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DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Date 6/22/16

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on June 22, 2016 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:

David Bonk (TC Chair)	Chapel Hill Planning
Ellen Beckmann (TC Vice Chair)	City of Durham Transportation
Kumar Neppalli (Member)	Chapel Hill Engineering
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham Public Works
Margaret Hauth (Member)	Hillsborough Planning
Tina Moon (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Laura Woods (Member)	Durham County Planning
Linda Thomas Wallace (Member)	Durham County Planning
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County Planning
Peter Murphy (Member)	Orange Public Transportation
Tom Altieri (Member)	Orange County Planning
Cara Coppola (Member)	Chatham County Planning
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	Triangle J Council of Governments
Patrick McDonough (Member)	GoTriangle
Kelly Becker (Member)	NCDOT, Traffic Operations
Julie Bollinger (Member)	NCDOT, TPB
Richard Hancock (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 5
Ed Lewis (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 7
Patrick Wilson (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 7
Jen Britt (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 8
Geoff Green (Alternate)	GoTriangle
Kayla Seibel	Chapel Hill Planning
Bill Marley	Federal Highway Administration
Dale McKeel	City of Durham/DCHC MPO
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
Lindsay Smart	DCHC MPO
Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
Solanda Adkins	City of Durham
Bryan Poole	City of Durham
Than Austin	UNC
Kurt Stolka	UNC

46 Taruna Tayal VHB
47 Maureen Devlin Town of Chapel Hill
48

49 Quorum Count: 20 of 31 Voting Members
50

51
52 Chair David Bonk called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A roll call was performed. The Voting
53 Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Technical Committee (TC) were identified and
54 are indicated above. Chair David Bonk reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheet that was being
55 circulated.

56

57 **PRELIMINARIES:**

58 **Adjustments to the Agenda**

59 Chair David Bonk asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. Chair David Bonk stated
60 Agenda Items 6 and 7 will be moved to the end of the agenda in order to get thru the business part of the
61 meeting quickly and allow time for the workshop and related discussions. Meg Scully stated Item 9 will
62 need to be removed from this agenda and placed on next month's agenda. Chair David Bonk asked if there
63 were any objections to adjusting the agenda as proposed. There were no objections.

64

65 **Public Comments**

66 Chair David Bonk asked if there were any members of the public signed up to speak. There were
67 no members of the public signed up to speak during the meeting.

68

CONSENT AGENDA:

69 **5. Approval of May 25, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

70 Chair David Bonk asked if there was any discussion on the May 25, 2016 meeting minutes. There
71 were no questions or discussion. Chair David Bonk asked for a motion to be made to approve the May 25,

72 2016 meeting minutes. John Hodges-Copple made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 25,
73 2016 and Tom Altieri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

74

75 **ACTION ITEMS:**

76 **6. Chapel Hill North-South Corridor Study - Bus Rapid Transit**
77 **Mila Vega, Chapel Hill Transit**

78 The Town of Chapel Hill and Chapel Hill Transit have been undergoing the North-South Corridor
79 Study for Bus Rapid Transit along MLK Boulevard and US 15/501 from the Eubanks Road Park & Ride lot at
80 the northern end to Southern Village at the southern end. The North-South Corridor Study is the first step
81 in a multi-phased federal process.

82 Chair David Bonk stated the Town of Chapel Hill has been involved in a transit study and Mila Vega
83 is present because the study has concluded with a recommendation that would need to be incorporated in
84 the adopted 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan which will be an action to be taken by the MPO Board.

85 Mila Vega reviewed the federal project implementation process and the steps being taken by
86 Chapel Hill Transit (CHT). CHT wanted to come up with a sustainable long term solution that would not
87 only address challenges in the corridor, but also link to projects that are developed regionally like the
88 Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT). The goal was to develop a system that can be scalable. It took
89 30 months to complete the study. It was started in the winter of 2014, and the Council adopted the Locally
90 Preferred Alternative in April 2016. A chart was created early on so that everyone would understand their
91 role and how the process works. CHT wanted to develop a plan that would be supported by the local
92 community. There was public involvement and input throughout the process. Mila Vega continued to
93 review slides and provide detail about the proposed changes.

