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Workshop Gathers Public Input For EL Mobility Study



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Staff Writer

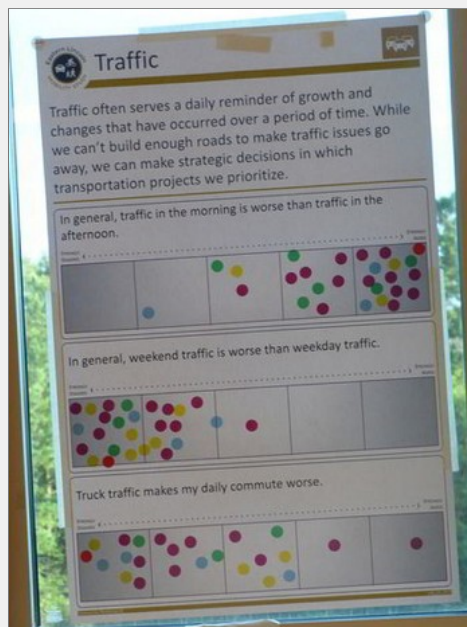
In early May, Lincoln County Commissioners approved undertaking a mobility study to determine problems and needs related to traffic in the eastern area of Lincoln County. The study, talked about for months and authorized by Commissioners May 6th, is being conducted by Kimley-Horn, a planning and design engineering consultant firm with offices coast to coast. Their Charlotte office is handling this study.

The firm had collected data on known and suspected traffic problem areas, crash data from wrecks, etc. prior to Tuesday night's session. Unlike the first public meeting in May, this time those attending were asked to use dots to express their opinions about things like traffic, economic development, biking & walking, and other factors related to mobility in the East Lincoln area.

The firm will now compile the information collected Tuesday night, add it to their own research and that of the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization and the NC Dept. of Transportation and then develop a potential plan for the County to use in talks with the DOT and GCLMPO about future road projects.

Four of the five Lincoln County Commissioners attended the Tuesday session. Commissioner Rich Permenter commented, "the worst that can come of this is that we'll have a better idea of what our needs and desires really are and a plan--whether accepted and implemented or not--that can be used to address those with the DOT."

The next public session will be in October when the potential plan will be unveiled and the public will have the opportunity for further input and comments before the plan is adopted by Commissioners. The plan will then be used to make Lincoln County's case for projects with the GCLMPO and DOT.



Posters like this were placed on the inside of the windows at the East Lincoln Community Center for those attending to rate the problems and needs related to mobility in the area. There were also handouts for other input from the public.

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