

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Board of Commissioners

FROM: Bryan Gruesbeck, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Truck Route Update

DATE: March 25, 2013

Background: During previous meeting Board meetings, questions have arisen about the potential for a dedicated Truck Route around the downtown Pittsboro and Highway 15/501. The purpose of this Memo is to provide a quick update on some recent conversations that I have had with NCDOT.



NCDOT indicates that current plans for a bypass would create a new expressway length on the near east side of Town off of 64 and eventually merging on the near south side of Town at US 15/501 (see diagram attached to the left). The key to building this stretch of highway is dependent largely on development (for example, Chatham Park).

The section of US 15/501 that goes through Pittsboro is not part of the “Strategic Highway Corridor” which is another way of saying that NCDOT has not identified this segment of highway as critical to moving a large volume of people/supplies in the event of an emergency. Furthermore, the area currently lacks an acceptable route to detour traffic away from US 15/501. Therefore, there are no plans to significantly widen this segment to a boulevard or expressway.

As Chatham Park begins its development process, there will be more discussion on this issue that we will need to follow.

Action Requested: Receive Memo and discuss if appropriate.