

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

July 24, 2019

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on July 24, 2019, 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:

Nish Trivedi (Chair)	Orange County Planning
Ellen Beckmann (Vice Chair)	City of Durham
Bergen Watterson (Member)	Chapel Hill Planning
Zach Hallock (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Tina Moon (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Chance Mullis (Member)	Chatham County Planning
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County Planning
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham Public Works
Margaret Hauth (Member)	Hillsborough
Tom Altieri (Member)	Orange County Planning
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	Triangle J Council of Governments
David Keilson (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 5
Pat Wilson (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 7
Bryan Kluchar (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 8
Kurt Stolka (Member)	University of North Carolina
Bill Judge (Alternate)	City of Durham Transportation
Evan Tenenbaum (Alternate)	City of Durham Transportation
Brian Taylor (Alternate)	City of Durham Transportation
Lisa Miller (Alternate)	Durham City/County Planning
Patrick McDonough (Alternate)	GoTriangle
Joe Geigle (Member-Non Voting)	Federal Highway Administration
Megen Hoenk (Alternate Non-Voting)	North Carolina Railroad
Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Robert Jahn	DCHC MPO
Dale McKeel	City of Durham/DCHC MPO

Quorum Count: 20 of 31 Voting Members

Chair Nish Trivedi called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A roll call was performed. The Voting

Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Technical Committee (TC) were identified and

46 are indicated above. Chair Nish Trivedi reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheet. Introductions
47 were made for Brian Taylor, City of Durham Transportation Department; Evan Tenenbaum, City of Durham
48 Transportation Department; and Jomar Pastorelle, Town of Chapel Hill Transportation Department.

49 **PRELIMINARIES:**

50 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

51 Aaron Cain requested that Item 8a, *Amendment #14 to the TIP*, be added to the action items.

52 **3. Public Comments**

53 No members of the public signed up to speak during the meeting.

54 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

55 **4. Approval of May 22, 2019, Meeting Minutes**

56 There were no comments pertaining to the Meeting Minutes.

57 John Hodges-Copple made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Evan Tenenbaum seconded
58 the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

59 **ACTION ITEMS:**

60 **5. Durham County Transit Plan Update**

61 **Pat Young, Durham City-County Planning Department**
62 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

63 Meg Scully stated that the Durham County Transit Plan was updated in 2017, but an update is
64 underway due to the discontinuation of the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) project. Pat
65 Young stated that the update to the Transit Plan will last 15 months, and he will return to the TC with
66 updates as necessary. Pat Young added that the Durham City-County Planning department was
67 identified as the preferred project manager for the Transit Plan update. Pat Young highlighted the need
68 for coordination between land use outcomes and transit operations. Pat Young stated that partnerships
69 to develop the Transit Plan would include; the City of Durham, GoTriangle, Triangle J Council of
70 Governments (TJ COG), the DCHC MPO, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), and

71 county governments. Pat Young continued that the implementation piece of the Transit Plan is to be led
72 by the DCHC MPO. Pat Young added that the communication between Durham City-County Planning
73 and the transportation partners would be a key step to developing the Transit Plan.

74 Pat Young stated the Durham County Board of Commissioners was updated and gave consent
75 on July 8. Pat Young continued that he is meeting with the GoTriangle Board on July 24, the Durham City
76 Council on August 1, and the DCHC MPO Board on August 14. Pat Young explained that GoTriangle is
77 developing the Operations Staff Working Group, which makes recommendations to the DCHC MPO,
78 GoTriangle Board, Durham County Commissioners, and Durham City Council. Pat Young stated that the
79 Operations Staff Working Group will work to communicate better to Durham residents the
80 accomplishments of local transit services. Pat Young explained that Engage Durham is designed to
81 engage residents for better community outreach and feedback.

82 Pat Young stated that a presentation for the scope of the Transit Plan will be presented at the TC
83 Meeting on October 23. Pat Young added that in November 2019, the substantive planned development
84 phase will kick off for a period of 12 months. Pat Young continued that \$750,000 has been allocated for
85 the current year for the Transit Plan. There was a discussion about the list of projects that would be
86 included in the Transit Plan. Bergen Watterson asked if the Orange County Transit Plan will be presented
87 to the TC as well. Meg Scully related that representatives from Orange County indicated that an Orange
88 County Transit Plan update is not presently available, but will be forthcoming.

89 **6. US 15-501 Corridor Study**
90 **Andy Henry, LPA staff**

91 Andy Henry stated that the Project Steering Committee was formed for the US 15-501 Corridor
92 Study in response to the discontinuation of the D-O LRT. Andy Henry stated that goals of the committee
93 are to consider all types of transit in the 15-501 corridor and to use relevant information in the Strategic
94 Planning Office Transportation (SPOT) process and submittal, for which the deadline is December 20, 2019.
95 Andy Henry continued that there are detailed considerations under discussion for the 15-501 corridor,

96 which will impact the design. Andy Henry added that the design for the 15-501/Garrett Road interchange
97 is at 95% completion. Andy Henry stated that the project steering committee will receive draft copies of
98 alternate designs for the 15-501 corridor, which will also be used for the public workshop.

