

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

February 24, 2016

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on February 24, at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Committee Room, located on the second floor of Durham City Hall. The following people were in attendance:

David Bonk (TC Vice Chair)	Chapel Hill Planning
Kumar Neppalli (Member)	Chapel Hill Engineering
Ellen Beckmann (Member)	City of Durham Transportation
Pierre Osei-Owusu (Member)	City of Durham Transportation
Margaret Hauth (Member)	Hillsborough Planning
Tina Moon (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Bergen Watterson (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Laura Woods (Member)	Durham County Planning
Linda Thomas Wallace (Member)	Durham County Planning
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County Planning
Peter Murphy (Member)	Orange Public Transportation
Tom Altieri (Member)	Orange County Planning
Cara Coppola (Member)	Chatham County Planning
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	Triangle J Council of Governments
Corey Liles (Member)	Research Triangle Foundation
Joey Hopkins (Member)	NCDOT, Division 5
Kelly Becker (Member)	NCDOT, Traffic Operations
David Keilson (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 5
Mike Kneis (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 5
Ed Lewis (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 7
Craig Benedict (Alternate)	Orange County
Geoff Green (Alternate)	GoTriangle
Eddie Dancausse	Federal Highway Administration
Dale McKeel	City of Durham/DCHC MPO
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
Lindsay Smart	DCHC MPO
Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
Kosko Chae	DCHC MPO
Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
Janice Pointer	City of Durham Transportation
Solanda Adkins	City of Durham Transportation
Bryan Poole	City of Durham Transportation
Max Bushell	Orange County Planning

Kayla Seibel (Alternate)
Albert Amoatey

Chapel Hill Planning
DCA

Quorum Count: 16 of 31 Voting Members

Vice Chair David Bonk called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A roll call was performed. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Technical Committee (TC) were identified and are indicated above. Vice Chair David Bonk reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheets that were circulated. Vice Chair David Bonk introduced new member Kay Seibel of Chapel Hill, Ellen Beckman introduced Bryan Poole, and Tom Altieri introduced Max Bushnell, the Orange Planner.

PRELIMINARIES:

Adjustments to the Agenda

Vice Chair David Bonk indicated there was a handout that represents an adjustment to the agenda. The SPOT Methodology will be added as Item #10. Vice Chair David Bonk asked if there were any other adjustments to the agenda or any public comment on any item not on the agenda. There were no other adjustments to the agenda.

Public Comments

Vice Chair David Bonk asked if there were any members of the public signed up to speak. There were no members of the public signed up to speak during the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Approval of Revised November 18, 2015 TC Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair David Bonk asked if there were any adjustments to the November 18, 2015 meeting minutes. Ed Lewis of Division 8 stated on page 12, line 288 would sound better saying the Division 7 report was presented with no comments or questions. Vice Chair David Bonk asked if there were any other adjustments. There were none. Margaret Hauth made a motion to accept the minutes with the changes and Tom Altieri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approval of December 16, 2015 TC Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair David Bonk asked if there were any adjustments to the December 16, 2015 meeting minutes. There were none. Geoff Green made a motion to accept the minutes and Margaret Hauth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of January 27, 2016 TC Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair David Bonk asked if there were any adjustments on the January 27, 2016 meeting minutes. Ed Lewis of Division 8 stated on line 394 Patrick Wilson was identified as Patrick McDonough. Geoff Green made a motion to approve the minutes with the edits from Ed Lewis and Margaret Hauth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

7. FY16 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment #2
Meg Scully, LPA Staff

Meg Scully reminded the Technical Committee (TC that the second final amendment is due to her by March 2nd. She asked everyone to submit on time. The TC will review it on March 3rd and the Board's approval is scheduled for April 13th, to make it to NCDOT by their deadline. Meg Scully advised if anyone had any questions to please call her and she can explain or assist with the process. There was no action required for this agenda item.

8. Public Involvement for Draft Amendment #2 to the FY2016-2025 TIP
Lindsay Smart, LPA Staff

Lindsay Smart gave an update on this item since the last TC meeting. The TC instructed the LPA Staff to take Amendment #2 to the MPO Board for review and discussion on the appropriate public involvement process for that TIP Amendment. The MPO Board decided to hold a public hearing at their April meeting and the Amendment has been released for public review and comment. There may be one more public input session in March. This was an update and there was no action required for this agenda item.

