

Joint DCHC MPO and CAMPO Meeting

Research Triangle Park Headquarters

31 October 2018

1. Welcome and Introductions

Wendy Jacobs welcomed the group to the Joint MPO Meeting at 9:05AM.

Sig Hutchinson stated that this meeting is significant because it means that Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro (DCHC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) are working together collectively in order to solve regional transportation problems.

Attendees introduced themselves to the group:

Attendees: Aaron Cain DCHC MPO staff; Wendy Jacobs Vice Chair DCHC MPO; Sig Hutchinson, Chris Lukasina (CAMPO); Jeff Man, GoTriangle; Heidi Carter, DCHC MPO Alternate; Ellen Beckmann DCHC TC Board Chair; Ed Howell; Meg Scully, DCHC MPO Staff; Michael Parker, DCHC MPO Board Alternate; Vernetta Alston, DCHC MPO Board Member; Lydia Lavelle, DCHC MPO Board Alternate; Will Allen VC Board of Trustees; Vivian Jones, Wake Forest Mayor; Jenn Weaver, DCHC MPO Board Member; TJ Cawley, Mayor of Morrisville; Renee Price, DCHC MPO Board Member; Ellen Reckhow, DCHC MPO Board Member; Charlie Reece, DCHC MPO Board Member; Nina Szlosberg-Landis, DCHC MPO Board Member; Hanna Cockburn, NCDOT; John Hodges-Copple, TJCOG; Alex Rickard, CAMPO; Shelby Powell. (Pam Hemminger, DCHC MPO Board Member; and Mark Marcoplos, DCHC MPO Board Alternate, arrived following the introductions).

2. Host Welcome

Tim Brock, Research Triangle Foundation, welcomed attendees.

3. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

4. Travel Markets by John Hodges-Copple

John Hodges-Copple introduced a slide showing I-40 in 1972 and 2017, which he used to illustrate how MPO influences economic development. John Hodges-Copple stated that travel markets in different locations are not always alike and that the central commute flow for the Triangle is between Wake County and Durham and Orange counties. John Hodges-Copple stated that travel markets are not static because they change in size. John Hodges-Copple continued that planning for future regional

growth is important for the future because in 1992 there were approximately 1M people in the region, and by 2045 the population is estimated to reach 3M people. John Hodges-Copple stated that behavior is changing within the Triangle. He continued that the average household in 2005 has nine daily trips on average, whereas in 2016 there were 10 daily trips. John Hodges-Copple added that smaller households lead to fewer trips. John Hodges-Copple stated that travel markets investments relate to commuter rail.

Ellen Reckhow gave an example of how the population growth in Seattle has impacted traffic, and spoke about the effects on future generations.

Wendy Jacobs noted that the Triangle region is in competition with other cities within the United States to attract businesses and workers. Sig Hutchinson added that the two MPOs must work together.

5. Regional Policy Priorities by Chris Lukasina:

Chris Lukasina discussed the Transportation Policy Priority Sheets.

Hanna Cockburn discussed the importance of and need for planning. Hanna Cockburn referenced *Make NC a Leader in Active Transportation Investments: A Triangle Metro Region Transportation Priority*.

There was discussion about the importance of a Complete Street policy. Hanna Cockburn noted that NCDOT is currently updating their transportation policy and is discussing implementation. Hanna Cockburn noted that NCDOT is targeting completion in Spring 2019. Hanna Cockburn added that the policy focuses on creating networks across regions and across the state.

Hanna Cockburn stated that Active Routes to School is no longer receiving 100% funding. Hanna Cockburn added that NCDOT is developing new policy and criteria, which is scheduled for release in spring 2019.

Ellen Reckhow asked if NCDOT expenditures for pedestrian sidewalks, bicycle paths and multiuse paths have increased. Hanna Cockburn stated that the funding is stable and NCDOT is working within caps set by state law. Ellen Reckhow asked if there are targets for different modes of transportation. Hanna Cockburn replied that NCDOT is relying on data that is collected once every ten years. Hanna Cockburn added that outcomes are difficult to predict when current data points are difficult to locate.

Sig Hutchinson stated that the Triangle Bike Path has conceptual maps. Hanna Cockburn noted that the Triangle Bike Path is a great example of network connections that the NCDOT Secretary is interested in developing.

Jenn Weaver stated that there are challenges that face small communities, such as Hillsborough, and that she would like to see them included in the Regional Policy Priority document.

Wendy Jacobs announced that the Durham County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has implemented a resolution regarding preference of multiuse path instead of separated bike/ped lanes where appropriate. Wendy Jacobson stated that it would be necessary to change further policy from using separated bike/ped lanes to the preferred multiuse path. Hanna Cockburn replied that the update to Complete Street policy would reflect a change a preference in bike/ped lanes to multimodal path preference. Hanna Cockburn added that best practices have advanced in the last decade, and later referenced the AASHTO Green Book.