99 **7. Triangle Strategic Tolling Study**
100 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

101 Andy Henry stated that the purpose of the Triangle Strategic Tolling Study is to identify potential
102 toll projects for inclusion in the update of the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and to begin
103 discussions around the issues of tolling. Andy Henry stated that the Tolling Study was presented to various
104 governing boards, including the MPO Board on June 12 at their Board meeting and on May 29 at the Joint
105 MPO Board meeting . Andy Henry continued that the MPO Board requested that the Tolling Study include
106 more information about equity concerns and considerations, which it now provides more explicitly. Andy
107 Henry stated that the Tolling Study will be presented to the MPO Board on August 14 to receive it and
108 release it for public comment. Andy Henry added that the Tolling Study can be found on the MPO website
109 as well as on the contractor's website at triangleollingstudy.com.

110 Ellen Beckmann asked if the Tolling Study was an endorsement of any specific tolling project. Andy
111 Henry responded that the Tolling Study does not endorse any tolling project, but instead the report will be
112 used to provide framework for the MTP. Patrick McDonough and Andy Henry discussed management of
113 tolling facilities. Andy Henry stated that the Tolling Study does not make any recommendations for
114 management. Patrick McDonough recommended a larger policy discussion at a future meeting about
115 whether buses will be required to pay tolls.

116 John Hodges-Copple made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board release the Triangle
117 Tolling Study for a minimum 21-day public comment period. Zach Hallock seconded the motion. The
118 motion passed unanimously.

119 **8. Amendment to the Orange County Transit Plan**
120 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**
121 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

122 Aaron Cain stated that the 2017 Orange County Transit Plan allocates \$6.1 million to the Chapel
 123 Hill North-South Bus Rapid Transit (NSBRT) Project. Aaron Cain added that Chapel Hill Transit has
 124 requested an additional \$8 million in dedicated transit revenue be allocated to the project through an
 125 amendment to the 2017 Plan. Aaron Cain continued that the Boards of the Orange County
 126 Commissioners and of GoTriangle have already approved the amendment. Aaron Cain stated that the
 127 MPO Board must sign the amendment to the Orange County Transit Plan before the application can be
 128 submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for a Small Starts Grant.

129 Tom Altieri made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve and sign the
 130 amendment to the Orange County Transit Plan. Bergen Waterson seconded the motion. The motion
 131 passed unanimously.

132 **8a. Amendment #14 to the TIP**
 133 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

134 Aaron Cain stated that, due to the upcoming 2019 federal rescission of Congestion
 135 Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funds, it had been proposed to switch funding from the Downtown
 136 Durham Wayfinding Project in order to add funding to projects that will be obligated in 2019, such as
 137 bicycle lanes and boulevards. Aaron Cain continued that the Wayfinding Project would then be allocated
 138 funding using the projected 2020 distribution. Aaron Cain also stated that the Fixing America’s Surface
 139 Transportation (FAST) Act goes through 2020, and that more information regarding 2021 disbursement
 140 may be obtained in the following months.

141 Ellen Beckmann made a motion to recommend the MPO Board approve amendment #14 to the
 142 TIP. Scott Whiteman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

143 **REPORTS:**

144 **9. Reports from the LPA Staff**
 145 **Felix Nwoko, Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

146 Meg Scully presented an update on the on-call contract selection process of the Unified Planning
 147 Work Program (UPWP).

148 **10. Report from the DCHC MPO TC Chair**

149 Nish Trivedi, DCHC MPO TC Chair

150 Chair Nish Trivedi stated that the Burlington-Graham MPO has begun their 2045 MTP, and it is
 151 currently in the public comment period. Nish Trivedi and Zack Hallock discussed the Carrboro Bike Plan.

152 **11. NCDOT Reports**

153 David Keilson, NCDOT Division 5, stated that the East End Connector Project (U-0071) is expected
 154 to shift northbound traffic to the new alignment in August 2019. David Keilson stated that US 70 is
 155 continuing to be graded between railroad bridges, and NC 98 is going to accommodate the next traffic shift
 156 at eastbound US 70, which is scheduled to occur at the end of August 2019. David Keilson stated that for
 157 the Alston Avenue Project, Main Street is now open for through traffic, but Taylor Street is closed until
 158 school opens at Eastway Elementary School. David Keilson also stated that the University Road/Hope
 159 Valley Roundabout (U-5745) is expected to open in late October 2019. John Hodges-Copple requested to
 160 receive a status updated on Pettigrew Bridge over Alston Avenue.

161 Pat Wilson, NCDOT Division 7, stated that the Greensboro Street/Estes Drive Roundabout project
 162 (U-5846) has been awarded and will begin the first week of August 2019. Pat Wilson and Zach Hallock
 163 discussed providing Point of Contact (POC) information to all necessary parties. Pat Wilson and Aaron Cain
 164 discussed removing U-5847 from the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Aaron Cain
 165 recalled that the project would not be in the new STIP, but that he would check with the STIP Unit.

166 Nish Trivedi and Pat Wilson discussed confirming the let dates of the two I-85 widening projects (I-
 167 5983 and I-0305).

168 There was no additional report from NCDOT Division 8.

169 There was no additional report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Division.

170 There was no report from NCDOT Traffic Operations.

171

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

172 **13. Recent News, Articles, and Updates**

173 There was no comment pertaining to any informational item.

174

ADJOURNMENT:

175 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Technical Committee, the meeting was

176 adjourned at 9:50 a.m.