

**DURHAM COUNTY  
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A SEPARATED MULTI-USE PATH ALONG NC 98 IN  
DURHAM COUNTY**

- WHEREAS,** the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization, along with partner municipalities, have actively worked to develop a Comprehensive Transportation Plan for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO; and
- WHEREAS,** the MPO and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) are directed by North Carolina General Statutes 136-66.2 to reach agreement for a transportation system that will serve present and anticipated travel demand in the MPO; and
- WHEREAS,** it is recognized that the proper movement and variety of transportation modes within and through the MPO planning area are a highly desirable element of the plan for the orderly growth and development of the MPO; and
- WHEREAS,** it is recognized that elements of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan involve coordination with other MPOs in the state for regional transportation projects, such as the North Carolina (NC) 98 Corridor; and
- WHEREAS,** after full study of the NC 98 Corridor, the supporting documents presented to the public, and following a public input process that included multiple stakeholder and public workshops, several pop-up events, social media engagement, and a public hearing, the MPO Board feels it to be in the best interest of the MPO to emphasize any regional transportation corridors or projects which are pursuant to General Statutes 136-66.2; and
- WHEREAS,** the NC 98 Corridor Plan, recommends either sidewalks and bicycle lanes or a multi-use path along the portion of the corridor within Durham County, as alternative or coexisting options, to connect nearby neighborhoods, to be designed with user safety in mind, for all ages and users, and to encourage the use of the corridor for active transportation; and
- WHEREAS,** many public schools, neighborhood retail, a County library, and other community attractions fall along this corridor within the County and carry with them a significant amount of foot traffic; and
- WHEREAS,** both of the MPO's long-range plans, the 2045 Comprehensive Transportation Plan and the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, have identified the NC 98 Corridor as a location for bicycle and pedestrian facilities; and
- WHEREAS,** the MPO and NCDOT both have initiatives to develop transportation security and safety plans to improve transit, pedestrian, bicyclist, and highway safety in the DCHC MPO planning area, including development of Complete Streets projects and participation in Vision Zero Durham, Safe Routes to Schools, and other pedestrian safety programs; and

**WHEREAS,** Goal 3 of Durham County’s Strategic Plan states that the County wants to “partner with stakeholders to prevent and address unsafe conditions, protect life and property, respond to emergencies and ensure accessible and fair justice”, that addressing safety in transportation projects would fall into this domain, and that there would be an inherent desire to provide the safest forms of non-motorized transportation options for families and children through this corridor;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Durham County Board of Commissioners supports approval of the NC 98 Corridor Report subject to the following provisions:

1. That a separated multi-use path along NC 98 between US 70 and the Durham County line be constructed to provide the safest, most attractive option for moving pedestrians and bicyclists within and through the NC 98 Corridor area;
2. That the MPO works with NCDOT to re-allocate the funds associated with construction of separate sidewalks and bike lanes in order to build a multi-use path along the NC 98 Corridor Study.

This the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September 2018.