



**DCHC MPO Board
Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

9:00 AM

Committee Room 2nd Floor Durham City Hall

101 City Hall Plaza
Durham, NC 27701

1. Roll Call**2. Ethics Reminder**

It is the duty of every Board member to avoid conflicts of interest. Does any Board member have any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

3. Adjustments to the Agenda**4. Public Comments****5. Directives to Staff**[21-100](#)

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-100\) MPO Board Directives to Staff](#)

CONSENT AGENDA**6. June 9, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**[21-166](#)

A copy of the June 9, 2021 Board meeting minutes is enclosed.

Board Action: Approve the minutes of the June 9, 2021 Board Meeting.

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-166\) 6.9 MPO Board Meeting Minutes_LPA2](#)

7. Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #7 (5 minutes)[21-160](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #7 primarily consists of projects that have been amended in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) by NCDOT, and therefore need to be amended in the DCHC MPO TIP.

TIP Amendment #7 also includes a request from the City of Durham to flex FY18-22 Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable (STBGDA) funds from the Federal Highway Administration to the Federal Transit Administration to purchase three electric buses and seven paratransit vehicles. Because the funding in this request exceeds \$1 million, this amendment must be released for a 21-day public comment period in accordance with DCHC's Public Involvement Policy.

Two projects have been added to this amendment since the Technical Committee made a recommendation to release the amendment for public comment. Orange County has requested modifications to TA-6721 and TD-5155. These modifications would move funding to FY22 for the purchase of light transit vehicles.

Finally, TIP Amendment #7 adds DCHC's Transit Safety Performance Targets that were adopted on June 9, 2021, to the TIP. This action fulfills a joint FHWA and FTA requirement that transit systems that receive urbanized area formula grants develop and implement transit safety management systems. MPOs are required to reflect safety measures and targets in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and TIP.

A summary sheet, full report, and resolution are attached.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board release TIP Amendment #7 for a 21-day public comment period.

Board Action: Release TIP Amendment #7 for a 21-day public comment period.

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-160\) TIP Amendment #7 Full Report](#)
 [2021-08-11 \(21-160\) TIP Amendment #7 Resolution](#)
 [2021-08-11 \(21-160\) TIP Amendment #7 Summary Sheet](#)

ACTION ITEMS

8. Resolution Recognizing Brian Rhodes' Service to the Transportation [21-165](#)**Department and DCHC MPO (10 minutes)****Dale McKeel, LPA Staff**

Brian Rhodes has worked for the City of Durham and DCHC MPO for three decades. Brian served as the first GIS staff for the MPO and has prepared maps for too many plans and public meetings to count. In recent years, Brian took over agenda preparation for the Technical Committee and MPO Board and notary responsibilities for the MPO Board. Brian has shown great dedication to his work and has been a patient and generous colleague to MPO and City of Durham staff.

Board Action: Adopt a resolution to recognize Brian Rhodes' service to the MPO and wish him well during his retirement.

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-165\) Resolution to Honor Brian Rhodes](#)

9. Bus on Shoulder Study (20 minutes) [21-162](#)**Patrick McDonough, HDR****Alpesh Patel, Cambridge Systematics**

The North Carolina Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) and its partners, GoTriangle, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO), and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) initiated a study to create a programmatic approach for identifying, prioritizing, and developing best practices for Bus on Shoulder System (BOSS) deployment in the Triangle and across North Carolina.

The goals of the study include:

- Identify most promising locations for BOSS expansion in Triangle
- Create a blueprint for how other North Carolina regions can establish successful BOSS programs
- Document best practices and design criteria for BOSS that can be used statewide

The Bus on Shoulder System (BOSS) Implementation Blueprint outlines the study's findings related to these goals.

TC Action: Receive informational report about the BOSS Study.

Board Action: Receive informational report about the BOSS Study.

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-162\) BOSS Executive Briefing Presentation](#)
[2021-08-11 \(21-162\) BOSS Executive Summary](#)
[2021-08-11 \(21-162\) BOSS Implementation Blueprint](#)

10. 2050 MTP -- Alternative Analysis (20 minutes)[21-155](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

The DCHC MPO released the Alternatives Analysis on July 29th for a public comment period that will run through September 15. The attached presentation identifies public engagement activities (there are over a dozen), describes the Alternatives, summarizes the performance measurements, and presents the next steps for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). There are multiple links in the presentation to the Alternatives Analysis survey, documents, and maps. The Web page is <https://bit.ly/2050MTP-AltsAn>.

TC Action: Received an update on the 2050 MTP Alternatives Analysis release.

Board Action: Receive presentation and provide comments.

