



For Immediate Release  
May 21, 2008

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## Transportation Coalition Announces New Chairs & Directors

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Today the transportation advocacy coalition, *NC Go!*, announced a change in leadership and appointed new directors to its executive committee. Serving as new co-chairs are Marc Finlayson and Berry Jenkins, effective May 20, 2008. The co-chairs will share responsibilities after Beau Mills, immediate past chair, stepped down from his leadership role.

Finlayson serves as the executive director of the Highway 17 Association, an advocacy organization focused on securing funding to complete the US Highway 17 corridor in North Carolina. He has also served on the *NC Go!* executive committee since 2006 and represented the organization at speaking engagements and with the media.

“I am pleased *NC Go!* asked me to serve as co-chair and will work hard to advocate on behalf of the organization,” said Finlayson. “Highway 17 is based in Eastern North Carolina, but our issues are not dissimilar from those throughout the state. We have too little funding for vital projects that would impact economic development, ease urban congestion, improve safety and preserve our quality of life.”

In addition to his work with *NC Go!* and the Highway 17 Association, Finlayson founded *Finlayson Consulting, LLC* in 2003 to take advantage of his more than 20 years experience in public affairs, marketing, public relations, legislative and regulatory affairs. Previously he served as Weyerhaeuser’s North Carolina communications manager where he was responsible for news media relations, crisis management and corporate image advertising.

Finlayson is a graduate of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at UNC-Chapel Hill. He began his career as a broadcast journalist in Virginia and North Carolina before spending four years at UNC Public Television as a reporter, producer and host of *Stateline* and *Legislative Report*.

Berry Jenkins, previously vice-chair of *NC Go!*, is with Carolinas AGC in the Heavy Highway Division where he serves as the highway industry lobbyist and construction industry liaison. He has served on the *NC Go!* executive committee since the coalition was formed in 2000. In recent years Jenkins has spoken on behalf of *NC Go!* before the legislature and served as a spokesman for the coalition with the media.

“Marc’s experience will make him an asset to the organization, and I look forward to working with him,” said Jenkins. “We have serious business to get down to in this short session. Having co-chairs will help make us even more accessible to legislators, the media and the public.”

Jenkins previously worked at the NC Department of Transportation for 32 years in the construction and preconstruction areas before joining Carolinas AGC. He retired as the deputy

state highway administrator for preconstruction where he was responsible for design branch functions, right of way acquisitions, traffic engineering and safety systems, and engineering automation.

Jenkins currently serves on the North Carolina Chamber's Transportation Committee, the Technical Advisory Committee to the Sedimentation Control Commission and the Sedimentation Education Committee of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Also joining the *NC Go!* executive committee are four new directors; Amber Wagner, executive director for the North Carolina Public Transportation Association; Bruce Beasley, president of the Wilson Chamber of Commerce; Joe Milazzo, executive director of the Regional Transportation Alliance; and Dee Freeman, executive director of the Triangle J Council of Governments.

“Our newest board members represent diverse interests and further establish *NC Go!* as a broad-based, statewide coalition,” said Jenkins. “*NC Go!* remains the only diverse organization advocating for transportation funding, improved mobility and our citizens’ quality of life.”

#### **About *NC Go!***

*NC Go!* is the state's only broad-based coalition advocating for North Carolina's transportation system. Our coalition consists of nearly 100 businesses, chambers of commerce, associations and transit agencies representing 25,000 businesses and member organizations, with more than 6 million employees, transit riders, citizens and drivers in North Carolina. *NC Go!* has led the call to adequately invest in highways, bridges, public transportation, rails, ports, airports and ferries. For more information, visit [www.ncgo.org](http://www.ncgo.org).

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