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DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

December 19, 2018

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on December 19, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Committee Room, located on the second floor of Durham City Hall. The following people were in attendance:

Ellen Beckmann (Chair)	City of Durham Transportation
Nishith Trivedi (Vice Chair)	Orange County Planning
Kumar Neppalli (Member)	Chapel Hill Engineering
Bergen Watterson (Member)	Chapel Hill Planning
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham Public Works
Christina Moon (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Zach Hallock (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Linda Thomas Wallace (Member)	Durham County Cooperative Extension
Evan Tenenbaum (Member)	Durham County Planning
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County Planning
Chance Mullis (Member)	Chatham County Planning
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	TJCOG
Kurt Stolka (Member)	UNC
Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT TPD
David Keilson (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 5
Bryan Kluchar (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 8
Patrick McDonough (Alternate)	GoTriangle
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
Lyndsay Gavin	TJCOG
Jenny Halsey	TJCOG
Jennifer Keep	GoTriangle

Quorum Count: 17 of 31 Voting Members

Chair Ellen Beckmann called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A roll call was performed. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Technical Committee (TC) were

43 identified and are indicated above. Chair Ellen Beckmann reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in
44 sheet.

45 **PRELIMINARIES:**

46 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

47 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

48 **3. Public Comments**

49 There were no comments from the public.

50 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

51 **4. Approval of November 28, 2018, Meeting Minutes**

52 Scott Whiteman made a motion to approve the November 28, 2018, Meeting Minutes. Vice Chair
53 Nishith Trivedi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

54 **ACTION ITEMS:**

55 **5. Draft FY2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**
56 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

57
58 Meg Scully stated that the DCHC MPO is required by federal regulations to prepare an annual
59 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that details and guides the urban area transportation planning
60 activities. Meg Scully added that funding for the UPWP is provided by the Federal Highway

61 Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Meg Scully continued that the
62 UPWP must identify MPO planning tasks to be performed with the use of federal transportation funds.

63 Meg Scully stated that the draft FY2020 UPWP is scheduled to be reviewed by the MPO Board
64 and released for public comment on January 16, 2019. Meg Scully continued that the MPO Board will be
65 asked to hold a public hearing and approve the plan on February 13. Meg Scully requested that each of
66 subrecipient representatives present verify their jurisdiction information is correct and send any
67 corrections to her by January 27.

68 Chair Ellen Beckmann asked if there were any high cost projects that are not listed on the
69 UPWP. Felix Nwoko responded that the Super Bike Highway is not listed in the UPWP nor is it a
70 confirmed project, and the scope and cost of it are also not yet known.

71 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board release the
72 document for public comment. John Hodges-Copple seconded the motion. The motion passed
73 unanimously.

74 **6. GoTriangle Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2018**

75 **Jennifer Keep, GoTriangle**

76 **Mo Devlin, SWG Administrator**

77

78 Aaron Cain stated that he along will present the first part of the GoTriangle Annual Report for Mo
79 Devlin who is unavailable. Aaron Cain stated that FY18 operational accomplishments included adding
80 frequency of route and route expansion for transit services throughout DCHC MPO. Aaron Cain added that,
81 as a part of FY18 Capital accomplishments, there was also a total of eight buses purchased. Aaron Cain
82 stated that the next steps for FY19 include operating service improvements for the DRX and Orange-
83 Alamance Connector. Aaron Cain also stated that planning projects for FY19 include GoDurham and
84 GoTriangle providing draft short-range transit plans and the major investment study for the Durham-Wake
85 Commuter Rail Transit (CRT) project. Aaron Cain added that capital projects for FY19 include bus stop
86 improvements. There was also discussion about park-and-ride improvements. Aaron Cain added that the
87 Chapel Hill Road transit emphasis corridor is currently in the planning phase, and it is planned to be in the
88 design phase in spring of 2019. Aaron Cain added that the Chapel Hill Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project is
89 currently in the 30% design phase. Andy Henry asked about ridership data. Aaron Cain responded that
90 ridership data in relation to expanded service could be misleading and were intentionally not included,
91 however, the numbers are available.

92 Jennifer Keep discussed the revenue portion of the GoTriangle Annual Report. Jennifer Keep
93 stated that approximately \$53.7M of revenue was reported for FY18, the majority of which came from the

94 adopted sales tax. There was discussion about what percentages of total revenue and expenditures came
95 from Durham and Orange County, respectively. Andy Henry asked about the status of the accrued
96 revenues. Jennifer Keep responded that the total FY18 revenue from the sales tax was higher than
97 projected, but the Q1 for FY19 was slightly lower than expected for Durham County due to higher than
98 projected tax refunds requests from tax exempt agencies. Chair Ellen Beckmann and Jennifer Keep
99 discussed a particular sum of \$2,000 for a park-and-ride study, which Chair Ellen Beckmann requested to
100 be highlighted separately. John Hodges-Copple and Jennifer Keep discussed that, due to their scale, the
101 North-South BRT, the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT), and the Durham-Wake CRT ought to
102 have the cost of each project presented separately. John Hodges-Copple and Jennifer Keep also discussed
103 separating the administration numbers from other expenses. There was discussion about the Durham
104 Board of County Commissioners pledging approximately \$57M of funding and when and how that funding
105 would be appropriated.

