

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS
JOINT MPO BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 31, 2018

Regional ITS

What concerns do you have about this effort?

- Nothing major - just interested in understanding better how it works
- Only that this is another thing that we study to death! Let's get on with it!
- Has research been done to look at the success of these projects in the places where they have been implemented
- ITS is really important - any way we can make information accessible & real time to travelers is so important in our region - an app with real time information would be extremely helpful

Is there anything you would like to know more about at this time?

- Process for deciding where to install accessible pedestrian infrastructure for the visually impaired
- Which 27 Cary intersections have ITS at the moment and how I can use an app to benefit from them.

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Regional Tolling

What concerns do you have about this effort?

- Assurances that all transit busses will be able to use the lanes without charge.
- Cost - but I believe it is worth the cost and it is actually cheaper than building more roads. Why can't we try this out on a road that would not cost a fortune to start just to see what would happen? For example, US 1 North as it turns into a freeway, add a tolled express lane - it is not a high revenue route but it would cost less than adding to I-40, etc.
- How other communities reconcile investments in toll road infrastructure and investments in rail + pedestrian infrastructure / facilities that move communities away from car usage?
- Consumer education. Socioeconomic equity.
- Some concern that incentivizing signal occupancy travel, as well as equity concerns.
- I would like to see expected revenue that exceeds cost to be invested in mobility options and improving equity
- Placement of tolls. Will it move traffic off 54 in Morrisville or will it add traffic as commuters seek to avoid paying?

What concerns do you think residents and businesses in your community might have?

- What's in it for me? - That is, to understand how this will benefit community members.
- They will have concerns about cost until they realize it isn't a big factor - benefit unknown.
- Management of traffic while facilities like express toll lanes are constructed. Which corridors will be prioritized for regional tolling projects? Residents will have general concerns about increased noise.
- Folks will have concerns about paying for things that they have viewed as being free.
- Impact of increase in community costs. Will need strong education + outreach!
- Feel they already paid in taxes, why do we have to pay again?

Is there anything you would like to know more about at this time?

- This initiative should be combined with a robust TDM initiative.
- A better handle on who gets the revenue, some slides spoke of hundreds of thousands of revenue, I would hate for that money to go to vendors and operating costs, it needs to go to transit and other worthwhile improvements.

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Commuter Rail

What concerns do you have about this effort?

- Fingers crossed we'll meet September deadline. Hope we can keep communicating that vision is for CRT to go from Hillsborough to Clayton.
- Executing this operating agreement with NCRRT for a sufficient minimum number of CRT daily frequencies (20 round trips minimum) to drive ridership.
- None - just the fact that it takes so long to do everything - it seems to me that we study this to death and then it takes forever to build everything! Why can we not get projects done quicker? My theory is that contractors have extended the time to get anything done so they can make more money!
- Need good planning for connections to / from commuter rail. Ensure "last mile" is dealt with.
- I am strongly in support of commuter rail efforts with the NCRRT. I would like to look at connection to UNC at some point. My understanding is that freight is prioritized over any commuter initiative; I hope / assume those with more knowledge about this will figure out how to make this work efficiently.
- Would like more real time information. Is there a project website?
- Sooner is better please. Will need adequate parking for park and ride in Morrisville and a community bus feeder system to get riders to commuter rail stations to increase usage and make it visible.

What concerns do you think residents and businesses in your community might have?

- That we'll have a nice new train station that CRT will never get to.
- Whether the planned end points (Garner & West Durham) should be extended east to Clayton/Selma & west to Hillsborough / Mebane. Desire to extend CRT North to Wake Forest.
- The length of time to get everything done - why are we not planning to commuter rail to Wake Forest along with the project to Durham? This project is probably more doable in the short term. DOLRT is going to take all of Durham and Orange time and money over the next 10 years - commuter rail to Durham probably won't happen in the planned timeline.
- 1) Cost 2) Time to completion
- UNC / Chapel Hill / Carrboro will likely seek a connection at some point to Hillsborough, esp. for connections not just to Raleigh but west as well.
- Most people are not aware of this initiative.

Is there anything you would like to know more about at this time?

- Exact location in Morrisville and how it will work logistically given the upcoming grade separation.