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DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

April 25, 2018

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on February 28, 2018, at 9:02 a.m. in the Marriott Conference Room, located on the first floor of the Durham Marriott City Center. The following people were in attendance:

Ellen Beckmann (Chair)	City of Durham Transportation
Kayla Seibel (Member)	Chapel Hill Planning
Kumar Neppalli (Member)	Chapel Hill Engineering
Pierre Osei-Owusu (Member)	City of Durham Transportation/GoDurham
Hannah Jacobson (Member)	City of Durham Planning
Tina Moon (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Zack Hallock (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Evan Tenenbaum (Member)	Durham County Planning
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County Planning
Tom Altieri (Member)	Orange County Planning
Nishith Trivedi (Member)	Orange County Planning
Cara Coppola (Member)	Chatham County Planning
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	Triangle J Council of Governments
Geoff Green (Member)	GoTriangle
Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT, TPD
Bill Judge (Member)	NCDOT, Division 5
Ed Lewis (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 7
Bryan Kluchar (Member)	NCDOT, Division 8
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO

Quorum Count: 18 of 31 Voting Members

Chair Ellen Beckmann called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A roll call was performed. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Technical Committee (TC) were identified and are indicated above. Chair Ellen Beckmann reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheet that was being circulated.

41 Chance Mullins, Chatham County Transportation Planner and new representative for Chatham
42 County on the TC, and Arik Lansford, a Planner with the Kerr-Tar RPO, were introduced.

43 **PRELIMINARIES:**

44 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

45 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

46 **3. Public Comments**

47 There were no members of the public signed up to speak.

48 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

49 **4. Approval of March 24, 2018 TC Meeting Minutes**

50 Geoff Green made a motion to approve the March 24, 2018, TC Meeting minutes. Tom Altieri
51 seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

52 **ACTION ITEMS:**

53 **5. Initial Allocation of Local Input Points for Regional Impact Projects**

54 Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

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56 Aaron Cain stated that the MPO Board approved the DCHC MPO Methodology for Identifying
57 and Ranking New Transportation Improvement Program Project Requests, which was also approved by
58 North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), in March 2018. Aaron Cain added that the DCHC
59 MPO is able to deviate from the initial list for a variety of reasons, as described in the Methodology. He
60 continued that it is required to document the reasons for deviation from the initial list. Aaron Cain
61 stated that the DCHC MPO received 1,800 points for distribution between highway, transit, and rail.

62 Aaron Cain stated that he first ranked the projects using the DCHC MPO Methodology, and then
63 secondarily by using the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) score. He added that a
64 project would not cascade down from the Statewide tier to the Regional tier if it costs more than \$5M,
65 per the Methodology. Aaron Cain stated that he was to recommend that the MPO Board to release the
66 Initial Local Points list for public comment from May 14 through June 4.

67 Nishith Trivedi asked about timelines for recommendations by local boards for this project.
68 Aaron Cain answered that he preferred a deadline by the middle of May in order to contribute those
69 recommendations to the TC Meeting on May 23, 2018.

70 Nishith Trivedi and Aaron Cain discussed that, per the DCHC MPO Methodology, projects in
71 Durham scored the highest for all of the highway projects. Aaron Cain then reviewed the list of proposed
72 highway projects from the Initial Local Points List, starting with the highest ranked projects from the
73 DCHC MPO.

74 Aaron Cain, Ed Lewis, and Richard Hancock discussed how a project that is funded at the
75 Statewide tier could cascade down to the Regional tier and also be eligible again for Statewide funding
76 in subsequent years.

77 Aaron Cain and Andy Henry discussed the cost of the US 15-501 project that would construct
78 capacity improvements and add sidewalks, wide-outside lanes, and transit accommodations in Chapel
79 Hill. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that the cost would be approximately \$35 million. Aaron Cain
80 discussed other projects on the Initial Local Points List.

81 Aaron Cain stated that the MPO Board agreed to put 800 points on highway projects and 1,000
82 points on non-highway projects, but there were not enough non-highway projects on which to add
83 points. He concluded that the 366 points that could not be added to non-highway projects would be
84 added to highway projects per the DCHC MPO Methodology. Aaron Cain discussed the scoring and
85 points distribution of points for the D-O LRT project in relationship to other boards, including the Capital
86 Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). Aaron Cain stated that he recommends putting 100
87 points on transit projects, such as GoTriangle's Raleigh-Durham Express (RDX) and Orange-Durham
88 Express (ODX) bus service expansion for FY19 and FY23, respectively. Aaron Cain discussed the various
89 other transit projects on the Initial Local Points List and how some projects might not get funded due to
90 their relatively low scores.

