

**DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**January 25, 2023**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on January 25, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the second floor Committee Room at Durham City Hall, as well as through the Zoom teleconferencing platform. The following members were in attendance:

9	Ellen Beckmann (Chair)	Durham County
10	Nishith Trivedi (Vice Chair)	Orange County
11	Tom Devlin (Member)	City of Durham
12	Miles Spann (Member)	City of Durham
13	Eric Vitale (Member)	City of Durham
14	Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham
15	Aaron Cain (Member)	Durham County
16	Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County
17	Tina Moon (Member)	Town of Carrboro
18	Bergen Watterson (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
19	Josh Mayo (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
20	Carolina Dwyer (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
21	Brandon Dawson (Member)	Chatham County
22	Jay Heikes (Member)	GoTriangle
23	Brandon Jones (Member)	NCDOT Division 5
24	Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT TPD
25	Travis Crayton (Member)	Research Triangle Foundation
26	Matt Day (Member)	TJCOG
27	Joe Geigle (Non-voting Member)*	FHWA
28	Kurt Stolka (Member)*	The University of North Carolina
29	Chassam Anderson (Alternate)*	The University of North Carolina
30	Erin Convery (Alternate)*	City of Durham
31	Matt Cecil (Alternate)*	Town of Chapel Hill
32	Stephen Robinson (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 7
33	David Keilson (Alternate)*	NCDOT Division 5
34	Bryan Kluchar (Alternate)*	NCDOT Division 8
35	Margaret Hauth*	Town of Hillsborough
36	Sean Egan*	City of Durham
37	Bill Judge*	City of Durham
38	Evian Patterson*	City of Durham
39	James Carter*	GoTriangle
40	Tracy Parrott*	NCDOT Division 5
41	Daryl Vreeland	NCDOT
42	Heather Hildebrandt	NCDOT
43	Aidil Ortiz*	Aidilisms

44	Patrick Livingston*	STV
45	Trent Moody*	STV
46	Nicole Bennet*	C Robinson Associates
47	Nick Morrison*	NCDOT IMD
48	Wannetta Mallette*	Burlington-Graham MPO
49	Doug Plachcinski	DCHC MPO
50	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
51	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
52	Dale McKeel*	DCHC MPO
53	Dolly Hall-Quinlan*	DCHC MPO
54	Kelly Fomenko	DCHC MPO
55	Filmon Fishastion	DCHC MPO
56	David Miller	DCHC MPO

57 Quorum count: 18 of 25 voting members

58 \*Attended remotely

59 Chair Ellen Beckmann called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

60 **PRELIMINARIES:**

61 **1. Roll Call**

62 The roll call was completed using a sign-in sheet for in-person attendees, and the Zoom  
63 participant list for remote attendees. Tom Devlin mentioned that Miles Spann has been  
64 appointed as a City of Durham TC member, and Chair Ellen Beckmann mentioned that Aaron  
65 Cain has been appointed as a Durham County TC member.

66 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

67 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

68 **3. Public Comments**

69 There were no public comments.

70 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

71 **4. Approval of the December 21, 2022 TC Meeting Minutes**

72 David Miller, LPA Staff

73 **5. Orange County Request to Flex FHWA Funds (STPG/COVID Relief) to FTA (5307)**

74 **Funds**

Nishith Trivedi, Orange County

75 **6. Biannual Status Report on Locally Administered Projects (LAP)**

76 Dale McKeel, LPA Staff

77 **7. City of Durham Letter of Support Request for USDOT RAISE23 Grant Application**  
 78 **Evian Patterson, City of Durham**

79 Tom Devlin made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi  
 80 seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

81 **ACTION ITEMS:**

82 **8. FY2024 Draft Unified Planning Work Program**  
 83 **David Miller, LPA Staff**

84 David Miller presented the FY24 draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and  
 85 highlighted the funding sources, programmed budget by MPO members, requested special  
 86 studies, and the approval timeline.

