

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

2 **27 February 2019**

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4 **MINUTES OF MEETING**

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6 The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board met on February  
7 27, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of Durham City  
8 Hall. The following people were in attendance:

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10	Damon Seils (MPO Board Chair)	Town of Carrboro
11	Wendy Jacobs (MPO Board Vice Chair)	Durham County
12	Michael Parker (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
13	Renee Price (Member)	Orange County
14	Jenn Weaver (Member)	Town of Hillsborough
15	Vernetta Alston (Member)	City of Durham
16	Charlie Reece (Member)	City of Durham
17	Heidi Carter (Alternate)	Durham County
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19	Richard Hancock	NCDOT, Division 5
20	Patrick Wilson	NCDOT, Division 7
21	Bryan Kluchar	NCDOT, Division 8
22	Julie Bogle	NCDOT, TPD
23	Nishith Trivedi	Orange County
24	Zach Hallock	Town of Carrboro
25		
26	John Hodges-Copple	TJ Council of Government
27	Patrick McDonough	GoTriangle
28	Geoff Green	GoTriangle
29	Bill Judge	City of Durham/DCHC MPO
30	Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
31	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
32	Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
33	Maureen Devlin	DCHC MPO
34	Robert Jahn	DCHC MPO
35	Dale McKeel	City of Durham/DCHC MPO

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38 Quorum Count: 7 of 10 Voting Members

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41 Chair Damon Seils called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. A roll call was performed. The

42 Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Board were identified and are

43 indicated above. Chair Damon Seils reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheet that was being  
44 circulated.

45 Chair Damon Seils stated that Karen Howard had an unexpected emergency and she would not  
46 be able to attend the MPO Board Meeting. Renee Price made a motion to excuse Karen Howard from  
47 the MPO Board Meeting. Charlie Reece seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

48 **PRELIMINARIES:**

49 **2. Ethics Reminder**

50 Chair Damon Seils read the Ethics Reminder and asked if there were any known conflicts of  
51 interest with respect to matters coming before the MPO Board and requested that if there were any  
52 identified during the meeting for them to be announced. There were no known conflicts identified by  
53 the MPO Board members.

54 Chair Damon Seils stated that, by April 16, 2019, each Board Member and Alternate must fill  
55 out the Statement of Economic Interest and Real Estate Disclosure for 2019. Chair Damon Seils stated  
56 that there is a link to the disclosure form in the agenda packet.

57 **3. Adjustments to the Agenda**

58 Aaron Cain stated that there are three items to be added to the agenda: Amendment #11 to  
59 the FY2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); Draft State Transportation Improvement  
60 Program (STIP) Comments; and Authorization of Release of Forthcoming County Transit Plans.

61 **4. Public Comments**

62 There were no comments from the public.

63 **5. Directives to Staff**

64 The Directives to Staff were included in the agenda packet for review.

65 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

66 **6. January 16, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes**

67 Chair Damon Seils asked if anyone had any questions or comments.

68 Vernetta Alston made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2019, MPO Board  
69 meeting. Charlie Reece seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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**ACTION ITEMS:**

72 **7. Draft FY2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

73 **Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

74 Meg Scully stated that the MPO Board reviewed the draft FY2020 UPWP and released the  
75 document for public comment at the January 16, 2019 MPO Board meeting. Meg Scully continued that,  
76 since the public release, an additional \$164,000 of Planning (PL) Section 104(f) funding has been made  
77 available by NCDOT to the MPO for FY20 and programmed in the current draft FY20 UPWP. Meg Scully  
78 added that the additional PL funding would be considered for a bikeway study and improvements to the  
79 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) database or other projects as needed. Chair Damon Seils  
80 opened a public hearing, and then closed the public hearing without there being any comment from the  
81 public.

82 Michael Parker made a motion to approve the FY2020 UPWP. Charlie Reece seconded the  
83 motion. The motion passed unanimously.