91 Felix Nwoko and Aaron Cain discussed creating a Prioritization Line for these projects. Aaron
92 Cain stated that he will communicate that Prioritization Line to the TC Committee at a later date. Ed
93 Lewis, Bryan Kluchar, and Aaron Cain also discussed the need for coordination between the Divisions
94 and the MPO on the issue of distributing points. Aaron Cain stated that he plans to schedule
95 subcommittee meetings between the MPO and the Divisions in early May, prior to the MPO Board
96 meeting on May 9.

97 Cara Coppola and Aaron Cain discussed that the priority list can be changed during this meeting
98 and also at a later date. Evan Tenenbaum and Aaron Cain discussed the commuter rail project and the
99 distribution of points for that project. Aaron Cain discussed the point distribution for the ODX and its
100 relationship to the point distribution from Burlington-Graham Metropolitan Planning Organization (BG
101 MPO). Cara Coppola and Aaron Cain discussed the point distribution between DCHC and Triangle Area
102 Rural Transportation Planning Organization (TARPO)

103 Evan Tenenbaum and Aaron Cain discussed the need to recommend that the MPO Board release
104 this list to the public for the 21-day comment period, and that deviations from this list do not trigger an
105 additional public comment period.

106 Tina Moon and Aaron Cain discussed the points for the NC-54 project to improve intersections
107 in Orange County. Aaron Cain stated that its quantitative score was relatively high, but that it did not
108 receive a high score per the DCHC MPO Methodology.

109 Felix Nwoko and Aaron Cain discussed NC-751 and US-64 projects, and their relationship to the
110 Triangle Area Rural Transportation Planning Organization (TARPO). Chair Ellen Beckman and Aaron Cain
111 discussed the possibility of different planning organizations giving and receiving points for various
112 projects and the capacity for each respective Board to decide to accept those points.

113 Nishith Trivedi made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board release the Initial Allocation
114 of Local Input Points for Regional Impact Projects list for public review. Scott Whiteman seconded the
115 motion. The motion passed unanimously.

116 **6. MPO Collector Street Plan**

117 Andy Henry, LPA Staff

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119 Andy Henry stated that the DCHC MPO and many of its local jurisdictions have collector street
120 plans, but many of these are older plans. He noted that these plans only cover a small portion of the
121 MPO planning area and certain areas may need to be added or updated. Andy Henry stated that local
122 governments can continue using their local collector street plan or opt for an updated plan. Andy Henry
123 stated that the LPA staff believes that some roadways that were included in the recently adopted CTP
124 and 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) will be funded, built and function as collector streets,
125 not as arterial roadways. Andy Henry listed the benefits of collector streets, including: less congestion by
126 better distribution of traffic; improved routes for pedestrians; and reduction of travel times without
127 faster speeds. Andy Henry also noted that some citizens might not want their neighborhoods to be a
128 part of the collector street plan. Meg Scully and Andy Henry discussed handling the collector street plan
129 at the MPO as opposed to hiring outside consultants.

130 Nishith Trivedi asked what would be required for local jurisdictions for the collector street plan.

131 Andy Henry replied that local jurisdictions would be included and there would be collaboration on
132 where and how to use collector streets and to inform elected officials. Tina Moon and Andy Henry
133 discussed the difference between collector streets and connector streets.

134 Cara Coppola asked about public involvement for other jurisdictions. Andy Henry stated that
135 there would be other public meetings outside of Durham in other counties concerning the collector
136 street plan. Andy Henry continued that, due to the signed the MPO's Memorandum of Understanding
137 among the jurisdictions and counties, the jurisdictions do not have to approve this plan in order to use it
138 in the development review process.

139 Scott Whiteman asked if there is a proposed timeframe for the collector street plan to be
140 completed. Andy Henry answered that the proposed timeframe for the plan to be completed would be
141 by the end of 2018. Chair Ellen Beckmann, Bill Judge, Scott Whiteman, and Andy Henry discussed the
142 various requirements and timetable used in order to complete the collector street plan. Andy Henry
143 added that he will address these concerns, such as the schedule and public involvement, at the next
144 MPO Board meeting. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that there are recommendations coming from project
145 development plans. Andy Henry added that the 2045 MTP already includes collector streets from
146 corridor studies and other plans.

