

MONTHLY STAFF REPORT

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This Monthly Staff Report updates the Board and Technical Committee on the board directives and the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act’s programs. It summarizes DCHC MPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) tasks.

1. MPO BOARD DIRECTIVES

DATE	REQUEST	STATUS DETAILS
11-4-20	Develop a strategy to move forward on the 15/501 Corridor Study that addresses concerns about bicycle and pedestrian treatments along the corridor as well as additional outreach to local stakeholders.	<i>Underway.</i> Scope developed. Switching gears; once the Durham bike/ped plan, Bus Speed and Reliability Study, and Safe Streets for All projects are underway, we will initiate procurement for the study. Included in the 24-25 UPWP
10-13-21	Investigate potential options for a racial equity policy and/or framework for DCHC MPO.	<i>Pending.</i> Staff continues updating resource documents and policies working towards implementable actions. Current focus on report improvements and engagement diversity – part of DEI initiatives within CRPC.
12-15-21	Investigate the possibility of conducting a highway safety plan or other options for improving highway safety within the MPO.	<i>Underway.</i> Scope refinement with selected consultant underway.
4-13-22	Staff should address outstanding items regarding the Triangle Regional Model TRM and work with the TRM team at ITRE to address those concerns.	<i>Underway.</i> ITRE provided follow up discussion for using the TRM to evaluate non-motorized projects. Staff will ask ITRE to present evaluation options at an upcoming TC meeting. We are also working to better use the model as a decision-making tool focused around MTP goals and objectives.
5-11-22	Develop a set of specific recommendations for the legislative delegation to consider based on the DCHC-CAMPO adopted policy priorities for the 2023 General Assembly session.	<i>Underway.</i> We anticipate short session offers limited opportunities to advance concepts; engaging NCDOT for agency priorities in 2024.

2. INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS AND JOBS ACT INFORMATION

On November 6, 2021, Congress passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) (IIJA), a once-in-a-generation investment in national infrastructure and competitiveness. Among the IIJA's goals are several transportation-related investments in electric vehicles and infrastructure, passenger rail, airports and ports, public transit, and roads and bridges.

The funding for these programs will be distributed by state through formula grants and competitive grants, each with their own timeline and application requirements. This standing memo seeks to update the MPO Board and DCHC MPO jurisdictions regularly to grant and funding opportunities as they arise.

[WHITEHOUSE LIST OF OPEN AND UPCOMING INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES](#)

3. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM TASKS

II – A. DATA AND PLANNING SUPPORT

II – A – 1 Network and Support Systems

1. Vehicle Miles of Travel
 - ✓ Potential local development traffic impact analysis tool for regional VMT.
2. Street System Changes
3. Traffic Crashes and Safety Data
 - ✓ Developing traffic safety analysis processes acknowledging data gaps.
4. Central Area Parking Inventory
5. Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities & Counts Inventory – evaluating fixed counter opportunities and data applications. Streetlight discontinuing some resources.
6. Network Data Collection
7. Capacity Deficiency Analysis
8. Land Use, Socio-Economic Environmental Data Analysis – CommunityViz workgroup meetings ongoing.

II – A – 2 Travelers and Behavior

- Dwelling Unit, Population, and Employment Changes
- Base Year Data Collection
- Travel Surveys
 - ✓ OD transit onboard survey underway. Expecting results from public transportation survey soon. Consultant will present at upcoming board meeting.
- Vehicle Occupancy Rates
- Travel Time Studies
- Annual Continuous Travel Behavior Surveys (Household Survey)

III – A – 3 Transportation Modeling

- Travel Regional Model Enhancements
 - ✓ New Model adopted.
- Horizon Year Data Forecasts – Horizon years underway with scenario planning
- Financial Planning

- FTA STOPS and CIG Technical Analysis & Planning

II – B. PLANNING PROCESS

II – B – 1: Targeted Planning

- Air Quality Planning/Conformity Analysis
- Alternative Fuels/Vehicles
- Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Planning – Supporting NCDOT analysis of all hazard mitigation plans to coordinate resilient transportation project development.
- Congestion Mitigation Plan
 - ✓ Evaluating performance measures. Final workshop in early May
- Freight Movement/Mobility Planning
- Climate Change Planning
 - ✓ Participating in Triangle Cool Cities. Transitions occurring with CPRC through transportation and energy program.

II – B – 2: Regional Planning

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Goal and Objectives engagement completed, working through alternatives analysis development based on public and board feedback.
- Comprehensive Transportation Plan – Preparing update in conjunction with MTP update. Met with Durham to understand public involvement expectations and how the community uses CTP in their development ordinances.
- Racial Equity Planning

II – B – 3: Special Studies

- Durham Freeway Corridor Study
 - ✓ City of Durham developing community partner capacity. Durham received notice to proceed from NCDOT. Initial meetings held, waiting for initial input synthesis.
- Orange County US 70 Corridor Study
 - ✓ Draft to be presented to TC/MPO Board.
- Durham County US 70 Corridor Study
 - ✓ Final draft report underway for Phase 1. Phase 2 will advance once Phase 1 closes out.

III – A. Unified Planning Work Program

III-A-1: Unified Planning Work Program

- Amendment 5 finalizes transition program costs and new reporting. Call for planning studies expected in June.

III-A-2: Metrics and Performance Measures

- Staff received NCDOT safety performance measures for adoption. In holding pattern regarding GHG performance measure implications.

III-B: Transportation Improvement Program III-

B-1: Prioritization

Working through SPOT office project submission reviews.

IV-B-2: Metropolitan TIP

- Initiated call for projects for upcoming funding year. Further processing swaps. Discussions ongoing with obligation authority exchanges, particularly with TAP. Comparing project consistency across CTP>MTP>TIP>STIP for improved concurrency. Although the MPO adjusted the Plan to remove freeway conversions and other capacity increases, we have not carried those policies forward into the Program.

V-B-3: Merger and Project Development

IV-C: Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI) and Other Regulatory Requirements

III-C-1: Title VI

III-C-2: Environmental Justice

III-C-3: Minority Business Enterprise Planning

- ✓ Enhancing internal procurement processes specifically to support DBE engagement.

III-C-4: Planning for the Elderly and Disabled

III-C-5: Safety/Drug Control Planning

III-C-6: Public Participation

III-C-7: Private Sector Participation

III-D: Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning

- Engagement development with new MPO board.

IV-E: Board Support, Member Services, and Administration

- Drafting new MOU for partners to complete reorganization under TJCOG.
- Updating agreements with CAMPO and BGMPO to establish planning area boundaries at County Lines.
- CMAQ applications will now be accepted continuously and processed each quarter. The end dates for the quarters are March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31.
- Working through procurement processes on several current MPO initiatives.