106 **7. DCHC MPO State of the Region 2018 Report**

107 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

108 Felix Nwoko stated that this DCHC MPO State of the Region 2018 Report presentation was
109 previously delivered to the TC on November 28, 2018, and since that time he was able to address
110 feedback, including questions to the accuracy of the American Community Survey (ACS) data. Felix
111 Nwoko stated that the Margin of Error (MOE) for the ACS was a national issue, and he called for
112 solutions, one of which he offered would be adding a footnote to the data sets. Felix Nwoko stated that
113 he plans to present this information to the MPO Board on January 16, 2019. Felix Nwoko added that he
114 plans to distribute the State of the Region 2018 Report to nearby agencies and jurisdictions. Felix Nwoko
115 added that along with the presentation to the MPO Board on January 16, there will also be a
116 memorandum added to the presentation. Felix Nwoko added that the purpose of the report is to
117 highlight issues facing the region and other related trends. Felix Nwoko added that the State of the
118 Region Report is different than the Mobility Report Card because the State of the Region Report

119 examines trends while the Mobility Report Card provides a set of qualitative scores for systems and
 120 facilities.

121 **8. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) -- Amendment 1**

122 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

123 Andy Henry stated that the MPO Board authorized MPO staff to release Amendment 1 to the
 124 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) on November 28, 2018. Andy Henry stated that MPO Staff
 125 released Amendment 1 on November 28 along with the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report
 126 (AQ CDR). Andy Henry stated that there have been several public input opportunities, yet staff has not
 127 received any public comment.

128 Andy Henry added that MPO staff has not made any significant changes to the Amendment 1
 129 version that was released. Andy Henry stated that only minor changes have been made to the MTP.
 130 Andy Henry stated that a table of the proposed changes to the highway projects was added. Andy Henry
 131 stated that MPO Staff added the interim Socioeconomic Data years of 2017, 2025, 2035, 2040, and 2045
 132 to this version of the resolution. Andy Henry added that the AQ CDR must be adopted by February 16,
 133 2019, in order to continue federal transportation actions in the Triangle region. Andy Henry stated that
 134 the plan is for the MPO Board to conduct a public hearing, and then adopt the amended 2045 MTP,
 135 Triangle Regional Model (TRM) version 6, and AQ CDR by resolution.

136 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi made a motion to recommend that the DCHC MPO Board adopt
 137 Amendment 1 to the 2045 MTP. Evan Tenenbaum seconded the motion. The motion passed
 138 unanimously.

139 **9. Air Quality Conformity Determination Report**

140 **Andy Henry, MPO Staff**

141 **John Hodges-Copple, TJCOG**

142 Andy Henry stated that MPO staff released the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report
 143 (AQ CDR) on November 28, 2018 and posted public input opportunities on the MPO web page and local
 144 newspapers. Andy Henry added that the AQ CDR must be adopted by February 16, 2019 to continue

145 federal transportation actions in the area. Andy Henry added that the minimum public comment period
146 is 30 days for the AQ CDR and 42 days for the MTP.

147 John Hodges-Copple explained that the Triangle region is considered a maintenance area, which
148 necessitates that every MTP and Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) demonstrate conformity by
149 using input from the travel model and showing the resulting emissions would meet air quality standards.
150 John Hodges-Copple stated that the AQ CDR must be fiscally restrained and that it must pass the air
151 quality test. John Hodges-Copple added that various agencies reviewed and sent comments on the
152 AQCDR. There was discussion about whether the MTP had to be updated every four or five years
153 starting in March 2018.

154 Scott Whiteman made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board adopt the Air Quality
155 Conformity Determination Report by resolution. Zach Hallock seconded the motion. The motion passed
156 unanimously.

157 **10. SPOT 6 Pre-Submittal Process**

158 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

159 Aaron Cain stated that the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is offering to
160 review potential interchange, intersection, and superstreet projects prior to formal submission into the
161 SPOT 6 cycle through a pre-submittal process. Aaron Cain added that the project also must be a highway
162 project. Aaron Cain added that this will provide an opportunity for MPOs to receive information on the
163 relative potential for success of projects before they are formally submitted to SPOT. Aaron Cain added
164 that each MPO may submit up to ten projects. Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi and Aaron Cain discussed the
165 possibility of preparing for SPOT 6 by evaluating SPOT 6 projects using the criteria for SPOT 5. Aaron Cain
166 added that the process for submitting projects for SPOT 6 will differ slightly from that of SPOT 5 due to
167 changes in the newly adopted MTP. Aaron Cain added that he will further detail the new process in
168 future TC meetings.

169 Aaron Cain stated that the deadline for submittals to NCDOT is January 18, 2019, and he
170 requested that nominations be sent to him by January 11. Aaron Cain continued that candidate projects
171 that could not be considered as operational improvements must be shown in the 2045 Metropolitan
172 Improvement Plan (MTP). Aaron Cain continued that NCDOT requested that MPOs not submit projects
173 for pre-submittal review that were submitted for SPOT 5, and pre-submittal projects ought to be new
174 projects.

