



DCHC MPO Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

9:00 AM

Committee Room 2nd Floor
Durham City Hall 101 City Hall Plaza
Durham, NC 27701

1. Roll Call**2. Ethics Reminder**

It is the duty of every Board member to avoid conflicts of interest. Does any Board member have any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

3. Adjustments to the Agenda**4. Public Comments****5. Directives to Staff**[19-100](#)

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-100\) MPO Board Directives to Staff.pdf](#)

CONSENT AGENDA**6. August 14, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes**[19-173](#)

A copy of the August 14, 2019 Board meeting minutes is enclosed.

Board Action: Approve the minutes of the August 14, 2019 Board Meeting

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-173\) 08.14.19 MPO Board Meeting Minutes_LPA2.pdf](#)

ACTION ITEMS**7. Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Study Status Update (30 minutes)**[19-172](#)

Katharine Eggleston, GoTriangle
Scott Saylor, North Carolina Railroad
Patrick McDonough, GoTriangle
Monica Barrow, STV
Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

The Durham and Wake county transit plans include future commuter rail service from Durham to Garner. This presentation will provide an overview of findings from the recently completed Major Investment Study for the corridor, and a status report on current planning activities ongoing through the rest of this calendar year including evaluation of an expanded study area from Mebane to Selma.

Board Action: This item is for informational purposes only; no action is necessary at this time.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-172\) Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Study Status Update.pdf](#)

8. **Triangle Strategic Tolling Study - Final Report - Public Hearing (10 minutes)** [19-158](#)

Andy Henry, LPA Staff

The final report of the Triangle Strategic Tolling Study explores toll and express lanes for the region, identifies potential toll projects for inclusion in long-range plans and creates a framework for the MPO to discuss and evaluate toll projects. The final report is a compilation of the deliverables that have occurred as the project progressed. However, there is some additional material related to the issue of equity, the Executive Summary has an equity section, and the Tier 2 corridor evaluation measures impacts on low-income residents (page 50).

The MPO released the Tolling Study on August 14. The attached document compiles the comments received through September 4. The review schedule includes:

- * Board release final report - August 14
- * Public comment period, August 14 through September 10
- * Board conduct public hearing - September 11
- * Board approve final report - October 9

A copy of the final report can be found at the following MPO Web page: www.dchcmpo.org/programs/local/triangle_strategic_tolling_study.asp. The attached document compiles the comments received through September 4.

The project Web site provides additional background information and toll related resources: www.triangletollingstudy.com

TC Action: Recommend that the MPO Board release the Triangle Strategic Tolling Study final report for a minimum 30-day public comment period.

Board Action: Conduct a public hearing and provide comments on the Triangle Strategic Tolling Study.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-158\) Toll Study-Compilation Of Comments.pdf](#)

9. NC 54 West Corridor Study - Phase Two (30 minutes)[18-179](#)**Joe Seymour, VHB****Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

DCHC MPO contracted with VHB to conduct a second phase of the NC 54 West Corridor Study. The purposes of this phase of the study are to:

- Confirm population and employment forecasts;
- Perform additional analysis to determine if transit and other improvements not on NC 54 will reduce demand;
- Assess impacts of widening on local roads;
- Assess potential for transit alternatives on NC 54; and
- Conduct additional public outreach.

Don Bryson of VHB will present the findings of this phase of the study. The Draft will be available in early September for TC members to review. The current schedule is as follows:

- September 11 - MPO Board Presentation
- September 25 - TC Review and Comment on Draft
- October 9 - MPO Board Releases Draft for Public Comment
- October 11-November 13 - Public Comment Period, including a public meeting and presentations to:
 - Orange County Board of Commissioners
 - Carrboro Board of Aldermen
 - Chapel Hill Town Council
- November 13 - MPO Board Public Hearing

Board Action: This item is for review and comment only, no action is required at this time.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(18-179\) NC 54 Phase 2 Presentation.pdf](#)

10. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan -- Amendment #2 (MTP) (20 minutes)[19-151](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

LPA staff propose amending projects in Appendix 1 and text in section 7 of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). There are several reasons for the changes, including:

- * Ensure consistency with the FY 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP);
- * Make new highway improvement projects eligible for SPOT 6.0 evaluation;
- * Add premium transit projects to serve demand in the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) corridor and to connect with Wake/Raleigh BRT projects;
- * Clarify MPO policy on freeway access and on appropriate bike/pedestrian facilities on arterial roadways.

The attached presentation describes the proposed changes. The actual changes to the 2045 MTP are shown in the attached Appendix 1 (i.e., highway project table) and section 7 of the report.

The MPO's Public Involvement Policy requires a minimum 42-day public comment period for MTP amendments. The following schedule is recommended:

- * September 11 -- Board release Amendment #2, and public comment period begins
- * October 9 -- Board conducts public hearing
- * October 22 -- public comment period ends
- * November 13 -- Board adopts Amendment #2 to the 2045 MTP

Note that the FY 2000-2029 TIP and the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report are related to Amendment #2 and will likely also be adopted at the November 13 Board meeting.

TC Action: Recommended that the Board release Amendment #2 for public comment.

Board Action: Review proposed Amendment #2 to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, provide comments, and release for public comment.

