

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

2 **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

3 **March 24, 2021**

4 **MINUTES OF MEETING**

5 The Durham-Chapel Hill Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met
6 on March 24, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. through a teleconferencing platform. The following
7 members were in attendance:

- 8 Nishith Trivedi (Vice Chair) Orange County
- 9 Tasha Johnson (Member) City of Durham
- 10 Evan Tenenbaum (Member) City of Durham
- 11 Pierre Osei-Owusu (Member) City of Durham Transportation/Go Durham
- 12 Brooke Ganser (Member) Durham County
- 13 Scott Whiteman (Member) Durham County
- 14 Bergen Watterson (Member) Town of Chapel Hill
- 15 Jomar Pastorelle (Member) Town of Chapel Hill
- 16 Zach Hallock (Member) Town of Carrboro
- 17 Margaret Hauth (Member) Town of Hillsborough
- 18 John Hodges-Copple (Member) TJCOG
- 19 Jay Heikes (Member) GoTriangle
- 20 Hank Graham (Member) Research Triangle Foundation
- 21 Julie Bogle (Member) NCDOT TPD
- 22 John Grant (Member) NCDOT Traffic Operations
- 23 Kurt Stolka (Member) The University of North Carolina
- 24 Tom Altieri (Member) Orange County Planning
- 25 Theo Letman (Member) Orange Public Transportation
- 26 Michael Page (Member) North Carolina Central University
- 27 Bill Judge (Alternate) City of Durham
- 28 David Keilson (Alternate) NCDOT Division 5
- 29 Steven Robinson (Alternate) NCDOT Division 7
- 30 Bryan Kluchar (Alternate) NCDOT Division 8
- 31 Cha'ssem Anderson (Alternate) The University of North Carolina
- 32 Matt Cecil (Alternate) Chapel Hill Transit/Planning
- 33 Meg Scully (Alternate) GoTriangle
- 34 Ellis Cayton (Alternate) The Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority

- 35 Sean Egan, City of Durham
- 36 Joe Geigle, Federal Highway Administration
- 37 Cy Stober, City of Mebane
- 38 Rachel Stair, Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority

- 39 Felix Nwoko DCHC MPO
- 40 Brian Rhodes DCHC MPO
- 41 Aaron Cain DCHC MPO

- 42 Anne Phillips DCHC MPO
- 43 Andy Henry DCHC MPO
- 44 Dale McKeel City of Durham/DCHC MPO
- 45 Kayla Mathews DCHC MPO

46 Quorum count: 25 of 31 voting members

47 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

48 **PRELIMINARIES:**

49 **1. Roll Call**

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51 Aaron Cain noted that the roll call could be completed by using the Zoom participant list.

52 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

53
54 Aaron Cain said there is an addition to the agenda for the FY21 Unified Planning Work
55 Program (UPWP) Amendment #2 request from the Town of Carrboro that will be added to the
56 end of the action items.

57 **3. Public Comments**

58 There were no public comments.

59 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

60 **4. Approval of the January 6, 2021 TC Meeting Minutes**

61 **5. Approval of the February 24, 2021 TC Meeting Minutes**

62 There was no discussion on the consent agenda. Zach Hallock made a motion to
63 approve the consent agenda. Evan Tenenbaum seconded the motion. The motion passed
64 unanimously.

65 **ACTION ITEMS:**

66 **6. CTP Amendment #3**
67 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

68 Andy Henry said he presented a report on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan
69 (CTP) at the February 2021 Technical Committee meeting. Since that time, a TC Subcommittee
70 meeting was held and several jurisdictions provided input. Andy Henry mentioned one major
71 change – the sidepaths are now combined with the multiuse paths so the whole network can be

72 viewed at once. A few other changes were made and can be viewed in blue text on the CTP
 73 Amendment #3 Report attachment. Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi said this amendment will be
 74 brought to the Orange County Board on April 21, 2021, and their comments will be shared.
 75 Andy Henry corrected the end date for the public engagement schedule from May 25, 2021 to
 76 May 26, 2021.