84 **8. Resolution on I-3306AC, I-40/NC 86 Interchange Improvements**

85 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

86 Aaron Cain stated that NCDOT is in the early stages of design for improvements to the I-40/NC  
87 86 interchange, part of State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) project I-3306A, a widening of I-  
88 40 in Orange County to six lanes. Aaron Cain stated that at the January 16, 2019, DCHC MPO Board  
89 meeting, two members of the public spoke about concerns regarding the proposed improvements in  
90 one of the conceptual designs for the interchange, and the MPO Board directed staff to draft a  
91 resolution based on staff comments of the proposals. Aaron Cain stated that MPO staff drafted a

92 resolution to that effect. As part of the TC deliberations on the draft resolution, Kumar Neppalli of  
93 Chapel Hill proposed two additional items to the Resolution:

- 94 • Maintain left turn movements from Eubanks Road onto northbound NC 86 as much as  
95 possible, potentially as a short term measure until traffic levels exceed certain  
96 thresholds.
- 97 • Widen the eastbound I-40 exit ramp to create an additional lane of traffic exiting onto  
98 NC 86. This would be in addition to the proposed slip lane from the exit ramp onto  
99 Eubanks Road.

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101 Aaron Cain stated that the TC unanimously recommended approval of the resolution with the  
102 two additional items proposed by Chapel Hill. Aaron Cain added that Kumar Neppalli performed  
103 successful modeling for these two additions to the proposed resolution. Michael Parker added that the  
104 proposed changes by Orange County and Chapel Hill best accommodate current traffic patterns, and  
105 changes can be made in the future should they become necessary. Renee Price stated that there were  
106 possible noise mitigation issues raised by nearby residents.

107 Michael Parker made a motion to adopt the resolution as recommended by the TC on the  
108 design of the I-40/NC 86 interchange. Charlie Reece seconded the motion. The motion passed  
109 unanimously.

110 **9. Chapel Hill North-South Bus Rapid Transit Update**  
111 **Matt Cecil, Chapel Hill Transit**

112 Matt Cecil stated that Chapel Hill Town Council adopted an update to the LPA for the North-  
113 South Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project, which eliminated the center running option and the extension to  
114 Durham Technical Community College. Matt Cecil also stated the BRT project uses mixed traffic on  
115 Eubanks Road, and either construction of or a dedicated curb running BRT guideway between Eubanks  
116 Road and North Street. Matt Cecil added that the current cost estimates for the North-South Bus Rapid  
117 Transit project are from \$123.2 -134.7M. Matt Cecil explained that there is funding gap of \$6.3-10.9M,  
118 50% of which must be dedicated by November 2019 in order to remain in the project development

119 phase. Matt Cecil discussed several options for funding, and Chapel Hill Transit is also planning to discuss  
120 potential extending the November 2019 deadline with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

121 There was no action taken by the MPO Board.

122 **10. Amendment #10 to the FY2018-2027 TIP**

123 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

124 Aaron Cain stated that Amendment #10 to the FY2018-2027 TIP has been released for a 21-day  
125 public comment period due to two of the projects exceeding \$1M each. Aaron Cain added that there has  
126 been no comment from the public. Chair Damon Seils and Aaron Cain discussed that the all of the  
127 projects included in the amendment could be found in the agenda packet. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs  
128 requested that project P-5706, Eastern Durham Rail Grade Separations and Siding, be omitted from  
129 Amendment #10 and that North Carolina Railroad present more information at the April 10, 2019, MPO  
130 Board Meeting. Aaron Cain added that there is a public meeting concerning P-5706 at the Hamner  
131 Conference Center in the Research Triangle Park on March 14 from 5-7pm.

132 Michael Parker made a motion to approve Amendment #10 to the FY2018-2027 TIP without P-  
133 5706. Vernetta Alston seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

134 **10a. Amendment #11 to the FY2018-2027 TIP**

135 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

136 Aaron Cain stated that Amendment #1 11 to the FY2018-2017 TIP consists of two sidewalk  
137 projects that would each receive over \$1M in funding, therefore a 21-day public comment period is  
138 required. Aaron Cain added that MPO staff is requesting that the MPO Board release the amendment to  
139 the public.