175 Aaron Cain stated that there is a SPOT 6 working group that consists of four MPO
176 representatives, one of which is Chris Lukasina from Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
177 (CAMPO). Chair Ellen Beckmann asked if there has been any discussion from the working group about
178 how to make the submittal process more effective. Aaron Cain added that there have been suggestions
179 in the working group about extending the window for committed projects and shortening the window
180 for projects in development. Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi asked if SPOT 5 Division points have been
181 submitted. Aaron Cain affirmed that the points have been submitted, but the final scores from NCDOT
182 have not yet been released. Tina Moon and Chair Ellen Beckmann discussed the Complete Streets
183 Program, and Chair Ellen Beckmann stated she will provide an update at the next TC meeting on January
184 23.

185 **11. Amendment 9 to the FY2018-2027 STIP**
186 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

187 Aaron Cain stated that Amendment 9 to the FY2018-2027 State Transportation Improvement
188 Plan (STIP) consists of requests to add funds to three projects in Chapel Hill: Orange County Bicycle
189 Route 1 near Fordham Boulevard (EB-5721); Homestead Road sidewalks (U-4726IK); and variable
190 message signs in Chapel Hill (U-5543). Aaron Cain added that Orange County Bicycle Route 1 (EB-5721)
191 would receive additional state Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funds and the requisite local
192 match. Aaron Cain continued that Homestead Road sidewalks (U-4726IK) and variable message signs in
193 Chapel Hill (U-5543) would receive additional State Transportation Block Grants Direct Attributable

194 (STBGDA) funds, which includes Chapel Hill's local discretionary funds for FY19 and FY20. Aaron Cain also
 195 stated that there was an additional project for this item that was not included in the agenda packet and
 196 provided information to the TC members in a handout. U-4724, Cornwallis Road Bike/Ped, would also
 197 receive additional STBGDA funding through this amendment. Aaron Cain stated that there is a request
 198 from NCDOT's Public Transportation Division to add a statewide project to the TIP, which has already
 199 been approved in the STIP.

200 Bergen Watterson made a motion to recommend approval of Amendment 9 to the FY2018-2027
 201 TIP. Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

202 **12. Amendment 10 to the FY2018-2027 TIP**
 203 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

204 Aaron Cain stated that Amendment 10 was to fund the Durham Beltline (EB-5904), but will
 205 instead be used to fund Morreene Road Bike/Ped (C4928) and Hillandale Road Bike/Ped (U4726HN).
 206 Aaron Cain added that C-4928 and U-4726HN will require a 21-day public comment period. Chair Ellen
 207 Beckmann stated that this change is necessary due to increasing project costs.

208 Evan Tenenbaum made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board release Amendment 10 to
 209 the FY2018-2027 TIP for a 21-day public comment period. Scott Whiteman seconded the motion. The
 210 motion passed unanimously.

211 **13. Election of TC Officers for 2019**
 212 **Aaron Cain, DCHC MPO**

213 Aaron Cain stated that Chair Ellen Beckmann will have finished her two-year term in 2019,
 214 therefore a new Chair must be confirmed. Aaron stated that the new Chair must come from either
 215 Orange or Chatham County, and the Vice Chair must represent a different county than the new Chair. A
 216 nominating committee was formed with John Hodges-Copple as its Chair and Evan Tenenbaum and
 217 Chance Mullis as members.

218 **REPORTS:**

219 **14. Reports from the LPA Staff**
220 Felix Nwoko, Andy Henry, LPA Staff

221 Felix Nwoko requested that project requests for small scale studies be sent to him by January 11,
222 2019. Felix Nwoko added that these projects will be sent to NCDOT for funding at a later time when
223 appropriate.

224 **15. Report from the DCHC MPO TC Chair**
225 Ellen Beckmann, DCHC MPO TC Chair

226 There was no additional comment from the TC Chair.

227 **16. NCDOT Reports**

228 David Keilson, NCDOT Division 5, stated that Alston Avenue will be closing for 12 months starting
229 on January 2, 2019. David Keilson explained that it will close down in two segments, each segment lasting
230 six months. David Keilson added that the Alston Avenue Bridge is schedule to be open by February 2019.
231 David Keilson stated that that there was a slight delay in the East End Connector project due to rejected
232 materials. David Keilson stated that the final paving for the Chapel Hill Road project is scheduled to be
233 finished by April 2019.

234 There was no additional comment from Division 7.

235 Bryan Kluchar, NCDOT Division 8 stated he has no additional comment to the provided report.

236 Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division, stated that NCDOT's Traffic Survey Group published
237 their 2017 Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) estimate and data shapefile in late October on the NCDOT
238 website.

239 There was no report from NCDOT Traffic Operations.

240 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

241 **17. Recent News, Articles, and Updates**

242 There were no informational items.

243 **ADJOURNMENT:**

244 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Technical Committee, the meeting was
245 adjourned at 10:37 a.m.