

From: Esther Manheimer <esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com>
Sent: 5/15/2017 1:21:15 PM
To: 'Kim Roney'
Cc: <GJackson@ashevillenc.gov>, <JMatthews@ashevillenc.gov>
Subject: RE: Concern about lack of transit access to schedule community input.

Kim â€” thanks for your email and I agree that it is not appropriate to hold a workshop on strategic planning for public transportation at a location inaccessible by public transportation.Â Iâ€™m not sure how that decision was made.Â Maybe the state wanted to use a state facility, not sure.Â I will try to find out what involvement, if any, the city had in the site selection, or could have had in the site selection.

Gary â€” please see below.Â I believe this is the webpage concerning the community workshop.Â Could you have someone find out some more information about how the site was selected?Â And whether the city was consulted?

<https://www.ncdot.gov/nctransit/strategicplan/>

Thank you,
Esther Manheimer

From: Kim Roney [mailto:mskimroney@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 2:07 PM
To: perkins@ncat.edu; wclarke@ncdot.gov; dlhoward@ncdot.gov; Esther Manheimer <esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com>; jhtrogdon@ncdot.gov; dbender@ncdot.gov
Subject: Fwd: Concern about lack of transit access to schedule community input.

Mr. Trogdon, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Howard, Mr. Bender, and Mayor Manheimer,

My name is Kim Roney, and I'm a piano teacher in Asheville who serves on the Multi-Modal Transportation Commission representing transit interests through my seat on the Transportation Committee.

I am forwarding an email I sent to Mr. Bender in advance of last week's community workshop at the NC Arboretum. I am very concerned that this community event regarding transit planning was scheduled at a location that was not accessible by bus. Because of the lack of sidewalks and bike lanes, there is not a reasonable, safe way to get to the NC Arboretum without a car. I was eager to provide input during this important feedback opportunity, so I arranged to borrow a car for the day after researching my options online. (You will see the screenshot attached.)

It is my understanding that this is not the first time meetings regarding transit have been held in inaccessible locations or at difficult times for public attendance. A community member shared with me that the first round of STIP/SPOT meetings held at AB Tech Enka campus were at a time when the bus transit didn't run, a location that is also not easily accessible for those on foot or using a bike. This is a tremendous missed opportunity to engage the public, especially since that meeting was meant to provide visuals of projects that represent all modes of transportation.

I appreciated that the meeting at the NC Arboretum was held during a time when folks could take a lunch break to attend, and at a time when parents with school-aged children have an option to attend as well! When planning future meetings regarding transportation in WNC, I plead with you to consider working with Asheville or Buncombe County to utilize a space that is accessible via bus transit. The Pack Library may be a good option too, so long as the meeting is held when buses are running before and after the meeting.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your response.
Kim

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kim Roney** <mskimroney@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, May 1, 2017 at 8:54 AM
Subject: Concern about lack of transit access to schedule community input.
To: dbender@ncdot.gov

David,

My name is Kim Roney, and I currently sit on the Transit Committee and Multi-Modal Transportation Commission for the City of Asheville.

I am planning to attend the community workshop on May 11th at the NC Arboretum, though as a transit rider without a car, it is proving to be a challenge to attend. I have attached a screenshot of the message I received from Google maps when searching for a transit route, and though it would take 15 minutes to get there with a car, it would take 2 hrs and 47 minutes to walk from West Asheville.

In the future, I would like to see meetings like this Downtown or at least available by transit.

Thank you for your consideration,
Kim

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Kim Roney - Piano Teacher
Asheville City Multi-Modal Transportation Commission & Transit Committee Member