

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

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**November 18, 2020**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Durham-Chapel Hill Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on November 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. remotely via Zoom. The following members in attendance were as follows:

Nishith Trivedi (Chair)	Orange County
Ellen Beckmann (Vice Chair)	City of Durham
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham
Pierre Osei-Owusu (Member)	City of Durham
Kayla Seibel (Member)	City of Durham
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County
Tom Altieri (Member)	Orange County
Theo Letman (Member)	Orange County
Tina Moon (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Jomar Pastorelle (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Zach Hallock (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Margaret Hauth (Member)	Town of Hillsborough
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	TJCOG
Jay Heikes (Member)	GoTriangle
Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT TPD
Joe Geigle (Member)	FHWA
Hank Graham (Member)	Research Triangle Foundation
Bill Judge (Alternate)	City of Durham
Matt Cecil (Alternate)	Town of Chapel Hill
Meg Scully (Alternate)	GoTriangle
David Keilson (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 5
Steven Robinson (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 7
Bryan Kluchar (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 8

**Quorum Count: 21 of 31 voting members**

Tom Devlin	City of Durham
Sean Egan	City of Durham
Cy Stober	City of Mebane
Tamara Njegovan	NCDOT Division 7
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO

46	Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
47	Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
48	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
49	KC Chae	DCHC MPO
50	Dale McKeel	City of Durham/DCHC MPO
51	Anne Phillips	DCHC MPO
52	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO

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55 Chair Nish Trivedi called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Aaron Cain stated that Ellen  
56 Beckmann has been appointed as a representative of Durham County and will remain on the  
57 TC as Vice Chair.

58 **PRELIMINARIES:**

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60 **Adjustments to the Agenda**

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62 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

63 **Public Comments**

64 There were no comments from the public.

65 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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67 **4. Approval of October 28, 2020 TC Meeting Minutes**

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69 Zach Hallock made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Hank Graham seconded  
70 the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

71 **ACTION ITEMS:**

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73 **5. TIP Amendment #3**

74 **Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

75 Anne Phillips stated that Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #3  
76 was discussed at the TC meeting on October 28. Anne Phillips continued that, due to changes  
77 in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), it was recommended that  
78 construction for the Woodcroft Parkway Extension (U-5823) be moved forward because City of  
79 Durham funding has already been used for planning. Anne Phillips continued that, due to

budget reasons, there were three projects that would therefore need to be pushed back: Third Fork Creek Trail (EB-5837), Guess Road Sidewalks (EB-5834), and NC 55 Sidewalks (EB-5835).

Anne Phillips stated that this is the second time this item has come before the TC. When this item was brought before the Board in November, Board members expressed dissatisfaction with the amount of delay in the three projects being pushed back. Anne Phillips stated that MPO staff has worked with NCDOT to devise schedules that lessen the delay for Third Fork Creek Trail while still moving forward Woodcroft Parkway Extension.

Zach Hallock noted that R-5821A is listed twice on the Summary Sheet. Anne Phillips responded that she would review the item following the TC meeting.

Bill Judge made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve TIP Amendment #3. Jomar Pastorelle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**6. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment #2**  
**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

Andy Henry stated that Amendment #2 to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) is to remove the Briggs Avenue Extension. Andy Henry presented a map showing the location of the proposed Briggs Avenue Extension. Andy Henry continued that the MPO Board released Amendment #2 for the 21-day public comment period in November, and a public hearing is scheduled for the Board meeting on December 9. Andy Henry noted that the public comment period ends 24-hours following the public hearing due to a COVID-19 related statute. Andy Henry related that there has been one comment received that supported deletion of the extension. Andy Henry stated that North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is going to discuss this at the North Carolina Board of Transportation meeting in January 2021.

Scott Whiteman made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board adopt Amendment #2 to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). John Hodges-Copple seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Draft FY2022 Unified Planning Work Program**  
**Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

Felix Nwoko stated that the DCHC MPO is required by federal regulations to prepare an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that details and guides the urban area transportation planning activities. Felix Nwoko added that funding for the UPWP is provided by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Felix Nwoko continued that the UPWP must identify MPO planning tasks to be performed with the use of federal transportation funds. Felix Nwoko stated that new elements were introduced in the UPWP, including roadway studies, that would correspond to the MPO's vision and goals.

John Hodges-Copple discussed adding a table for funding of new projects in the UPWP. John Hodges-Copple suggested that Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) be contacted for cost-sharing measures. John Hodges-Copple suggested alternative means for funding. There was discussion about cost sharing opportunities for the two proposed US 70 corridor studies in the UPWP. Chair Nish Trivedi suggested including Burlington-Graham Metropolitan Planning Organization (BGMPO) in discussions for one of the US 70 corridor studies. There was discussion about the objectives of the proposed US 70 corridor studies.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Felix Nwoko discussed climate change plans under the UPWP. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann discussed the reallocating of resources instead of requesting additional resources. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that one of the goals of the MPO is vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that climate change goals and performance metrics are most useful when located in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Felix Nwoko responded that the MTP is limited in what it can recommend. Felix Nwoko requested that additional conversation occur following the TC meeting.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Felix Nwoko discussed the program relating to the proposed equitable analysis and engagement tool. There was discussion about hiring a consultant to work on the MPO's equitable engagement initiative.

