

**RESOLUTION TO HONOR MARK AHRENDSEN FOR SERVICE TO THE DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO MPO**

March 10, 2021

A motion was made by Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) Board Member \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by DCHC MPO Board Member \_\_\_\_\_ for the approval of the following resolution and upon being put to a vote, was duly adopted.

**WHEREAS**, Mark Ahrendsen served the residents of the City of Durham tirelessly for over 27 years since he began employment in December 1988; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark Ahrendsen represented the City of Durham on the DCHC MPO Technical Committee and served with distinction and dedication, including as Chair of the MPO Technical Committee for over twenty years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark Ahrendsen led several transportation initiatives that shaped our region, such as the acquisition of the City of Durham’s transit system from Duke Power, overseeing the planning for the East End Connector, development of the first Bus and Rail Investment Plan, creation of the current Amtrak Station, construction of Durham Station, and championing the prioritization of bicycle, sidewalk, and transit projects throughout the MPO area; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark Ahrendsen fostered a culture of fairness, cooperation, and consensus-building within the DCHC MPO and facilitated regional coordination with the Capital Area MPO, Triangle J Council of Governments, and GoTriangle; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark Ahrendsen also forcefully advocated for the DCHC MPO’s interests in innovation, multi-modalism, equity, and public engagement; leading the MPO through many controversial projects such as Eno Drive, Weaver Dairy Road, Alston Avenue widening, and Elizabeth Brady Road extension; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark Ahrendsen served as a mentor and valued peer to many of the transportation professionals serving our region today, and his influence on the region will be felt for decades to come; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark Ahrendsen was an experienced and dedicated leader, providing wisdom, guidance, and support for regional transportation programs, initiatives, and projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the contributions Mark Ahrendsen made to the DCHC MPO and his passion for improving the lives of all citizens within the DCHC region and beyond will be sorely missed.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board and Technical Committee remember Mark Ahrendsen for his many accomplishments and his service to our community, and hereby recommend that his memory be honored in a manner befitting his dedicated service, provided here on this, the 10th day of March, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wendy Jacobs, MPO Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ellen Beckmann, MPO Technical Committee Chair

Durham County, North Carolina

I certify that Wendy Jacobs and Ellen Beckmann personally appeared before me this day acknowledging to me that he signed the forgoing document.

Date: March 10, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Frederick Brian Rhodes, Notary Public  
My commission expires: May 10, 2025