



Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization

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Legislation Text

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Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Update (30 minutes)

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A presentation providing an update of the Greater Triangle Commuter Rail (GTCR) project will be given. The DCHC MPO Board, Durham Board of County Commissioners, and GoTriangle Board of Trustees will have two upcoming decision points:

- Amend the Durham County Transit Plan to fund the next phase of study for the GTCR to address key project risks and prepare the project for a subsequent decision on whether to proceed with project implementation; and
- Authorize a Memorandum of Understanding to govern the roles, responsibilities, and goals of the next phase of study for GTCR

The Durham Staff Working Group met on January 29, 2020, and unanimously recommended adding \$2.25 million in additional funding to fund the next phase of study for the GTCR (for a total funding amount of approximately \$2.7 million, which includes already authorized funding). As a material change to the Plan, a public review period is required per the MPO's Public Involvement Plan, as well as the approval of all three parties to the transit tax - DCHC MPO, GoTriangle, and the Durham Board of County Commissioners.

Staff requests that the Board authorize release of information for public review on the funding for the next phase of study for the GTCR. As part of public outreach, a public meeting will take place on Saturday, February 22, from 9:00-11:00 am at the Durham County Health and Human Services Building (414 East Main Street in Durham). The funding request, as well as a draft Memorandum of Understanding on the next phase of study, will come to the MPO Board in March for a vote.

SWG Recommendation: The Durham Staff Working Group recommended approval of an additional \$2.25 million for early project development activities for the GTCR.

Board Action: Receive the presentation on the GTCR update and release the FY20 Work Plan Amendment adding funds for early project development activities for the GTCR for public comment.