

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING
August 9, 2023**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board held a meeting on August 9, 2023, 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
Wendy Jacobs (Member)	Durham County
Damon Seils (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Lisa Mathis (Alternate)*	NC Board of Transportation
Brenda Howerton (Alternate)	Durham County
Nishith Trivedi	Orange County
Matt Cecil*	Chapel Hill Transit
Brandon Dawson	Chatham County
Bergen Watterson	Town of Chapel Hill
Matt Day	Central Pines Regional Council
Tina Moon*	Town of Carrboro
Eric Vitale	City of Durham
Erin Convery	City of Durham
Bill Judge*	City of Durham
Tom Devlin*	City of Durham
Sean Egan*	City of Durham
Ryan Eldridge*	Durham County
Jay Heikes*	GoTriangle
Katie Rhyne*	Town of Butner
Julie Bogle*	NCDOT TPD
Brandon Jones	NCDOT Division 5
Tracy Parrott*	NCDOT Division 5
Nishant Shah*	NCDOT Division 7
Chad Reimakoski*	NCDOT Division 7
P.D. Wilson*	NCDOT Division 7
Bryan Kluchar*	NCDOT Division 8
John Grant*	NCDOT Traffic Operations
Joe Geigle	Federal Highway Administration
Anne Lenart-Redmond	STV

45	Jacob Riggs*	RTA
46	Heidi Perov*	Bike Walk NC
47	Senator Mike Woodard*	NC General Assembly
48	Stephen Neil	Leesville Rd. Coalition
49	Herman Sperling	Leesville Rd. Coalition
50	John Tallmadge	Bike Durham
51	Jordon Powell	VHB
52	Blair Pollock	Resident
53		
54	Doug Plachcinski	DCHC MPO
55	Colleen McGue	DCHC MPO
56	David Miller	DCHC MPO
57	Kelly Fomenko	DCHC MPO
58	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
59	Filmon Fishastion	DCHC MPO
60	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
61	Jean Debnam	DCHC MPO

62 Quorum Count: 7 of 10 Voting Members
 63 *Attended remotely

64 **1. Roll Call**

65 Chair Jenn Weaver called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The roll call was completed
 66 using a sign-in sheet for in-person attendees, and the Zoom participant list for remote attendees.
 67 Chair Jenn Weaver excused the absence of Commissioner Karen Howard. A motion was made
 68 by Pam Hemminger to excuse the absence of Karen Howard. It was seconded by Wendy
 69 Jacobs. The motion passed unanimously. Lisa Mathis made the Board aware that they could
 70 not hear the meeting on Zoom. Chair Jenn Weaver entertained a break during Public Comments
 71 to try to correct this issue. The meeting was called back to order after a five-minute break.

72 **2. Ethics Reminder**

73 Chair Jenn Weaver pointed out the ethics reminder and asked if there were any
 74 comments or changes. There were no comments or changes.

75 **3. Adjustments to the Agenda**

76 Chair Jenn Weaver reported there were no adjustments to the agenda.

77 **4. Public Comments**

Chair Jenn Weaver asked for public comments for items not on the agenda. Mr. Stephen Knill, Durham Resident, Co-Founder of the Leesville Rd Coalition and Vice President of the Inner Neighborhood Council of Durham commented about the US 70 East Corridor Study. He stressed that the first meeting he went to on Saturday, December 17th, 2022, last year, the internal team and consultant presented a document that completely ignored the previously approved NCDOT (NC Department of Transportation) Plan through the Summit meeting at Carolina Arbors on May 22nd, where the MPO Executive refused to acknowledge and share that plan at all during the upcoming second round of Residents Engagement. He felt the residents were completely ignored. Herman Sperling of the Leesville Rd Coalition questioned the public safety and road improvements for the 10,000 homes that have been approved on Leesville Rd. Mr. Sperling read the letter he submitted to many people on the Board. Blair Pollock, Chapel Hill resident, cyclist and avid walker gave his strong support for several Bike Ped projects and Greenway extension projects on the SPOT 7.0 list. Mr. Pollock shared his disapproval of work on Old NC 86. Mr. Pollock expressed that Millhouse Rd desperately needs sidewalks and bike wings as well as Eubanks Rd from Old NC 86 to New NC 86.

