



DCHC MPO Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

9:00 AM

Meeting to be held by teleconference.

Watch on Facebook Live at <https://facebook.com/MPOforDCHC/>

Any member of the general public who wishes to make public comment should send an email to aaron.cain@durhamnc.gov and the comment will be read to the Board during the public comment portion of the meeting.

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**[20-100](#)

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(20-100\) MPO Board Directives to Staff.pdf](#)

CONSENT AGENDA**6. June 10, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**[20-155](#)

A copy of the June 10, 2020 Board Meeting minutes is enclosed.

Board Action: Approve the minutes of the June 10, 2020 Board Meeting.

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(20-155\) MPO 06.10.20 MINUTES LPA 2.pdf](#)

ACTION ITEMS

7. 2050 MTP -- Goals and Objectives (20 minutes)[20-145](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

As in previous Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTP), the DCHC MPO and Capital Area MPO (CAMPO) intend to implement the same development process and adopt a joint 2050 MTP. Among the first steps in this process is the MPO's adoption of the same set of Goals and Objectives. Given the difficulty of conducting in-person meetings and workshops during the Covid-19 pandemic, staff reviewed and compared the visions, goals and objectives from over two dozen transportation-related plans throughout the Triangle area to recommend minor changes to the current Goals and Objectives. At their June meeting, the DCHC MPO Board reviewed the staff recommended Goals and Objectives, recommended additional changes, and released them for a minimum 42-day public comment period.

The attached Goals and Objectives shows the initial staff recommendation, changes from the June MPO Board meeting, and the final staff recommendation. The only changes to the June MPO Board version that staff recommends concerns Objectives "A" and "B" under the Ensure Equity and Participation goal. Staff recommends that these two objectives directly reference "communities of concern" to help emphasize the equity provision of the goal.

The attached presentation summarizes the public engagement effort, and the results and demographics from the online survey. There were over 1,300 completed surveys as of August 5th. Direct comments, i.e., emails to staff, are compiled in an attached document. The public engagement period is advertised to end August 5th.

Originally, the MPO Board was scheduled to conduct a public hearing and vote on this item today. However, new rules for public bodies in North Carolina during a state of emergency require that public bodies accept written comments for up to 24 hours after a public hearing, and therefore the public bodies cannot take action on the matter until the completion of that 24-hour period. As a result, staff recommends that the MPO Board conduct a public hearing today, come to an agreement on the final Goals and Objectives, and send this item to the consent agenda of the September Board meeting.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board adopt the Goals and Objectives.

Board Action: Receive a presentation on the survey, discuss the Goals and Objectives, and adopt at the September Board meeting.

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(20-145\) GoalsSurveyPresentation.pdf](#)
 [2020-08-12 \(20-145\) GoalsAndObjectives.pdf](#)
 [2020-08-12 \(20-145\) CompilationOfComments.pdf](#)

8. 2050 MTP Public Engagement Plan and Schedule (10 minutes)[20-144](#)**Andy Henry, DCHC MPO**

The DCHC MPO Board released the draft Public Engagement Plan and schedule for the 2050 MTP at their June 2020 meeting for a minimum 42-day public comment period. The MPO notified the public about this engagement opportunity through newspapers notices, public affair notices, social media posts, and emails to people in the MPO contact list. Although this notification campaign, which included the Goals and Objectives, has yielded over 1,300 completed surveys to date, the MPO received only one comment on the Engagement Plan and no comments on the schedule. The comment is on page 2 of the comment compilation document that was attached to the previous agenda item. Staff does not recommend any changes to the draft Public Engagement Plan or schedule. Both documents are attached.

As discussed on the previous agenda item, the MPO Board cannot conduct a public hearing on these items and take action on them within a 24-hour period. Staff recommends that the MPO Board conduct a public hearing today, come to an agreement on the final Public Engagement Plan and schedule, and send this item to the consent agenda of the September Board meeting.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board conduct a public hearing and adopt the Public Engagement Plan and schedule.

Board Action: Conduct a public hearing and adopt at the September Board meeting.

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(20-144\) PublicEngagementPlan.pdf](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-144\) 2050MTPschedule.pdf](#)

9. Environmental Justice Report (10 minutes)[20-143](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

The MPO Board released the 2020 draft Environmental Justice Report for a 45-day public comment period at its May meeting. The public comment period was advertised in the *Herald-Sun*, the *Triangle Tribune*, on the MPO's website, and on the MPO's Facebook and Twitter pages. So far, no comments have been received from the public.

Staff has suggested including an appendix with thresholds for Orange, Chatham, and Durham counties and mapped communities of concern for each county. This addition would allow the counties to use the EJ report methodology for county specific projects, such as Transit Plans. This addition to the appendix is attached for your review.