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-155\) AltsAnalysisPresentation](#)

11. US 70 East Access and Connectivity Study Introduction (20 minutes)[21-159](#)**Jake Ford, LPA Staff**

The US 70 East Access and Connectivity Study will analyze NCDOT's U-5720 conversion of the US 70 East corridor, from the East End Connector to TW Alexander Drive, into a limited access freeway. The goal of the study is to evaluate the impacts on multi-modal safety and access, connectivity of local businesses and communities, collector street plans, and any impacts to transit networks. Previously, City and County staff have raised concerns with the existing U-5720 framework citing only one interchange being planned for the study area, insufficient attention to nonmotorized access, and no strategy for how the proposed conversion may alter transit networks for the corridor. These represent severe challenges to transportation networks for both communities and businesses.

The US 70 corridor is poised to experience continued growth in Durham County, hence ensuring transportation designs take into account local concerns regarding connectivity and access is imperative. This study will provide additional information on the possible impacts, providing policymakers and the community with greater transparency.

TC Action: MPO staff has drafted a letter to NCDOT to be signed by the Board Chair requesting incorporation of this study and its findings into the development of U-5720. Staff requests that the TC recommend that the Board authorize the Chair to sign the letter.

Board Action: Authorize the MPO Board Chair to sign the letter addressed to NCDOT requesting incorporation of this study and its findings into the development of U-5720.

Attachments:

[2021-08-11 \(21-159\) City of Durham Memo re U-5720 Concepts dated Novemb](#)

[2021-08-11 \(21-159\) US 70 East Access Study Presentation 7.28.21](#)

[2021-08-11 \(21-159\) US 70 Schedule Adjustment Letter](#)

12. SPOT 6.0 Update (20 minutes)[21-163](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

The SPOT 6.0 workgroup met on Monday, July 19 to review updated information on funding availability for new projects selected for funding in SPOT 6.0. Unfortunately, because of the rising cost of construction and right of way acquisition, there is very little funding available for new projects selected in this SPOT cycle, especially once committed projects are considered.

While the workgroup has determined that there is value in completing quantitative scoring for 6.0 projects, they do not believe it is appropriate to move forward with applying local input points to SPOT 6.0 submittals. Ultimately, the workgroup is recommending cancellation of the remainder of SPOT 6.0. This recommendation will be shared with the North Carolina Board of Transportation (BOT) at their August 4th work session.

Once the decision to cancel the remainder of SPOT 6.0 is finalized, the workgroup will begin discussions on how to program the 2024-2033 STIP.

For additional details about this announcement, please see the attached email from SPOT Manager Jason Schronce.

Although the decision to cancel the remainder of SPOT 6.0 is not yet final, MPO staff would like to begin thinking through what this will mean for the region and our jurisdictions and agencies.

MPO staff will watch the live stream of the BOT work session on August 4. Staff will share any new details that come out of the meeting with the MPO Board prior to the August 11 MPO board meeting.

Board Action: Receive informational report.

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-163\) Schronce SPOT 6.0 Update](#)
 [2021-08-11 \(21-163\) SPOT 6.0 Additional Information](#)

13. Return to In-Person MPO Board Meetings (10 minutes) [21-168](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

In June 2021, the MPO Board asked LPA staff to distribute a survey to Board members to gather thoughts about returning to in-person Board meetings.

MPO staff distributed a brief survey to members and alternates of the MPO Board and Technical Committee on July 23, 2021. Seventy eight people received the survey and thirty-four people completed it.

Please note that the survey was distributed before:

- The City of Durham updated its guidance to recommend masking indoors for vaccinated individuals
- The Centers for Disease Control updated its guidance to recommend masking indoors for vaccinated individuals due to new information and concerns about the Delta variant of COVID-19.

The survey results are attached to the agenda.

Board Action: Receive informational report and provide guidance on how the MPO should hold meetings for the remainder of 2021.

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-168\) Return to In-Person Board Meetings](#)

Minutes Recording Document [21-110](#)**REPORTS:****14. Report from the Board Chair** [21-101](#)**Wendy Jacobs, Board Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the Board Chair

15. Report from the Technical Committee Chair [21-102](#)**Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the TC Chair.

16. Report from LPA Staff [21-103](#)**Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

Board Action: Receive the report from LPA Staff.

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-103\) LPA staff report](#)

17. NCDOT Report [21-104](#)

Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation

**Brandon Jones (David Keilson/Richard Hancock), Division 5 -
NCDOT**

Wright Archer (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 - NCDOT

Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar, Jen Britt), Division 8 - NCDOT

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Branch - NCDOT

John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT

Bryan Lopez, Integrated Mobility Division-NCDOT

Board Action: Receive the reports from NCDOT.

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-104\) NCDOT Report](#)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**18. Recent News Articles and Updates** [21-105](#)

Attachments: [2021-08-11 \(21-105\) news articles](#)

Adjourn

Next meeting: September 1, 9 a.m., Meeting location to be determined.

Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings: None