters in this State.

(b) The Committee may make interim reports to the General Assembly on matters for which it may report to a regular session of the General Assembly. A report to the General Assembly may contain any legislation needed to implement a recommendation of the Committee.

Additional responsibility of Committee

Pursuant to G.S. 143B-350(n), the Committee has the opportunity to review proposed appointments to the Board of Transportation for 30 days prior to the appointments becoming effective.