TC Action: Recommended that the Board hold a public hearing and adopt the 2020 Environmental Justice Report.

Board Action: Hold a public hearing.

Attachments:[2020-08-12 \(20-143\) Environmental Justice Report Draft.pdf](#)[2020-08-12 \(20-143\) Environmental Justice Report County Level Analysis.pdf](#)[2020-08-12 \(20-143\) Environmental Justice Report Resolution.pdf](#)

10. Chapel Hill North-South Bus Rapid Transit Locally Preferred[20-151](#)**Alternative (15 minutes)****Matt Cecil, Chapel Hill Transit**

The North-South Bus Rapid Transit (NSBRT) project supports the goals of Chapel Hill 2020, which calls for improved transit service on Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. In April of 2016, the Chapel Hill Town Council approved the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for the NSBRT project with three options: 1) constructing a dedicated curb lane or 2) constructing a dedicated center lane north of North Street to the Eubanks Road park and ride lot, and either constructing or converting dedicated curb lanes between Estes Drive and North Street.

During environmental and preliminary design, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) recommended selecting a preferred running-way for the Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard section between Eubanks Road and North Drive. With guidance from FTA and the Transit Partners Committee, the Consultant Team (AECOM) analyzed the options for this section of the corridor in coordination with the NSBRT Technical and Policy Committees.

In January of 2019 Chapel Hill Town Council provided an update to the LPA selecting to remove the center running guideway, option and conduct a traffic analysis on the northern portion of the NSBRT corridor extending from North Street to Eubanks Drive to better inform the construct vs. convert decision. NSBRT project staff collaborated with NCDOT representatives in performing the analysis, with continued guidance from the FTA, Transit Partners Committee, Consultant Team (AECOM), Technical and Policy Committees.

TC Action: Recommended adoption of the resolution to amend the LPA for NSBRT.

Board Action: Adopt the resolution to amend the LPA for NSBRT.

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(20-151\) North-South Bus Rapid Transit Locally Preferred Alternativ](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-151\) North-South Bus Rapid Transit Locally Preferred Alternativ](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-151\) North-South Bus Rapid Transit Locally Preferred Alternativ](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-151\) North-South Bus Rapid Transit Locally Preferred Alternativ](#)

11. Amendment #2 to the FY2020-2029 TIP (5 minutes)[20-152](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

TIP Amendment #2 to the FY2020-2029 TIP consists primarily of projects that have been amended in the STIP by NCDOT, and therefore need to be amended in the DCHC MPO TIP.

Most projects are additions from the Transportation Mobility and Safety and the Rail divisions. Other project modifications are related to delays in project schedules:

- **EB-5904 Duke Belt Line Trail:** Delay construction from FY 20 to 22 to reflect current city delivery schedule.
- **P-5706 East Durham Railroad Safety Project:** Delay ROW from FY 20 to 21 to allow additional time for planning and design.
- **P-5717 Cornwallis Road Grade Separation:** Delay ROW from FY 20 to 21 and construction from FY 21 to 22 to assist in balancing funds.

The City of Durham has requested a modification to TA-4923, GoDurham Bus Acquisition. This request would program a total of \$4,400,000 for the project, with \$3,520,000 in federal funds (\$1,686,000 in 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities and \$1,834,000 in 5307 funds) matched by \$880,000 in local funds. Previously, \$4,032,000 was allocated for this project in FY 18, with a federal share of \$3,226,000 in Surface Transportation Program-Direct Attribution (STPDA) funds and \$806,000 in local funds.

The City of Durham requested a technical correction to TA-4923 following the July TC meeting. The correction did not affect the total funding for the project but shifted funds between 5339 and 5307 funding sources. The federal share was initially \$3,130,000 from 5339 funds and \$390,000 from 5307 funds.

A summary sheet, full report, and resolution are attached.

TC Action: Recommended Board approval of Amendment #2 to the FY2020-2029 TIP.

Board Action: Approve Amendment #2 to the FY2020-2029 TIP.

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(20-152\) FY2020-2029 TIP Amendment #2 Full Report.pdf](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-152\) FY2020-2029 TIP Amendment #2 Summary Sheet.pdf](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-152\) FY2020-2029 TIP Amendment #2 Resolution.pdf](#)

12. Orange County Transit Plan Update (10 minutes)[20-156](#)**Caroline Dwyer, Renaissance Planning Group**

Caroline Dwyer, AICP, a Project Manager with Renaissance Planning (lead consultant for the Orange County Transit Plan), will provide an update on the Orange County Transit Plan Update project. Topics include overall project approach and schedule, introduction to the consultant team, project progress to date, and near-term next steps. More project information can be found at www.octransit2020.com

Board Action: No action is necessary on this item; it is for informational purposes only.

