

**DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**April 25, 2018**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on February 28, 2018, at 9:02 a.m. in the Marriott Conference Room, located on the first floor of the Durham Marriott City Center. The following people were in attendance:

Ellen Beckmann (Chair)	City of Durham Transportation
Kayla Seibel (Member)	Chapel Hill Planning
Kumar Neppalli (Member)	Chapel Hill Engineering
Pierre Osei-Owusu (Member)	City of Durham Transportation/GoDurham
Hannah Jacobson (Member)	City of Durham Planning
Tina Moon (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Zack Hallock (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Evan Tenenbaum (Member)	Durham County Planning
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County Planning
Tom Altieri (Member)	Orange County Planning
Nishith Trivedi (Member)	Orange County Planning
Cara Coppola (Member)	Chatham County Planning
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	Triangle J Council of Governments
Geoff Green (Member)	GoTriangle
Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT, TPD
Bill Judge (Member)	NCDOT, Division 5
Ed Lewis (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 7
Bryan Kluchar (Member)	NCDOT, Division 8
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO

Quorum Count: 18 of 31 Voting Members

Chair Ellen Beckmann called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A roll call was performed. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Technical Committee (TC) were identified and are indicated above. Chair Ellen Beckmann reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheet that was being circulated.

Chance Mullins, Chatham County Transportation Planner and new representative for Chatham County on the TC, and Arik Lansford, a Planner with the Kerr-Tar RPO, were introduced.

**PRELIMINARIES:**

**2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

**3. Public Comments**

There were no members of the public signed up to speak.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**4. Approval of January 24, 2018 TC Meeting Minutes**

Geoff Green made a motion to approve the March 24, 2018, TC Meeting minutes. Tom Altieri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**5. Initial Allocation of Local Input Points for Regional Impact Projects**

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain stated that the MPO Board approved the DCHC MPO Methodology for Identifying and Ranking New Transportation Improvement Program Project Requests, which was also approved by North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), in March 2018. Aaron Cain added that the DCHC MPO is able to deviate from the initial list for a variety of reasons, as described in the Methodology. He continued that it is required to document the reasons for deviation from the initial list. Aaron Cain stated that the DCHC MPO received 1,800 points for distribution between highway, transit, and rail.

Aaron Cain stated that he first ranked the projects using the DCHC MPO Methodology, and then secondarily by using the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) score. He added that a project would not cascade down from the Statewide tier to the Regional tier if it costs more than \$5M, per the Methodology. Aaron Cain stated that he was to recommend that the MPO Board to release the Initial Local Points list for public comment from May 14 through June 4.

67 Nishith Trivedi asked about timelines for recommendations by local boards for this project.

68 Aaron Cain answered that he preferred a deadline by the middle of May in order to contribute those  
69 recommendations to the TC Meeting on May 23, 2018.

70 Nishith Trivedi and Aaron Cain discussed that, per the DCHC MPO Methodology, projects in  
71 Durham scored the highest for all of the highway projects. Aaron Cain then reviewed the list of proposed  
72 highway projects from the Initial Local Points List, starting with the highest ranked projects from the  
73 DCHC MPO.

74 Aaron Cain, Ed Lewis, and Richard Hancock discussed how a project that is funded at the  
75 Regional tier could be funded at the Statewide tier.

76 Aaron Cain and Andy Henry discussed the cost of the US 15-501 project that would construct  
77 capacity improvements and add sidewalks, wide-outside lanes, and transit accommodations in Chapel  
78 Hill. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that the cost would be approximately \$35 million. Aaron Cain  
79 discussed other projects on the Initial Local Points List.

80 Aaron Cain stated that the MPO Board agreed to put 800 points on highway projects and 1,000  
81 points on non-highway projects, but there were not enough non-highway projects on which to add  
82 points. He concluded that the 366 points that could not be added to non-highway projects would be  
83 added to highway projects per the DCHC MPO Methodology. Aaron Cain discussed the scoring and  
84 points distribution of points for the D-O LRT project in relationship to other boards, including the Capital  
85 Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). Aaron Cain stated that he recommends putting 100  
86 points on transit projects, such as GoTriangle's Raleigh-Durham Express (RDX) and Orange-Durham  
87 Express (ODX) bus service expansion for FY19 and FY23, respectively. Aaron Cain discussed the various  
88 other transit projects on the Initial Local Points List and how some projects might not get funded due to  
89 their relatively low scores.

