

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

November 18, 2020

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on November 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. remotely via Zoom. The following members in attendance were as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Nishith Trivedi (Chair) | Orange County |
| Ellen Beckmann (Vice Chair) | City of Durham |
| Tasha Johnson (Member) | City of Durham |
| Pierre Osei-Owusu (Member) | City of Durham |
| Kayla Seibel (Member) | City of Durham |
| Tasha Johnson (Member) | City of Durham |
| Scott Whiteman (Member) | Durham County |
| Tom Altieri (Member) | Orange County |
| Theo Letman (Member) | Orange County |
| Tina Moon (Member) | Town of Carrboro |
| Jomar Pastorelle (Member) | Town of Chapel Hill |
| Zach Hallock (Member) | Town of Carrboro |
| Margaret Hauth (Member) | Town of Hillsborough |
| John Hodges-Copple (Member) | TJCOG |
| Jay Heikes (Member) | GoTriangle |
| Julie Bogle (Member) | NCDOT TPD |
| Joe Geigle (Member) | FHWA |
| Hank Graham (Member) | Research Triangle Foundation |
| Bill Judge (Alternate) | City of Durham |
| Matt Cecil (Alternate) | Town of Chapel Hill |
| Meg Scully (Alternate) | GoTriangle |
| David Keilson (Alternate) | NCDOT Division 5 |
| Steven Robinson (Alternate) | NCDOT Division 7 |
| Bryan Kluchar (Alternate) | NCDOT Division 8 |

Quorum Count: 21 of 31 voting members

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Tom Devlin | City of Durham |
| Sean Egan | City of Durham |
| Cy Stober | City of Mebane |
| Tamara Njegovan | NCDOT Division 7 |
| Felix Nwoko | DCHC MPO |

46	Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
47	Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
48	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
49	KC Chae	DCHC MPO
50	Dale McKeel	City of Durham/DCHC MPO
51	Anne Phillips	DCHC MPO
52	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO

53
54

55 Chair Nish Trivedi called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Aaron Cain stated that Ellen
56 Beckmann has been appointed as a representative of Durham County and will remain on the
57 TC as Vice Chair.

58 **PRELIMINARIES:**

59

60 **Adjustments to the Agenda**

61

62 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

63 **Public Comments**

64 There were no comments from the public.

65 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

66

67 **4. Approval of October 28, 2020 TC Meeting Minutes**

68

69 Zach Hallock made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Hank Graham seconded
70 the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

71 **ACTION ITEMS:**

72

73 **5. TIP Amendment #3**

74 **Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

75 Anne Phillips stated that Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #3
76 was discussed at the TC meeting on October 28. Anne Phillips continued that, due to changes
77 in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), it was recommended that
78 construction for the Woodcroft Parkway Extension (U-5823) be moved forward because City of
79 Durham funding has already been used for planning. Anne Phillips continued that, due to

80 budget reasons, there were three projects that would therefore need to be pushed back: Third
81 Fork Creek Trail (EB-5837), Guess Road Sidewalks (EB-5834), and NC 55 Sidewalks (EB-
82 5835).

83 Anne Phillips stated that this is the second time this item has come before the TC. When
84 this item was brought before the Board in November, Board members expressed dissatisfaction
85 with the amount of delay in the three projects being pushed back. Anne Phillips stated that MPO
86 staff has worked with NCDOT to devise schedules that lessen the delay for Third Fork Creek
87 Trail while still moving forward Woodcroft Parkway Extension.

88 Zach Hallock noted that R-5821A is listed twice on the Summary Sheet. Anne Phillips
89 responded that she would review the item following the TC meeting.

