

42	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
43	Anne Phillips	DCHC MPO
44	Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
45	Dale McKeel	DCHC MPO
46	Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
47	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
48	Kayla Mathews	DCHC MPO
49	Dave Connelly	Resident
50	Heidi Perov	Resident
51	Michael Waldroup	Resident

52 Quorum Count: 9 of 10 Voting Members

53 Chair Wendy Jacobs called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A roll call of MPO Board Members
 54 and Alternates was performed. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO
 55 Board were identified and are indicated above. Chair Wendy Jacobs stated that Pam Hemminger gave
 56 notice of her late arrival. Aaron Cain introduced Kayla Mathews as a new DCHC MPO staff member.

57 **PRELIMINARIES:**

58 **2. Ethics Reminder**

59 Chair Wendy Jacobs read the Ethics Reminder and asked if there were any known conflicts of
 60 interest with respect to matters coming before the MPO Board and requested that if there were any
 61 identified during the meeting for them to be announced. There were no known conflicts identified by
 62 the MPO Board Members.

63 Aaron Cain reminded the MPO Board that their Ethics Commission filings must be submitted by
 64 April 15. Chair Wendy Jacobs noted that there is a link for the necessary documents in the agenda
 65 packet.

66 **3. Adjustments to the Agenda**

67 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

68 **4. Public Comments**

69 There were no public comments.

70 **5. Directives to Staff**

71 Chair Wendy Jacobs stated there will be a presentation about the updates to the US 15-501
72 study at the next MPO Board Meeting on March 10.

73 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

74 **6. January 13, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**

75 Mike Fox noted that the MPO Board Meeting regularly conflicts with his schedule, which is the
76 reason for him being listed as the Alternate. Mike Fox requested that the MPO Board notify him if there
77 are items that require his immediate attention.

78 Michael Parker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Pierce Freelon seconded the
79 motion. The motion passed unanimously.

80 **ACTION ITEMS:**

81 **7. 2021 DCHC MPO Meeting Calendar**

82 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

83 Vice Chair Jenn Weaver made a motion to approve the 2021 meeting calendar. Michael
84 Parker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

85 **8. MPO Board Governance Committee**

86 **Damon Seils, Town of Carrboro**

87 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

88 Damon Seils stated that, in fall 2020, the MPO Board authorized the Governance Committee
89 to accept responses for the Request for Proposals and Scope of Work. Damon Seils continued that
90 MPO staff held an informational meeting for interested firms. Damon Seils added that there was an
91 interested firm that is currently in negotiations for finalizing their contract. Felix Nwoko noted that
92 the firm was selected from the on-call list. Felix Nwoko mentioned that there was interest from the
93 MPO Board in keeping costs below \$70,000.

94 Damon Seils elaborated that the chosen firm has experience in reviewing and providing
95 comments for the structure, governance, and administration of North Carolina MPOs. Damon Seils
96 continued that the firm would also be tasked with reviewing the MPO's leadership role in
97 transportation planning and coordinating with regional partners. Damon Seils stated that once the
98 contract is finalized, the firm will come to the DCHC MPO Board for a kickoff meeting.

99 There was no further action required by the MPO Board.

100 **9. FY2022 Unified Planning Work Program**

101 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

102 Felix Nwoko noted that the FY2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was released for
103 public comment on January 13, but no public comments were received. Felix Nwoko added that the
104 UPWP is due to NCDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) by February 15. Felix Nwoko
105 continued that the UPWP is federally funded at 80%, with the remaining 20% to be provided by a
106 local match.

107 Felix Nwoko noted that the FY2022 UPWP is unique because it contains implementation
108 plans and programs rather than solely focusing on compliance. Felix Nwoko added that the UPWP
109 will contain the plans and programs that align with the MPO's goals and objectives. Felix Nwoko
110 stated that the UPWP will include core functions, funding changes, and new initiatives.

111 Vice Chair Jenn Weaver made a motion to approve the FY22 UPWP. Michael Parker seconded
112 the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

113 **10. FFY 2021 CRRSSA (COVID Relief) Section 5307 Apportionment for DCHC UZA**

114 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

115 Felix Nwoko stated that, as a part of the second round of COVID Relief Funding, the MPO
116 received approximately \$21.5M in federal Section 5307 funds for distribution to eligible transit agencies.
117 Felix Nwoko stated that the MPO plans to distribute this funding using the same formula used during the

118 first round of COVID funding. Felix Nwoko added that this current round of funding does not require a
119 local match.

120 Lisa Mathis made a motion to approve the Section 5307 Apportionment split letter for COVID
121 relief. Pierce Freelon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

122 **11. Draft Public Involvement Policy (PIP) and Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP)**

123 **Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

124 Anne Phillips stated that the MPO Board released the draft Public Involvement Policy (PIP) and
125 Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP) to the public for a 45-day public comment period without
126 receiving any comments from the public. Anne Phillips added that a public hearing was held at the MPO
127 Board Meeting in January 2021, but no members of the public spoke at the hearing. Anne Phillips stated
128 that she added an Executive Summary to the PIP and updated graphics at the request of the Technical
129 Committee (TC).

