

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

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**October 28, 2020**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Durham-Chapel Hill Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on October 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. through a teleconferencing platform. The following members in attendance were as follows:

Nishith Trivedi (Chair)	Orange County
Ellen Beckmann (Vice Chair)	City of Durham
Kayla Seibel (Member)	City of Durham
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham
Brooke Ganser (Member)	Durham County
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County
Chance Mullis (Member)	Chatham County
Tina Moon (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Bergen Watterson (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Jomar Pastorelle (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Zach Hallock (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Kumar Neppalli (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Margaret Hauth (Member)	Town of Hillsborough
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	TJCOG
Jay Heikes (Member)	GoTriangle
John Grant (Member)	NCDOT Traffic Operations
Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT TPD
Bill Judge (Alternate) City of Durham	
Richard Hancock (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 5
Steven Robinson (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 7
Bryan Kluchar (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 8
Brian Taylor (Alternate)	City of Durham Transportation
Kathryn Zeringue	NCDOT IMD
Sean Egan	City of Durham
Tamara Njegovan	NCDOT Division 7
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
KC Chae	DCHC MPO
Dale McKeel	City of Durham/DCHC MPO

46	Anne Phillips	DCHC MPO
47	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
48	Jaehoon Kim	DCHC MPO
49	Joelle Davis Carter	DCHC MPO

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51 Quorum Count: 22 of 31 voting members

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54 Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Vice Chair  
55 Beckmann started the meeting while waiting for Chair Nishith Trivedi's arrival. Vice Chair  
56 Beckmann asked if there were any new members. Aaron Cain stated that Kathryn Zeringue  
57 would become the new alternate for John Grant. Kathryn Zeringue introduced herself to the  
58 committee as a member of the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Integrated  
59 Mobility Division. Aaron Cain noted that the roll call could be completed by utilizing the  
60 participant list.

61 **PRELIMINARIES:**

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63 **Adjustments to the Agenda**

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65 Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. Aaron  
66 Cain noted that Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment #2 would be added to  
67 the end of the agenda, and Andy Henry would present.

68  
69 **Public Comments**

70 Vice Chair Ellen Beckman asked if there any requests for public comment. There were  
71 no public comments.

72 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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74 **4. Approval of August 26, 2020 TC Meeting Minutes**

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76 **5. Approval of the September 23, 2020 TC Meeting Minutes**

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78 There was discussion that the Consent Agenda would include both the August 26, 2020  
79 and the September 23, 2020 TC Meeting Minutes.

Kumar Neppalli made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Jay Heikes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**6. Triangle Region ITS Strategic Deployment Plan Update**

**Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

**Casey Chae, LPA Staff**

Felix Nwoko reminded the committee that this item was discussed at the last TC meeting and released for public comment by the MPO Board. Felix Nwoko added that no public comments have been received to date.

Scott Whiteman made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve the Triangle Region ITS Strategic Deployment Plan. Jomar Pastorelle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. State of the Region Report**

**Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

Felix Nwoko informed the group that this report was presented at the last TC meeting and released for public comment by the MPO Board. Felix Nwoko added that no public comments have been received to date.

There were questions about changes that were made to the report based on comments made at the last TC meeting. Felix Nwoko noted that there were no changes to the report, but staff contacted Durham County Planning to discuss further coordination, as that was the main comment received from the MPO Board. Dale McKeel and Felix Nwoko discussed possible changes to the report.

Evan Tenenbaum made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board adopt the 2019 State of the Region Report. Kumar Neppalli seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**8. TIP Amendment #3**

**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

Anne Phillips shared that Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #3 was complex and mainly involved projects amended in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) by the NCDOT. The amendment also included projects affected by the STIP reprogramming exercise performed by NCDOT. She further noted that DCHC worked with the local planners to update project schedules for locally administered projects (LAP). These projects are also being amended, and a list was included in the agenda packet.

Based on conversations with NCDOT regarding the STIP reprogramming, there were three local project schedules adjusted in Durham: 1) Third Fork Creek Trail 2) Guess Road Sidewalks and 3) NC 55 Sidewalks. The DCHC adjusted these schedules to allow the Woodcroft Parkway Extension project to move forward so that the City of Durham would not lose already completed design work.

Anne Phillips stated that these changes require public release as defined by the MPO Public Involvements Policy (PIP), but the MPO Board may decide to release the amendment if they find the changes to be significant.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann recommended that when this item is presented to the MPO Board, it should be noted that the Guess Road Sidewalks and NC 55 Sidewalks are underfunded in the current TIP with both federal funds and the local match not appropriated by the City of Durham at this point. There was also discussion about the 21-day public comment period.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve TIP Amendment #3. Scott Whiteman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **9. NC Moves 2050 Draft Recommendations**

**Julie Bogle, NCDOT**

Julie Bogle provided an update on the NCDOT's long-range, multi-modal transportation plan, NC Moves 2050. She indicated that by collaborating with subject matter experts (SMEs) they were able to refine strategies and actions. The effort included a public interest survey

garnering approximately 15,000 responses, and the data was converted into eight different languages. There were eight strategies developed with specific actions. The action items were divided into three implementation tiers: 1) 10+ years 2) 20+ years and 3) 30+ years. The tiers were based upon several factors that included timing, deployment based on NCDOT readiness, risk level, experience and support, and partners involved.

