



## **Technical Committee Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

9:00 AM

Committee Room 2nd Floor Durham City Hall

101 City Hall Plaza  
Durham, NC 27701

1. Roll Call
2. Adjustments to the Agenda
3. Public Comment

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

4. **Approval of the May 26, 2021 TC Meeting Minutes** [21-164](#)

A copy of the May 26, 2021 meeting minutes is enclosed.

**TC Action:** Approve the minutes of the May 26, 2021 TC meeting.

**Attachments:** [2021-07-28 \(21-164\) 5.26 TC Minutes\\_LPA2](#)

### **ACTION ITEMS**

5. **2050 MTP -- Alternative Analysis (15 minutes)** [21-155](#)

**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

At their June meeting, the Board authorized the MPO staff to release the Alternatives Analysis when the modeling, documentation, and Web site were ready. Staff plan to release the DCHC MPO's Alternatives Analysis on July 29th, which will be the same release date as that of the Capital Area MPO (CAMPO), and give adequate time to include interactive maps, performance data, and other support materials on the Web site. Today, staff will update the Technical Committee (TC) on the Alternatives Analysis release. For background information on the various alternatives, see the attached June 9th Board presentation.

**TC Action:** Receive update on the 2050 MTP Alternatives Analysis release

**Attachments:** [2021-07-28 \(21-155\) 2050MTP-AltsAnalysis-PresentationToBoard](#)

**6. Bus on Shoulder Study (20 minutes)**[21-162](#)**Patrick McDonough, HDR****Alpesh Patel, Cambridge Systematics**

The North Carolina Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) and its partners, GoTriangle, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO), and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) initiated a study to create a programmatic approach for identifying, prioritizing, and developing best practices for Bus on Shoulder System (BOSS) deployment in the Triangle and across North Carolina.

The goals of the study include:

- Identify most promising locations for BOSS expansion in Triangle
- Create a blueprint for how other North Carolina regions can establish successful BOSS programs
- Document best practices and design criteria for BOSS that can be used statewide

The Bus on Shoulder System (BOSS) Implementation Blueprint outlines the study's findings related to these goals.

**TC Action:** Receive informational report about the BOSS Study.

**Attachments:**      [2021-07-28 \(21-162\) BOSS Executive Briefing Presentation](#)  
[2021-07-28 \(21-162\) BOSS Executive Summary](#)  
[2021-07-28 \(21-162\) BOSS Implementation Blueprint](#)

**7. D-O LRT Corridor in CTP (20 minutes)**[21-161](#)**Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

In 2016 the DCHC MPO Board incorporated the alignment of the proposed Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) corridor into the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). In 2019, the D-O LRT project was discontinued and no further work has been done to advance the project. However, the D-O LRT corridor remains identified in the CTP.

The Durham Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) states that land for transportation corridors identified in the CTP must be reserved through a site plan or rezoning with a development plan. The Durham City-County Planning Department has stated concerns about this requirement and its application to the 2016 North Carolina Supreme Court case Kirby v. NCDOT, in which the court determined that NCDOT's use of the Map Act was an unconstitutional taking and required NCDOT to compensate landowners for property held in reserve for future transportation projects. Conversely, GoTriangle has identified the D-O LRT corridor as a possible future bus rapid transit (BRT) corridor serving Durham and Chapel Hill, particularly the off-road segments that could greatly aid future transit timeliness and efficiency.

The TC is asked to discuss and provide guidance to MPO staff as it finalizes CTP Amendment #3. A memo is attached that provides further background and information.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the D-O LRT corridor be removed from maps in the CTP, but that statements identifying the need for high capacity transit along the US Highway 15/501 Corridor between Durham and Chapel Hill be included.