87 Chair Ellen Beckmann asked how the MPO’s transition to Triangle J Council of  
 88 Governments (TJCOG) as its new Lead Planning Agency might affect the UPWP budget, and  
 89 Doug Plachcinski replied that once the MPO better understands the costs associated with the  
 90 relocation and transition, and once the MPO’s finances get separated from the City of Durham,  
 91 a UPWP amendment to account for these costs will be presented to the TC and Board. Doug  
 92 Plachcinski also stated that the local match provided by member jurisdictions to the MPO for its  
 93 operations may change as more information about the transition takes place, but that measures  
 94 to contain increases to members will be investigated.

95 Chair Ellen Beckmann asked about the match requirements for Durham County’s  
 96 requested special study, as it was anticipated that more than one funding source could be used.  
 97 Daryl Vreeland replied that when a project is funded, NCDOT encourages one funding source  
 98 associated with it to simplify the reimbursement process. Daryl Vreeland also clarified that  
 99 eligible projects for inclusion in the UPWP include feasibility studies and master plans, but that  
 100 design is not an eligible project. Tina Moon stated that the Town of Carrboro’s special study  
 101 pertaining to design will be removed from the FY24 draft UPWP.

102 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi made a motion to recommend the Board release the draft  
 103 FY2024 UPWP for public comment with the removal of the Town of Carrboro’s special study  
 104 pertaining to design. Tom Devlin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

105 **9. FY24 Call for Projects - Recommended Projects for Funding**  
 106 **Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff**

107 Kelly Fomenko provided an overview of the FY24 call for projects process, the specific  
 108 projects, and their scores. Kelly Fomenko stated that the MPO received 19 project  
 109 submissions. The MPO requests the TC consider funding all local discretionary requests in full  
 110 since funds are available to do so. The MPO also requests the TC consider funding the highest  
 111 scoring projects with funds from the RFF pool as well as the TDM program as it is a policy  
 112 priority. Kelly Fomenko stated that the City of Durham’s funding recommendation is high  
 113 because they have existing projects, which are a priority for the MPO.

114 Tina Moon stated that she wants to make sure that smaller jurisdictions receive  
 115 proportionate funding as well and appreciated the information she received during the scoring  
 116 process. Eric Vitale stated that the City of Durham is interested in what its existing projects the  
 117 MPO views as a priority would have scored if they were not new, and Kelly Fomenko stated that  
 118 she would follow up with this information.

119 Josh Mayo made a motion that the Board release the proposed projects to be funded  
 120 through the FY24 Call for Projects for a 21-day public comment period. Scott Whiteman  
 121 seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

122 **10. FY2024-2033 Draft STIP Swap**  
 123 **Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff**

124 Kelly Fomenko shared the FY2024-2033 STIP Swap process. Kelly Fomenko shared  
 125 six projects being considered for swapping in (U-6118: NC 55, U-6120: NC 98, P-5734: Trinity  
 126 RR, P-5736: Beryl RR, U-5304F: US 15-501, and U-5774F: NC 54), and three projects being  
 127 considered for swapping out (U-6021: Fayetteville, U-5720B: US 70, and U-5774B: NC 54).

128 Kelly Fomenko stated that these projects within the swap process adhere to the requirement  
 129 that the combined budget of projects being swapped into the STIP must be less than 110% of  
 130 the cost of projects being swapped out.

131 Eric Vitale asked if swapping out 5774-F: NC 54 would impact Durham’s ability to move  
 132 forward with U-5774-B: NC 54, and Brandon Jones replied that there would be no impact since  
 133 these projects are being funded separately. Brandon Jones added that there was a possibility  
 134 to fund project U-6118 at the regional level instead of the division level and stated that the MPO  
 135 Board would need to support this.

136 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi made a motion that the MPO Board release the proposed  
 137 Draft FY2024-2033 swap for a 21-day public comment period. Eric Vitale seconded the motion.  
 138 The motion passed unanimously.

139 **11. DCHC MPO Technical Committee Officer Election**  
 140 **Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**

141 Doug Plachcinski stated that the MPO received TC Officer nominations for Nishith  
 142 Trivedi as Chair, and Ellen Beckmann as Vice Chair. Both Nishith Trivedi and Ellen Beckmann  
 143 stated that they accept these nominations.

