



**Technical Committee
Meeting Agenda**

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

1:30 PM

Central Pines Regional Council - Long Leaf Conference

4307 Emperor Blvd
Durham, NC 27703

1. DCHC MPO Non-Discrimination Policy Notice[24-121](#)

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) coordinates transportation planning in Durham County, and portions of Orange County and Chatham County. Members of the public are encouraged to speak at all public meetings, including the Board and Technical Committee regularly scheduled monthly meetings. There is an opportunity for public comment at the beginning of every meeting on the DCHC MPO calendar.

When speaking, please tell us your name and place of residence; comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. If you are interested in speaking at an upcoming meeting, you can submit this form or email your request to Jean.Debnam@dchcmpo.org at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting start time. You may also sign up in person on the day of the meeting by adding your name to the sign-up sheet prior to the start of the meeting.

It is the policy of DCHC MPO to assure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (nondiscrimination), the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (compliance with Civil Rights legislation in all operations), Executive Orders 12898 (Environmental Justice) and 13166 (Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency), and related nondiscrimination statutes and regulations in all programs and services.

It is the policy of the DCHC MPO that no person shall be subjected to discrimination in any form based on race, color, sex, age, income status, national origin, language proficiency, or disability. If you believe you have been subjected to discrimination, please contact the DCHC MPO Title VI Coordinator at (919) 503-4119. For details on the DCHC MPO's Title VI non-discrimination plan, or to submit a complaint form, please see: <https://www.dchcmpo.org/work-with-us/non-discrimination-policy-title-vi>

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Executive Order 13166, accommodations will be provided for persons who require assistance in order to participate in the DCHC MPO's meetings. If assistance is needed or to request this document in an alternative form, please contact the DCHC MPO office at (919) 503-4119 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired and you use a teletypewriter (TTY) service, please call North Carolina Relay at (800) 735-2962 and request a connection to the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization at (919) 503-4119.

For details on the DCHC MPO's ADA Transition Plan, which aims to ensure nondiscrimination and access for individuals with disabilities in state and local government services, please see: <https://www.dchcmpo.org/home/showdocument?id=1022&t=637489635629500000>.

Si necesita ayuda o para solicitar este documento en un formulario alternativo, comuníquese con la oficina de la MPO de DCHC al Kelly.Richard@dchcmpo.org al menos 48 horas antes de la reunión.

2. Roll Call**3. Adjustments to the Agenda****4. Public Comment****CONSENT AGENDA****5. Approval of February 13, 2024, Technical Committee Meeting Minutes**[24-131](#)**Jean Debnam, MPO Staff**

The February 13, 2024, TC Meeting Minutes are attached.

TC Action: Approve the February 13, 2024, TC Minutes.

Attachments: [2024-03-12 \(24-131\) February 13, 2024 TC Meeting Minutes](#)

ACTION ITEMS

6. **US 70 East Corridor Study Phase 1 Final Report Presentation (20 minutes)**

[23-120](#)

David Miller, MPO Staff

Andy Henry, MPO Staff

Anne Lenart-Redmond, STV

Aidil Ortiz, Aidilisms

The US 70 East Corridor Study is a planning study that was pursued to propose a safe, efficient, and equitable multimodal transportation system that offers a choice between public transit, pedestrian and bicycle use, and automobile travel. The study area is a 4-mile stretch along the US 70 corridor from I-885 to the future Northern Durham Parkway (near the Wake County border). Originally an NCDOT road widening project (STIP U-5720) that was included in the MPO's 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), a delay in STIP funding for U-5720 presented an opportunity to explore and study alternatives that would consider multimodal transportation options along the corridor in conjunction with the MPO Policy Board's removal of all future road widening projects from its 2050 MTP.

The US 70 East Corridor study was programmed in the MPO's FY2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and it commenced in July 2022. STV was selected as the prime consultant, and Aidilisms was selected as the subconsultant to lead public engagement efforts.

The study team will present a recap of the second round of public engagement, the preferred alternative concept for the corridor and its elements, and provide details of the second phase of this study.

TC Action: Recommend that the MPO Policy Board endorse the recommended alternative concept for use in the Study's Phase 2 analysis.

7. **Amendment #2 to the FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (5 minutes)** [24-142](#)

Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff

Amendment #2 to the FY2024-33 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) adds \$2 million in 5339 funding and local fund match to the Chapel Hill Transit Facility Expansion. TIP Amendment #2 also adds a vehicle purchase of two 40-foot buses for GoTriangle and updates the funding for several projects.

As there are projects with changes in excess of \$2 million and 25% from the original amount, per the MPO's Public Involvement Plan (PIP), this amendment will be released for a 21-day public comment period. The current timeline for adoption is as follows:

- March 12: TC recommends Board release for public comment
- March 26: Board releases for public comment
- April 9: TC recommends Board approves amendment
- April 30: Board approves amendment

TC Action: Recommend that the MPO Board Release TIP Amendment #2 for Public Comment.

Attachments: [2024-3-12 \(24-142\) FY24-33 Amendment #2 Summary Sheet](#)
[2024-3-12 \(24-142\) FY24-33 Amendment #2 Full Document](#)

8. FY2025 Call for Projects Recommendation & Release for Public[24-111](#)**Comment (20 Minutes)****Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) invited member agencies to submit applications for federal funding from the Regional Flexible Funding (RFF) in November 2023. Funding applications were due on December 8, 2023.