77 Julie Bogle asked if the MPO has received any more information from Orange County
 78 regarding highway improvements. Andy Henry responded that more information is needed from
 79 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi about rural road improvements.

80 Bergen Watterson made a motion to recommend the MPO Board release CTP
 81 Amendment #3 for public comment. Zach Hallock seconded the motion. The motion passed
 82 unanimously.

83 **7. 2021 CRRSSA Section 5310 Call for Projects**
 84 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

85 Felix Nwoko said the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations
 86 Act (CRRSAA) Section 5310 apportionment was part of the federal stimulus program which
 87 must include a competitive selection process.

88 Jomar Pastorelle made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board authorize the
 89 release of the call for projects for CRRSSA 5310 funds. Hank Graham seconded the motion.
 90 The motion passed unanimously.

91 **8. FFY 2021 Section 5307/5340 FULL Apportionment Split Letter**
 92 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

93 Felix Nwoko said this split letter includes the annual apportionment received by the MPO
 94 from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and approval by the MPO Board will allow transit
 95 operators to apply for funding. These funds are intended for transit capital costs, operating
 96 costs, and preventative maintenance. Felix Nwoko mentioned the apportionment for this year is
 97 slightly less than what the MPO received last year.

98 Margaret Hawth made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approved the
 99 Section 5307/5340 Full Apportionment Split Letter. Theo Letman seconded the motion. The
 100 motion passed unanimously.

101 **9. FFY 2021 Section 5339 Full Apportionment Split Letter**
 102 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

103 Felix Nwoko stated the Section 5339 funds are for buses and bus facilities, and that the
 104 MPO typically does this split letter on a biannual basis, but this year it will be done annually.
 105 This approval of the split letter would enable transit operators to submit applications for funding.

106 Pierre Osei-Owusu made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve the
 107 Section 5339 Full Apportionment Split Letter. Jomar Pastorelle seconded the motion. The
 108 motion passed unanimously.

109 **10. TIP Amendment #5**
 110 **Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

111 Anne Phillips noted that this routine Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 112 amendment includes projects amended by NCDOT and needs to be approved for NCDOT to
 113 access federal grant funding. Evan Tenenbaum asked about the City of Durham Projects in TIP
 114 Amendment #3. Anne Phillips clarified that NCDOT amended the State Transportation
 115 Improvement Program (STIP) to reflect the changes the MPO made in TIP Amendment #3, and
 116 they are therefore not shown here.

117 Evan Tenenbaum made a motion to recommend the MPO Board approve TIP
 118 Amendment #5. Pierre Osei-Owusu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

119 **11. FY21 & 22 Amended Call for Projects**
 120 **Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**
 121 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

122 Anne Phillips summarized that NCDOT revised the amounts for Surface Transportation
 123 Block Grant Direct Attributable (STBGDA) and Transportation Alternatives Program Direct

124 Attributable (TAPDA) funds and increased the obligation ceiling for FY21. This affected the
 125 MPO's local discretionary calculations which therefore needed to be updated. Anne Phillips
 126 added that STBG Any Area will now be called STBG Competitive because NCDOT alerted the
 127 MPO of unobligated direct attributable funding from FY20 that has now been added to the Any
 128 Area funding pool. LPA staff stated that they were unsure if the MPO will receive any TAPDA
 129 funding for FY22.

130 Meg Scully asked if there was a 25% deduction of the STBGDA funding for transit prior
 131 to when STBGDA funding was entered into the local discretionary section of the formula. Aaron
 132 Cain responded that that is the case, and additional funding is available for transit as well.
 133 Further discussion about this will take place at a later time.