90 Bill Judge made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve TIP Amendment
91 #3. Jomar Pastorelle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

92 **6. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment #2**
93 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

94 Andy Henry stated that Amendment #2 to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP)
95 is to remove the Briggs Avenue Extension. Andy Henry presented a map showing the location
96 of the proposed Briggs Avenue Extension. Andy Henry continued that the MPO Board released
97 Amendment #2 for the 21-day public comment period in November, and a public hearing is
98 scheduled for the Board meeting on December 9. Andy Henry noted that the public comment
99 period ends 24-hours following the public hearing due to a COVID-19 related statute. Andy
100 Henry related that there has been one comment received that supported deletion of the
101 extension. Andy Henry stated that North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is
102 going to discuss this at the North Carolina Board of Transportation meeting in January 2021.

103 Scott Whiteman made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board adopt Amendment
104 #2 to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). John Hodges-Copple seconded the
105 motion. The motion passed unanimously.

106 **7. Draft FY2022 Unified Planning Work Program**
107 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

108 Felix Nwoko stated that the DCHC MPO is required by federal regulations to prepare an
109 annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that details and guides the urban area
110 transportation planning activities. Felix Nwoko added that funding for the UPWP is provided by
111 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Felix
112 Nwoko continued that the UPWP must identify MPO planning tasks to be performed with the
113 use of federal transportation funds. Felix Nwoko stated that new elements were introduced in
114 the UPWP, including roadway studies, that would correspond to the MPO's vision and goals.

115 John Hodges-Copple discussed adding a table for funding of new projects in the UPWP.
116 John Hodges-Copple suggested that Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO)
117 be contacted for cost-sharing measures. John Hodges-Copple suggested alternative means for
118 funding. There was discussion about cost sharing opportunities for the two proposed US 70
119 corridor studies in the UPWP. Chair Nish Trivedi suggested including Burlington-Graham
120 Metropolitan Planning Organization (BGMPO) in discussions for one of the US 70 corridor
121 studies. There was discussion about the objectives of the proposed US 70 corridor studies.

122 Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Felix Nwoko discussed climate change plans under the
123 UPWP. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann discussed the reallocating of resources instead of
124 requesting additional resources. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that one of the goals of the
125 MPO is vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that climate
126 change goals and performance metrics are most useful when located in the Metropolitan
127 Transportation Plan (MTP). Felix Nwoko responded that the MTP is limited in what it can
128 recommend. Felix Nwoko requested that additional conversation occur following the TC
129 meeting.

130 Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Felix Nwoko discussed the program relating to the
131 proposed equitable analysis and engagement tool. There was discussion about hiring a
132 consultant to work on the MPO's equitable engagement initiative.

133 There was further discussion regarding the specifics of the two proposed US 70 corridor
134 studies, including scope and budget. Sean Egan and Felix Nwoko discussed the budget in the
135 UPWP. There was discussion about presenting alternatives to the proposed programs. There
136 was discussion about funding for the Durham Beltline project.

137 John Hodges-Copple moved to recommend that the MPO Board release the Draft FY22
138 Unified Planning Work Program for public comment on the condition that the MPO Board be
139 made aware of the discussion during the TC Meeting. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann seconded the
140 motion. The motion passed unanimously.

141 **8. Draft Public Involvement Policy (PIP) and Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP)**
142 **Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

143 Anne Phillips stated that the Public Involvement Policy (PIP) adheres to the Fixing
144 America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, Title VI, and the Americans with Disabilities Act
145 (ADA). Anne Phillips added a goal of the PIP is for all demographics of a population to be part of
146 the planning process. Anne Phillips continued that digital outreach, social media, and in-person
147 workshops were employed to bring residents into the planning process. Anne Phillips gave
148 examples of planning projects for the MPO including: Comprehensive Transportation Plan
149 (CTP), Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), Unified
150 Planning Work Program (UPWP), Air Quality and Determination Report, County Transit Plans,
151 etc. Anne Phillips added that the PIP provides guidance for the length of public comment
152 periods and decision points for each plan.

153 Anne Phillips stated that the Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP) follows Title VI,
154 Executive Order (E.O) 13166, and the Department of Transportation (DOT) policy guidance.

