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Lynn Purnell	WSP USA
Julian Griffie	BGMPO
Liz Switzer	QCA

Quorum Count: 10 of 10 Voting Members

Chair Damon Seils 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 Board were identified and are indicated above. Chair Damon Seils reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheet that was being circulated.

Heidi Carter made a motion to excuse Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs early from the DCHC MPO Board Meeting. Ellen Reckhow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PRELIMINARIES:

2. Ethics Reminder

Chair Damon Seils read the Ethics Reminder and asked if there were any known conflicts of interest with respect to matters coming before the MPO Board and requested that if there were any identified during the meeting for them to be announced. There were no known conflicts identified by the MPO Board Members.

3. Adjustments to the Agenda

There was an Action Item added for the Chapel Hill North South Bus Rapid Transit Project as Item 16a.

4. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public on any subject that was not on the agenda.

5. Directives to Staff

The Directives to staff were included in the agenda packet for review.

75 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

76 **6. May 8, 2019 MPO Board Meeting Minutes**

77 **There was no discussion about this item.**

78 **7. Authorize Durham City Manager on behalf of DCHC MPO to enter into Agreement with the Town of**
79 **Chapel Hill for the Allocation, Disbursement and Accounting of the Federal Transit Administration**
80 **(FTA) Section 5303 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Funds**
81 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

82 **There was no discussion about this item.**

83 **8. Update of the DCHC MPO Grant Administration and Fiscal Program Management Procedure Manual**
84 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

85 **Ellen Reckhow made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Michael Parker seconded the**
86 **motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

87 **ACTION ITEMS:**

88
89 **9. Update of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan**
90 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**
91 **Robert Jahn, LPA Intern**

92 **Meg Scully stated that DCHC MPO is the Designated Recipient for federal funding through the**
93 **Section 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program, and federal**
94 **transit law requires that projects funded through this program be derived from a locally developed,**
95 **coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan (CTP). Meg Scully stated that the**
96 **Technical Committee (TC) has reviewed the CTP, and the MPO Board released the draft report for**
97 **public comment. Chair Damon Seils opened the public hearing, and with there being no comment**
98 **from the public, he closed the public hearing.**

99 **Renee Price made a motion to approve the 2019 Update of the Coordinated Public Transit-**
100 **Human Services Transportation Plan. Ellen Reckhow seconded the motion. The motion passed**
101 **unanimously.**

102 **10. Update on the DCHC MPO Federal Certification Review**
103 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

104 Meg Scully stated that The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit
105 Administration (FTA) are required to jointly review the Metropolitan Transportation Planning process
106 for the DCHC MPO at least every four years. Meg Scully stated that quadrennial review is to ensure
107 that the DCHC MPO is following federal policies, regulations, and procedures in developing the
108 transportation planning process. Meg Scully added that federal agencies conducted the DCHC MPO
109 on-site review on May 20, 2019, and will present their official report to the MPO Board later this
110 year, however, federal officials made mention that they are pleased with the quality and quantity of
111 our work product and DCHC MPO passed the Federal Certification Review process. Renee Price and
112 Meg Scully discussed that the federal officials were pleased with the amount of public involvement,
113 however, there were no public participation during the review process, which was not atypical.

114 No action is necessary at this time. This item is for informational purposes only.

115 **11. Triangle Strategic Tolling Study**

116 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

117 **Lynn Purnell, WSP**

118 Lynn Purnell stated that the purpose of the Triangle Strategic Tolling Study was to evaluate
119 the regional transportation network and to examine if toll lanes would benefit the Triangle region.
120 Lynn Purnell discussed that the Tolling Study included meeting with regional partners and
121 stakeholders. Lynn Purnell explained the difference between toll roads and express toll lanes. Lynn
122 Purnell stated the Tolling Study used the Triangle Regional Model and used projected 2045 vehicle
123 volumes, and the Tolling Study also focused on evening peak hours. Lynn Purnell discussed future
124 meetings with regional transportation partners. Lynn Purnell also stated that a subcontractor was
125 used for toll modeling for the Tolling Study. Lynn Purnell discussed that the seven factors
126 investigated were; projected revenue, travel time savings, trip dependability, transit supportiveness,
127 the number of transit routes, access to jobs, and economic justice.