134 Evan Tenenbaum asked if projects should be submitted for Any Area funds or
 135 unobligated FY20 funds in the STBG competitive category. Aaron Cain responded it was one
 136 pot of funding, so applicants only needed to specify that they were applying for STBG
 137 Competitive funds. He also stated that all pots of money require a 20% local match except the
 138 STBGDA COVID relief funds, and the COVID relief funds cannot be used to match another
 139 federal funding request. Anne Phillips added that COVID relief funds must be used by
 140 September 30, 2024 or they will be rescinded.

141 This item was for informational purposes; no further action was required by the TC.

142 **11a. FY 21 UPWP Amendment #2**
 143 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

144 Felix Nwoko said this amendment was proposed by the Town of Carrboro to reprogram
 145 funds that were deobligated. Zach Hallock explained that fewer hours are needed for certain
 146 tasks than anticipated. Felix Nwoko added that this will be the last amendment for the FY21
 147 UPWP.

148 A motion was made by Zach Hallock to recommend the Board approve the UPWP
 149 Amendment #2. Margaret Hauth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

150 **REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

151 **12. Report from Staff**
 152 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

153 Aaron Cain said that, as discussed with Chair Wendy Jacobs, most of the items from this
 154 TC Agenda will be put on the MPO Board Consent Agenda in an effort to conserve time for the
 155 April 2021 MPO Board meeting because there are already several presentations scheduled for
 156 that meeting.

157 Andy Henry brought up how equity was incorporated into the performance measures for
 158 the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) through analysis of zero-car households, low-
 159 income households, and minorities. Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZs) with a high
 160 proportion of these communities of concern need to be identified in order to perform that
 161 analysis. Andy Henry said that Yanping Zhang and other MPO staff members have come up
 162 with a methodology to identify those TAZs using census block group data. Andy Henry
 163 suggested a meeting to review the maps and provide feedback on the quantitative work that has
 164 been done so far. A poll will be sent out to determine the best time for a meeting.

165 Dale McKeel reminded the TC that the joint MPO Policy Priorities have been revised
 166 after the discussion at the December 1, 2020, joint board meeting with DCHC MPO and the
 167 Capital Area MPO (CAMPO). This document has been sent out to board members and will soon
 168 be sent out to TC members and put on the website. Dale McKeel reminded everybody about the
 169 new Invest for Success section and that revisions were made to the “Make NC a Leader in
 170 Active Transportation Investments” and “Strengthen Support for Demand Management and
 171 Technology” sections. Dale McKeel thanked John Hodges-Copple and Triangle J Council of
 172 Government (TJCOG) staff for their work with these updates.

173 Anne Phillips said the MPO would like to have a TC subcommittee meeting to review a
 174 scoring rubric for the STBG competitive funds.

175 **13. Report from the Chair**
 176 **Nishith Trivedi, TC Vice Chair**

177 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi had no additional report.

178 **14. NCDOT Reports**

179 **Joey Hopkins (David Keilson, Richard Hancock), Division 5 – NCDOT**

180

181 David Keilson gave an update on the Alston Avenue project. David Keilson clarified the

182 system for the estimated/revised completion dates shown for projects. Bill Judge asked about

183 the status of unfreezing the Locally Administered Projects (LAP) projects on the 5 year projects

184 list. David Keilson will look into the question and provide information to several people later.

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

186

187 Stephen Robinson said the start date for the SS-6007C project has been moved up to

188 this year, which is sooner than what is on the project update list.

189 **Brandon Jones (Bryan Kluchar, Jen Britt), Division 8 - NCDOT**

190 Bryan Kluchar had no additional report.

191 **Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT**

192 Julie Bogle had no additional report. Aaron Cain asked if Brian Lopez will start attending

193 Board meetings as Kathryn Zeringue's replacement for the Integrated Mobility Division of

194 NCDOT and Julie Bogle confirmed this.

195 **John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT**

196 John Grant had no additional report.

197 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

198 **Adjourn**

199 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Nishith

200 Trivedi at 9:54 a.m.

201 **Next meeting: April 28, 9 a.m., meeting to be held by teleconference**