

DURHAM COUNTY TRANSIT PLAN UPDATE

STATUS AND NEXT STEPS

Background and Context

- Durham County Transit Plan (“Plan”) directs allocation of Durham County Transit Tax Proceeds
- Last Updated in 2017 – Joint Plan with Orange County
- Discontinuation of Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (DOLRT) Project warrants update of plan
- Durham County is and remains lead partner, and final approver of the Plan

- Greater diversity and strength of partnerships will help deliver a more diverse range of transit projects and identify project opportunities and impediments early in the planning process
- Key funding deadlines and decisions are forthcoming, in advance of the completion of the Plan update



Proposed Plan Approach (Overview)

- Durham City-County Planning Department will be project manager and convener
 - Helps ensure alignment with Comprehensive Land Use Plan

- Plan development partners (with primary points-of-contact) are:
 - Durham County (Drew Cummings)
 - City of Durham (Bill Judge)
 - Go Triangle (Katherine Eggleston)
 - Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO (Aaron Cain)
 - Triangle J Council of Governments (John Hodges-Copple)



Proposed Plan Approach (Detail)

- Communicate Relentlessly
- Revise Governance Agreements
- Prepare Conditions Assessment (Existing Conditions and “Pipeline” Projects and Services)
- Engage the Community
- Develop Detailed Scope
- Identify Plan Development Roles and Resources
- Plan Development



Communicate Relentlessly

Continuous, “two-way”, and consistent communication with all partners is key to success

- Board of County Commissioners (Lead Partner)
- City Council
- DCHC MPO Board
- Go Triangle Board

Written or staff update at each Board work session meeting throughout process

Frequent check-ins for policy feedback

Early engagement on “pipeline” items

Initial briefings:

Board of County Commissioners
 Go Triangle Board
 City Council
 DCHC MPO Board



July 8th
 August 5th
 August 8th
 August 14th



Planning

Revise Governance Agreements

Current (Advisory) Staff Working Group (SWG) is oriented towards delivery of the LRT project

Expanded/Modified Advisory Staff Work Group will be recommended by September, 2019 (“Durham Transit Team”)

Other possible modifications to the existing transit agreements may be proposed



Prepare Conditions Assessment (Existing Conditions and “Pipeline” Projects and Services)

Existing Conditions Assessment

- Identifies key transit system existing conditions, including:
 - Legal authority and funding
 - Existing transit service
 - Tradeoffs and options regarding transit services

Completed by October 1, 2019

“Pipeline” Project and Services

- Identifies existing projects and deadlines that need action prior to completion of Transit Plan update
- Examples include Commuter Rail Transit (CRT) and SPOT assessments
- Priority, high value investments that can be made in FY20 will be identified
- Recommended action steps will be developed for each item
- Completed by November 1, 2019



Engage the Community

Engagement is needed to help assess community transit priorities in light of the discontinuation of the LRT project

Transit plan engagement will be sought through the same process being used for Comprehensive Plan engagement (“Engage Durham”)

- Innovative approach to engagement focused on “peer-to-peer” conversations, community education and listening
- “Existing Conditions” and “Pipeline” information will be used to frame key issues and set a common base of information for discussion

Specialized events and outreach focused on transit users and key asset partners will be undertaken

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Our Future Together

Develop Detailed Scope and Identify Plan Development Roles and Resources

Work with Durham Transit Team partners to develop a detailed scope of work for the Transit Plan update

Each partner will have clear roles, responsibilities and deliverables

Completed by October 1, 2019

Plan Development

Will take place between November, 2019 and November, 2020

Completion intended to align with FY21 partner budget cycles

May involve consulting assistance to fill gaps in resources and/or competencies that staff partners do not have

Thank you!

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

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