128 Ellen Reckhow and Lynn Purnell discussed the methodology used in examining economic
129 impact. Lynn Purnell added that only work trips were used in assessing economic justice impact.
130 Michael Parker and Lynn Purnell also discussed what alternatives there might be for residents who
131 cannot afford tolling costs. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs asked what other regions were doing to address
132 equity. Lynn Purnell responded that the information will be in the Tolling Study report.

133 Lynn Purnell stated that there are three corridors within the DCHC MPO region: I-40 between
134 NC 54 and NC 147; US 70; and NC 147. Michael Parker and Lynn Purnell discussed the efficacy of
135 tolling and transit with respect to lowering travel times. North Carolina Board of Transportation
136 (NCBOT) Chairman Mike Fox commented that the DCHC MPO will be able to evaluate each project
137 within each corridor on its own merits. Lynn Purnell added that many urban areas regard tolling as a
138 congestion management tool. NCBOT Mike Fox added that toll lanes are often a means to provide
139 funding to projects in a more expedited manner.

140 Jenn Weaver and Lynn Purnell discussed that tolling lanes would be added to any existing
141 corridors, and lanes would not be removed. Pam Hemminger asked if there was evidence that van
142 pooling increased as a result of adding tolling. Lynn Purnell responded that there was no evidence of
143 such an increase, however, many express lanes were at one time High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV)
144 lanes. Lydia Lavelle asked if adding additional lanes would displace residents. Lynn Purnell responded
145 that it would depend on the specific corridor. Lynn Purnell and Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs discussed
146 the reasoning of corridors using the constrained model. Lynn Purnell and Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs
147 further discussed the safety issues and geometric concerns as they relate to the constrained model.
148 Andy Henry stated that there are one-page fact sheets on all of the ten corridors in the Tolling Study
149 on the MPO webpage.

150 No action is necessary at this time. This item is for informational purposes only.

151 **12. Discussion of Joint Board Meeting**
152 **Damon Seils, Chair**

153 Chair Damon Seils thanked NCBOT Chairman Mike Fox and all DCHC MPO Board Members
154 who were able to attend the Joint MPO Board Meeting. Chair Damon Seils and NCBOT Chairman
155 Mike Fox discussed the importance of regional partnerships for transportation improvements in the
156 Triangle area. NCBOT Chairman Mike Fox highlighted three issues that were discussed at the Joint
157 Meeting: federal rescission of Transportation Alternative Program Direct Attributable (TAPDA) and
158 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds; the North-South Bus Rapid Transit (NS BRT);
159 and the Triangle Trails Initiative and the Triangle Bikeway. Ellen Reckhow and NCBOT Chairman Mike
160 Fox discussed Sign Hutchinson's involvement in both bike-ped projects.

161 No action is necessary at this time. This item is for informational purposes only.

162 **13. Update on Potential Rescission of CMAQ and TAP-DA Funds**

163 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

164 Aaron Cain stated that the two primary sources of funding that are eligible for federal
165 rescission are TAPDA and CMAQ funding, which total approximately \$75,000 in unobligated funds.
166 Aaron Cain added that there is a narrow process for authorizing TAPDA through federal legislation,
167 therefore, projects that are already have TAPDA funding are more desirable for reprogramming of
168 TAPDA funds. Aaron Cain continued that the Morgan Creek Greenway project is eligible for TAPDA
169 and has already begun the bidding process. Aaron Cain stated that there are four projects for CMAQ
170 funding that MPO staff and local jurisdictions are working together to have funding obligated by the
171 September 30 deadline.

172 There was discussion about the process of rescission. Aaron Cain and Chair Damon Seils
173 discussed that the funding for eligible projects will not disappear, however, funding in subsequent
174 Fiscal Years may diminish as a result. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs and NCBOT Chairman Mike Fox
175 discussed the need for communication with NCDOT Division staff will be necessary for further
176 clarification of rules and regulations. Ellen Beckmann noted that NCDOT reviews of CMAQ funding
177 projects sometimes get lower review scores for removing car lanes while adding Bike-Ped options.

178 Aaron Cain stated that projects are currently being considered for inclusion in the SPOT 6 submittal
179 list by MPO staff.

