



DCHC MPO Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

9:00 AM

Meeting to be held by teleconference.

Watch on Facebook Live at [https://www.facebook.com/MPOfor DCHC/](https://www.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: [2020-09-09 \(20-100\) MPO Board Directives to Staff.pdf](#)

CONSENT AGENDA**6. August 12, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**[20-164](#)

A copy of the August 12, 2020 Board Meeting minutes will be included in the October 14, 2020 Board Meeting packet.

Board Action: No action required at this time..

ACTION ITEMS**7. Locally Administered Projects and NCDOT Budget (30 minutes)**[20-159](#)**Van Argabright, NCDOT**

Van Argabright, Director of the NCDOT Division of Planning and Programming, will be present to answer questions and address issues regarding NCDOT finance and budget, particularly as it regards locally administered projects.

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

8. STIP Reprogramming (15 minutes)[20-165](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

NCDOT has recently performed a reprogramming exercise to ensure that the STIP remains fiscally constrained in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its resulting impact on revenues, the passage of House Bill 77 into law, and project cost increases that occurred over the past year.

The proposed STIP now goes to 2032 instead of 2029. A list of DCHC projects affected by the STIP reprogramming exercise is attached.

If these changes are adopted by the Board of Transportation in October, some of these projects will also require that the MPO amend the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Amendments to the MTP are needed if a project is regionally significant and its operational year crosses one of the MTP horizon years (2025, 2035, or 2045).

Board Action: This item is for informational and discussion purposes.

Attachments: [2020-09-09 \(20-165\) STIP ReprogrammingPresentation.pdf](#)
 [2020-09-09 \(20-165\) STIPReprogrammingProjectList.pdf](#)

9. MPO Board Governance Committee (15 minutes)[20-153](#)**Damon Seils, Town of Carrboro**

In November 2019, the chair of the Board appointed a governance committee to develop and make recommendations to the Board regarding the governance, organization, and management of the DCHC MPO.

The committee recommends that the Board:

(1) authorize the Lead Planning Agency to issue a request for information (RFI) from the DCHC MPO's list of prequalified contractors about their capabilities to study and make recommendations to the Board by February 2021 regarding (a) the DCHC MPO's governance, organizational structure, and financial management; (b) the findings of the DCHC MPO's most recent joint certification review from the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration; and (c) the DCHC MPO's preparedness to address-in a manner that aligns with the values of the member jurisdictions-emerging issues relating to racial equity, environmental protection and environmental justice, changes in technology, and the link between transportation planning and land use; and

(2) appoint a selection committee consisting of two members of the Board, two members of the Technical Committee, and the director of the City of Durham's transportation department to finalize the scope of work, prepare an independent cost estimate and identify resources, review responses to the RFI, and select one or more contractors.

Board Action: Adopt the recommendations of the committee.

Attachments: [2020-09-09 \(20-153\) Durham-Chapel Hill Carrboro Certification Review Report](#)

10. 2050 MTP -- Goals and Objectives (15 minutes)[20-145](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

At their June meeting, the DCHC MPO Board reviewed the staff recommended Goals and Objectives, requested changes, and released them for a minimum 42-day public comment period. At their August meeting, the Board received a revised set of Goals and Objectives based on requests from their June meeting and received a presentation on the online survey, which evaluated support for the individual goals and proposed policies, and provided demographic data on survey respondents. Based on comments from Board members and those who spoke at the public hearing, staff made changes to the Goals and Objectives and presented those changes at the August Technical Committee (TC) meeting. Staff made additional changes based on the August TC meeting that further strengthened the issues of equity, environment, and safety.

The revised Goals and Objectives are attached. Changes to the Goals are indicated in the Goals column, and changes to the Objectives are shown in the Proposed Objectives column. A document that compiles comments through August 13 is also attached.

Among the next steps in the 2050 MTP process is the development of performance measures for the Objectives.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board approve the Goals and Objectives for use in the development of the 2050 MTP.

Board Action: Review the Goals and Objectives, provide comments, and approve the Goals and Objectives for use in the development of the 2050 MTP.