90 Felix Nwoko and Aaron Cain discussed creating a Prioritization Line for these projects. Aaron  
91 Cain stated that he will communicate that Prioritization Line to the TC Committee at a later date. Ed  
92 Lewis, Bryan Kluchar, and Aaron Cain also discussed the need for coordination between the Divisions  
93 and the MPO on the issue of distributing points. Aaron Cain stated that he plans to schedule  
94 subcommittee meetings between the MPO and the Divisions in early May, prior to the MPO Board  
95 meeting on May 9.

96 Cara Coppola and Aaron Cain discussed that the priority list can be changed during this meeting  
97 and also at a later date. Evan Tenenbaum and Aaron Cain discussed the commuter rail project and the  
98 distribution of points for that project. Aaron Cain discussed the point distribution for the ODX and its  
99 relationship to the point distribution from Burlington-Graham Metropolitan Planning Organization (BG  
100 MPO). Cara Coppola and Aaron Cain discussed the point distribution between DCHC and Triangle Area  
101 Rural Transportation Planning Organization (TARPO)

102 Evan Tenenbaum and Aaron Cain discussed the need to recommend that the MPO Board release  
103 this list to the public for the 21-day comment period, and that deviations from this list do not trigger an  
104 additional public comment period.

105 Tina Moon and Aaron Cain discussed the points for the NC-54 project to improve intersections  
106 in Orange County. Aaron Cain stated that its quantitative score was relatively high, but that it did not  
107 receive a high score per the DCHC MPO Methodology.

108 Felix Nwoko and Aaron Cain discussed NC-751 and US-64 projects, and their relationship to the  
109 Triangle Area Rural Transportation Planning Organization (TARPO). Chair Ellen Beckman and Aaron Cain  
110 discussed the possibility of different planning organizations giving and receiving points for various  
111 projects and the capacity for each respective Board to decide to accept those points.

Nishith Trivedi made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board release the Initial Allocation of Local Input Points for Regional Impact Projects list for public review. Scott Whiteman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**6. MPO Collector Street Plan**

Andy Henry, LPA Staff

Andy Henry stated that the DCHC MPO and many of its local jurisdictions have collector street plans, but many of these are older plans. He noted that these plans only cover a small portion of the MPO planning area and certain areas may need to be added or updated. Andy Henry stated that local governments can continue using their local collector street plan or opt for an updated plan. Andy Henry stated that the LPA staff believes that some roadways that were included in the recently adopted CTP and 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) will be funded, built and function as collector streets, not as arterial roadways. Andy Henry listed the benefits of collector streets, including: less congestion by better distribution of traffic; improved routes for pedestrians; and reduction of travel times without faster speeds. Andy Henry also noted that some citizens might not want their neighborhoods to be a part of the collector street plan. Meg Scully and Andy Henry discussed handling the collector street plan at the MPO as opposed to hiring outside consultants.

Nishith Trivedi asked what would be required for local jurisdictions for the collector street plan. Andy Henry replied that local jurisdictions would be included and there would be collaboration on where and how to use collector streets and to inform elected officials. Tina Moon and Andy Henry discussed the difference between collector streets and connector streets.

Cara Coppola asked about public involvement for other jurisdictions. Andy Henry stated that there would be other public meetings outside of Durham in other counties concerning the collector street plan. Andy Henry continued that, due to the signed the MPO's Memorandum of Understanding among the jurisdictions and counties, the jurisdictions do not have to approve this plan in order to use it in the development review process.

138 Scott Whiteman asked if there is a proposed timeframe for the collector street plan to be  
 139 completed. Andy Henry answered that the proposed timeframe for the plan to be completed would be  
 140 by the end of 2018. Chair Ellen Beckmann, Bill Judge, Scott Whiteman, and Andy Henry discussed the  
 141 various requirements and timetable used in order to complete the collector street plan. Andy Henry  
 142 added that he will address these concerns, such as the schedule and public involvement, at the next  
 143 MPO Board meeting. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that there are recommendations coming from project  
 144 development plans. Andy Henry added that the 2045 MTP already includes collector streets from  
 145 corridor studies and other plans.

