

Sunset Bridge Still On Hold

Design and land acquisition for the proposed high-rise bridge at Sunset Beach are still on hold pending issuance of environmental permits.

According to Tom Shearin, project engineer with the N.C. Department of Transportation, permit applications were mailed about two months ago to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the N.C. Division of Coastal Management. It could be next year before the state resumes land acquisition efforts or hires a bridge design consultant, he said.

"We have to have approval from both agencies," added Shearin. "A lot of times, those applications take six months to a year to get approved."

In the meantime, acquisition of right-of-way for the bridge has come to a halt. While half the land needed for the project has already been acquired, the state has yet to purchase property at Sea Trail Golf Links and several other small parcels located in the proposed path of the bridge.

"We're not really able to do much on it right now pending receipt of those permits," said Shearin, adding that the exact right-of-way may have to be adjusted to acquire the permits.

Although the state cannot continue with land acquisition or bridge design measures until the permits are granted, he said the overall project is still on schedule. Construction of the \$6.6 million bridge, which will tower 65 feet over the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, is expected to be completed in 1991.

The existing pontoon bridge, the last of its kind on the North Carolina coast, has been operating since 1961. Increasing maintenance costs is one reason the state plans to replace it with a bridge similar to those now serving Holden Beach and Ocean Isle Beach which allow for simultaneous boat and vehicular traffic.

Roads Board Expected To Award Bid For Second Phase Of Bypass

The N.C. Board of Transportation is expected to approved contracts for building the second of three phases of the Shallotte bypass when it meets Friday in Raleigh and to give the go-ahead for construction to begin.

When Transportation Commissioners meet at 9 a.m. in the Highway Building they will review bids on the project from seven firms, including the Beckley, W.Va., firm that received the contract to prepare the first section of the bypass. Bid prices range from a low of \$1.457 million from BMCO Construction Inc. of Lumberton to a high of \$1.915 million from Jerry McLamb Construction Co. of Shallotte. The second-lowest bid came from the company contracted for the first phase, Vecellio & Grogan Inc., at \$1.513 million.

Bids are for the grading, drainage, service road paving and fencing of the section from one-third mile west of S.R. 1348 (Mulberry Road) to just east of S.R. 1136 (Red Bug Road), approximately 2.5 miles in length. The work could begin as early as Aug. 15, and is to be completed no later than July 1, 1989.

The board will also address provisions for right of way and control of access to the bypass.

In action on other local projects, the board is expected to approve secondary road plan construction projects as follows:

- S.R. 1176 (Carter Street), grade, drain, base and pave from S.R. 1145 (Village Point Road) to the dead end, \$40,000;

- Spot stabilization on S.R.s 1224 (Sweet Bay Drive), 1187 (Garner Street), 1228 (High Point Avenue), 1213 (Live Oak Avenue), 1214 (Live Oak Circle), 1256, 1227 (Wilson Avenue), 1268, 1422 (Blue Bank Loop) and 1401 (Galloway Road), \$170,000.

- Regrade shoulders and ditches along S.R. 1145 from N.C. 179 to S.R. 1233 (Shallotte Point Road), \$50,000;

- Improve intersections of S.R. 1115 (Old Ferry Connector) at S.R. 1120 (Sabbath Home Road); S.R. 1165 (Thomasboro Road) at S.R. 1164 (Beach Drive); S.R. 1426 (Mt. Misery Road) at S.R. 1430 (Cedar Hill Road); and S.R. 1437 (Old Fayet-

teville Road) at S.R. 1438 (Lanvale Road), \$8,000;

- Obtain right of way signatures countywide, increase funds by \$50,000;

The board is also expected to approve:

- \$5,000 in additional funds for improvement of N.C. 179 to Shallotte Middle School, to be added to the \$25,000 previously approved;

- \$5,000 in additional funds for improvements to S.R. 1104 (Yaupon Drive) at Yaupon Beach, to be added to the \$25,000 previously budgeted;

- \$2,206.50 in additional funds for improvements to S.R. 1177 (Sunset Beach Road) at Sunset Beach, in addition to the \$8,000 previously approved;

- \$50,000 to widen and resurface Yaupon Drive (S.R. 1104), from N.C. 133 West, a distance of seven-tenths mile;

- \$20,000 for drainage improvements to S.R. 1190 (Ocean Highway), in Long Beach, from S.R. 1104 (Ocean Drive) West, a distance of one-tenth mile.

