

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

October 26, 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on October 26, 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:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ellen Beckmann (Chair) | Durham County |
| Nishith Trivedi (Vice Chair)* | Orange County |
| Tom Devlin (Member) | City of Durham |
| Tasha Johnson (Member) | City of Durham |
| Eric Vitale (Member) | City of Durham |
| Laura Biediger (Member) | City of Durham |
| Tina Moon (Member) | Town of Carrboro |
| Bergen Watterson (Member) | Town of Chapel Hill |
| Josh Mayo (Member) | Town of Chapel Hill |
| Kevin Robinson (Member)* | Town of Chapel Hill |
| Margaret Hauth (Member) | Town of Hillsborough |
| Scott Whiteman (Member) | Durham County |
| Bernard Clark (Member)* | Orange County |
| Brandon Jones (Member) | NCDOT Division 5 |
| Julie Bogle (Member) | NCDOT TPD |
| Travis Crayton (Member) | Research Triangle Foundation |
| Matt Day (Member) | TJCOG |
| Kurt Stolka (Member)* | The University of North Carolina |
| Michael Page (Member)* | North Carolina Central University |
| Joe Geigle (Non-voting Member)* | Federal Highway Administration |
| Erin Convery (Alternate) | City of Durham |
| Matt Cecil (Alternate)* | Chapel Hill Transit |
| Stephanie Trueblood (Alternate)* | Town of Hillsborough |
| Meg Scully (Alternate)* | GoTriangle |
| David Keilson (Alternate)* | NCDOT Division 5 |
| Stephen Robinson (Alternate) | NCDOT Division 7 |
| Bryan Kluchar (Alternate)* | NCDOT Division 8 |
| Sean Egan* | City of Durham |
| Bill Judge* | City of Durham |
| Evian Patterson* | City of Durham |
| Brian Fahey* | City of Durham |
| DeDreana Freeman* | City of Durham Council Member |
| Tracy Parrott* | NCDOT Division 5 |

| | | |
|----|---------------------|------------------|
| 42 | Jeron Monroe* | NCDOT Division 8 |
| 43 | Nick Morrison* | NCDOT IMD |
| 44 | Doug Plachcinski | DCHC MPO |
| 45 | Aaron Cain | DCHC MPO |
| 46 | Yanping Zhang* | DCHC MPO |
| 47 | Andy Henry | DCHC MPO |
| 48 | Dale McKeel | DCHC MPO |
| 49 | Dolly Hall-Quinlan* | DCHC MPO |
| 50 | David Miller | DCHC MPO |

51 Quorum count: 16 of 31 voting members

52 *Attended remotely

53 Chair Ellen Beckmann called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

54 **PRELIMINARIES:**

55 **1. Roll Call**

56 The roll call was completed using a sign-in sheet for in-person attendees, and the Zoom
 57 participant list for remote attendees. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that the Town of Carrboro
 58 has a Member vacancy due to Kent Johnson's departure.

59 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

60 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

61 **3. Public Comments**

62 There were no public comments.

63 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

64 **4. Approval of the September 28, 2022 TC Meeting Minutes**

65 David Miller, LPA Staff

66 **5. Amendment #13 to the FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

67 Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

68 Tom Devlin made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Eric Vitale seconded the
 69 motion. The motion passed unanimously.

70 **ACTION ITEMS:**

71 **6. Durham County Transit Plan Recommended Scenario**

72 Ellen Beckmann, Durham County Transportation Manager

73 Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Chair Ellen Beckmann introduced the draft Durham County Transit Plan (DCTP), provided background on the half-cent sales tax approved by Durham County voters to fund public transit improvements, and shared the financial breakdown of the DCTP revenues. Chair Ellen Beckmann shared that the draft DCTP process is nearing its end, with final plan approval expected in early 2023.

Aaron Cain shared the key themes of the draft DCTP: improve the current system, more projects sooner, connect the region with quick and reliable service, and a better experience at stops and station. Aaron Cain shared the details of the services and financial breakdown of the six key buckets in the draft DCTP, which include enhancing and extending bus service, commuter rail or other regional service, bus stop improvements and transit centers, more routes going more places, faster and more reliable bus service, and paratransit improvements. Aaron Cain said that over \$100 million is planned to be spent on improvements and new projects in Durham County by 2027. Chair Ellen Beckmann shared the final steps and key dates in the draft DCTP process, which culminates with anticipated adoption of the plan by the DCHC MPO Board, Durham County Board of Commissioners, and GoTriangle Board of Trustees in January 2023.

Tom Devlin made a motion to recommend to the MPO Board that it release the Draft DCTP for a 21-day public comment period. Eric Vitale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. DCHC MPO FY24 Call for Projects Advanced Notification
Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain said that the MPO will follow the same procedure as the previous year, along with the inclusion of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Carbon Reduction Program that has been included in the call for projects, and that jurisdictions will submit local preferences when their application is submitted. Aaron Cain said that preference is given to applications for existing projects first so they can be completed.

Aaron Cain asked the TC for advice on establishing a benchmark that indicates an end to a project. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that closeout could take years to be complete. Doug Plachcinski proposed the benchmark be the point of project obligation, when funding is transferred to the state and local government management process, and the municipality is then responsible for the project. Meg Scully suggested the benchmark be when the final request for reimbursement is complete. Tracey Parrott stated NCDOT views the end of a project as the time of closeout due to necessary accounting and financial procedures. Margaret Hauth requested definitive language to be included in policy for guidance.

Tom Devlin asked if the City of Durham can apply for two new projects even though it has two projects going to construction soon. Aaron Cain shared that these City of Durham bike lane painting projects are under contract, but was told to wait until Spring. Aaron Cain, with the consent of the TC, said that it can be assumed that construction of these projects will be complete by June and therefore the City can apply for two projects for FY24.

Aaron Cain said that the amounts documented in the memo are currently estimates. Aaron Cain shared that the application form will be distributed by November 7 and will be due on December 9, that the ratings will be published in January, and the MPO Board will provide approval in March.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

8. Report from Staff

Doug Plachcinski, Executive Director, DCHC MPO

Doug Plachcinski had no information to add to his written report.

9. Report from the Technical Committee Chair

Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair

Chair Ellen Beckmann had no new information to share.

10. NCDOT Reports

Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 – NCDOT

126 Brandon Jones provided an update to the Alston Avenue and East End Connector
127 projects.

128 **Wright Archer (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 – NCDOT**

129 Stephen Robinson said that the I-40 widening project continues, and that Division 7
130 project update sheets are being revised to include more comprehensive information.

131 **Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 - NCDOT**

132 Bryan Kluchar stated that the draft FY2024-2033 STIP comment period ends October
133 28.

134 Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT

135 There was no additional report.

136 **John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT**

137 There was no additional report.

138 **Nick Morrison, Integrated Mobility Division – NCDOT**

139 Nick Morrison stated that the next quarterly IMD webinar is scheduled for November 10.

140 **Adjourn**

141 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Ellen Beckmann
142 at 9:37 a.m.