There were 15 tier-1 actions developed that align and cover the primary five objectives. There are six tier-2 actions and ten tier-3 actions. The public comment on these action items will be from October 9<sup>th</sup> through November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Profile sheets have been developed and assigned to each action item to facilitate the implementation process. Each profile sheet includes information about the action based upon readiness, risks, resources, partners, and resources needed to complete these actions. A webtool will be made available to track and view the progress of the action items after the plan is adopted.

Julie Bogle stated that the plan was presented to the Board of Transportation on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Members were encouraged to visit [ncmoves.gov](http://ncmoves.gov) and social media platforms to stay updated and to interact with the plan. Felix Nwoko stated that MPO staff will be collecting comments from the DCHC MPO. Chair Nish Trivedi encouraged action to collect as many public comments as possible.

**9A. Release of CTP Amendment #2 for Public Comment**  
**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

Andy Henry requested release of Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment #2 for a 30-day public comment period. Andy Henry stated that what this change would entail is removing the Bridges Avenue Extension from the CTP. The primary reasons are due to the extension not having much impact on the grid, that it would impact a residential, suburban area (Hickory Nut Drive), and the projected high cost to construct a bridge over the CSX rail lines.

There was discussion concerning the implications of the proposed change. Key issues included this being a minor amendment change and having a public comment period.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann made a motion to release the CTP Amendment #2 for a 30-day comment period. Zach Hallock seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

**10. REPORT from Staff**

**Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

Aaron Cain announced that Ellen Beckmann, Vice Chair, is leaving the City of Durham and going to work with Durham County. Aaron Cain asserted that based on the bylaws and conversations with county officials, Ellen Beckmann could retain the position by being appointed by Durham County. The TC was asked if there were any concerns with moving forward with this interpretation of the bylaws. It was recommended that a statement about TC's decision be put in writing for future reference and understanding about the process. John Hodges-Copple recommended that the TC document how these transitions. It was agreed that, if this was noted in the TC Minutes, this documentation would substantiate the decision for Ellen Beckmann's transition from Durham City to Durham County.

Bergen Watterson had a question regarding the FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) spreadsheets and narratives that are due on Monday (November 2<sup>nd</sup>). Felix Nwoko offered to discuss her question after the TC meeting.

**11. Report from the Chair**

**Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair**

Chair Nishith Trivedi reported that the Board of Orange County Commissioners approved the Research Triangle Logistics Park.

**12. NCDOT Reports**

**Richard Hancock, Division 5-NCDOT**

Richard Hancock stated that there was no additional report. Dale McKeel inquired about additional information on the Alston Avenue project and reminded the TC that recent reports

state the completion date is February 2021. Richard Hancock responded that will verify the dates and report his findings to the TC. There was also a request for an update on the Beltline contract approval.

**Stephen Robinson, Division 7-NCDOT**

Stephen Robinson reported that there have not been many changes to projects, but there are paved shoulders, turning lanes, and overlays on West Ten Road from Buckhorn Road to Bushing Cook Road. There is a start date of November 13<sup>th</sup>, but the spending freeze has resulted in a completion date in April 2021.

The additional adjustment is guardrail installation on NC 86 that has been delayed one year, from October 2020 to October 2021, and the completion date was moved from April 2021 to April 2022.

**Bryan Kluchar, Division 8-NCDOT**

Bryan Kluchar indicated that updates were located on page 10 of the NCDOT Reports in the Agenda packet. There were no additional updates.

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

There was no additional report.

**John Grant, Traffic Operations-NCDOT**

There was no additional report.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

Aaron Cain noted that the joint DCHC-CAMPO online virtual meeting will be held on December 1, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

An inquiry was posed to Kathryn Zeringue regarding the Belt Line project and the possibility of future funding from NCDOT if costs increased. There was a request for guidelines or changes to policy on this matter to share with others. Kathryn Zeringue agreed to inquire about the policy and share with members.

219 Aaron Cain reminded the TC that, due to Veterans Day and the Thanksgiving holiday,  
220 meeting dates have been shifted. The MPO Board Meeting will be on November 4<sup>th</sup> and the TC  
221 meeting will be on November 18<sup>th</sup>. There was also an inquiry about the concerns discussed with  
222 the 15-501 project. Andy Henry stated these concerns would be addressed at the November  
223 MPO Board meeting as an agenda item.

224 **Adjourn**

225 **Next Meeting: November 18, 9:00 a.m., Meeting to be held by teleconference**