Attachments:[2019-09-11 \(19-151\) 2045MTP-Amend2-Presentation.pdf](#)[2019-09-11 \(19-151\) 2045MTP-Amend2-Sec7\(Excerpt\).pdf](#)[2019-09-11 \(19-151\) 2045MTP-Amend2-Appendix1.pdf](#)

11. Transportation Conformity Determination Report (5 minutes)[19-166](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff****John Hodges-Copple, TJCOG**

Staff recommend the release of the Transportation Conformity Determination Report (CDR). Basically, the report demonstrates that certain pollutant emissions from the future transportation sector will not exceed a specified threshold by analyzing the emission impacts of the MPO's 2045 MTP (including Amendment #2) and the FY 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Although the Triangle is designated as "attainment" for major pollutants, the area is in a maintenance program to assure the continuation of that designation. It should be noted that this cycle of the CDR will be simpler. A new emissions analysis is not required and thus the Triangle Regional Model (TRM) and related emissions model do not need to be updated, rerun and incorporated into the report. A copy of the CDR is attached.

The CDR discusses the applicability of air quality regulations, the emissions budgets (i.e., thresholds for pollutant emissions), the financial, land use and transportation planning assumptions, and the methodology for calculating emissions for each county. The Report does not commit the MPO to any projects or programs that are not already in the MTP and TIP.

The MPO's Public Involvement Policy requires a minimum 30-day comment period. Staff recommends coordinating the CDR schedule with the related 2045 MTP and TIP processes:

- * September 11 -- Board release CDR, and public comment period begins
- * October 9 -- Board conducts public hearing
- * October 22 -- public comment period ends
- * November 13 -- Board adopts CDR

TC Action: Recommended that the Board release the Conformity Determination Report for public comment.

Board Action: Review proposed Conformity Determination Report, provide comments, and release for public comment.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-166\) Air Quality CDR.pdf](#)

12. Title VI Plan (10 minutes)[19-168](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff****Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

The MPO is required to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In 2012, the MPO approved a policy statement regarding Title VI. However, federal and State requirements call for the development of a Title VI plan that demonstrates and documents our compliance with Title VI regulations, including the Environmental Justice (EJ) Executive Order and the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Executive Order. The attached Title VI plan is developed using a standard template required by the North Carolina Civil Rights Office for all MPOs. In addition, the attached presentation summarizes the key elements of the plan.

The MPO Public Involvement Plan (PIP) does not specifically address compliance plans. Staff recommends a 21-day public comment period. The recommended schedule will be:

- * September 11 -- Board release Title VI plan, and public comment period begins
- * October 1 -- Public comment period ends
- * October 9 -- Board conducts public hearing, and adopts Title VI plan

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board release the Title VI plan for public comment.

Board Action: Review Title VI plan and release the plan for public comment.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-168\) Title VI Plan.pdf](#)
 [2019-09-11 \(19-168\) Title VI Presentation.pdf](#)

REPORTS:**13. Report from the Board Chair**[19-101](#)**Damon Seils, Board Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the Board Chair

14. Report from the Technical Committee Chair[19-102](#)**Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the TC Chair.

15. Report from LPA Staff[19-103](#)**Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

Board Action: Receive the report from LPA Staff.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-103\) LPA staff report.pdf](#)

16. NCDOT Report [19-104](#)

Joey Hopkins (David Keilson/Richard Hancock), Division 5 - NCDOT

Mike Mills (Pat Wilson), Division 7 - NCDOT

Brandon Jones (Bryan Kluchar, Jen Britt), Division 8 - NCDOT

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Branch - NCDOT

John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT

Board Action: Receive the reports from NCDOT.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-104\) NCDOT Progress Report.pdf](#)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**17. Recent News Articles and Updates** [19-105](#)

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-105\) news_articles.pdf](#)

18. Landscaping and Lighting of Roundabouts [19-134](#)

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

At its April 10, 2019 meeting, the DCHC MPO Board directed staff to investigate maintenance options for three roundabouts in Durham County. The attached memo provides the results of those inquiries.

Board Action: Receive the report.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-134\) Roundabout Landscaping Memo.pdf](#)

19. America's Transportation Infrastructure Act (ATIA) of 2019 - Draft [19-170](#)**Summary**

Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, adopted by Congress in 2015, is the current federal law governing transportation. It is set to expire in 2020. A proposed new transportation law, the America's Transportation Infrastructure Act (ATIA), would replace the FAST Act upon adoption. A draft has been through one Senate committee. A summary of the current draft is attached.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-170\) ATIA-July-2019- WM.pdf](#)

20. Memo to Chief Engineer Little PE Proj Suspension List [19-174](#)

Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff

On August 30, 2019, NCDOT released a memo notifying staff and consultants of an immediate suspension of "preliminary engineering" activities, and payments for such services. The memo and list of projects affected that are within the DCHC jurisdiction is attached. At this time, the suspension of engineering activities is temporary, and is not expected to affect the schedule of any of these projects in the newly adopted STIP.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-174\) NCDOT Project Suspension List - DCHC Projects Only.pdf](#)

21. New NCDOT Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Guide[19-175](#)**Dale McKeel, LPA Staff**

On August 29, 2019, MPOs across North Carolina were provided NCDOT's new Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Guide. Hanna Cockburn, Director of the Bicycle & Pedestrian and Public Transportation Divisions of NCDOT will be present at the November 2019 MPO Board meeting to answer questions about these documents. Ms. Cockburn has requested that as many questions as possible be sent to her in advance; please send questions to Dale McKeel or Aaron Cain of the MPO staff.

Attachments: [2019-09-11 \(19-175\) NCDOT Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Guide](#)

Adjourn

Next meeting: October 9, 9 a.m., Committee Room

Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings:

Rethinking our Thinking - TJCOG Regional Summit

<https://www.tjcog.org/event/rethinking-our-thinking-tjcog-regional-summit>