147 Nishith Trivedi made a motion to recommend to the MPO Board that they direct MPO staff to
148 start a collector street plan. Scott Whiteman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

149 **7. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment**

150 Andy Henry, LPA Staff

151 Geoff Green, GoTriangle

152 Julie Bogle, NCDOT Transportation Planning

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154 Andy Henry stated that GoTriangle has requested that the DCHC MPO and NCDOT amend the
155 Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) to change the section of Farrington Road between Southwest
156 Durham Drive and the Falconbridge Road Extension from a four-lane divided to a two-lane cross-section.
157 Andy Henry added that GoTriangle believes that the required right-of-way reservation for the four-lane
158 divided cross-section will hamper the zoning amendment approval process for the D-O LRT's Rail
159 Operations and Maintenance Facility (ROMF). He added that, due to the NCDOT's schedule, he prefers
160 to amend the CTP for only that roadway and not include other unrelated changes.

161 Felix Nwoko and Andy Henry discussed public involvement for an amendment to the CTP, with
162 Andy Henry suggesting opening the public comment period to 42 days.

163 Julie Bogle and Andy Henry discussed making minor changes to the CTP. Andy Henry stated that
164 he recommends making only the proposed amendment to the CTP in order to streamline the process
165 and avoid delays.

166 Chair Ellen Beckman asked about the modeling used in the CTP. Andy Henry stated that the
167 model incorporates projects from the NC-54/I-40 Corridor Study.

168 Chair Ellen Beckman asked for clarification as to which section of Farrington Road would be
169 changed. Andy Henry replied that the section of Southwest Durham Drive that is north of the Southwest
170 Durham Drive/Farrington Road convergence will be a four-lane divided facility, and therefore capable of
171 handling vehicles from the convergence of those 2 two-lane roadways.

172 Scott and Geoff Green discussed the schedule to make and approve these changes. Geoff Green
173 stated that he recommends having this amendment approved by the Durham City Council in November
174 2018.

175 Scott Whiteman made a motion to release the amendment of the CTP for public comment. Julie
176 Bogle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

177 **8. Triangle Toll Study Update**

178 Andy Henry, LPA Staff

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180 Andy Henry stated that the goal of the Triangle Toll Study is to determine if toll lanes and/or
181 managed lanes are advisable in the Triangle Region and to develop a strategy to address funding, equity
182 and consensus building. He stated that the issues are addressed and mediated in the Best Practices
183 report located on the study's website. Andy Henry also stated that there have been several stakeholder
184 meetings.

185 Andy Henry stated the next step is to develop screening criteria, which considers what roadways
186 would be the best candidates for tolls. He added that these criteria would be completed by the end of
187 September 2018. He added that consultants and other associated personnel will brief the MPO Board at
188 a later meeting. Evan Tenenbaum and Andy Henry discussed the high level nature of this project. Felix

189 Nwoko and Andy Henry discussed the screening process. . Chair Ellen Beckmann and Andy Henry stated
190 that there will be a presentation to the Board during its next meeting.

191 No further action was required by the TC.

192 **9. Amendment #3 to the FY2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)**

193 Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

194 Aaron Cain stated that part of the amendment includes changing the language to be used in the
195 DCHC MPO FY2018-27 TIP, which was recommended by the NCDOT, to address the performance
196 measurement requirement. He also stated that there were several projects to be amended, including:
197 U-4724, R-5753, and EB-5720. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that EB-5720 is the R. Kelly Bryant Bridge
198 that has already been amended, and does need to be included in the final amendment. Chair Ellen
199 Beckmann also stated that projects list in the CAMPO portion of the attachment are also duplicate and
200 do not need to go forward to the Board.

201 Geoff Green made a motion to approve amendment #3 to the FY2018-2017 TIP, as amended by
202 Chair Ellen Beckmann. Julie Bogle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

203 **REPORTS:**

204 **10. Reports from the LPA Staff**

205 Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager

206 There was no additional report from the LPA Staff.

207 **11. Report from the DCHC MPO TC Chair**

208 Ellen Beckmann, DCHC MPO TC Chair

209 There was no additional report from the TC Chair.

210 **12. NCDOT Reports**

211 There was no additional report from NCDOT Division 5.

212 Ed Lewis, NCDOT Division 7, stated that the next STI public meeting will be held on May 14 at the
213 Division Office in Greensboro, NC, from 5-7 p.m.

214 Bryan Kluchar Division 8 stated the next STI public meeting will be on May 17 from 5-7p.m.

215 There was no additional report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Division.

216 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

217 **13. Recent News, Articles, and Updates**

218 There were no informational items.

219 **ADJOURNMENT:**

220 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Technical Committee, the meeting was

221 adjourned at 10:14 a.m.