

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

December 14, 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board met on December 14, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in the second floor Committee Room at Durham City Hall, as well as through the Zoom teleconferencing platform. The following members were in attendance:

Jenn Weaver (Chair)	Town of Hillsborough
Jamezetta Bedford (Member)	Orange County
Javiera Caballero (Member)	City of Durham
Leonardo Williams (Member)	City of Durham
Pam Hemminger (Member)*	Town of Chapel Hill
Damon Seils (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Wendy Jacobs (Member)	Durham County
Adam Searing (Alternate)	Town of Chapel Hill
Karen Howard (Vice Chair)	Chatham County
Brenda Howerton (Alternate)*	Durham County
Sally Greene (Alternate)*	Orange County
Renee Price (Alternate)*	GoTriangle
Lisa Mathis (Alternate)	NC Board of Transportation
Ellen Beckmann	Durham County
Nida Allam*	Durham County
Aaron Cain*	Durham County
Tom Altieri	Orange County
Bergen Watterson*	Town of Chapel Hill
Josh Mayo*	Town of Chapel Hill
Caroline Dwyer*	Town of Chapel Hill
Tina Moon*	Town of Carrboro
Sean Egan	City of Durham
Evian Patterson*	City of Durham
Brian Taylor*	City of Durham
Bill Judge	City of Durham
Brian Taylor*	City of Durham
Eric Vitale	City of Durham
Erin Convery*	City of Durham
Matt Day*	Triangle J Council of Governments
Katharine Eggleston	GoTriangle
Chuck Lattuca	GoTriangle
Jay Heikes*	GoTriangle
Meg Scully*	GoTriangle
Cha'ssem Anderson*	The University of North Carolina
David Keilson	NCDOT Division 5
Brandon Jones*	NCDOT Division 5

43	Pat Wilson*	NCDOT Division 7
44	Bryan Kluchar*	NCDOT Division 8
45	Jeron Monroe*	NCDOT Division 8
46	Julie Bogle*	NCDOT TPD
47	Nick Morrison*	NCDOT IMD
48	Joe Geigle*	Federal Highway Administration
49	Jacob Rigg*	Regional Transportation Alliance
50	Scudder Wagg*	Jarrett Walker + Associates
51	Amit Sachan*	Atkins
52	Adam Howell	Atkins
53	Doug Plachcinski	DCHC MPO
54	Kelly Fomenko	DCHC MPO
55	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
56	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
57	Dale McKeel*	DCHC MPO
58	Dolly Hall-Quinlan*	DCHC MPO
59	Filmon Fishastion	DCHC MPO
60	David Miller	DCHC MPO

61 Quorum Count: 9 of 10 Voting Members

62 *Attended remotely

63 **1. Roll Call**

64 Chair Jenn Weaver called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The roll call was completed using a
 65 sign-in sheet for in-person attendees, and the Zoom participant list for remote attendees. Chair Jenn
 66 Weaver asked the Board to consider approving an excused absence for Member Michael Parker, which
 67 the Board approved.

68 **PRELIMINARIES:**

69 **2. Ethics Reminder**

70 Chair Jenn Weaver referenced the Ethics Reminder included in the agenda packet.

71 **3. Adjustments to the Agenda**

72 Doug Plachcinski requested item 7: FY2022-23 UPWP Amendment #2, and item 8: Resolution in
 73 Support of Grant Application for Paved Trails Feasibility Study by the Town of Chapel Hill be moved from

Consent to Action Items. Javiera Caballero asked to move item 6: 2023 Meeting Calendar from Consent to Action Items. Wendy Jacobs asked to move item 9: CTP Amendment #5 from Consent to Action Items.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

5. Approval of the October 12, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes

David Miller, LPA Staff

Damon Seils made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Leonardo Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

6. 2023 Meeting Calendar

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHCMPO Executive Director

Javiera Caballero asked members if the proposed November 8, 2023 Board meeting date posed concerns due to it occurring the day after municipal elections. Board members had no concerns. Leonardo made a motion to approve the 2023 meeting calendar. Damon Seils seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. FY2022-23 UPWP Amendment #2

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHCMPO Executive Director

Doug Plachcinski stated that NCDOT has requested to postpone this item until the January 2023 Board meeting.

8. Resolution in Support of Grant Application for Paved Trails Feasibility Study by the Town of Chapel Hill

Bergen Watterson, Town of Chapel Hill

Doug Plachcinski stated that the Town of Chapel Hill has requested a resolution from the MPO Board to support its grant application for the Paved Trails Feasibility Study opportunity. Doug Plachcinski said that additional resolution requests from MPO members for this opportunity may be forthcoming.

Wendy Jacobs made a motion to adopt the resolution supporting the Town of Chapel Hill's Paved Trails Feasibility Study grant application. Lisa Mathis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. CTP Amendment #5

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHCMPO Executive Director

Doug Plachcinski stated that the Technical Committee (TC) recommended that Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment #5 be released for public comment, but requested this item be postponed due to continued development of the amendment's problem statements.

Damon Seils made a motion to remand the recommendation back to the TC until each member jurisdiction with projects affected by the proposed amendment has a reasonable opportunity to review the project problem statements. Leonardo Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Feasibility Study Update and MOU Extension

Katharine Eggleston, Chief Development Officer, GoTriangle

Chuck Lattuca shared the projected population, job growth, and the need to address vehicle congestion along the proposed commuter rail corridor. Katharine Eggleston shared current cost estimates, implementation challenges, and potential solutions along the proposed commuter rail corridor, phased implementation scenarios, potential state and federal funding opportunities, and outlined the next steps in the planning process.