CONSENT AGENDA:

5. Approval of the June 14, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes
Jean Debnam, LPA Staff

6. Approval of the June 27, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes
Jean Debnam,

7. Letter of Support of Chapel Hill Transit's North South Bus Rapid Transit (NSBRT) Project
Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

8. Letter of Support for GoTriangle PROTECT Discretionary Program Application
Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

9. Letter to NC Congressional Delegation Regarding 2024 THUD
Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

10. FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #16
Filmon Fishastion, LPA Staff

A motion was made by Damon Seils to approve the Consent Agenda with the correction that Wendy Jacobs name, be stricken from the June 27, 2023, board meeting attendance records. The motion was seconded by Javiera Caballero. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

11. 2050 MTP Amendment #1 and AQ CDR
Andy Henry LPA Staff

Chair Jenn Weaver opened the floor to a public hearing. John Tallmadge, Executive Director of Bike Durham, urged the MPO board to move forward with the MTP Amendment but he opposed the inclusion of the I-40 auxiliary lanes and the NC 55 south bound lanes. He said the MPO needs to make some changes to the Amendment to adhere to the goals established in the MTP. Mr. Tallmadge called for the Board to make sure the solutions match the problems. A motion was made and seconded to close the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Andy Henry addressed and summarized the comments of the 2050 MTP Amendment #1. Over 90 public comments were received. Most of the comments requested the Board reject the widening of I-40 and NC 55 because it would increase traffic and carbon emissions. The Board also received a letter from Bike Durham that was not in the packet. Leonardo Williams stressed the need to be more specific in the description of the projects. Damon Seils reminded the Board of the tension that was predicted regarding the changes. Doug Plachcinski made the Board aware of ways to approach making changes to the Amendment.

A motion was made by Pam Hemminger to adopt the 2050 MTP with a friendly amendment to absolutely stress the complete streets adherence on the NC 55 project. The motion was seconded by Jamezetta Bedford. The motion passed with two in opposition. Jamezetta Bedford made a motion to adopt the Air Quality CDR. The motion was seconded by Pam Hemminger. The motion passed unanimously.

139
140 **12. Regional Travel Demand Model TRMG2V1.3 Adoption**
141 **Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**
142

143 Doug Plachcinski discussed the Travel Demand Model and stated that TRMG2V1.3 is
144 the official model and a new model 2.0 is already being developed by the MPO and its
145 constituents. Damon Seils made a motion to adopt the Travel Demand Model TRMG2V1.3.
146 Pam Hemminger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

147
148 **13. FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program**
149 **Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff**
150

151 Chair Jenn Weaver opened the floor to a public hearing. John Tallmadge, Executive
152 Director of Bike Durham urged the Board to oppose the inclusion of the I-885 project from I-40
153 to NC 147 (Durham Freeway) in the STIP because of the lack of adhering to the goals of the
154 MPO. Chair Jenn Weaver entertained a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was
155 seconded by Pam Hemminger. The motion passed unanimously.

156 Kelly Fomenko informed the board about the details of the FY 2024-2033 TIP which
157 had received 85 comments during the comment period. Seventy-two of the comments
158 were in relation to the I-40 Widening, U-5934, and the NC 147 projects. Ms. Fomenko
159 stated the TC recommendation was to approve with a condition, and that condition was
160 to add transit accommodations to U-5934. This information has been passed along to
161 NCDOT and accepted by the Division and STIP unit.

162 Wendy Jacobs asked if the Triangle Bikeway plan was a part of this TIP, and
163 Kelly answered it was not. Chair Jenn Weaver asked if there was an option at this
164 meeting to pass this TIP with conditions. Kelly answered it is possible but may come
165 with future consequences.

