

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

January 9, 2024

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on January 9, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. through the Zoom teleconferencing platform. The following members were in attendance:

Nishith Trivedi (Chair)	Orange County
Tina Moon (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Bergen Watterson (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Ben Berolzheimer (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Caroline Dwyer (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Thanh Schado (Member)	Chatham County
Tom Devlin (Member)	City of Durham
Eric Vitale (Member)	City of Durham
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham
Aaron Cain (Member)	Durham County
Ryan Eldridge (Member)	Durham County
Matt Efird (Member)	Town of Hillsborough
Darlene Weaver (Member)	Orange County
Matt Day (Member)	Central Pines Regional Council
Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT TPD
Joe Geigle (Member Non-Voting)	Federal Highway Administration
Meg Scully	GoTriangle
Nathan Ziegler (Alternate)	Town of Carrboro
Matt Cecil (Alternate)	Town of Chapel Hill
Chance Mullis (Alternate)	Chatham County
Bill Judge	City of Durham
Erin Convery (Alternate)	City of Durham
Brandon Jones (Member)	NCDOT Division 5
Tracy Parrott (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 5
Chad Reimakoski (Member)	NCDOT Division 7
Stephen Robinson (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 7
Nishant Shah (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 7
Bryan Kluchar (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 8
John Grant (Member)	NCDOT Traffic Operation
Delia Chi	Raleigh Durham Airport Authority
Anne Calef (Alternate)	Research Triangle Foundation
Doug Plachcinski	DCHC MPO
Colleen McGue	DCHC MPO
David Miller	DCHC MPO
Kelly Fomenko	DCHC MPO
Dolly Hall-Quinlan	DCHC MPO

Filmon Fishastion	DCHC MPO
KC Chae	DCHC MPO
Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
Madeline Galliano	DCHC MPO
Jean Debnam	DCHC MPO
Brian Murphy	NCDOT Traffic Safety Unit
Heidi Perov	BikeWalk NC

Nish Trivedi called the meeting to order at 9:00. a.m.

PRELIMINARIES:

1. DCHC MPO Non-Discrimination Policy Notice

2. Roll Call

The roll call was completed using the Zoom participant list for remote attendees.

3. Adjustments to the Agenda

Chair Nish Trivedi asked the Technical Committee if there were any adjustments to the agenda. Eric Vitale requested a Letter of Support for the RAISE24 Grant application for the City of Durham be added to the agenda. Filmon Fishastion requested that Item #10 FY2025 Call for Projects Recommendation and Release for Public Comments be moved to Informational Items. There were no other adjustments.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

5. Approval of the November 15, 2023, TC Meeting Minutes

Jean Debnam, MPO Staff

6. Triangle Mobility Hub Letter of Support

Jay Heikes, GoTriangle

7. FY2024 UPWP Amendment #5

David Miller, MPO Staff

Madeline Galliano, MPO Staff

Eric Vitale made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the inclusion of the Letter of Support for City of Durham RAISE24 Grant application. The motion was seconded by Tom Devlin. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

8. DCHC MPO Technical Committee Officer Election
Colleen McGue, MPO Planning Manager

Per Article IV Section 2 of the TC bylaws, officers are to be elected every year at the first meeting of the calendar year. Officers may serve up to two consecutive terms in their respective positions. Nish Trivedi is completing his first year as the Chair and Ellen Beckmann is completing her first year as Vice Chair. Nish Trivedi and Ellen Beckmann accepted a second term as Chair and Vice Chair. Eric Vitale made a motion to install Nish Trivedi as Chair and Ellen Beckmann as Vice Chair of the TC Board. The motion was seconded by Matt Efird. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Targets for Safety Performance Measures
David Miller, MPO Staff
Brian Murphy, NCDOT Traffic Safety Unit

David Miller shared details about the MPO's federal requirement to adopt annual targets for safety performance measures. Brian Murphy, Traffic Safety Systems Engineer from NCDOT's Traffic Safety Unit, provided an overview of the safety performance measures and shared safety data specific to the DCHC MPO urbanized area. Heidi Perov asked a question regarding alcohol use and seat belt crashes, and how many of those crashes overlapped. Brian Murphy replied that a lot of those crashes do overlap, but if the crashes did involve alcohol, then it was flagged for that. A motion was made by Eric Vitale that the DCHC MPO Board adopt the resolution that supports the state's safety targets. Tom Devlin seconded the motion. The motion

passed unanimously.

10. FY2025 Call for Projects Recommendation & Release for Public Comment
Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff

Filmon Fishastion stated that the MPO invited member agencies to submit applications for federal funding from the Regional Flexible Funding (RFF) pool in November 2023. Funding applications were due on December 8, 2023.

The RFF pool for FY25 consists of four funding sources that come directly to the DCHC MPO: Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable (BGDA), Transportation Alternatives Program Direct Attributable (TAPDA), Carbon Reduction Program Direct Attributable (CRPDA), and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ). The call for projects that was conducted by MPO staff is consistent with federal requirements for CMAQ and TAPDA funds and can be applied to all funding sources. A memo detailing the amount of available funding, scores, and MPO staff recommendations will be distributed prior to the meeting on 1/9/2024.

