

TRIANGLE WEST TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
February 25, 2025
MINUTES OF MEETING

The Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization Board met on February 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Central Pines Conference Room at Central Pines Regional Council. The following people were in attendance:

Karen Howard (MPO Chair)	Chatham County
Javiera Caballero (MPO Board Vice Chair)	City of Durham
Amy Fowler (Member)	Orange County
Carl Rist (Member)	City of Durham
Melissa McCullough (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Sally Greene (Member)	GoTriangle
Danny Nowell (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Mark Bell (Member)	Town of Hillsborough
Wendy Jacobs (Alternate)	Durham County
Nida Allam (Member)*	Durham County
Marilyn Carter (Alternate)*	Orange County
Lisa Mathis (Alternate)*	NC Board of Transportation
Matt Hughes (Alternate)*	Town of Hillsborough
Michael Parker (Alternate)*	GoTriangle

**Denotes virtual attendance*

Eric Vitale (TC Chair)	City of Durham
Nishith Trivedi*	Orange County
Chad Reimakoski*	NCDOT Division 7
Bryan Kluchar*	NCDOT Division 8
Becca Eversole-Robinson	Town of Carrboro
Matt Day	Central Pines Regional Council
Thanh Schado*	Chatham County
Matt Efird*	Hillsborough
David Keilson*	NCDOT Division 5
Julie Bogle*	NCDOT TPD
Josh Barrett*	City of Durham
Marie Parker*	Town of Carrboro
Sean Egan*	City of Durham
Joe Geigle*	FHWA
Becca Gallas	NCDOT Division 5
Tina Moon	Town of Carrboro
Ed Harrison*	Resident
Erin Convery*	City of Durham
Bonnie Parker*	Capital Area MPO
Ben Berolzheimer*	Town of Chapel Hill
Bill Judge*	City of Durham
Amin Hezaveh*	NCDOT Division 5
Bergen Watterson*	Town of Chapel Hill
Darlene Weaver*	Orange County
Jeron Monroe*	NCDOT Division 8

Paul Black*

GoTriangle

Doug Plachcinski

Triangle West TPO

David Miller

Triangle West TPO

KC Chae*

Triangle West TPO

Filmon Fishastion

Triangle West TPO

Colleen McGue

Triangle West TPO

Yanping Zhang

Triangle West TPO

Samad Rangoonwala

Triangle West TPO

Thomas Porter

Triangle West TPO

Beth Seidel

Triangle West TPO

Madeline Galliano

Triangle West TPO

Dolly Hall-Quinlan*

Triangle West TPO

Eve He*

Triangle West TPO

Quorum Count:

9 of 10 Voting Members

Chair Karen Howard called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the Triangle West TPO Board were identified and are indicated above.

PRELIMINARIES:

1. Roll Call

Chair Howard asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

Chair Howard asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were none.

3. Public Comments

Chair Howard asked if any members of the public were signed up to speak. There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Approval of January 28, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes **Beth Seidel, MPO Staff**

Mark Bell moved to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Carl Rist. The motion passed unanimously.

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ACTION ITEMS:

5. FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)
Filmon Fishastion, TPO Staff

Filmon Fishastion gave an update on the FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program. Amendment #6 contained project updates such as additional funding for the NS-BRT and the swaps that occurred during the August Redistribution. This amendment also approves the Item N updates for December, January, and February. The Board requested an accompanying document that explains what the charges are.

A motion was made by Danny Nowell to release TIP Amendment #6 for public comment and was seconded by Melissa McCullough. The motion passed unanimously.

5A. FFY25 Anticipated Application Activity (AAA) Spreadsheet
Filmon Fishastion, TPO Staff

The purpose of this spreadsheet is to identify all planned TrAMS applications and amendments early in FFY25, consulting with our Federal Transit Administration (FTA) pre- and post-award managers in advance, to move our applications forward, as well as to update our Agency’s Point of Contact Information. When ready, the TPO will populate the spreadsheet with DRAFT applications entered in TrAMS producing a Temporary FAIN. TPO staff will delete any obsolete or redundant grant applications in TrAMS created in the past that we do not plan to advance. The Board has requested a list of projects on which to follow up.

A motion was made by Sally Greene to authorize staff to amend the TIP bypassing required public comment periods if the executive director determines that such amendment is necessary to comply with updated USDOT and FTA guidance and the following circumstances are met:

- 116 a) Funding is verified as the result of Federal and/or State programmatic formula
117 funding grants or discretionary grant awards; and
118 b) The project sponsor requests the amendment prior to June 30, 2025.

119 The motion was seconded by Carl Rist. The motion passed unanimously.
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121 **6. SPOT Local Input Points Methodology Release for Public Comment**
122 **Filmon Fishastion, TPO Staff**
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124 In the SPOT 8.0 process, the first step is to update the Methodology for Identifying and
125 Ranking New Transportation Improvement Program Project Requests. Triangle West TPO will
126 use this Methodology to select projects for submittal into SPOT 8,0 as well as assign Local Input
127 Points to projects submitted during the current SPOT cycle.