The RFF pool for FY25 consists of four funding sources that come directly to the DCHC MPO: Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable (BGDA), Transportation Alternatives Program Direct Attributable (TAPDA), Carbon Reduction Program Direct Attributable (CRPDA), and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ). The call for projects that was conducted by MPO staff is consistent with federal requirements for CMAQ and TAPDA funds, and can be applied to all funding sources.

A memo detailing the amount of available funding, scores, and the next steps can be found in the attachment.

TC Action: Recommend that the MPO Board release the proposed projects to be funded through the FY25 Call for Projects for a 21-day public comment period.

Attachments: [2024-3-12 \(24-111\) FY25 Call for Projects Memo](#)
 [2024-3-12 \(24-111\) Scenarios](#)

9. FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Approval (10 minutes) [24-114](#)**Doug Plachcinski, MPO Staff**

The DCHC MPO is required by federal regulation to prepare an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that details and guides the urban area transportation planning activities. Funding for the UPWP is provided by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. The UPWP must identify MPO planning tasks to be performed with the use of federal transportation funds.

The MPO Board released the Draft FY2025 UPWP for public comment on January 23. A public hearing was held at the February 27 Board meeting. No comments from the public were provided at the meeting.

The remaining schedule for the UPWP development process is as follows:

- March 12: TC receives the final UPWP and recommends the Board approve the FY2025 UPWP.
- March 26: MPO Board approves the final FY2025 UPWP.
- March 28: MPO submits approved UPWP to NCDOT.

The Final Draft FY2025 UPWP, public comments received as of February 20th, and the full development schedule is included as information.

TC Action: To recommend the MPO Policy Board approve the FY2025 UPWP.

Attachments: [2024-3-12 \(24-114\) FY25 DRAFT UPWP 03.06.24](#)
[2024-3-12 \(24-114\) FY2025 UPWP Development Schedule](#)
[2024-3-12 \(24-114\) FY2025 UPWP Public Comments](#)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**10. NCDOT Express Designs (20 minutes)** [24-130](#)**Derrick Lewis, NCDOT Feasibility Studies Unit Head****Kelly Richard, MPO Staff**

There have been some recent discussions at the DCHC MPO Technical Committee and Board meetings related to North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Express Designs. Express Designs are produced by the Feasibility Studies Unit within NCDOT. Today's presentation will go over the process involved in producing Express Designs and provide an opportunity for DCHC MPO members to ask questions.

TC Action: Receive presentation.

Attachments: [2024-3-12 \(24-130\) Express Design Evaluation_DCHCMPO Presentation March](#)

11. Status Report on Locally Administered Projects (LAP) (10 Minutes)[24-115](#)**Colleen McGue, MPO Planning Manager**

In October 2023 the DCHC MPO Board adopted an update to the DCHC MPO Federal Funding Policy, which guides the distribution of federal funds that flow through the MPO for local projects, such as Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable (STBGDA), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). By applying for federal funding for a project through the MPO's program, the applicant is committing to locally managing that project. The sponsor is responsible for all federal and state reporting requirements associated with the funding source applied to their project, as well as MPO reporting requirements.

The DCHC MPO Federal Funding Policy states that recipients of federal funding will provide a brief report on the status of their locally administered projects (LAP) to the MPO Board twice a year. The attached information will form the basis of the first report for FY24, which will be provided to the MPO Board at their March meeting. The second FY 24 report will be provided to the MPO Board at their June 2024 meeting.

The draft FY 2025 UPWP includes a Local Project Delivery Study, which is intended to assist our MPO, in partnership with our local jurisdictions, with obligating and delivering projects in our MPO area. A consultant will be procured to conduct interviews with relevant stakeholders, (NCDOT, our local jurisdictions, and MPO staff) to learn about current challenges and opportunities, and produce recommendations for improving our federal funding process and LAP program. A desired of this study is project benchmarking, web dashboards, and improved project sponsor update opportunities.

TC Action: Receive the report.

Attachments: [2024-03-12 \(24-115\) February 2024 LAP Report \(Updated\)](#)

REPORTS FROM STAFF:**12. Report from MPO Staff**[24-100](#)

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

TC Action: Receive the report from MPO Staff

Attachments: [2024-03-12 \(24-100\) MPO Staff Report](#)

13. Report from the Technical Committee Chair[24-101](#)

Nish Trivedi, TC Chair

TC Action: Receive the Report from the TC Chair

14. NCDOT Reports[24-102](#)**Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation****Brandon Jones (David Keilson, Tracy Parrott), Division 5 - NCDOT****Wright Archer (Chad Reimakoski, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 - NCDOT****Reuben Blakley (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 - NCDOT****Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division - NCDOT****John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT****Nick Morrison, Integrated Mobility Division - NCDOT****TC Action:** Receive the reports from NCDOT.**Attachments:** [2024-03-12 \(24-103\) NCDOT Reports](#)**15. Recent News Articles**[24-103](#)**Attachments:** [2024-03-12 \(24-103\) Why Bicycle Deaths Have Risen in NYC - The New York T](#)
[2024-03-12 \(24-103\) Brian Taylor TransportationSemWebinar_20240319](#)**Adjourn****Next meeting: April 9, 2024, 1:30 p.m., Long Leaf Conference Room****Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings: 2024 Transportation Seminar & Webinar Series, March 19, 2024 12:00 p.m. -1:15 p.m. NCDOT Transportation Summit, May 21-24, Koury Convention Center, Greensboro NC**