Attachments: [2020-09-09 \(20-145\) Compilation of Comments.pdf](#)
[2020-09-09 \(20-145\) Goals and Objectives.pdf](#)

11. 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 meeting for a minimum 42-day public comment period. The Board conducted a public hearing at their August meeting but no one from the public spoke on this particular agenda item. The MPO received one email 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.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO board approve the Public Engagement Plan and schedule for use in developing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

Board Action: Approve the Public Engagement Plan and schedule for use in developing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

Attachments: [2020-09-09 \(20-144\) 2050 MTP Public Engagement Plan.pdf](#)
[2020-09-09 \(20-144\) 2050 MTP Schedule.pdf](#)

12. US 15-501 Corridor Study (30 minutes)[19-144](#)**Andy Henry, LPA staff****Lynn Purnell, WSP (consultant)**

Staff recommends that the MPO Board release the final US 15-501 Corridor Study for public comment (September 9 through October 15). The final Study consists of a summary report, a full report, and a conceptual design map. The purpose of the Corridor Study, which was funded by the DCHC MPO and NCDOT, is to identify multimodal transportation projects for inclusion in the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP), and for submittal to NCDOT's project evaluation process, called SPOT, for possible funding in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The US 15-501 Corridor Study began in 2018 and has completed an extensive public input process. The formal process included a corridor bus tour, three public workshops, several pop-up events in Durham and Chapel Hill, and an online public input map. Study development was guided by a project steering committee that consisted of staff from local governments, transportation related agencies and transit providers. On occasion, staff has presented the project and received input from the MPO's Technical Committee and Board, and local boards and commissions. In early 2019, the Corridor Study development schedule was extended because the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit project was suspended in March 2019. Most recently, staff and local elected officials met several times to address issues related to the cross-section in Chapel Hill and the proposed local road network at the I-40/US 15-501 interchange area.

Throughout this extensive development process, there have been major interim products, including: a community profile; travel profile; vision and goals; and a set of strategies to address the different travel needs in the corridor. These interim products and additional background information are available on the project web site: [<https://www.reimagining15501.com/>](https://www.reimagining15501.com/). The full report that is being released today presents the highlights from these interim products.

Attachments include:

- The full report - The recommended alternatives and implementation plan begin on page 39.
- Summary report - The recommendations and proposed cross-sections are shown graphically.
- Conceptual design - The scroll map shows a high-level design for the entire corridor; note that there are two scroll maps in this attachment.
- Presentation - Includes the development process and final recommendations.

The proposed public input schedule will be:

- September Board meeting -- Release reports and conceptual design for public comment
- October Board meeting -- Conduct a public hearing

- October 15 - last day to submit public comments
- November Board meeting - Approve final reports and conceptual design

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board release the US 15-501 Corridor Study for public comment.

Board Action: Provide comments and release the US 15-501 Corridor Study for public comment.

Attachments: [2020-09-09 \(19-144\) 15-501 Conceptual Design.pdf](#)
[2020-09-09 \(19-144\) Presentation.pdf](#)
[2020-09-09 \(19-144\) 15-501 Full Report.pdf](#)
[2020-09-09 \(19-144\) 15-501 Summary Report.pdf](#)

13. Environmental Justice Report (5 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 suggested including an appendix with thresholds for Orange, Chatham, and Durham counties and mapped communities of concern for each county. This addition will allow the counties to use the EJ report methodology for county specific projects, such as Transit Plans. The county level analysis has been added to the appendix.

The MPO Board held a public hearing for the 2020 draft Environmental Justice Report at its August meeting. No members of the public spoke during the hearing.

TC Action: Recommended that the Board adopt the 2020 Environmental Justice Report.

Board Action: Adopt the 2020 Environmental Justice Report.