128 The existing Methodology was drafted during the SPOT 6.0 cycle and amended during
129 the SPOT 7.0 cycle. The updated draft Methodology is based on the 2023 Methodology with the
130 following changes:

- 131 • Modification to the Criteria and Weights: Removal of the criteria involving projects
132 in a high crash area
- 133 • Additional changes may be announced by the SPOT Workgroup

134 Significant changes from the previous Methodology are highlighted in the draft document
135 in red. Filmon Fishastion noted that only new projects are currently being accepted. The Board
136 requested a breakdown of state v. federal dollars.

137 Javiera Caballero made a motion to release the draft Methodology for public comment.
138 The motion was seconded by Amy Fowler and the motion passed unanimously.
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140 **7. Public Participation Plan: Release for Public Comment**
141 **Monet Moore, Principal Planner**

The Public Participation Plan (PPP), formerly referred to as the Public Involvement Policy (PIP), for the Triangle West TPO explains how to involve community members and other stakeholders in planning a transportation system that supports regional goals like better travel options, economic growth, sustainability, and fairness. The PPP explains how the public will be informed, how they can share feedback, and how long public comment periods will last. The PPP outlines how major plans, programs, and studies will be developed and incorporate feedback from the public. The PPP also includes guidelines that the TPO will be following to better connect with and be a part of the regional community. The presentation on the PPP highlighted the key changes from the PIP which included the use of Plain Language, simplified public comment periods, emergency policy, and a social media policy.

Monet Moore shared the schedule for the PPP. The Board recommended including a link to the old PIP if anyone wanted to see it. Board members also provided recommendations of community organizations the TPO should engage with during planning efforts.

Amy Fowler made a motion to release the draft Public Participation Plan for a 45-day public comment period. Danny Nowell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Destination 2055: Deficiency and Needs
Yanping Zhang, Modeling Manager
Dolly Hall-Quinlan, TPO Staff
Eve He, TPO Staff

Yanping Zhang presented the Destination 2055: Deficiency and Needs item. He shared that the Deficiency and Needs Analysis is the second step in developing the 2055 MTP, following the Goals and Objectives phase. This analysis evaluates traffic and transit conditions at the regional, corridor, and roadway levels to identify future transportation deficiencies. It does so by modeling a 2020 transportation network plus committed projects and transit services with

2055 population and employment projections, a method often referred to as a future no-build scenario.

Amy Fowler moved to release the 2055 MTP Deficiency and Needs Analysis for a 30-day public comment period. The motion was seconded by Carl Rist. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

9. Destination 2055: Alternatives Analysis and Scenarios

Yanping Zhang, Modeling Manager
Monet Moore, Principal Planner

Monet Moore and Yanping Zhang presented an update on the MTP Alternatives and Scenarios, covering a range of topics, including various assumptions, land use patterns, and transportation possibilities.

REPORTS:

6. Report from Board Chair

Karen Howard, DCHC MPO Board Chair

No report.

7. Report from the Technical Committee Chair

Eric Vitale, TC Chair

Eric Vitale thanked everyone for the retreat that was held.

8. Report from MPO Staff

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

No additional report.

9. NCDOT Reports

Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation

Lisa Mathis gave an update on repairs that have been done from Helene. There is a link on the drivenc.gov website for more information. In honor of Black History Month, they have highlighted some of the programs offered through the Office of HBCU Outreach. These programs and initiatives help young professionals as they transition from college into their careers into transportation fields. There is a Rockingham bypass in Richmond County. NC by Train had record ridership.

Becca Gallas, Division 5 – NCDOT

Becca Gallas shared that they were hosting their STIP drop-in session this week.

Wright Archer (Chad Reimakoski, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 – NCDOT

Chad Reimakoski shared that they are also having their STIP drop-in session this week in Greensboro. He has emailed everyone a power point presentation for the I-40 project.

Reuben Blakey (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 – NCDOT

Bryan Kluchar introduced Jeron Monroe who has joined their team. He pointed out that there are three ways to comment on the draft STIP. The easiest is to use the ncdot.gov website or the MPO can contact Brian Wirt, the STIP manager to propose changes, or stop by the drop-in this week. Unfortunately, the draft STIP moved the U6192 project on US 15 501 to preliminary engineering only, which means the right of way and let dates have been removed from the 10-year plan. The new project would be rescored in P8 just like a new submittal

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT

No report.

John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT

No report.

Regan Buchanan (Interim), Integrated Mobility Division

No report.

231 **10. Recent News Articles & Updates**

232 Vice Chair Javiera Caballero pointed out the news articles included in the agenda packet
233 and the next meeting date.

234 **ADJOURNMENT**

235 The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 am.