146 Nishith Trivedi made a motion to recommend to the MPO Board that they direct MPO staff to  
 147 start a collector street plan. Scott Whiteman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 148 **7. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment**

149 Andy Henry, LPA Staff

150 Geoff Green, GoTriangle

151 Julie Bogle, NCDOT Transportation Planning

153 Andy Henry stated that GoTriangle has requested that the DCHC MPO and NCDOT amend the  
 154 Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) to change the section of Farrington Road between Southwest  
 155 Durham Drive and the Falconbridge Road Extension from a four-lane divided to a two-lane cross-section.  
 156 Andy Henry added that GoTriangle believes that the required right-of-way reservation for the four-lane  
 157 divided cross-section will hamper the zoning amendment approval process for the D-O LRT's Rail  
 158 Operations and Maintenance Facility (ROMF). He added that, due to the NCDOT's schedule, he prefers  
 159 to amend the CTP for only that roadway and not include other unrelated changes.

160 Felix Nwoko and Andy Henry discussed public involvement for an amendment to the CTP, with  
 161 Andy Henry suggesting opening the public comment period to 42 days.

Julie Bogle and Andy Henry discussed making minor changes to the CTP. Andy Henry stated that he recommends making only the proposed amendment to the CTP in order to streamline the process and avoid delays.

Chair Ellen Beckman asked about the modeling used in the CTP. Andy Henry stated that the model incorporates projects from the NC-54/I-40 Corridor Study.

Chair Ellen Beckman asked for clarification as to which section of Farrington Road would be changed. Andy Henry replied that the section of Southwest Durham Drive that is north of the Southwest Durham Drive/Farrington Road convergence will be a four-lane divided facility, and therefore capable of handling vehicles from the convergence of those 2 two-lane roadways.

Scott and Geoff Green discussed the schedule to make and approve these changes. Geoff Green stated that he recommends having this amendment approved by the Durham City Council in November 2018.

Scott Whiteman made a motion to release the amendment of the CTP for public comment. Julie Bogle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **8. Triangle Toll Study Update**

Andy Henry, LPA Staff

Andy Henry stated that the goal of the Triangle Toll Study is to determine if toll lanes and/or managed lanes are advisable in the Triangle Region and to develop a strategy to address funding, equity and consensus building. He stated that the issues are addressed and mediated in the Best Practices report located on the study's website. Andy Henry also stated that there have been several stakeholder meetings.

Andy Henry stated the next step is to develop screening criteria, which considers what roadways would be the best candidates for tolls. He added that these criteria would be completed by the end of September 2018. He added that consultants and other associated personnel will brief the MPO Board at a later meeting. Evan Tenenbaum and Andy Henry discussed the high level nature of this project. Felix

Nwoko and Andy Henry discussed the screening process. . Chair Ellen Beckmann and Andy Henry stated that there will be a presentation to the Board during its next meeting.

No further action was required by the TC.

**9. Amendment #3 to the FY2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)**

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain stated that part of the amendment includes changing the language to be used in the DCHC MPO FY2018-27 TIP, which was recommended by the NCDOT, to address the performance measurement requirement. He also stated that there were several projects to be amended, including: U-4724, R-5753, and EB-5720. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that EB-5720 is the R. Kelly Bryant Bridge that has already been amended, and does need to be included in the final amendment. Chair Ellen Beckmann also stated that projects list in the CAMPO portion of the attachment are also duplicate and do not need to go forward to the Board.

Geoff Green made a motion to approve amendment #3 to the FY2018-2017 TIP, as amended by Chair Ellen Beckmann. Julie Bogle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**REPORTS:**

**10. Reports from the LPA Staff**

Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager

There was no additional report from the LPA Staff.

**9. Report from the DCHC MPO TC Chair**

Ellen Beckmann, DCHC MPO TC Chair

There was no additional report from the TC Chair.

**10. NCDOT Reports**

There was no additional report from NCDOT Division 5.

Ed Lewis, NCDOT Division 7, stated that the next STI public meeting will be held on May 14 at the Division Office in Greensboro, NC, from 5-7 p.m.

Bryan Kluchar Division 8 stated the next STI public meeting will be on May 17 from 5-7p.m.



214 There was no additional report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Division.

215 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:216 **11. Recent News, Articles, and Updates**

217 There were no informational items.

218 ADJOURNMENT:

219 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Technical Committee, the meeting was

220 adjourned at 10:14 a.m.