

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

**September 25, 2019**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on September 25, 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
Kayla Seibel (Member)	City of Durham Planning
Bergen Watterson (Member)	Chapel Hill Planning
Kumar Neppalli (Member)	Chapel Hill Engineering
Zach Hallock (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Tina Moon (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Margaret Hauth (Member)	Hillsborough
Chance Mullis (Member)	Chatham County Planning
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County Planning
Brooke Ganser (Member)	Durham County Planning
Tom Altieri (Member)	Orange County Planning
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	Triangle J Council of Governments
Scott Levitan (Member)	Research Triangle Foundation
Kurt Stolka (Member)	University of North Carolina
Matt Cecil (Alternate)	Chapel Hill Planning/Engineering
Bill Judge (Alternate)	City of Durham Transportation
Bryan Kluchar (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 8
Jay Heikes (Alternate)	GoTriangle
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
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: 19 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

44 are indicated above. Chair Nish Trivedi reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheet. Aaron Cain  
45 introduced Jay Heikes as the new Alternate for GoTriangle.

46 **PRELIMINARIES:**

47 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

48 There were no adjustments to the Agenda.

49 **3. Public Comments**

50 There were no members of the public signed up to speak during the meeting.

51 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

52 **4. Approval of August 28, 2019, Meeting Minutes**

53 **5. Authorize Durham City Manager on behalf of DCHC MPO to enter into agreement with North Carolina**  
54 **Department of Transportation (NCDOT) for the Metropolitan Planning Program (Section 5303) Grant for**  
55 **FY20**

56 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

57 Tom Altieri made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Chance Mullis seconded the motion.  
58 The motion passed unanimously.

59 **ACTION ITEMS:**

60 **6. NC 54 West Corridor Study - Phase Two**

61 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

62 Aaron Cain reported that a representative from VHB presented the findings of the second phase  
63 of the NC 54 West Corridor Study at the August 2019 TC meeting. Aaron Cain stated that Phase Two  
64 would be considered as an addendum to the original report. Aaron Cain noted that comments were  
65 received from the Town of Carrboro and Orange County, which were sent to VHB to be included in the  
66 report, and comments will continue to be accepted until September 25, 2019. Aaron Cain stated that  
67 LPA Staff will present a revised draft memo of Phase 2 to the MPO Board at its October 9, 2019 meeting  
68 and request that it be released, along with the original report, for public comment. Aaron Cain added  
69 that the public comment period will end on November 13 at which point the MPO Board has four

70 options: (1) to adopt the study and the addendum; (2) to receive the report, but not adopt it; (3) to  
71 reject the report; and (4) to delay or refuse to take action.

72 Aaron Cain presented a list of times and locations for the public comment meetings. Zach  
73 Hallock and Aaron Cain discussed the location of the October 24<sup>th</sup> might not be located at the Century  
74 Center in Carrboro.

75 Zach Hallock made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board release the Phase 2 memo for  
76 public comment. Tom Altieri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

77 **7. Triangle Strategic Tolling Study - Final Report - Public Hearing**  
78 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

79 Andy Henry stated that the MPO Board released the Triangle Strategic Tolling Study in August  
80 2019 and a public hearing was conducted in September. Andy Henry added that John Tallmadge, resident,  
81 requested that there be included a statement of principles in the Tolling Study at the September MPO  
82 Board Meeting. Andy Henry continued that he drafted a set of principles while collaborating with Chair  
83 Damon Seils. Andy Henry noted that he would place this list of principles before the Executive Summary of  
84 the Tolling Study. Zach Hallock highlighted that land-use relates to vehicle trips, and requested that the  
85 Tolling Study mention a preference for maintenance and efficiency over expansion of the current  
86 transportation network. There was a discussion about current toll roads within the Triangle region.

87 Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Andy Henry discussed programming as it related to the Tolling  
88 Study statement of principles. Andy Henry explained that, according to the Tolling Study and the  
89 statement of principles, the DCHC MPO would consider other funding outside of toll revenues in making  
90 decisions about tolling. Dale McKeel discussed the issue of subsidies in creating tolling facilities. Chair Nish  
91 Trivedi and Margaret Hauth discussed using more neutral language in regards to using tolling. Vice Chair  
92 Ellen Beckmann and Andy Henry agreed to discuss the programming issue in the statement of principles  
93 following the TC meeting and make any needed changes. Chair Nish Trivedi and Andy Henry discussed that  
94 the MPO Board will decide on the principles at the MPO Board meeting on October 9.

95 Jay Heikes requested adding language to coordinate with the county transit plans in order to aid  
 96 better facility connections and access points. Andy Henry and Jay Heikes agreed to discuss the particular  
 97 language for this point directly following the TC Meeting.

98 Jay Heikes made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve the final report for the  
 99 Triangle Strategic Tolling Study. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann seconded the motion. The motion passed  
 100 unanimously.

101 **8. Title VI Plan**  
 102 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**  
 103 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

104 Andy Henry stated that the MPO Board released the Title VI Plan for public comment on  
 105 September 11. Andy Henry added that an MPO Board member asked that the Title VI Plan add a  
 106 requirement that the MPO Board be notified if the MPO receives a Title VI complaint, and appropriate  
 107 language has since been included. Andy Henry stated that the MPO Board is scheduled conduct a public  
 108 hearing and adopt the Plan at their meeting on October 9. Andy Henry added that that he has not received  
 109 any public comments.

