



DCHC MPO Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

9:00 AM

Committee Room 2nd Floor Durham City Hall

101 City Hall Plaza
Durham, NC 27701

1. Roll Call**2. Ethics Reminder**

It is the duty of every Board member to avoid conflicts of interest. Does any Board member have any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

3. Adjustments to the Agenda**4. Public Comments****CONSENT AGENDA:****5. Approval of the December 14, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes** [23-111](#)

David Miller, LPA Staff

A copy of the December 14, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes is attached.

Board Action: Approve the December 14, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-111\) 12.14.22 MPO Board Meeting Minutes](#)

6. Approval of the January 11, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes [23-130](#)

David Miller, LPA Staff

A copy of the January 11, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes is attached.

Board Action: Approve the January 11, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-130\) 01.11.23 MPO Board Meeting Minutes](#)

7. **Orange County Request to Flex FHWA Funds (STBG/COVID Relief) to FTA (5307) Funds** [23-122](#)

Nishith Trivedi, Orange County

Orange County Transportation Services is pursuing the flexing of FHWA (STBG/COVID Relief) funds to FTA (5307) funds for the programming of bus shelters. As part of the approval process, the County requested that the Technical Committee recommend that the MPO Board approve this request at their February 8, 2023 meeting. The TC recommended this request be approved at its January 25 meeting. Upon approval by the MPO Board, this request will be forwarded to NCDOT/PTD for NCDOT Board of Transportation approval. The projects are described in the attached memorandum.

TC Action: Recommended the MPO Board approve Orange County's request to flex FHWA funds (STPG/COVID Relief) to FTA (5307) funds.

Board Action: Approve Orange County's request to flex FHWA funds (STPG/COVID Relief) to FTA (5307) funds.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-122\) Orange County Flex Request Memo](#)

8. **City of Durham Letter of Support Request for USDOT RAISE23 Grant Application** [23-127](#)

Evian Patterson, City of Durham

The City of Durham is requesting a Letter of Support from the MPO Board for its USDOT RAISE23 Grant Application. Attached is the Letter of Support for review.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board authorize the Board Chair to sign the Letter of Support for the City of Durham's USDOT RAISE23 Grant Application.

Board Action: Authorize the Board Chair to sign the Letter of Support for the City of Durham's USDOT RAISE23 Grant Application.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-127\) City of Durham RAISE Letter of Support](#)

9. **NCDOT Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program Letter of Support** [23-131](#)

David Miller, LPA Staff

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is currently pursuing a Federal-State Partnership for the Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program grant for fiscal year 2022 to support the next incremental step towards development of the S-Line. NCDOT has requested a Letter of Support for its grant application. A draft letter of support is attached.

Board Action: Authorize the Board Chair to sign the Letter of Support for NCDOT's Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program Project.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-131\) NCDOT Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program Letter of S](#)

10. Biannual Status Report on Locally Administered Projects (LAP)[23-124](#)**Dale McKeel, LPA Staff**

In November 2021, the DCHC MPO Board adopted the DCHC MPO Federal Funding Policy, which guides the distribution of federal funds that flow through the MPO, such as Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable (STBGDA), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ).

The DCHC MPO Federal Funding Policy states that recipients of federal funding will provide a brief report on the status of their locally administered projects (LAP) to the MPO Board twice a year. This agenda item represents the second report on LAP projects since the Federal Funding Policy was adopted. Changes from the July / August 2022 report are circled in red on the presentation and highlighted in yellow on the spreadsheet.

Board Action: Receive the updates on LAP projects.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-124\) Jan-Feb 2023 LAP Project Status - Presentation](#)
[2023-02-08 \(23-124\) Jan-Feb 2023 LAP Project Status - Tables](#)

ACTION ITEMS:**11A. Town of Chapel Hill Letter of Support Request for RAISE Grant Application (5 minutes)**

23-145

Bergen Watterson, Town of Chapel Hill

The Town of Chapel Hill is requesting that the MPO Board authorize the Board Chair to sign a letter of support to accompany its RAISE grant application for the Town's Everywhere-To-Everywhere greenway network project.

Board Action: Authorize the MPO Board Chair to sign a letter of support for the Town of Chapel Hill's RAISE grant application.