155 Anne Phillips added that LEP provides guidance on how to identify people who have

156 difficulties with the English language. Anne Phillips stated that the MPO found that Spanish-
 157 speaking residents within the DCHC MPO boundaries reached the critical threshold, so the
 158 MPO is required to provide accommodations for Spanish speakers including translation and
 159 interpretation. Anne Phillips explained that the complaint procedure for LEP services was also
 160 reviewed.

161 Andy Henry suggested that information regarding the public comment period be in the
 162 Executive Summary of the document. Chair Nish Trivedi asked about other populations that
 163 were identified. Anne Phillips responded that there is data for growing Asian populations in the
 164 area, and the 2020 Census data will provide further information. Margaret Hauth suggested that
 165 MPO staff contact Chapel Hill staff for additional guidance.

166 Andy Henry and Anne Phillips discussed the number of days for public comment periods
 167 for minor amendments of the MTP and CTP. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Anne Phillips
 168 discussed standardizing public outreach and public comment periods. There was discussion
 169 about how scope and scale would impact the standardization process.

170 Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann recommend that the MPO Board release the draft PIP and
 171 LEP for a 45-day public comment period. Pierre Osei-Owusu seconded the motion. The motion
 172 passed unanimously.

173 **9. Minutes Recording Document**

174 There was no discussion for this item.

175 **REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

176 **10. REPORT from Staff**

177 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

178 Felix Nwoko stated that the Joint DCHC MPO and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning
 179 (CAMPO) Meeting is on December 1 at 9:00 a.m. Aaron Cain added that he will send a link for
 180 the meeting to the TC. Aaron Cain added that the main agenda items would be transportation
 181 priority policies and the Metropolitan Transportation Plans.

182 Aaron Cain stated that Andy Henry would provide additional information to the TC about
183 the 15-501 Corridor Study. Aaron Cain added that more stakeholder engagement will occur, per
184 MPO Board guidance. Aaron Cain explained that the MPO Board preferred to have a greater
185 emphasis on multimodal transportation in the 15-501 corridor, especially the segments in
186 Orange County.

187 Felix Nwoko and Bergen Watterson discussed that amendments to the MPO for the
188 UPWP are due on November 20, but there would be additional opportunities for amendments
189 around February or March 2021.

190 Anne Phillips stated that there will be a call for projects for Congestion Mitigation and Air
191 Quality (CMAQ), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and Surface Transportation Block
192 Grant – Direct Attributable (STBGDA) projects. Aaron Cain added that there is no schedule yet
193 for an application form.

194 **11. Report from the Chair**
195 **Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair**

196 Chair Nishith Trivedi stated that there was no additional report.

197 **12. NCDOT Reports**
198 **David Keilson, Division 5-NCDOT**

199 David Keilson stated that the East End Connector is scheduled to be open by June
200 2021. David Keilson added that the intersection at Alston Avenue at Holloway Street is expected
201 to open in January 2021. David Keilson added that the Old Durham Chapel Hill segment in front
202 of Wegmans is planned to be completed by December 2020, and the overall completion date is
203 scheduled for late 2021. There was a question about adding bridge projects to the Division
204 reports.

205 **Stephen Robinson, Division 7-NCDOT**

206 Stephen Robinson reported that the West Ten Road project has a let date of November
207 13, but it started in late October, and the completion date is April 2021. The let date for the

208 guard rail installation project on NC 86 is scheduled for October 2021, and the completion date
209 is scheduled for October 2022.

210 **Bryan Kluchar, Division 8-NCDOT**

211 Bryan Kluchar stated that there is no additional report.

212 **Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division-NCDOT**

213 There was no additional report.

214 **John Grant, Traffic Operations-NCDOT**

215 There was no additional report. Felix Nwoko stated that Kathryn Zeringue would also
216 give updates for NCDOT in future TC meetings.

217 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

218 There were no additional informational items.

219 **Adjourn**

220 With no other business to discuss, the TC Meeting ended at 11:15 a.m.

221

222 **Next Meeting: December 16, 9:00 a.m. Meeting to be held virtually.**