Filmon Fishastion and Colleen McGue requested more time to prepare the information. Filmon Fishastion requested this item be moved to informational items. Colleen McGue stated that the MPO needed more time to do final analysis before a proposal was presented. Filmon Fishastion discussed the RFF overview and schedule updates and gave the next steps. Following these updates the Call for projects will be ready for release in February for comments and then be adopted in March. Erin Convery asked if there was a date, they could expect to see some preliminary recommendations. Colleen said the goal was to get them out the week of January 22, before the Board Meeting on January 23, 2024. Meg Scully asked if NCDOT was requesting federal funds through the MPO process and if this was the first time this has been done. Doug Plachcinski explained the reason NCDOT is requesting these funds is because they will be owning

the underlying real estate on behalf of the communities.

Aaron Cain asked how difficult of a choice we will have to make about which projects will be funded. Colleen McGue answered that the amount of money requested far exceeds the amount of money we have available. We will not be able to fund all the new projects requested. The decision will be difficult, but DCHC will be bringing recommendations forward at the next meeting.

**11. Amendment #1 to the FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff**

Filmon Fishastion introduced Amendment #1 to the FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program to the Technical Committee, which includes the addition of funding to existing projects as well as adding new projects from the FY24 Call for Projects. The amendment also includes carryover adjustments from FY2020-2029 TIP Amendments 6, 9, 13, 14, 15, and 16. These amendments were already approved by the Board in previous meetings and are reissued for administrative purposes to reconcile data between the old and new plans, ensuring a more seamless transition into the State TIP (STIP). Additional projects in this amendment include Item N updates from NCDOT (state Additional projects in this amendment include Item N updates from NCDOT (state provided amendments and modifications), and other such project updates that fall under administrative modifications. Two projects from Item N are not being amended into the TIP at this time as they are not in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); they are HN-0013 Erwin Road turn lanes, and HN-0014 Cornwallis Road turn lanes.

Public input is currently being accepted for Amendment #1 until Friday, January 19, 2024. Colleen McGue added that, there were no public comments received by that time.

Eric Vitale made a motion to recommend approval of Amendment #1. The motion was seconded by Tom Devlin. The motion passed unanimously.

Doug Plachcinski commented we may not have received formal comments about the TIP Amendment, but it does have a social media presence.

12. FY2025 UPWP Draft

David Miller, MPO Staff

Madeline Galliano, MPO Staff

David Miller presented the details of the FY2025 UPWP draft, which included the funding sources, priorities and initiatives, special study requests, and a breakdown of the funding requests by individual agency.

Eric Vitale made a motion to release the FY2025 draft for public comment. The motion was seconded by Tom Devlin. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

13. Destination 2055 Goals and Objectives Engagement Updates

Kelly Fomenko, MPO Staff

Andy Henry, MPO Staff

Colleen McGue, MPO Staff

Kelly Fomenko gave an update on the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) which is the long-range transportation plan that covers the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) regional boundaries. This plan is updated every four years, and this update is being led with the campaign name of "Destination 2055". The update of this plan is extensive, and the final plan is expected to be updated in late 2025. Engagement is guided through a Public Engagement Strategy which was approved for use by both MPO Boards in late 2023. The website

www.destination2055nc.com had been created to inform the public of the update and collect public comments. The first engagement phase is the goals and objectives visioning which began on November 16, 2023. The survey had been extended to January 15, 2024. Approximately 375 people have taken the survey and 1300 have visited the site as of January 9. About half of the people who took the survey are from the DCHC area. The MTP Goals will be presented at the Joint Board Meeting and again at the February TC Meeting.

Eric Vitale asked if the MPO was concerned about the low number of responses. Kelly Fomenko stated the MPO is not worried about the low number of responses at this time but we are working towards increasing those numbers by continuing to educate the public about the process. There was additional discussion amongst the members about the likelihood of increased community participation in the planning process during the upcoming phases of MTP development as project alternatives are provided to the public for consideration.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

14. Report from MPO Staff

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

Doug Plachcinski had no addition to his written report, but informed the committee that there has been discussion on the federal level about a potential government shutdown. We will be advocating maintaining funding.

15. Report from the Technical Committee Chair

Nish Trivedi, TC Chair

No additional report.

16. NCDOT Reports

Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation

No report.

Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 – NCDOT

No additional report.

Wright Archer (Chad Reimakoski), Division 7 – NCDOT

No additional report. Chad Reimakoski had 3 new SPOT projects and will send the updated report. Nish Trivedi asked about other SPOT safety projects going forward in Orange County. Mr. Reimakoski will include it in his updated report.

NCDOT Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 – NCDOT

No additional report.

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT

No report.

John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT

No report.

Nick Morrison- NCDOT-IMD

Not present. No Report.

17. Recent New Articles

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.