

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

101 City Hall Plaza • Durham, NC 27701 • Phone (919) 560-4366 • dchcmpo.org



December 9, 2020

TO: DCHC MPO Technical Committee
FROM: DCHC MPO Lead Planning Agency
SUBJECT: Draft FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

The following new initiatives will be included in the FY2022 UPWP if approved by the Board. The City of Durham, Orange County, the Triangle J Council of Governments, and the Lead Planning Agency (LPA) request the MPO Board fund the initiatives contained in this memorandum and illustrated in the attached table. The Board can choose to approve all, none, or any of the proposed initiatives. The rationale for the LPA new initiatives request is to carry out the bold 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Goals and Objectives approved by the Board, including equitable engagement, zero deaths, zero disparities, and carbon neutrality by 2050.

1. US 70 E. Access Study from East End Connector to T. W. Alexander (City of Durham/ Durham County). Please see the adjoining memo from City of Durham for more details on this request.
2. US 70 W. Multimodal Corridor Study from NC 119 in Mebane to I-85 in Durham County. Please see the adjoining memo from Orange County for more details on this request.
3. Carbon Emission reduction and monitoring of performance targets. Technical tools and procedures to analyze carbon emissions; specifically, 1) analyze the impact of climate change on Metropolitan Transportation Plan facilities; 2) calculate baseline inventory of 2020 produced directly or indirectly by MTP activities; 3) calculate total emission per capita; 4) compare climate change impacts of future MTP scenarios and current conditions; and 5) create viable emission strategies to reduce total MTP emissions.
Greenhouse Gas Emission inventories will be used by the MPO to understand sources of emissions, develop strategies to reduce emissions, and track progress. Forecast of emissions, or estimates of future emissions, assist with the development of policies and actions that can be taken to establish reduction goals.
4. MTP resilience assessment and monitoring (in partnership with CAMPO and TJCOG). The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act includes resilience as a Planning Factor the MPO must address (23 USC 134, 23CFR 450). Also, the regulation requires that the MTP "include an assessment of capital investment and other strategies... to reduce the vulnerability of the existing transportation infrastructure to natural disasters (23 CFR 450.324(f)(7)).
5. Robust equitable engagement; data and analysis tool, including decision making tool for addressing racial injustice in transportation (funding, planning, operational, inclusive growth, etc.).

DURHAM • CHAPEL HILL • CARRBORO
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

101 City Hall Plaza • Durham, NC 27701 • Phone (919) 560-4366 • dchcmo.org



6. Technical and mapping tool and data processing for evaluating MTP and other MPO measures and targets (i.e. Vision Zero), including framework for monitoring targets and strategic linkage of MPO Goals and Objectives to transportation programming and investments.
7. Congestion Management Strategies (CMP). Work with MPO staff to define the framework, charge, membership, and schedule for a Regional ITS Implementation Work Group. Set meeting dates, times and locations, and arrange meeting logistics. Develop meeting agendas, host and facilitate meetings, and develop meeting summaries. Develop implementation strategy priorities, detailed tasks and schedules, and responsibilities. Undertake technical activities required to begin implementation of the strategies.
8. Define the framework, workplan, and schedule for a performance metrics tracking and reporting system. Clearly depict what metrics can relate to which local, MPO, state and federal policy decisions or scoring mechanisms. Help staff and decision makers better understand the pluses and minuses of different data sources and methods. Prioritize performance metrics based on data quality, availability, and timeliness. Make recommendations for data proxies or new data collection if it would benefit local and MPO decision-making. Leverage TJCOG's experience and expertise related to TDM, the Triangle Clean Cities Coalition, and MPO air quality conformity work to develop a comprehensive air quality, and greenhouse gas performance metrics approach. Leverage TJCOG expertise and experience as the regional data center to maintain, track, and communicate Census 2020, ACS, and LEHD/LODES related metrics.

Source of Funds

These initiatives, if approved by the Board will be funded from unobligated STBG-DA funds (\$1,080,526) that recently became available for planning. Federal transportation funds are subject to obligation limitation, which is the percentage of apportionment available for programming. A 90% obligation ceiling was applied for MPO STBG-DA allocation for FY 2015 to 2022. However, NCDOT adjusted the FY2021 obligation limitation to 98% based on new assumptions and information (i.e., OA trends and recalibration). This adjustment coupled with the conservative STBG-DA allocation estimates assumed for FY 2021 in previous years resulted in additional funds coming to the MPO.

Attachment: New Initiative Table