94 Chair David Bonk stated in addition to serving travel specifically in the North South Corridor, it will
95 also provide broader service and access to the D-O LRT and to the region. Mila Vega stated this was very
96 important to the stakeholders and to the members of the public.

97 Mila Vega noted there is not a specific targeted ridership, but it is for anyone who lives or works
98 within the walking or biking radius of the corridor or who would connect to the corridor from other
99 regional transit routes. The idea is to build a service that can be used at night, on the weekends, and not
100 just cater to one group, but cater to all. This is not just a transit plan, but a multimodal plan that includes
101 cyclists, walkers, and drivers. Felix Nwoko clarified that the TC could make a recommendation to the Board
102 to approve the Locally Preferred Alternative today or during the MPO TC meeting on 7/27/16.

103 Chair David Bonk clarified this project is already in the 2040 MTP so it's not an addition to the
104 MTP, but a modification to the details of the project in the MTP. Andy Henry stated the 2040 MTP says the
105 Chapel Hill MLK Corridor. The MPO would change how it's described in the 2040 MTP and add Mila Vega's
106 process as a reference to the MTP. Ellen Beckmann asked what the cost is in the MTP. Andy Henry stated
107 the cost is \$44 million and updated cost estimate is about \$100 million.. John Hodges-Copple stated if we
108 need \$20 million in local and the county bus and rail investment plan goes to \$35 million, there will be a
109 shortfall of \$14 million. Chair David Bonk stated there are a couple of ways to address this. The MPO is
110 about to begin a process for the 2045 MTP where the MPO will be reevaluating the entire financial picture
111 and reviewing the funding process. John Hodges-Copple asked if this is a FTA Small Start program. Mila
112 Vega replied yes. Alison Carpenter asked if the intent of the North South project was to be phased in after
113 the D-O LRT as a feeder line into the D-O LRT project. Chair David Bonk stated it needs to be revisited with
114 all of the moving parts. We will have to see the whole picture in order to understand where we're at and
115 we don't see that yet. There was continued discussion about the Small Start program and the 2045 MTP.
116 Chair David Bonk stated option today is for the MPO TC to recommend to the MPO Board that they release
117 this for the public input phase, as an amendment to the 2040 Plan. They will hold a public hearing in
118 September. John Hodges-Copple restated, the TC would be asking the Board to put it out for public
119 comment. Chair David Bonk asked for a motion to recommend to the MPO Board to release this for a 45-

120 day public comment period. Patrick McDonough made the motion and Kumar Neppalli seconded the
 121 motion. The motion passed unanimously.

122 **7. Tabled – to later in the agenda.**

123
 124 **8. Tabled – to later in the agenda.**

125
 126 **9. Amendment #3 to FY2016-2025 TIP**
 127 **Lindsay Smart, LPA Staff**

128 The amendment #3 to the DCHC MPO's FY2016-2025 TIP cancels projects, amends projects, and
 129 adds new projects to the DCHC MPO TIP. A summary report of the changes included in amendment #3 is
 130 included as an attachment to the agenda item. A full amendment report that depicts the original and
 131 proposed version of each project is also included as an attachment to the agenda item. This amendment
 132 serves to align the DCHC MPO TIP with the changes that have been made to the NCDOT STIP through
 133 monthly "Item N Highway Program" and "Item I Public Transportation Program" for the dates between
 134 February 1, 2016 and May 31, 2016. The amendment #3 also includes project amendment requests that
 135 the DCHC MPO LPA staff have received from DCHC MPO member jurisdictions and agencies.