9. Goals/Objectives/Performance Measures

Andy Henry, LPA Staff

Andy Henry began the discussion of the Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures for the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Andy Henry stated the Staff wants the Board to hold a public hearing at their March meeting on the Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures. Andy Henry stated the Board released the draft of the Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures. In March the Board will have the public hearing and in April they will approve the document for use in the 2045 MTP. A short survey was placed online on the MPO's webpage. A drop in workshop has been scheduled for 3/17/16, 4:00 p.m.– 7:00 p.m. at the Durham Station Transportation Center. An advertisement was placed in the Triangle Tribune and the Herald Sun newspapers. Information was distributed on the MPO email list and is also available on the MPO website. Margaret Hauth and Tom Altieri, along with some others TC members, have provided it to their Public Information Officer.. April 1st is the deadline for the public comment period to end. When the Board approves the Performance Measures in April, the Performance Measures will still be an evolving document because there are a lot of Performance Measures that the Staff doesn't have data for yet. The community visualization model and all the land use data that has to go into the Triangle Regional Models, has not been completed yet. This is something the TC will do several months later once the model is available. Andy Henry stated the Staff will make sure the measures are doable, so when the item is presented to the Board in April there will be adequate data for the Performance Measures.

Vice Chair David Bonk asked if there were any questions. Felix Nwoko commented the Goals and Objectives would require the public involvement process. One of the first issues that was brought up to the TC was how we reach the minority/lower income population. By taking this to the Durham Station the TC will be reaching the population. However, it will be important for our TC member jurisdictions and agencies to assemble and share their own email lists of minorities and low income to reach out to them.

Felix Nwoko stated the MPO continues to assess the effectiveness of public involvement and efforts of TC member jurisdictions and agencies are a large component of the MPO's public involvement process.

Vice Chair David Bonk voiced his concern about doing more outreach in one community and not others. Perhaps an outreach effort is needed in Orange County as well. Vice Chair David Bonk suggested to Carrboro there may be something they could do jointly. Margaret Hauth of Hillsborough stated she didn't have a separate list of the population that needs contacting. Felix Nwoko stated if we have a joint one and it would advertise so as to reach the minority population. The MPO Staff will use Facebook and Twitter, etc.

Vice Chair David Bonk stated the Hargett Center in the NorthSide neighborhood might be a good location for an outreach event. Vice Chair David Bonk stated if there is an opportunity to reach out to the population in Chapel Hill, then he can work with Andy Henry to go to the Hargett Center.

Ellen Beckmann asked if all of the Performance Measures were really measurable. Andy Henry responded that the Staff anticipated being able to measure all of them. There was continued discussion about the availability of data for the Performance Measures. Cara Coppola stated that there was recently a Comprehensive Plan meeting in Chatham County and the Public Health Departments might have some of the data that's being discussed.

There was additional discussion between Ellen Beckmann and Andy Henry about interim reports on Performance Measures. Ellen Beckmann stated that using the Mobility Report Card (MRC) to report on Performance Measures would help align the two documents and better dovetail the MRC with other long-range planning efforts and documents.

Vice Chair David Bonk commented that there seems to be an increased interest in including an emerging technologies section or chapter in the MTP.

John Hodges-Copple mentioned that the emerging technologies section has been discussed in the joint MPO meetings they occasionally have. Andy Henry stated that he is aware of emerging technologies

and identifying and discussing emerging technologies could bend data trend lines. Vice Chair David Bonk asked Eddie Dancausse if there were any requirements at federal level. Eddie Dancausse stated the conversation that the TC has been having covers what is happening at the federal level. No formal requirements have been introduced. Vice Chair David Bonk stated that the topic area sounds like it's more of a qualitative assessment of how this might affect things in the future. There is no way we have a quantitative way of assessing this. John Hodges-Copple stated we can have quantitative information based on what a consultant says, but the qualitative part would be even assuming that happens, what that might mean for Transportation decisions. The TC continued to discuss the emerging technologies topic area and the potential for including a new chapter for it in the MTP.

Felix Nwoko wrapped up the conversation by stating that some MPOs are not actually changing MTPs for emerging technologies but they are looking at specific scenarios related to the emerging technologies. Vice Chair David Bonk stated as long as the emerging technologies topic area is on our radar it should be okay.