144 Bergen Watterson made to motion to accept Nishith Trivedi as TC Chair, and Ellen  
 145 Beckmann as TC Vice Chair. Jay Heikes seconded the motion. The motion passed  
 146 unanimously.

147 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

148 **12. Carbon Reduction Program Overview**  
 149 **Heather Hildebrandt, NCDOT**

150 Heather Hildebrandt provided an overview of NCDOT’s Carbon Reduction Program.  
 151 Heather Hildebrandt shared the greenhouse gas emissions statistics in North Carolina, the  
 152 executive orders in NC (EO 80 from 2018 and EO 246 from 2022) that set the program’s  
 153 targets, an overview of North Carolina’s suballocation and how funding is distributed to MPOs

154 and RPOs, the program's match requirements of 80% federal and 20% non-federal match, the  
155 project selection process, the submission process to NCDOT Transportation Planning Division,  
156 and coordination with the NCDOT STIP unit.

157 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi asked if a local resolution is needed to take part in this  
158 program, and Heather Hildebrandt replied that it is not unless it is added to the Metropolitan  
159 Transportation Plan (MTP). Heather Hildebrandt added that replacing an electric vehicle (EV)  
160 with another EV is not eligible because it doesn't increase air quality but replacing a diesel-  
161 powered vehicle with an EV is eligible because it does improve conditions.

162 **13. US 70 East Corridor Study**

163 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

164 **Anne Lenart-Redmond, STV**

165 Andy Henry shared that the MPO is conducting a corridor study of the segment of US 70  
166 from I-885 to the future Northern Durham Parkway, and that it is working with consultant STV to  
167 look at what impacts a boulevard would have along the corridor. Andy Henry stated that the  
168 study began in August 2022 and has included a review of current conditions, demographics and  
169 similar corridors; public engagement activities; and alternatives. Andy Henry stated that the  
170 presentation today entails the public engagement activities that will be presented by Aidil Ortiz  
171 from the study's subconsultant, Aidilisms.

172 Aidil Ortiz stated that she has been leading the public engagement efforts for this study.  
173 Aidil Ortiz shared that feedback was gathered from both online and emailed surveys, which was  
174 open from November 2022 to January 2023 and garnered 396 surveys. Aidil Ortiz said that she  
175 held both in-person and online community meetings and two online meetings. Aidil Ortiz shared  
176 the feedback received from these public engagement activities. Andy Henry said that the next  
177 steps in this process is for the Core Technical Team (CTT) to develop alternatives which will  
178 then be presented to the public for feedback, culminating in a final plan expected to be  
179 completed in Summer 2023.

180 Miles Spann asked how the study's public engagement efforts can garner an increase in  
181 diverse and minority individuals. Aidil Ortiz replied that in-person and online meetings were  
182 offered in the evening and weekends, and that in-person meetings were held along a bus line in  
183 Durham, and that signage was posted widely. Aidil Ortiz said that several neighborhoods along  
184 the corridor organize effectively to get their voice and over-representation across, but that more  
185 effort will be put in the next round of public engagement activities. Aidil Ortiz added that the  
186 holiday season and COVID might have hurt the public engagement process.

187 Brandon Jones asked how feedback was received from users of the corridor, and not  
188 just the residents who reside there. Aidil Ortiz replied that the online survey was advertised  
189 widely. Brandon Jones asked how alternatives will be developed, and Andy Henry replied that  
190 consideration will be given to what is in the MTP and the feedback received through public  
191 engagement process, which will guide the CTT in developing alternatives. Chair Ellen  
192 Beckmann asked if property and business owners along corridor provided their feedback, and  
193 Aidil Ortiz replied that each business was called.

194 **14. Report from Staff**  
195 **Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**

196 Doug Plachcinski shared that a MPO orientation has been scheduled for February 15, and that  
197 an invitation is forthcoming.

198 **15. Report from the Technical Committee Chair**  
199 **Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair**

200 Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that Interlocal Agreement (ILA) pertaining to the transit  
201 studies continues.

202 **16. NCDOT Reports**  
203 **Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 – NCDOT**

204 Brandon Jones said that the Alston Avenue project has an anticipated completion date  
205 of the end of 2024.

206 **Wright Archer (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 – NCDOT**