166 A motion was made by Wendy Jacobs to approve the FY2024-2033 TIP with the
167 condition that transit accommodations are prioritized for the additional lanes that are in

the U-5934 project in Durham. The motion was seconded by Jamezetta Bedford. The motion passed unanimously.

14. SPOT P7.0 Project Candidates List for Public Review
Colleen McGue LPA Staff

Colleen McGue explained the SPOT process, how the project lists are structured and gave the timeline for submissions. Ms. McGue expressed that funding availability does not look good, specifically for Division 5 in Division level projects. This will affect the funding received for Bike Ped and Transit projects in the Durham area. The MPO Planning team has been working on a survey to gather information from the public on their priority projects. Jamezetta Bedford asked if it is smart to submit projects if they don't have funds and what the best strategy is for reaching equity and the needs of our groups. Colleen stated that is a concern, and the MPO will be meeting with City of Durham to get more information on their priority projects for funding. Damon Seils made a motion to release the project lists for public comment. It was seconded by Jamezetta Bedford. The motion passed unanimously.

15. Proposed US 15-501 Study Scope
Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

Doug Plachcinski reported the DCHC MPO has analyzed the existing conditions of 15-501 and the board is seeking approval to move forward with the proposed study scope. Doug Plachcinski shared the next steps in the process and assured the Board that the study will follow the goals of the MPO. Pam Hemminger made a motion to approve the proposed US 15-501 study scope. Jamezetta Bedford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

16. US 70 West Multimodal Corridor Study
Nish Trivedi, Orange County

Nish Trivedi gave a presentation that served as an update on the program of the US 70 West Corridor Study.

17. Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Plan Update
Colleen McGue, LPA Staff

Colleen McGue gave an update on the SS4A plan scope development. Atkins has been contracted to assist in developing the scope for the action plan. A Stakeholder Forum to review the draft scope, provide an opportunity for public input, and answer questions would be held after the TC meeting on July 26 at 11am. The consulting team is working on compiling the input received and incorporating suggested revisions. The draft scope was attached for review.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

18. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Performance
Yanping Zhang, LPA Staff

Yanping Zhang defined the Congestion Management Process (CMP) performance measures and presented the goals and objectives for the process.

REPORTS:

19. Report from the Board Chair
Jenn Weaver, Board Chair

No additional report.

20. Report from the Technical Committee Chair
Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair

No additional report.

21. Report from LPA Staff
Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

Doug Plachcinski gave an update on the transition from Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG) to Central Pines Regional Council (CPRC). He mentioned the possibility of the next Board meeting being held at the CPRC location. Mr. Plachcinski gave a report on the grant awards and referred the Board to the agenda packet for more information. Doug Plachcinski announced upcoming events and meetings.

22. NCDOT REPORTS

Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation

No additional report.

Brandon Jones, (Tracy Parrott), Division 5-NCDOT

Brandon Jones gave a report on the progress of the Alston Avenue project and announced the upcoming statewide Litter Sweep Campaign.

Wright Archer (Chad Reimakoski), Division 7- NCDOT

Chad Reimakoski reported that Division 7 added HS-2007 (the installation of a new crosswalk with rapid rectangular flashing beacon) in Chapel Hill on Highway 86 to their report.

Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8- NCDOT

Bryan Kluchar had no additional report.

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT

Julie Bogle reported that the Electric Vehicle Inventory Deployment Plan was updated August 1, and it is expected to be updated annually. Julie Bogle stated that the Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding level letter was received. Julie Bogle shared that the 2022 Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) counts are expected to be released in late August.

John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT

John Grant had no additional report.

Nick Morrison, Integrated Mobility Division- NCDOT

256 No additional report

257 **Recent News Articles and Updates**

258 Chair Jenn Weaver referenced the recent news articles and updates attached to the
259 agenda packet.

260

261

ADJOURNMENT:

262 There being no further business before the MPO Board, the meeting was adjourned at

263 11:35 a.m.