130 Pierce Freelon made a motion to approve the Public Involvement Policy and Limited English
131 Proficiency Plan. Michael Parker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

132 **12. FHWA Highway Infrastructure Funding Swap**

133 **Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

134 Anne Phillips stated that the MPO has received approximately \$338,000 in Highway
135 Infrastructure Program (Infra) from the FHWA, which can only be used for projects with vehicular
136 benefits. Anne Phillips added that NCDOT has offered to swap these funds for Surface Transportation
137 Block Grants – Direct Attributable (STBGDA) and Transportation Alternative Program – Direct
138 Attributable (TAPDA) funds, which are more flexible. Chair Wendy Jacobs and Anne Phillips discussed
139 that STBGDA and TAPDA funds can be used for bike and pedestrian projects and transit. Anne Phillips
140 added that this funding will be included in a federal funding call for projects, which is due on March 31.

141 Charlie Reece made a motion to approve the Infra-fund swap with NCDOT. Damon Seils
142 seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

143 **13. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #4**

144 **Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

145 Anne Phillips stated that Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #4 is
146 necessary so that the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the TIP remain in
147 alignment. Anne Phillips highlighted three schedule changes, while noting that there are additional
148 changes to the TIP listed in the agenda packet.

149 Michael Parker made a motion to approve Amendment #4 to the FY2020-2029 TIP. Damon Seils
150 seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

151 **14. Safety Performance Targets**

152 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

153 Andy Henry stated that MPOs must adopt targets for safety performance measures per federal
154 statute. Andy Henry continued that MPOs may either adopt the targets developed by NCDOT, or they
155 may develop and adopt their own targets. Andy Henry added that MPO staff recommended adopting
156 the NCDOT targets because the targets are challenging and using the NCDOT targets allows the MPO to
157 use NCDOT's methodology and data. Andy Henry noted that these targets will also be incorporated into
158 the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) when the MTP is next updated or amended. Andy Henry
159 noted that the safety targets are based on the NCDOT Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), which aims
160 to reduce fatalities to 50% by 2035 and eliminate fatalities by 2050. Andy Henry noted that there are no
161 known consequences for not meeting the targets.

162 Chair Wendy Jacobs asked about a plan to achieve the safety targets. Chair Wendy Jacobs and
163 Andy Henry discussed that the funding to reach these safety targets come from the Highway Safety
164 Improvement Plan (HSIP). Chair Wendy Jacobs requested that the HSIP be sent to the MPO Board. Andy
165 Henry responded that he would distribute the HSIP following the meeting. Lisa Mathis added that local
166 officials in Lumberton worked with high school and colleges to reduce the number of vehicular deaths, a
167 strategy identified in the SHSP.

168 Damon Seils and Andy Henry discussed that fatalities and injuries are counted on all
169 transportation facilities within the MPO boundary, and the data is not limited to highway fatalities.

170 Damon Seils and Andy Henry discussed the changing targets from the previous NCDOT Safety
171 Performance Targets.

172 There was discussion about the efficacy of having safety performance targets without sufficient
173 funding for the desired result. Michael Parker and Andy Henry discussed how communities that have
174 adopted Vision Zero have positively impacted the safety. Michael Parker asked how autonomous
175 vehicles would impact the safety performance targets. Andy Henry responded that there is not enough
176 data to know how autonomous vehicles would impact the safety performance measures.

177 There was further discussion about the lack of funding for safety projects and projects that
178 would impact the safety needs of residents. Vice Chair Jenn Weaver noted that policy is reactionary
179 rather than proactive; there are projects that do not meet safety thresholds until there are serious
180 injuries or fatalities to warrant additional funding. Charlie Reece stated that MPOs must work with state
181 legislators to receive funding in order to meet the safety targets.

182 There was discussion that the joint priority document with Capital Area Metropolitan Planning
183 Organization (CAMPO) would help inform legislatures of the need for additional funding. Mike Fox
184 suggested building a coalition of North Carolina MPOs to better advance safety priorities. Mike Fox and
185 Lisa Mathis discussed that bicycle and pedestrian facilities would also benefit rural areas by revitalizing
186 downtown areas. Michael Parker and Mike Fox discussed how NCDOT controls the percentage of
187 funding between highway and non-highway projects in the STIP—up to 10% for non-highway projects.
188 Damon Seils requested that the MPO Board discuss legislative priorities at an upcoming MPO Board
189 meeting.