**TC Action:** Provide direction to MPO staff on the inclusion or removal of the D-O LRT corridor in CTP Amendment #3.

**Attachments:** [2021-07-28 \(21-161\) Memo on D-O LRT Corridor in CTP](#)  
[2021-07-28 \(21-161\) Current D-O LRT Alignment in CTP](#)

**8. US 70 East Access and Connectivity Study Introduction (20 minutes)**[21-159](#)**Jake Ford, LPA Staff**

The US 70 East Access and Connectivity Study will analyze NCDOT's U-5720 conversion of the US 70 East corridor, from the East End Connector to TW Alexander Drive, into a limited access freeway. The goal of the study is to evaluate the impacts on multi-modal safety and access, connectivity of local businesses and communities, collector street plans, and any impacts to transit networks. Previously, City and County staff have raised concerns with the existing U-5720 framework citing only one interchange being planned for the study area, insufficient attention to nonmotorized access, and no strategy for how the proposed conversion may alter transit networks for the corridor. These represent severe challenges to transportation networks for both communities and businesses.

The US 70 corridor is poised to experience continued growth in Durham County, hence ensuring transportation designs take into account local concerns regarding connectivity and access is imperative. This study will provide additional information on the possible impacts, providing policymakers and the community with greater transparency.

**TC Action:** MPO staff has drafted a letter to NCDOT to be signed by the Board Chair requesting incorporation of this study and its findings into the development of U-5720. Staff requests that the TC recommend that the Board authorize the Chair to sign the letter.

**Attachments:**[2021-07-28 \(21-159\) City of Durham Memo re U-5720 Concepts dated Novemb](#)[2021-07-28 \(21-159\) US 70 East Access Study Presentation 7.28.21](#)[2021-07-28 \(21-159\) US 70 Schedule Adjustment Letter](#)

**9. Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #7 (5 minutes)**[21-160](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #7 primarily consists of projects that have been amended in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) by NCDOT, and therefore need to be amended in the DCHC MPO TIP.

TIP Amendment #7 also includes a request from the City of Durham to flex FY18-22 Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable (STBGDA) funds from the Federal Highway Administration to the Federal Transit Administration to purchase three electric buses and seven paratransit vehicles. Because the funding in this request exceeds \$1 million, this amendment must be released for a 21-day public comment period in accordance with DCHC's Public Involvement Policy.

Finally, TIP Amendment #7 adds DCHC's Transit Safety Performance Targets that were adopted on June 9, 2021, to the TIP. This action fulfills a joint FHWA and FTA requirement that transit systems that receive urbanized area formula grants develop and implement transit safety management systems. MPOs are required to reflect safety measures and targets in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and TIP.

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

**TC Action:** Recommend that the MPO Board release TIP Amendment #7 for a 21-day public comment period.

**Board Action:** Release TIP Amendment #7 for a 21-day public comment period.

**Attachments:** [2021-07-28 \(21-160\) TIP Amendment #7 Full Report](#)  
[2021-07-28 \(21-160\) TIP Amendment #7 Resolution](#)  
[2021-07-28 \(21-160\) TIP Amendment #7 Summary Sheet](#)

**Minutes Recording Document**[21-110](#)**REPORTS FROM STAFF:****10. Report from Staff**[21-107](#)**Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

**TC Action:** Receive report from Staff.

**Attachments:** [2021-07-28 \(21-107\) LPA staff report](#)

**11. Report from the Chair**[21-108](#)**Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair**

**TC Action:** Receive report from the TC Chair.

**12. NCDOT Reports**[21-109](#)

**Brandon Jones (David Keilson, Richard Hancock), Division 5 - NCDOT**

**Wright Archer (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 - NCDOT**

**Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar, Jen Britt), Division 8 - NCDOT**

**Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division - NCDOT**

**John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT**

**Bryan Lopez, Integrated Mobility Division-NCDOT**

**TC Action:** Receive reports from NCDOT.

**Attachments:**      [2021-07-28 \(21-109\) NCDOT Progress Report](#)

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**Adjourn**

**Next meeting: August 25, 9 a.m., Meeting location to be determined.**

**Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings: None**