There was further discussion regarding the specifics of the two proposed US 70 corridor studies, including scope and budget. Sean Egan and Felix Nwoko discussed the budget in the UPWP. There was discussion about presenting alternatives to the proposed programs. There was discussion about funding for the Durham Beltline project.

John Hodges-Copple moved to recommend that the MPO Board release the Draft FY22 Unified Planning Work Program for public comment on the condition that the MPO Board be made aware of the discussion during the TC Meeting. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**8. Draft Public Involvement Policy (PIP) and Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP)**  
**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

Anne Phillips stated that the Public Involvement Policy (PIP) adheres to the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, Title VI, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Anne Phillips added a goal of the PIP is for all demographics of a population to be part of the planning process. Anne Phillips continued that digital outreach, social media, and in-person workshops were employed to bring residents into the planning process. Anne Phillips gave examples of planning projects for the MPO including: Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP), Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), Air Quality and Determination Report, County Transit Plans, etc. Anne Phillips added that the PIP provides guidance for the length of public comment periods and decision points for each plan.

Anne Phillips stated that the Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP) follows Title VI, Executive Order (E.O) 13166, and the Department of Transportation (DOT) policy guidance.

Anne Phillips added that LEP provides guidance on how to identify people who have

difficulties with the English language. Anne Phillips stated that the MPO found that Spanish-speaking residents within the DCHC MPO boundaries reached the critical threshold, so the MPO is required to provide accommodations for Spanish speakers including translation and interpretation. Anne Phillips explained that the complaint procedure for LEP services was also reviewed.

Andy Henry suggested that information regarding the public comment period be in the Executive Summary of the document. Chair Nish Trivedi asked about other populations that were identified. Anne Phillips responded that there is data for growing Asian populations in the area, and the 2020 Census data will provide further information. Margaret Hauth suggested that MPO staff contact Chapel Hill staff for additional guidance.

Andy Henry and Anne Phillips discussed the number of days for public comment periods for minor amendments of the MTP and CTP. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Anne Phillips discussed standardizing public outreach and public comment periods. There was discussion about how scope and scale would impact the standardization process.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann recommend that the MPO Board release the draft PIP and LEP for a 45-day public comment period. Pierre Osei-Owusu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **9. Minutes Recording Document**

There was no discussion for this item.

## **REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

### **10. REPORT from Staff**

#### **Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff**

Felix Nwoko stated that the Joint DCHC MPO and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning (CAMPO) Meeting is on December 1 at 9:00 a.m. Aaron Cain added that he will send a link for the meeting to the TC. Aaron Cain added that the main agenda items would be transportation priority policies and the Metropolitan Transportation Plans.

Aaron Cain stated that Andy Henry would provide additional information to the TC about the 15-501 Corridor Study. Aaron Cain added that more stakeholder engagement will occur, per MPO Board guidance. Aaron Cain explained that the MPO Board preferred to have a greater emphasis on multimodal transportation in the 15-501 corridor, especially the segments in Orange County.

Felix Nwoko and Bergen Watterson discussed that amendments to the MPO for the UPWP are due on November 20, but there would be additional opportunities for amendments around February or March 2021.

Anne Phillips stated that there will be a call for projects for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and Surface Transportation Block Grant – Direct Attributable (STBGDA) projects. Aaron Cain added that there is no schedule yet for an application form.

**11. Report from the Chair**  
**Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair**

Chair Nishith Trivedi stated that there was no additional report.

**12. NCDOT Reports**  
**David Keilson, Division 5-NCDOT**

David Keilson stated that the East End Connector is scheduled to be open by June 2021. David Keilson added that the intersection at Alston Avenue at Holloway Street is expected to open in January 2021. David Keilson added that the Old Durham Chapel Hill segment in front of Wegmans is planned to be completed by December 2020, and the overall completion date is scheduled for late 2021. There was a question about adding bridge projects to the Division reports.

**Stephen Robinson, Division 7-NCDOT**

Stephen Robinson reported that the West Ten Road project has a let date of November 13, but it started in late October, and the completion date is April 2021. The let date for the

208 guard rail installation project on NC 86 is scheduled for October 2021, and the completion date  
209 is scheduled for October 2022.

210 **Bryan Kluchar, Division 8-NCDOT**

211 Bryan Kluchar stated that there is no additional report.

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

213 There was no additional report.

214 **John Grant, Traffic Operations-NCDOT**

215 There was no additional report. Felix Nwoko stated that Kathryn Zeringue would also  
216 give updates for NCDOT in future TC meetings.

217 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

218 There were no additional informational items.

219 **Adjourn**

220 With no other business to discuss, the TC Meeting ended at 11:15 a.m.

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222 **Next Meeting: December 16, 9:00 a.m. Meeting to be held virtually.**