Ellen Reckhow stated that the multiuse path meets the requirement to have all ages of residents be able to use them. Chris Lukasina referenced *Strengthen Support for Demand Management & Technology: A Triangle Metro Region Transportation Priority*.

Will Allen asked if any elements were related to Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). Chris Lukasina responded that technology elements, which were strong that previous years, were related to ITS. Chris Lukasina also stated that Active Freeway Management is the new term for Managed Motorways.

Wendy Jacobs stated that, in order to activate the Regional Policy Priorities, the DCHC MPO Board will provide comment to their staff at their next meeting on November 14, 2018.

6. Key Regional Efforts: Status and Engagement by Aaron Cain and Alex Rickard

Aaron Cain introduced the three speakers for the next two presentations: Lynn Purnell and David Ungaman for Regional Tolling and Jody Lewis for Regional ITS. Aaron Cain added that there were forms for attendees to complete and return following the meeting.

6a. Regional Tolling by Lynn Purnell (WSP) and David Ungaman

There was discussion about express lanes and toll roads. There was discussion about how express tolls are market driven. Ellen Reckhow asked if express tolls affect behavior.

Nina Szlosberg-Landis asked about new technologies. There was discussion about how newer technologies guide the future at both national level and research level.

Ellen Reckhow asked about how revenue is spent.

Nina Szlosberg-Landis asked about the actuals of revenue in other cities. There was discussion about how the answer can be varied depending on the city.

Nina Szlosberg-Landis asked how express lanes compare with toll roads. There was discussion about express lanes and toll roads being different entities and difficult to compare.

6b. Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Plan Update by Jodi Lewis (VHB)

Jody Lewis stated that ITS is the advancement of transportation safety and mobility. Jody Lewis stated that examples of ITS include; Closed Circuit Television (CCTV), speed sensors, preemption receivers and emitters, etc.

Jody Lewis stated that the last Regional ITS Plan Update was in 2010. Jody Lewis stated that components of the plan would include; assessing existing conditions and identifying gaps, evaluating of new ITS strategies, updating the Triangle ITS architecture, developing regional architecture and use and maintenance plan, developing methodology to prioritize ITS, etc.

Jody Lewis stated that his early findings were that the Triangle region is actively implementing ITS infrastructure with success. Jody Lewis stated that the next step would be to conduct stakeholder meetings and interviews.

Will Allen asked how success is measured. Jody Lewis responded that success is measured by reduced traffic and commute times.

Michael Parker asked if ITS serves bicycle and pedestrian traffic as well as vehicle traffic. Jody Lewis responded that ITS aids technology such as cross walk lights, but ITS is not focused on bike/ped traffic.

Renee Price requested that the DCHC MPO Board be updated with expenditures for ITS.

Wendy Jacobs asked about funding strategies for the ITS. Jody Lewis responded that CAMPO and DOT would aid in funding strategies.

Alex Rickard asked how ITS could influence the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) process and SPOT scores. Jody Lewis replied that the study will be starting point. Jody Lewis added that it is helpful for ITS to be incorporated in plans at the beginning of project development.

6c. Regional Passenger Rail by Jeff Mann, GoTriangle

Jeff Mann stated that the light rail design is progressing well and \$102M is needed to fill the budget gap. Jeff Mann stated that an engineering challenge is designing downtown Durham near Pettigrew Street. Jeff Mann stated that GoTriangle is preparing for the Risk Review at end of November 2018. Jeff Mann added the Risk Review includes assessing risk to project based on schedule and budget. Jeff Mann stated that 20% contingency is included in the budget, however, inflation and workforce costs means the budget could increase.

Jeff Mann stated that the commuter rail is in the preplanning and project development phase. Jeff Man stated that the Energy Assessment is being planned. Jeff Mann stated that project development is scheduled for December 2019. Jeff Mann stated that the engineering plan is scheduled for 2021.

6d. SPOT 5 Update

Aaron Cain stated that the DCHC MPO is nearing the completion of the SPOT 5 process. Aaron Cain added that the draft STIP is scheduled to be released in January 2018, and it is planned to be finalized in June 2018. Aaron Cain added that many SPOT 5 projects are accelerated. Aaron Cain mentioned Division Needs projects of particular interest to the region as a whole.

Alex Rickard presented on the amount of funding available for Division Needs projects overall and for Divisions 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8. Alex Rickard emphasized that there is a very limited amount of funding available for Division Needs projects.

7. MPO Strategic Partners from Joe Milazzo, Regional Transit Authority and Joey Hopkins, NCDOT

Joe Milazzo stated that by 2028, there will be five Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) services, one commuter rail line, and one light rail line. Joe Milazzo stated that the RTA annual meeting is going to be January at Embassy Suites in Cary, NC. Joe Milazzo added that the *Make 40 Better* task force will be discussed.

Joey Hopkins stated that I-40 East of Raleigh will be updated and it was already awarded.

8. Other Business

There was no other business that was discussed.

9. Adjournment

Wendy Jacobson and Sig Hutchinson thanked everyone for attending. The meeting adjourned at 11:15AM.