13. Durham County Transit Plan Update (10 minutes)[20-154](#)**Aaron Cain, LPA Staff****Brooke Ganser, Durham City-County Planning****Allison Fluitt, Kimley-Horn and Associates****Mary Kate Morookian, Kimley-Horn and Associates**

Since the last time the MPO Board was updated on the progress of the Durham County Transit Plan in May several items have been accomplished, including:

- Full execution of a contract for consultant services with Kimley-Horn & Associates
- Reorganization of staff committees for the Durham Transit Team
- Work plan for the transit plan process
- Public engagement plan for the transit plan
- Kickoff for the Comprehensive Operational Analysis

The work plan, public engagement plan, and a summary of the Listening and Learning public engagement that was conducted in the fall of 2019 and winter of 2020 for the Durham Comprehensive Plan and Durham County Transit Plan are attached for your review.

Public engagement for the next phase of the transit plan is expected to begin this month. This phase of engagement will focus on receiving feedback on the Goals and Objectives being developed from the first round of public engagement in the winter of 2020.

Board Action: No action is necessary on this item; it is for informational purposes only.

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(20-154\) Durham County Transit Plan - Public Engagement Plan.pr](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-154\) Durham County Transit Plan - Project WorkPlan.pdf](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-154\) Durham County Transit Plan Update Memo.pdf](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-154\) Durham County Transit Plan Update Presentation.pdf](#)
[2020-08-12 \(20-154\) Listening and Learning Engagement Summary.pdf](#)

14. Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Update (10 minutes)[20-157](#)**Katharine Eggleston, GoTriangle**

In March 2020, the DCHC MPO Board authorized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to express the roles, responsibilities, and cost share of the project management partners for the next phase of study for the Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Project. GoTriangle will provide an update on the study activities that have occurred to date, including approval and execution of the MOU by all eight parties and initiation of MOU activities.

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

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(20-157\) Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Update.pdf](#)

15. Freeway and Street-based Transit Study (15 minutes)[20-149](#)**Joe Milazzo, Regional Transportation Alliance****Natalie Ridout, Regional Transportation Alliance****Taruna Tayal, VHB****Don Bryson, VHB**

Funded by the Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA), GoTriangle and NCDOT, the Freeway And Street-based Transit (FAST) study is developing an illustrative, scalable approach to transform our roadways into multimodal corridors that can provide rapid, frequent, and reliable transit service across the region.

A FAST network will capitalize on the great work that has already been done by the various agencies in the Triangle, complement the existing investments being made on transit studies, plans and implementation, and become a champion to leverage the existing freeway and street system with targeted transit advantage to improve accessibility and opportunity.

Preliminary findings are slated to be released on July 16 via a free webinar available at www.letsgetmoving.org/FASTstudy. Comments are being requested from transportation partners and the public from July 16 through August 31.

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

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(20-149\) FAST Study Overview.pdf](#)
 [2020-08-12 \(20-149\) FAST Study FAQs.pdf](#)

REPORTS:**16. Report from the Board Chair**[20-101](#)**Wendy Jacobs, Board Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the Board Chair

17. Report from the Technical Committee Chair[20-102](#)**Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the TC Chair.

18. Report from LPA Staff [20-103](#)

Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager

Board Action: Receive the report from LPA Staff.**Attachments:** [2020-08-12 \(20-103\) LPA staff report.pdf](#)**19. NCDOT Report** [20-104](#)

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

Mike Mills (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), 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:** [2020-08-12 \(20-104\) NCDOT Progress Report.pdf](#)**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS****20. Recent News Articles and Updates** [20-105](#)**Attachments:** [2020-08-12 \(20-105\) news_articles_8-12-2020.pdf](#)**21. SPOT 6 Update (10 minutes)** [19-123](#)

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Anne Phillips, LPA Staff

The SPOT 6 submittal deadline was July 31. In March the DCHC MPO Board approved the SPOT 6 submittal list, for which revisions could be approved by the Chair and Vice Chair. Attached are the submittal changes suggested by staff, and approved by the Board Chair and Vice Chair.

Anne Phillips will be taking over SPOT duties going forward. The next phase in the SPOT 6 process is approval of the Local Points Methodology, which will come before the Board in the next couple of months.

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

Attachments: [2020-08-12 \(19-123\) SPOT 6 Submittal Changes.pdf](#)**Adjourn****Next meeting: September 9th, 9 a.m., Teleconference****Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings: None**