190 Damon Seils made a motion to adopt the resolution supporting the state's safety performance
191 targets. Pam Hemminger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

192 **15. CTP Amendment #3**
193 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

194 Andy Henry stated that the MPO Board adopted the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP)
195 in May 2017. Andy Henry added that there were two amendments that addressed two specific roadway
196 projects but there has not been an amendment that dealt with a broader, larger set of needed changes.
197 Andy Henry noted that, over the past several months, MPO and NCDOT staff have worked with local
198 planners to identify needed changes to the roadway, transit, bicycle, pedestrian, and multiuse path
199 sections of the CTP. Andy Henry continued that MPO staff is in the final stage of developing and
200 reviewing the CTP changes. Andy Henry added that the CTP Amendment #3 would be presented to the
201 TC in two weeks and would return to the MPO Board on March 10.

202 Andy Henry noted that the CTP Amendment #3 included changes to highways, such as: adding
203 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Program (MTP) Amendment #2; deleting roadways impacted by the
204 defunct Durham Orange Light Rail Transit (DOLRT); adding roadway and modernization improvement in
205 Orange County near the Durham boarder; and updating the roadway border between Durham and
206 Wake counties.

207 Andy Henry noted that CTP Amendment #3 included changes to complete streets, such as:
208 adding 53 multiuse paths; adding side paths along major CTP roadways; and adding the NCDOT
209 implementation guide information.

210 Andy Henry noted that CTP Amendment #3 included changes to transit, such as: adding Bus
211 Rapid Transit (BRT) capacity transit corridors from the 2045 MTP amendment #2; adding three Durham
212 transit emphasis corridors as operational strategies and include definitions and list type of transit
213 facilities; and adding definitions for bus routes and complete streets including bus facilities.

214 Andy Henry noted that CTP Amendment 3# included changes to bicycle multi-use paths (MUP),
215 and pedestrian facilities, such as updating bicycle, MUP, and pedestrian facilities to reflect changes in

216 jurisdictional plans; and adding side paths that cannot be shown in the CTP highway section will need to
217 be designated in the CTP multiuse path.

218 There was no further action required by the MPO Board.

219 **REPORTS:**

220 **16. Report from the MPO Board Chair**

221 **Wendy Jacobs, Board Chair**

222 Chair Wendy Jacobs stated that she and Vice Chair Jenn Weaver have been working with MPO
223 staff to better align the MPO goals and objectives in the planning process. Chair Wendy Jacobs noted
224 that Aaron Cain would speak more about that later in the meeting.

225 **17. Report from the Technical Committee Chair**

226 **Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair**

227 Ellen Beckmann stated that she is serving on the Governance Committee. Ellen Beckmann
228 noted that the MPO is holding a call for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and STBGDA
229 projects. Ellen Beckmann noted that the projects are scheduled to be presented to the MPO Board in
230 March 2021.

231 **18. Report from LPA Staff**

232 **Felix Nwoko and Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

233 Aaron Cain affirmed that the draft call for CMAQ and STBGDA projects would be completed
234 soon. Aaron Cain shared a draft memo for use on future agenda items that will demonstrate how
235 projects align with the MPO's goals and objectives. Aaron Cain stated that he would send this template
236 to the MPO Board, and he requested that they provide him with their feedback.

237 **19. NCDOT Report**

238 Richard Hancock, Division 5, stated that the East End Connector (U-0071) project is still
239 ongoing. Richard Hancock added that NCDOT is working to finish the flyover section of US 70. Richard

240 Hancock added that the new railroad bridge section is driving the schedule and the revised completion
241 date is 2021.

242 Richard Hancock noted that the Alston Avenue project (U-3308) has an estimated completion
243 date of 2022. Richard Hancock noted that the Old Durham Road side path (EB-4707A) project near
244 Wegman's experienced issues with nearby utilities. Richard Hancock noted that the final striping
245 project is scheduled to begin on February 15.

246 Richard Hancock and Chair Wendy Jacobs discussed the ongoing litter cleanup issue along the
247 highways. Richard Hancock noted that NCDOT is working with the Triangle business community, and
248 there are other sponsorship efforts being implemented.

249 Pat Wilson, Division 7, stated that there is no additional report. Michael Parker asked about the
250 status of the Homestead Road project. Pat Wilson responded that he would get the information and
251 respond to the question following the meeting. Pam Hemminger asked about the I-40 widening
252 project. Pat Wilson responded that the I-40 widening project is scheduled to let in summer 2021. Pat
253 Wilson added that the I-85 project will not occur at the same time as the I-40 widening.

254 Bryan Kluchar, Division 8, stated that the let date for U-6192 should be corrected to 2031 due
255 to lack of funding.

256 John Grant, NCDOT Traffic Operations, stated that there is no additional report.

257 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

258 **20. Recent News, Articles, and Updates**

259 Chair Wendy Jacobs added that the Wake Transit Plan will be presented at the April MPO Board
260 meeting. Chair Wendy noted that the shared priorities document will be distributed next week.

261 **ADJOURNMENT:**

262 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Board, the meeting was adjourned at
263 10:46 a.m.