- \$65,000 additional state and federal funds for preliminary engineering, right of way, utilities and construction on S.R. 1472 (Fletcher Drive) from S.R. 1435 (Navassa Road) eastward to S.R. 1462 (Fairview Road) northwest of Belville, in addition to the \$135,000 previously approved.

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STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

ROBERT ANSLEY JR. was busy installing a copper standing seam canopy at the Ocean Isle Beach Town Hall Friday afternoon. At knock-off time he still had a few hours of work remaining on the ornamental piece he calls a "doo dah." While the entire building won't be finished until later, town commissioners hope to use the board room for their next meeting.

Ocean Isle Amends Budget

Ocean Isle Beach Commissioners met for about 10 minutes last Thursday to make a few end-of-the-year budget adjustments for fiscal year 1987-88.

The major adjustment was the transfer of \$53,536 from the general reserve fund to the water fund to pay for the 12-inch water line recently installed from the mainland to the island. Also transferred from the general fund to the water budget was \$10,000 to help pay the county water bill.

In the police department, commissioners voted to transfer \$2,451 from the vehicle purchase fund to

uniforms and supplies. According to Town Clerk Alberta Tatum, expenditures on uniforms were greater than expected last fiscal year because of the high turnover in the department.

The board also showed in the budget donations from the Ocean Isle Beach Property Owners Association of \$1,000 for landscaping and \$1,200, which was left over from the purchase of a first responders vehicle.

Ocean Isle Commissioners' next regular meeting is July 12 at 9 a.m. Mrs. Tatum said that meeting may be held in the new town hall.

Aglow Meets On July 9

The Shallotte Women's Aglow Fellowship meets Saturday, July 9, at 9:30 a.m. at Shallotte Middle School.

Toni Iossi, local chapter treasurer, will give the program of ministry. She and her husband, Milton, and

son, Graham, have lived in Shallotte for nearly three years.

Women of the area are invited to share refreshments, fellowship and ministry as visitors or members of the organization.

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School Board Takes Personnel Actions

Brunswick County Board of Education members took a number of routine personnel actions at their June 27 meeting, including the hiring of Karl Tutt of Wilmington to teach English at West Brunswick High School during the absence of Melba Johnson.

Johnson will be teaching and studying at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on a fellowship.

Tutt, 42, has 13 years of teaching experience and is a graduate of Wake Forest University.

Also assigned posts for the 1988-89 school year were Barbara Smith of Leland, reading teacher, Leland Middle; Debra Carroll, Wilmington, interim sixth grade, Leland Middle; Marva Moss, Leland, teacher, Bolivia Elementary; Nancy Barbee, Ocean Isle Beach, sixth grade, Shallotte Middle; Robin Butler, Whiteville, eighth grade math-science, Shallotte Middle; Shelia Gore, Longwood, fifth grade, Shallotte Middle; Emily Sellers, Supply, seventh grade math-science, Shallotte Middle; Bonner Stiller, Southport, eighth grade science, South Brunswick Middle; Ernest Johnson, Wilmington, interim sixth grade science, South Brunswick Middle; Lynn Kirtley, Myrtle Beach,

S.C., special education, Alternative School; Bonita Phelps, Wilmington, teacher, Lincoln Primary; Rhonda Hennis, Wilmington, special education, West Brunswick High; Mary Lynn Buie, Wilmington, math, South Brunswick High; David Brown, Wilmington, P.E. teacher, head baseball coach, North Brunswick High.

Also, Helen Davis, Leland, early childhood, Lincoln Primary; Suzanne King, Wilmington, early childhood, Lincoln Primary; Betty Miller, Wilmington, early childhood, Lincoln Primary; Sonya Anderson, Ash, early childhood, Waccamaw Elementary; and Barbara Evans, Ash, special education, Waccamaw Elementary.

Resignations were accepted from Carolyn Long and Terry Sellers, teacher assistants, Union Primary; and Dora Bellamy, cafeteria assistant, Bolivia Elementary.

Leaves of absence were granted to Rosemary Christian, teacher, Southport Elementary, and Carla Privette, job placement specialist at the Alternative School.

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