10. Update on Revised Methodology for SPOT P4.0

Lindsay Smart, LPA Staff

Lindsay Smart stated that this is an adjustment to the agenda. The MPO TC reviewed the MPOs Draft Methodology for Prioritizing Projects, and allocating local input points to those projects for the SPOT 4.0 Process at the January meeting, and made a recommendation for the MPO Board to review and release for public comment. Lindsay Smart stated the MPO Board approved the draft Methodology and the MPO Staff submitted it to the NCDOT SPOT Review Committee. The NCDOT SPOT Review Committee reviewed it and gave the MPO Staff feedback via a conference call on February 16th. Lindsay Smart summarized the feedback from the Review Committee and delivered a brief PowerPoint presentation on the changes that were made to the draft Methodology in response to the feedback received. Lindsay Smart distributed a handout that was an updated draft Methodology document and continued to discuss the changes. Lindsay Smart stated that the yellow highlighted sections are the areas of focus, but not all of

the yellow highlighted sections were changes, as some of the sections were simply highlighted to help NCDOT form a better understanding of the MPO's processes. The majority of the changes are on pages 15-17 of the document. There was continued discussion about the changes.

Ellen Beckmann made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board review, approve, hold a public hearing, and re-release the revised draft Methodology for public review and comment at their March Board meeting. Geoff Green seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

11. Reports from the LPA Staff

Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff

Felix Nwoko briefed the MPO TC on the Bylaws, the process for the current MPO TC Vice Chair to serve as the interim Chair, and nominating a new MPO TC Vice Chair. The Bylaws recommend that the Vice Chair serve as the Chair until the next vote for Chair.

Vice Chair David Bonk asked John Hodges-Copple and Tom Altieri to serve on the Nominating Committee to prepare a recommendation for Vice Chair. John Hodges-Copple and Tom Altieri agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee and return with a nomination at the March TC meeting.

Dale McKeel reminded the MPO TC about the upcoming Triangle Bicycle and Pedestrian Workshop which will be held on Friday, March 11th, in the town of Wake Forest. The Workshop will be from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. The Workshop highlights success stories of implementation from around the State.

Vice Chair David Bonk reminded Dale McKeel that the MPO Board requested an update on the Old Durham Chapel Hill Road project during the next MPO Board meeting.

Dale McKeel stated that he had reached out to the NCDOT project manager and requested that he provide an update at the MPO Board meeting. Dale McKeel will follow up again with the NCDOT project manager to confirm the update.

11. Report from the DCHC MPO TC Chair

Mark Ahrendsen, DCHC MPO TC Chair

Vice Chair David Bonk stated there is nothing to report

12. NCDOT Reports

David Keilson, NCDOT Division 5, stated that Richard Hancock is the new Deputy of Chief for Division 5. The roundabout at Broad Street and Carver Street is expected to start in mid-March. Information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. Construction will start after August 1. The Signal at Gregson Street and Peabody Street is being installed and is expected to be completed in the next couple of months.

Ed Lewis, NCDOT Division 7, stated that there are three changes to the Division 7 project hand-out. Church Street will be let in March. The U-5550 data went to Council. Guardrail improvements on I-40 in various locations will be let in April, so there was a two month delay.

There was no additional report from Division 8.

There was no report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch.

There was no report from NCDOT Traffic Operations.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

13. Recent News, Articles, and Updates

Vice Chair David Bonk asked if there were any other questions or discussion. Geoff Green stated that GoTriangle received a Record of Decision (ROD) from Federal Transit Administration.

Vice Chair David Bonk stated the Estes Drive Bike/ped improvements from MLK Jr. Blvd to Caswell Road in Chapel Hill were approved by the Town of Chapel Hill Council.

Felix Nwoko updated the TC members stating Ellen Reckhow asked the MPO staff to bring TRM data for the no-build of the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project. Felix Nwoko stated that the MPO thinks the "No-Build Alternative" from the D-O LRT project would be the appropriate data to use.

Vice Chair David Bonk and other members of the TC agree that the requested data is already available in the DEIS report.

220 John Hodges-Copple stated that there are things that are not included in the GoTriangle DEIS. It
 221 should be made clear what is included in the analysis. For example, the “no-build alternative” scenario
 222 does not include regional rail. Explaining that as part of this data request would be important.

223 Geoff Green stated that the land use assumptions are the same but other assumptions may not be
 224 the same. This should be clearly stated when the data from the DEIS for the D-O LRT project are used.

225 Vice Chair David Bonk stated that the Chapel Hill Chamber received a letter from the Regional
 226 Transportation Alliance (RTA) asking for the Town of Chapel Hill to support the integration of Bus Rapid
 227 Transit (BRT) into the D-O LRT corridor. There was discussion about the dual use of the corridor and if this
 228 would be a viable option. A response letter from the Town of Chapel Hill should acknowledge the request
 229 and then explain the conflicting issues.

230 **ADJOURNMENT:**

231 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Technical Committee, the meeting was
 232 adjourned at 10:15 a.m.