140 Jenn Weaver made a motion to release Amendment #11 to the FY2018-2027 TIP. Renee Price  
141 seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

142 **10b. Draft STIP Comments**

143 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

144 Aaron Cain stated that he will provide via email draft comments on the FY2020-2029 STIP for  
145 the Board to review. Aaron Cain requested that the MPO Board review the draft STIP comments and  
146 provide feedback by March 5. No action was taken by the Board.

147 **10c. County Transit Plans**  
148 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

149 Aaron Cain requested that the MPO Board approve the release the amended County Transit  
150 Plans when they are ready to be released. Aaron Cain added that this item was requested to be  
151 added to the agenda at the request of GoTriangle. Patrick McDonough stated that, due to the federal  
152 government shutdown, GoTriangle was unable to meet with the necessary federal agencies in order  
153 to complete the County Transit Plans on schedule. There was discussion about the possibility of  
154 scheduling an additional MPO Board meeting to approve the County Transit Plans at the March 13  
155 MPO Board Meeting when more information would become available.

156 Renee Price made a motion to authorize MPO staff to release the County Transit Plans for a  
157 21-day public comment period. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed  
158 unanimously.

159 **REPORTS:**

160 **11. Report from the Board Chair**  
161 **Damon Seils, Board Chair**

162 Chair Damon Seils stated that he is unable to attend the March 13 MPO Board meeting with  
163 Secretary Trogdon. Renee Price also stated that she would be unable to attend. Chair Damon Seils  
164 encouraged all available MPO Board Members and Alternates to attend the 1 p.m. meeting.

165 **12. Report from the Technical Committee Chair**  
166 **Nish Trivedi, TC Chair**

167 There was no report from the Technical Committee Chair.

168 **13. Report from LPA Staff**  
169 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

170 Dale McKeel stated that there is a Bicycle and Pedestrian Workshop at the Hale Cultural Arts  
171 Center in Apex on March 29 from 8am-12pm.

172 **14. NCDOT Report**

173 Richard Hancock, NCDOT Division 5, stated that the U-5745 (University Road/ NC 751  
174 Roundabout) project will begin construction during the week of March 4. Richard Hancock stated that  
175 the intersection will be closed for through traffic, the nearby streets will be open for local traffic, and  
176 there will be detour signage available. Charlie Reece stated that he will contact Richard Hancock for  
177 signage issues as described by Durham residents. Richard Hancock also stated that the EB-4707B (Old  
178 Chapel Hill Bike/Ped) project is scheduled to be completed in April 2019, weather permitting. Richard  
179 Hancock added that the EB-4707A (Old Durham Bike/Ped) project is scheduled to let in April 2019.

180 Pat Wilson, NCDOT Division 7, stated that he met with the Town of Carrboro staff in order to  
181 work on the project at U-5846 (Greensboro Street / Estes Drive Roundabout) project. Pat Wilson also  
182 stated that the U-5847 (Franklin Street / Merritt Mill Road intersection improvements) project is  
183 scheduled to begin construction in May 2019 and complete construction during summer 2019. Pat  
184 Wilson discussed the U-5854 (Mount Carmel Church Road / Bennett Road Roundabout) project is  
185 scheduled to have a completion date by April 2020.

186 Bryan Kluchar, Division 8, stated that there is a public comment period for Division 8 during the  
187 week of March 4 in Carthage, NC. Bryan Kluchar also stated that Division 8 has secured funding for the  
188 bridge on Jerimiah Drive over Jordan Lake, which is scheduled to begin in summer 2019.

189 Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Branch, stated that she will be presenting the NC Moves  
190 2050 Statewide Plan to the TC and MPO Boards at their respective meetings within the next few  
191 months. Julie Bogle stated that the Transportation Planning Division (TPD) has scheduled events for  
192 public engagement, and there is an additional survey that will be available from April through May  
193 2019.

194 There was no report from NCDOT Traffic Operations.

195 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

196 **15. Recent News, Articles, and Updates**

197 Recent News, Articles and Updates are located in the agenda packet.

198 **ADJOURNMENT:**

199 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Board, the meeting was adjourned at

200 11: 21 a.m.