180 There was discussion about NCDOT putting on hold indefinitely a number of projects due to
181 insufficient funding in the North Carolina Transportation reserve fund. NCBOT Chairman Mike Fox
182 explained that, due to unforeseen events such as two hurricanes and settlement from MAP Act
183 litigation, the relatively low balance in the North Carolina State reserve fund is has prevented new
184 projects to be funding until the situation is resolved. NCBOT Chairman Mike Fox continued that there
185 are currently plans to increase the reserve funding. Nina Schlosberg-Landis stated that a final
186 decision about what projects will and will not be funded has not yet been concluded. NCBOT
187 Chairman Mike Fox added that if a project is let and under construction then it will proceed as
188 planned. Chair Damon Seils stated he will send information regarding the Estes Drive Extension
189 North Greensboro Street Roundabout project in Carrboro, which has been put on hold, to Aaron Cain
190 and Felix Nwoko.

191 No action is necessary at this time. This item is for informational purposes only.

192 **14. SPOT 6 Update and Initial Project List Review**

193 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

194 Aaron Cain stated that the funding that goes through the SPOT process is divided as follows:
195 40% for Statewide Mobility projects; 30% for Regional Impact Projects; and 30% for Division Needs
196 projects. There was discussion about how projects are classified in these three areas. Aaron Cain
197 added the DCHC MPO is comprised of three Divisions: 5, 7 and 8; and three Regions; C, D and E.
198 Aaron Cain described the differences between Regional and Division projects.

199 Aaron Cain described the proposed rules changes from North Carolina Board of
200 Transportation. Aaron Cain described that one of the proposed changes would be to increase the
201 window for committed projects from five to six years. Aaron Cain stated that more projects would be
202 committed, but less funding will be available for distribution for new projects. Aaron Cain added that

203 another proposed change would be the ability to flex up to 500 points between Regional and Division
204 projects, which each receive 1,800 points. Aaron Cain added that there are no proposed changes to
205 the transit funding or the rail funding formulas.

206 Aaron Cain and Ellen Reckhow discussed the most efficient ways to increase bicycle safety on
207 rural roads would be to submit projects as modernization projects to increase the shoulder width.
208 Aaron Cain stated that another proposed change would be to have competition for non-highway
209 projects solely within the Division at the Division Needs level. There was discussion about funding
210 projects in urban versus rural areas. NCBOT Chairman Mike Fox discussed that historically rural areas
211 did not receive an equal apportionment of funding as more urban areas. Nina Szlosberg-Landis
212 suggested that Board Members send her and NCBOT Chairman Mike Fox concerns and questions.
213 Nina Szlosberg-Landis proposed that the DCHC MPO begin a policy change for a larger
214 apportionment of non-highway funding. Chair Damon Seils and Nina-Szlosberg Landis discussed
215 contacting other MPOs with similar interests for support.

216 Aaron Cain stated that the SPOT submittals are now due in December 2019 instead of
217 September. Aaron Cain asked that DCHC Board Members review the proposed project submittal list
218 and provide comments as well as additional requested projects. Chair Damon Seils and Aaron Cain
219 discussed that DCHC MPO Board Members also consult their staff from their respective local
220 jurisdictions. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs asked how the discontinuation of the D-O LRT will impact the
221 proposed project list. Aaron Cain responded that there are several transit projects that are
222 placeholders, which will be discussed the NCDOT staff in the upcoming months. Aaron Cain added
223 that the local Divisions also have several available submittal slots that were offered to DCHC MPO.
224 Aaron Cain stated that the next round of discussion will occur for the SPOT 6 submittal list at an
225 upcoming MPO Board meeting.

226 Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs and Aaron Cain discussed that a formal conversation by MPO staff
227 to create policy for multiuse path preference. There was further discussion about the naming of
228 multiuse paths.

229 No action is necessary at this time. This item is for informational purposes only.

230 **15. Resolution to Request Delay to U-5774 (NC 54)**

231 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

232 Aaron Cain stated that Staff from NCDOT, DCHC MPO, the Town of Chapel Hill, the City of
233 Durham, and GoTriangle met to discuss the possibility of including high capacity transit options in the
234 NC 54 corridor from Fordham Boulevard in Chapel Hill to I-40 in Durham due to the discontinuation
235 of the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) project. State Transportation Improvement Plan
236 (STIP) project U-5774 (sections B, C, and F) will provide improvements to NC 54 in this corridor and is
237 currently in the conceptual design and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) phases. It may be
238 possible to design high capacity transit options in this corridor and have the construction of those
239 improvements coincide with the planned road improvements. In order to investigate this option,
240 NCDOT Division 5 asked for a formal request from the DCHC MPO Board to delay U-5774.