Attachments: [2020-09-09 \(20-143\) EnvironmentalJusticeReport2020.pdf](#)
[2020-09-09 \(20-143\) Environmental Justice Report Resolution.pdf](#)

14. Designation of I-885 (10 minutes)[20-158](#)**John Grant, NCDOT**

As a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirement, NCDOT is requesting a resolution of support from DCHC MPO regarding the addition of I-885 in Durham County, which would be a continuous highway from I-85 to I-40 (see attached map). Upon completion of the East End Connector in Durham (U-0071), this highway would be designated as I-885. This designation would rename the portion of what is currently NC 147 from the East End Connector to I-40 as I-885. NC 147 south of I-40 would be redesignated as NC 885. NC 147 would remain from the new I-885 through downtown Durham to I-85.

Attached is a draft resolution supporting that designation.

TC Action: Recommended approval of the resolution supporting the designation of I-885 in Durham County with the inclusion of a statement that the new interstate designation does not impede the inclusion of future transit-priority lanes.

Board Action: Adopt the resolution redesignating a portion of NC 147 as I-885, with a statement that this designation should not impede the inclusion of future transit-priority lanes.

Attachments:[2020-09-09 \(20-158\) I-885 Designation Map.pdf](#)[2020-09-09 \(20-158\) I-885 Designation Resolution.pdf](#)

15. Air Quality Memorandum of Agreement (5 minutes)[20-163](#)**Andy Henry, LPA**

In accordance with the Clean Air Act, the DCHC MPO is required to develop and adopt a transportation conformity Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to ensure that the interagency consultation procedures are properly followed for the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The MOA outlines the responsibilities of the various state and federal agencies, the format for coordination meetings, documentation requirements, and the detailed procedures to be followed to determine air quality conformity for the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This draft MOA is an update to the current MOA, which was adopted in February 2014. Most of the proposed changes are minor such as updating the name of an agency and describing technological improvements to procedures. One notable addition is the requirement to conduct project-level conformity analysis, or so-called "hotspot" analysis.

The EPA designated the Triangle area "attainment" with the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS on December 26, 2007. The area will remain under a maintenance plan through December 26, 2027. Currently, the MPO is required to complete "short form" conformity for the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS. The TJCOG has coordinated the conformity process for the Triangle region over the last decade. In addition, it is important to have a formal consultation process in place for contingency purposes, should the area be designated for a future NAAQS.

The draft MOA is attached - MPO duties begin in section 2.1, page 4, and the MPO signature is on page 22. Also, a summary of changes to the MOA is attached.

TC Action: Recommended that the Board direct the Board Chair to sign the Air Quality Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

Board Action: Review the Air Quality Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and direct the Board Chair to sign the MOA.

Attachments:[2020-09-09 \(20-163\) AQ MOA-.PDF](#)[2020-09-09 \(20-163\) AQ MOA List of Changes.pdf](#)

16. Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities [20-162](#)
(Section 5310) Grant - FFY19 and FFY20 Program of Projects (5 minutes)

Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff

The Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program (Section 5310) provides funds to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options. The DCHC MPO is the Designated Recipient of the funds for the Durham UZA and distributes the funds to eligible sub-recipients through a competitive selection process every other year. A Call for Projects was conducted for \$529,150 (in federal funds) which was the total funding apportioned to the Durham UZA for FFY2019 and FFY2020. Applications were reviewed by a staff, and the recommended Program of Projects (PoP) is attached. Once the PoP is approved by the Board, LPA staff will begin the grant application process.

TC Action: Recommend the Board approve the proposed Program of Projects.

Board Action: Approve the proposed Program of Projects.

Attachments: [2020-09-09 \(20-162\) 5310 POP 5310 2020 Proposed1.pdf](#)

REPORTS:

17. Report from the Board Chair [20-101](#)
Wendy Jacobs, Board Chair

Board Action: Receive the report from the Board Chair

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

Board Action: Receive the report from the TC Chair.

19. Report from LPA Staff [20-103](#)
Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager

Board Action: Receive the report from LPA Staff.

Attachments: [2020-09-09 \(20-103\) LPA staff report.pdf](#)

20. 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: [2020-09-09 \(20-104\) NCDOT Progress Report.pdf](#)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**21. Recent News Articles and Updates**[20-105](#)

Attachments: [2020-09-09 \(20-105\) news_articles_9-9-2020.pdf](#)

Adjourn

Next meeting: October 14, 9 a.m., Meeting to be held by teleconference.

Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings: None