11B FY2024 Draft Unified Planning Work Program (10 minutes)[22-198](#)**. David Miller, LPA Staff**

The DCHC MPO is required by federal regulations to prepare an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that details and guides the urban area transportation planning activities. Funding for the UPWP is provided by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. The UPWP must identify MPO planning tasks to be performed with the use of federal transportation funds.

Attached is the FY2024 Draft UPWP, a brief presentation, and an executive summary for use during the public comment period.

TC Action: Recommended the Board release the draft FY2024 UPWP for public comment.

Board Action: Release the draft FY2023 UPWP for public comment.

12. FY24 Call for Projects - Recommended Projects for Funding (30 minutes)[23-123](#)**Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) invited member agencies to submit applications for federal funding from the Regional Flexible Funding (RFF) and local discretionary programs in November 2022. Funding applications were due on December 9, 2022.

The RFF pool for FY24 consists of four funding sources that come directly to the DCHC MPO: Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable (BGDA), Transportation Alternatives Program Direct Attributable (TAPDA), Carbon Reduction Program Direct Attributable (CRPDA), and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ). The call for projects that was conducted by MPO staff is consistent with federal requirements for CMAQ and TAPDA funds, and can be applied to all funding sources.

MPO staff recommend funding ten projects or programs through this call. Five are existing projects that requested additional or continuing funding:

- Alston Avenue Sidewalks (City of Durham)
- Hillandale Road Bike & Pedestrian Improvements (City of Durham)
- Morenne Road Bike Lanes & Sidewalks (City of Durham)
- Bicycle Detector Loops (Town of Carrboro)
- Fordham Boulevard Sidepath (Town of Chapel Hill)
- Triangle TDM Program (TJCOG)

In addition, MPO staff recommend funding five new projects:

- Downtown Chapel Hill Bus Stop Improvements (Chapel Hill Transit)
- Orange County Bus Stop Improvements (GoTriangle)
- 805 Corridor/NC 54 Bus Stop Improvements (GoTriangle)
- Cameron Avenue Protected Bike Lanes/ Cycle Track (Town of Chapel Hill)
- Downtown Hillsborough Parking Study (Town of Hillsborough)

The attached memo provides details on the amount of available funding, scores, and the MPO staff recommendations. A presentation will be given at the upcoming meeting.

TC Action: Recommended that the Board release the proposed projects to be funded through the FY24 Call for Projects for a 21-day public comment period.

Board Action: Release the proposed projects to be funded through the FY24 Call for Projects for a 21-day public comment period.

13. FY2024-2033 Draft STIP Swap (15 minutes)[22-201](#)**Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff**

On April 25, 2022, NCDOT released the first version of the Draft FY2024-2033 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Due to fiscal constraints in the state's transportation budget, the Draft STIP did not include any new projects from the Prioritization 6 (SPOT 6) process that concluded in July 2021. Instead, the Draft STIP programmed existing projects in a manner that met with NCDOT's current fiscal situation. This resulted in the removal of many projects from the ten-year Draft STIP.

In July 2022, the North Carolina General Assembly adopted, and the Governor signed, a new state budget that provides an influx of new funding for transportation, thereby providing additional revenue for the STIP. On August 4, 2022, NCDOT released a revised Draft FY2024-2033 STIP that takes this new revenue into account. Several projects are now also in the Draft FY2024-2033 STIP that are not in the recently adopted DCHC MPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

The protocol established by the SPOT Workgroup, and approved by the North Carolina Board of Transportation, for approval of the Draft STIP remains in place. MPOs can request to "swap" STIP projects. This would allow projects to either be moved up within the STIP, or for projects that were not included in the ten-year STIP to be moved into the STIP, provided that other projects of similar cost and tier were removed. MPO staff has been working with local staff to determine if any swaps are desired based on the revised Draft STIP.

The new deadline for submission of STIP swaps is March 17, 2023. In order to meet this deadline and provide the necessary public comment period, the TC recommended the proposed swaps at its January 25 meeting. The attached memo provides information on the swap proposed by MPO staff. Additionally, depending on the updated cost analysis for the U-5774B/U-5304F swap, U-6118 could be swapped into the STIP with regional tier funding as opposed to division tier funds.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board release the proposed Draft FY2024-2033 swap for a 21-day public comment period.

