



New Bern Housing Authority and the City of New Bern

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS PLANNING GRANT
Trent Court/Craven Terrace/Greater Five Points Neighborhood

Transportation Working Group Drive-About
Monday, March 16 at 7:00 pm at New Bern Police Dept.

Tour Notes

Five participants were driven by New Bern Police Officer Linda Godette via van throughout the Choice Neighborhood community.

7:15 pm-The drive started in Duffyfield, going on West Street and turning onto F Street. It was still light outside, slowly turning to dusk so the lack of sidewalks and space along the roads to walk safely was evident.

Questions were asked regarding the local CARTS stop, which was located at the House of God, 1021 Biddle Street and there was a small CARTS bus stop sign which included a phone # to call for schedule at 636-4917. A few pictures were taken to show the proximity and lack of covered sitting area to wait for the arrival of the CARTS van.

7:25 pm-As the van drove along, there was a particularly narrow 5 street intersection at K & H & Sampson Streets which was barely wide enough for the van, as there were children playing in the street, a toppled over trash can and only room enough for one car to park and another to maneuver passing. It was questioned how school buses can go through this intersection safely with no stop signs or proper crossing lines.

7:35 pm- Riding along to the edge of the Larksville community, it was pointed out by Officer Godette that there was a canal on our right with sitting water and no fencing to protect children from falling into the water.

Entering Main Street it was noted that the Community Resource Center, owned by New Bern Parks and Recreation, was abandoned and no longer being used by the Police, which at one time was a successful "Weed & Seed" program to educate adults and prepare them with workforce skills. It was questioned why it ended and Officer Godette indicated the funding had ended.

The ride continued and now there was darkness and the lack of lighting became apparent. The group passed Trent Court and the edges of the development had minimal lighting while looking into the center courtyard areas, no lighting other than an occasional "night light" at a couple of doorways that barely lighted the front doorstep. The outline of children running and playing was barely visible. Adult sized individuals' shadows could barely be seen hanging out at the children's playground area in the middle of the courtyard, where there was no supervision and no lighting.