241 MPO Staff will work with staff from GoTriangle, Chapel Hill Transit, GoDurham, NCDOT, the
242 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and others to identify possible high capacity transit
243 options in this corridor with the goal of submitting at least one transit project for this corridor to
244 SPOT 6. Project concepts will need to be devised by the end of October in order to be released for
245 public comment with the list of all projects from DCHC MPO for SPOT 6.

246 Ellen Reckhow made a motion to approve the resolution requesting a delay for U-5774.

247 Michael Parker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

248 **16. Amendment #13 to the FY2018-2027 TIP**

249 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

250 Aaron Cain stated that Amendment #13 to the FY2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Plan
 251 (TIP) consists of a request from the City of Durham to add funding to four bike-ped projects: Aaron Cain
 252 added that two of the projects cost over \$1M, and per MPO policy, the projects were required to enter a
 253 21-day public policy period. Aaron Cain added that the Amendment #13 was released for a 21-day public
 254 comment period on May 15, 2019. No public comments were received.

255 Ellen Reckhow made a motion to approve Amendment #13 to the FY2018-2027 TIP. Charlie
 256 Reece seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

257 **16a. Chapel Hill North South Bus Rapid Transit Project**

258 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

259 **Matt Cecil, Chapel Hill Transit**

260 Aaron Cain stated that Chapel Hill Transit is requesting \$8M for the NS BRT in addition to the
 261 \$6.1M already in the Transit Plan, which is considered a material change, therefore it must be adopted
 262 by the Board of County Commissioners, the GoTriangle Board of Trustees, and the DCHC MPO. Aaron
 263 Cain. Matt Cecil stated that Chapel Hill Transit received guidance from the FTA to apply for a rating from
 264 the Small Starts Program by September 1, 2019, in order to demonstrate that 50% of the local funding
 265 match has been obtained. Matt Cecil continued that the NS BRT is planned to be submitted in SPOT 6,
 266 however, that will not meet the Small Starts deadline. Aaron Cain added that if the SPOT 6 funding is
 267 successful, then the full \$14M would not be needed.

268 There was no action required. This item will return to the DCHC MPO Board at their meeting on
 269 August 14, 2019.

270 **REPORTS:**

271 **17. Report from the MPO Board Chair**

272 **Damon Seils, Board Chair**

273 Chair Damon Seils stated that there was no report from the MPO Board Chair.

274 **18. Report from the Technical Committee Chair**

275 **Nish Trivedi, TC Chair**

276 Nish Trivedi stated that there was no report from the Technical Committee Chair.

277 **19. Report from LPA Staff**

278 **Felix Nwoko, Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

279 Aaron Cain stated that the GoTriangle Alternate has not been designated by the MPO Board,
280 but Mark Marcoplos might assume that role. Aaron Cain reminded the MPO Board that scooters will be
281 available for residents on June 13. Aaron Cain added that the Chapel Hill Avenue Bike-Ped project is
282 scheduled to conclude soon, and the Durham Avenue bike-ped project is scheduled to begin in fall of
283 2019. Aaron Cain stated that there will not be a MPO Board Meeting in July, and the next MPO Board
284 meeting will occur on August 14.

285 **18. NCDOT Report**

286 Richard Hancock, Division 5, reported that work is ongoing for the East End Connector on the
287 Durham Freeway, and traffic is scheduled to be shifted by the end of June 2019. Richard Hancock
288 added that an eastbound traffic shift on NC 147 is pending. Richard Hancock stated that there is an
289 investigation by the regional Traffic Officer of the fatality on 751, per policy requirements. Ellen
290 Reckhow added that there are many near accidents along that roadway. Charlie Reece thanked Richard
291 Hancock for reducing the speed limit on Hebron Road.

292 There was no additional report from Division 7.

293 Bryan Kluchar, Division 8, stated that construction for the bridge has been initiated on
294 Jeremiah Drive over Jordan Lake.

295 Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Branch, stated that there is no additional report.

296 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

297 **19. Recent News, Articles, and Updates**

298 Recent News, Articles and Updates are located in the agenda packet.

299 **ADJOURNMENT:**

300 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Board, the meeting was adjourned at
301 10:56 a.m.