Damon Seils asked how the project can receive a higher score within the New Starts program. Katharine Eggleston replied that current scoring criteria prioritizes larger regions, though the Greater Triangle Region is expected to continue growth, which may lead to an increased score. Wendy Jacobs suggested ancillary rail improvements that ultimately supported CRT be included in public engagement efforts. Lisa Mathis asked when new scoring could occur, and Katharine Eggleston replied that updated criteria that could impact the score is expected in 2023.

Javiera Caballero made a motion to approve a one-year extension to the Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Feasibility Study. Damon Seils seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Orange County Transit Plan Update Adoption
Tom Altieri, Orange County

Tom Altieri provided a timeline of the Orange County Transit Plan planning process and stated that no comments were received during its public comment period.

Damon Seils made a motion to adopt the 2022 Orange County Transit Plan Update, including the revised financial summary, which incorporates additional funding for the Chapel Hill Transit N-S BRT project. Jamezetta Bedford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Durham and Orange Counties Transit Governance Study – Interlocal Agreement(ILA)
Adam Howell, Atkins

Adam Howell shared the Durham and Orange Counties Transit Governance Study including the ILA project need and timeline, project goals, proposed Staff Working Group membership and voting structure updates, and primary outcomes of the study.

Adam Howell stated that Orange County requested postponing ILA adoption because GoTriangle and Orange County were not in consensus regarding Vehicle Rental fee income distribution and GoTriangle bonding authority. Javiera Caballero stated that Durham would also like to postpone approval of the Study to coordinate with the master participation agreement being presented and distributed to Durham city/county. Ellen Beckman stated that a contract extension with Atkins is in motion to complete this work, that funding is allocated in the work program, and that draft bylaws and the participation were distributed to the SWG and the City in September with only the MPO responding with comments. Wendy Jacobs stated that Durham County supports moving forward. Ellen Beckmann requested that the language in the Interlocal Agreement needed to be revised, which would be helpful. Chair Jenn Weaver recommended that this discussion should continue offline.

Damon Seils made a motion to delay consideration of Durham and Orange County's Interlocal Agreements. Javiera Caballero seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Wendy Jacobs made a motion to extend the contract with Atkins through June 30, 2023, that DCHC MPO staff will work with the City of Durham on this contract extension, and that this item will be presented at the MPO Board's January 11, 2023 meeting. Karen Howard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Updates
Yanping Zhang, LPA Staff

Yanping Zhang introduced the Congestion Management Process (CMP), which included the data collection and process, and the CMP's goals and objectives. Damon Seils asked if the CMP needs to be incorporated into the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) after approval, and Yanping Zhang replied that approved goals by the MPO Board would be eligible for consideration in the next MTP iteration.

Damon Seils made a motion to approve the CMP goals and objects. Leonardo Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

14. Report from the MPO Board Chair
Jenn Weaver, Board Chair

Chair Jenn Weaver had no report.

15. Report from the Technical Committee Chair
Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair

Ellen Beckmann stated that NCDOT is issuing the Safe Routes to School program with 100% state funding. Ellen Beckmann shared that the Durham Transit Plan is nearing completion, and the public comment period has been extended to 28 days due to the holidays.

16. Report from LPA Staff
Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHCMPO Executive Director

In addition to the LPA Staff written report, Doug Plachcinski mentioned that additional Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunities are being investigated, and presentations are being shared with local jurisdictions pertaining to the Triangle Bikeway Study and DCHC MPO's annual report.

17. NCDOT Reports

Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation

Lisa Mathis recognized NCDOT Division 8's response to recent power outages in Moore County. Lisa Mathis stated that NCDOT has been recognized as a gold level military-friendly employer for a second consecutive year. Lisa Mathis shared that that NCDOT's aviation division is accepting applications for its 2023 Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy Grant Program, and that scholarship applications are being accepted for HBCU students pursuing transportation-related fields.

Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 - NCDOT

David Keilson shared updates on Alston Avenue projects, and stated that work continues on the East End Connector project.

Wright Archer (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 - NCDOT

Pat Wilson had no additional updates. Chair Jenn Weaver inquired about updates to the New Hope Church Road Bridge Replacement project, and I-40 construction and exit markings around Hillsborough, and Pat Wilson said he will follow up and address any concerns with his department.

Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 - NCDOT

There was no additional report.

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division - NCDOT

Julie Bogle shared that the Statewide Multimodal Freight Plan is on the NCDOT website and its comment period is open, and that NCDOT will offer a public information session and update on December 20 regarding the N.C. Clean Transportation Plan.

John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT

There was no additional report.

Nick Morrison, Integrated Mobility Division – NCDOT

Nick Morrison reminded the Board about an upcoming Safe Routes to School program webinar and the Paved Trails and Sidewalk Feasibility Grant program.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST:

18. Recent News Articles and Updates

Chair Jenn Weaver referenced the recent news articles and updates.

19. North Carolina Railroad Company (NCCR) 2022 CRISI Grant Application Support Letter

Chair Jenn Weaver referenced the support letter as information.

ACTION ITEM:

20. MPO Board Officer Nominations for 2023

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHCMPO Executive Director

Damon Seils recommended Jenn Weaver serve as Chair, and Karen Howard serve as Vice Chair.

Wendy Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the MPO Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40

a.m.