Board Action: Release the proposed Draft FY2024-2033 swap for a 21-day public comment period.

14. MPO Board Legislative Priorities (5 minutes)[23-132](#)**Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**

The DCHC MPO Board requested staff propose legislative priorities for the 2023 North Carolina Legislative Session based on previous joint policy statements developed with the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) in 2021. Staff reviewed the previous joint statement and other advocacy from aligned organizations and groups then arranged potential recommendations according to the adopted 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan's goals. The attached memo outlines the legislative priorities for consideration.

Board Action: Approve the legislative priorities.**Attachments:** [2023-01-04 \(23-132\) MPO Legislative Priorities MEMO](#)**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS****15. US 70 East Corridor Study (15 minutes)**

23-120

Andy Henry, LPA Staff**Aidil Ortiz, Aidilisms (public engagement consulting)**

The DCHC MPO is conducting a corridor study of the segment of US 70 from I-885 to the future Northern Durham Parkway, which is near the Wake County border. The study began in the second half of 2022 and the study team has collected baseline data and recently conducted public engagement activities from November through early January. The study team will provide a summary of the public engagement activities and results, and of the project schedule. A copy of today's presentation is attached. The US 70 Corridor Study web page provides the presentation used for public engagement activities and a video of one of the online meetings:

<https://www.dchcmpo.org/what-we-do/programs-plans/special-studies/us-70-corridor-study>. After today's presentation, the project team will add a summary and compilation of all public comments, and a copy of today's presentation to the web page.

TC Action: Received the presentation and provided comments.**Board Action:** Receive the presentation and provide comments.**Attachments:** 2023-02-08 (22-120) US70CorridorStudy(Ver2)

16. Annual Ethics Reminder for DCHC MPO Board (5 minutes)[23-126](#)**Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff**

Per state law, all MPO Board members and alternates are required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) and Real Estate Disclosure (RED) with the North Carolina State Ethics Commission by April 17, 2023. Forms can be completed online at <https://ethicssei.nc.gov/Efile/>.

As a reminder, any new members or alternates who are appointed throughout the course of the year must file immediately upon appointment. If you do not file within thirty days of appointment, filings will be considered past due and you will be subject to fines. The online portal updates forms at the beginning of each calendar year so if you were appointed in 2022 and have not filed your required forms, those will need to be completed manually.

Attached is additional information on filing for new members. For any additional questions related to filing, please contact kelly.fomenko@dchcmpo.org.

Board Action: Receive the Annual Ethics Reminder information.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-126\) TAC Boards and the State Ethics Commission 2023](#)

REPORTS:**17. Report from the Board Chair**[23-100](#)**Jenn Weaver, Board Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the Board Chair.

18. Report from the Technical Committee Chair[23-101](#)**Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the TC Chair.

19. Report from LPA Staff[23-102](#)**Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**

Board Action: Receive the report from LPA staff.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-102\) MPO Staff Report](#)

20. NCDOT Reports[23-103](#)

Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation

Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 - NCDOT

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

Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 - NCDOT

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division - NCDOT

John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT

Nick Morrison - NCDOT IMD

Board Action: Receive the reports from NCDOT.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-103\) NCDOT Reports](#)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST:**21. Recent News Articles and Updates**[23-104](#)

Attachments: [2023-02-08 Recent News Articles](#)

22. Greater Triangle Commuter Rail Network Survey Request[23-128](#)

A student in the Public Administration program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has requested that stakeholders involved in the Greater Triangle Commuter Rail project complete a survey as part of a research project. The email request with the link to the survey is attached.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-128\) GTCR Survey Request Email](#)

23. RSG TRB Presentation on Teleworking Trends[23-129](#)

RSG provided a presentation to the Triangle Research Board (TRB) on teleworking trends observed in the recurring Triangle Travel Survey. The slide deck from this presentation is attached.

Attachments: [2023-02-08 \(23-129\) TRB Presentation on Teleworking Trends Slide Deck](#)

Adjourn

Next meeting: March 8, 2023, 9 a.m., Committee Room

Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings: None