110 Tom Altieri made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board adopt the Title VI Plan. Scott  
 111 Whiteman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

112 **9. Surface Transportation Block Grant - Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) and Transportation Alternative**  
 113 **Program (TAP) Funding Distribution for FY21**  
 114 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

115 Meg Scully stated that, in 2015, the MPO Board approved the formula to distribute Surface  
 116 Transportation Block Grants – Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) and Transportation Alternatives Program  
 117 (TAP) distribution and this formula will be used for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021. Meg Scully stated that the  
 118 planning funding was the same as the previous year Meg Scully stated that the MPO Board will see the  
 119 draft UPWP for the first time at their January 2020 meeting.

120 Meg Scully stated that once the STBG-DA and TAP funds are distributed, the United Planning  
121 Work Program (UPWP) application will be released. Meg Scully added that the recipients of local  
122 discretionary funds would need to participate in the UPWP development process. Meg Scully continued  
123 that the recipients of funds who use it for transit will also need to flex the funds. Meg Scully stated that  
124 calls for the regional bike/ped FY21 funds, the local discretionary funds, and outstanding prior year  
125 allocations will all be forthcoming. Bergen Watterson and Meg Scully discussed that local discretionary  
126 funding has not been allocated for FY21. Aaron Cain discussed that the call for projects will likely be at  
127 the TC Meeting on October 23. Bergen Watterson and Aaron Cain discussed that the regional bike and  
128 ped projects are not reserved for FY21. Vice-Chair Ellen Beckmann and Meg Scully discussed that the  
129 amount of funding for the LPA, \$1.4M, is the same as the previous year. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and  
130 Meg Scully discussed programming of funds for previous years.

131 Scott Whiteman made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve the FY21  
132 distribution of STBG-DA and TAP funds. Tom Altieri seconded the motion. The motion passed  
133 unanimously.

134 **10. Amendment #15 to the FY2018-2027 TIP**  
135 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

136 Aaron Cain stated that Amendment #15 to the FY2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Plan  
137 (TIP) includes several new projects from NCDOT to address highway safety and maintenance both at the  
138 division and statewide levels. Chair Nish Trivedi and Bryan Kluchar discussed that Strategic Planning  
139 Office of Transportation (SPOT) safety funds are generally used if there is a safety issue involved. There  
140 was discussion about the \$22.5M rails-to-trails program. Dale McKeel mentioned that the funding may  
141 be intended for the Ecusta Trail and will be located between Hendersonville and Brevard. Bergen  
142 Watterson requested that a NCDOT representative explain these projects to the MPO Board at their  
143 next meeting.

144 Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann made a motion to recommend to the MPO Board to recommend  
145 approval of Amendment #15 to the FY2018-2027 TIP. Margaret Hauth seconded the motion. The motion  
146 passed unanimously.

147 **REPORTS:**

148 **11. Reports from the LPA Staff**

149 Felix Nwoko, Andy Henry, LPA Staff

150 Felix Nwoko presented information relating to the DCHC MPO website's information on data  
151 collection. Felix Nwoko explained that, to obtain information, click on Maps and Planning Data on the  
152 home screen of the MPO website, and then click on Data Sets. Felix Nwoko stated that there is an attached  
153 Microsoft Excel table on each of the Geographic Information System (GIS) layer to create the map. Felix  
154 Nwoko added that there is also safety information associated with the data collection.

155 Chair Nish Trivedi asked if the data collection extends past the MPO boundary. Felix Nwoko replied  
156 that it depends on the data element. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Felix Nwoko discussed that the  
157 website is constantly undergoing updates for data collection. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann asked why there  
158 are only certain roads that have data associated with them. Felix Nwoko answered that, due to budget  
159 limitations, the number of corridors is also limited, however, there will be an expansion of corridors in  
160 future updates. Felix Nwoko added that Transportation Performance Management (TPM) elements for the  
161 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will also be included in the data collection sets in future updates.  
162 Felix Nwoko continued that MPO performance targets will also be displayed on the MPO website. Vice  
163 Chair Ellen Beckmann and Felix Nwoko discussed that the data collection information would be used for  
164 planning and programming within the DCHC MPO.

165 Andy Henry discussed that there is a workshop for the US 15-501 Corridor Study at the Chapel Hill  
166 Bible Church on October 17 from 6-8 p.m. Aaron Cain stated that the TJCOG Regional Summit will be at the  
167 Chatham Ag and Conference Center on October 19. Aaron Cain added that the RTA I-40 Regional  
168 Partnership Meeting will be at the SAS Briefing Center on October 17 from 2-4:30 p.m.

169 Dale McKeel stated that the Triangle Bikeway project is planned to extend from Raleigh to Chapel  
 170 Hill. Dale McKeel continued that Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) will be leading  
 171 the study, and that the Request for Proposal (RFP) has already been distributed. Meg Scully added that the  
 172 DCHC MPO is contributing financially to the Triangle Bikeway project. Dale McKeel added that CAMPO has  
 173 selected a preferred consultant and is currently in project negotiations.

174 **12. Report from the DCHC MPO TC Chair**

175 Nish Trivedi, DCHC MPO TC Chair

176 Chair Nish Trivedi stated that the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) has  
 177 established two committees in order to coordinate the Triangle Regional Model (TRM) and the Piedmont  
 178 Triad Regional Model.

179 **13. NCDOT Reports**

180 There were no further reports from Divisions 5 and 7.

181 Bryan Kluchar, Division 8, stated that the maximum contribution to a SPOT safety project is  
 182 \$400,000, and then funding can be combined. Chair Nish Trivedi added that roundabouts are now  
 183 considered SPOT safety projects.

184 There was no report from NCDOT Traffic Operations.

185 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

186 .

187 **ADJOURNMENT:**

188 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Technical Committee, the meeting was  
 189 adjourned at 10:20 a.m.