136 Lindsay Smart stated the TC reviewed Amendment #3 before and Amendment #3 has been out for
 137 public comment. While out for public comment, the MPO received change requests from Transit
 138 Operators. A summary was provided to everyone in the TC meeting. Lindsay Smart noted the specific
 139 changes that were requested and reviewed them in detail.. Ellen Beckmann asked if the STP-DA changes t
 140 increase the amount of money programmed. Lindsay Smart stated TA 4923 for GoDurham had the largest
 141 change for STP-DA but that funding was being moved between projects and no new or additional funding
 142 was being added to the TIP. Lindsay Smart continued to discuss the changes in detail. Chair David Bonk
 143 asked for a motion be made as recommended. Margaret Hauth made a motion to recommend that the
 144 Board approve Amendment #3 to the FY2016-FY2025-TIP. Ellen Beckmann seconded the motion.

145 **10. Tabled – to July 2016 meeting.**

146
 147 **11. FY2017 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment Schedule**
 148 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

149
 150 DCHC MPO is required by federal regulations to prepare an annual Unified Planning Work Program
 151 (UPWP) that details and guides the urban area transportation planning activities. Funding for the UPWP is
 152 provided on an annual basis by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit
 153 Administration (FTA). On February 10, 2016 the DCHC MPO Board approved the FY2017 UPWP. The
 154 FY2017 UPWP will go into effect beginning July 1, 2016. Attached to this agenda item is the amendment
 155 schedule for the FY2017 UPWP. The MPO is trying to streamline the amendment process and have two
 156 amendments per year. This has been done successfully over the last couple of years andt this year the
 157 next date for an amendment is in August. This agenda item is for informational purposes and there is no
 158 action required by the TC.

159
 160 **12. Report from Staff**
 161 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

162 Nothing to additional report.

163 **13. Report from the DCHC MPO TC Chair**
 164 **David Bonk, TC Chair**

165 Chair David Bonk stated several of MPO members attended a meeting for the NC54 study kickoff.
 166 There was discussion about the model, socioeconomic data, and updates to the 2045 plan and how it fits
 167 into the process. At the NC54 meeting they talked about having projects to 2045 even though we plan up
 168 to 2045. It's unclear as to what tool they will use for an analysis.

169
 170 **14. NCDOT Reports**

171 Richard Hancock, NCDOT Division 5. Bids on Alston Avenue U-3308 project is delayed until July
 172 19th, due to a Northern Southern Railroad agreement NCDOT did not receive.

173 Ed Lewis, NCDOT, Division 7. Ed Lewis stated two of the rail crossings are under construction. At
 174 Mount Carmel/Bennett; there was a public meeting and there was a good turnout. Division 7 also held
 175 their STI/SPOT public meeting. It was well attended and approximately 20 people showed. Ed Lewis added

176 this year they are trying to get more public engagement. There is a 2018-2025 STIP development page on
177 the website that gives a lot of detail about the STIP process. The public can talk about what projects
178 interest them and what projects they would like to see move forward. Patrick McDonough asked if the
179 buffered bike lane can be a protected bike lane. Ed Lewis stated he would discuss this with everyone and
180 get back to him. Ellen Beckmann asked how widely the interactive online portal for NCDOT public
181 engagement is being shared and can the MPO help advertise it. Ed Lewis stated the STI process is a tight
182 schedule. A press release was sent out and encouraged the MPO to pass the information along. Chair
183 David Bonk asked Lindsay Smart to send that information out to everyone. Ed Lewis stated the deadline is
184 July 26th. Chair David Bonk noted as the information is shared, that we make sure everyone is aware of the
185 deadline.

186 Jen Britt, NCDOT, Division 8. There aren't any big updates. The Lystra Road project is moved to July
187 1st.

188 Julie Bollinger, Transportation Planning Branch – NCDOT. Julie Bollinger noted the Town Council
189 was having a Committee Meeting in Siler City tonight.

190 Kelly Becker, NCDOT, Traffic Operations – NCDOT. There was nothing to report from NCDOT Traffic
191 Operations.

192 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

193 **11. Recent News, Articles, and Updates**

194 Nothing to report.

195 **ADJOURNMENT:**

196 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Technical Committee, the meeting was
197 adjourned at 10:26 a.m.