

# Technical Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 1:30 PM

Central Pines Regional Council

4307 Emperor Blvd Durham, NC 27703

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Adjustments to the Agenda
- 3. Public Comment

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

4. <u>Approval of the March 11, 2025 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes</u>
Beth Seidel, Clerk to the Board

**25-139** 

A copy of the March 11, 2025 Technical Committee Meeting MInutes is attached.

**TC Action:** Approve the March 11, 2025 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes.

<u>Attachments:</u> <u>Draft March 11, 2025 TC Meeting Minutes</u>

### **ACTION ITEMS**

## Triangle West TPO Regional Safety Action Plan Adoption (15 minutes) Colleen McGue, TPO Planning Manager Jared Draper, Toole Design

25-129

Triangle West TPO has developed a regional safety action plan to improve transit, pedestrian/bicyclist and highway safety throughout the Triangle West planning area. The attached plan includes a snapshot of the crash types, severities, and locations and identifies strategies for improving overall safety in the region. This plan is the result of the data analysis, community engagement, and stakeholder discussions that have taken place over the course of this planning effort.

Throughout the month of March and early April, Triangle West staff have partnered with member agencies and community-based organizations around the region to host public workshops and pop-up events to share the draft plan with the community. The comments received and discussions at these engagement events are being reviewed for incorporation into the final plan now.

The schedule for plan adoption is:

- March 11, 2025: TC recommended Triangle West Board release the draft plan for public comment.
- March 25, 2025: Triangle West Board released draft plan for public comment.
- April 8, 2025: TC recommends Triangle West Board adopt the Safety Action Plan.
- April 22, 2025: Triangle West Board adopts the Safety Action Plan.

**TC Action:** Recommend TPO Board adopt the draft Triangle West TPO Safety Action Plan.

Attachments: 2025-04-08 (25-129) TWTPO Vision Zero Plan BODY Draft v3

2025-04-08 (25-129) TWTPO Vision Zero Plan Appendix D DRAFT Member *F*2025-04-08 (25-129) TWTPO Vision Zero Plan Appendix B DRAFT Equity
2025-04-08 (25-129) TWTPO Vision Zero Plan Appendix A DRAFT Safety An

### 6. <u>Public Participation Plan Adoption (15 minutes)</u> Monet Moore, Principal Planner

25-122

The Public Participation Plan - formerly referred to as the Public Involvement Policy or 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 their feedback, and how long public comment periods will last. The plan outlines how major plans, programs, and studies will be developed and incorporate feedback from the public. The Public Participation Plan also includes guidelines that the TPO will be following to better connect with and be a part of the regional community.

The schedule for the update to the Public Participation Plan is:

- February 11: TC recommended Board release the PPP for 45 day public comment period.
- February 25: Board released the PPP for 45 day public comment period.
- April 8: TC recommends Board approve the PPP.
- April 22: Board approves the PPP.

**TC Action:** Recommend the TPO Board adopt the Public Participation Plan.

Attachments: 2025-04-08 (25-122) Triangle West TPO Public Participation Plan Presentation

2025-04-08 (25-122) DRAFT Triangle West TPO Public Participation Plan 2025

### 7. SPOT Local Input Points Methodology Release for Public Comment (10 minutes)

25-123

### Filmon Fishastion, TPO Staff

In the SPOT 8.0 process, the first step is to update the Methodology for Identifying New Transportation Improvement Program Project Requests. The Triangle West TPO will use this Methodology to select projects for submittal into SPOT 8.0.

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

- Separation of the project selection methodology from the assignment of Local Input Points
- Updated schedules
- Additional changes may be announced by the SPOT Workgroup

Significant changes from the previous Methodology are highlighted in the draft document in red. According to the current Triangle West TPO Public Involvement Policy and NCDOT guidance, the Methodology was released for a public comment period from February 25 through March 18 and a public hearing will be held at the April Board meeting. The TPO did not receive any comments on the Methodology.

**TC Action:** Recommend the TPO Board adopt the SPOT Methodology for Identifying New Transportation Improvement Program Requests.

<u>Attachments:</u> 2025-04-08 (25-123) P8 Methodology for Identifying Projects Draft

### 8. <u>FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Updates (5 minutes)</u>

25-121

### Filmon Fishastion, TPO Staff

Amendment #6 to the FY2024-33 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) contains 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.

As there are projects with changes in excess of \$2 million and 25% from the original amount, per the TPO's current Public Involvement Plan (PIP), this amendment was released for a 21-day public comment period from February 25 through March 18. The TPO did not receive any public comments for this amendment. The current timeline for adoption is as follows:

- February 11: TC recommended Board release for public comment
- February 25: Board released for public comment
- April 8: TC recommends Board approve the amendment
- April 22: Board approves the amendment

One update since this was first presented is the inclusion of a Community Project Funding award granted to the Town of Chapel Hill for TL-0062, which will support bus stop improvements in downtown Chapel Hill.

**TC Action:** Recommend that the TPO Board adopt TIP Amendment #6.

<u>Attachments:</u> 2025-04-08 (25-121) FY24-33 Amendment 6 Summary Sheet

2025-04-08 (25-121) FY24-33 Amendment 6 Full Documentation

2025-02-25 (25-121) FY24-33 Amendment 6 Summary Sheet

2025-02-25 (25-121) FY24-33 Amendment 6 Full Documentation

### 9. <u>MTP: Alternatives Analysis - Concepts, Key Projects, and Results (15 minutes)</u>

25-140

Yanping Zhang, TPO Staff Dolly Hall-Quinlan, TPO Staff Eve He, TPO Staff

The Alternatives Analysis and Evaluation is the third step in developing the 2055 MTP, following the Goals and Objectives phase and the Deficiency and Needs Analysis. The purpose of this phase is to explore various development and transportation foundations/alternatives for the region's future, fostering public and agency discussions that will shape the 2055 MTP.

In February 2025, a presentation provided an overview of these transportation foundations/alternatives, the development of three scenarios, along with their assumptions and draft lists of key highway projects and transit services.

Since the Triangle West Board will not meet in May, staff is seeking authorization to release the Alternatives Analysis once the multiple land use and travel demand models, documentation, and presentation are complete in late April or early May, rather than waiting until the June TPO Board meeting. This earlier release will provide staff with more time to incorporate public comments into the Preferred Scenario and stay on track with the MTP schedule.

For the TC meeting, staff will present model results and performance measures for one or two scenarios, depending on availability at the time of the meeting.

**TC Action:** Provide comments and recommend that the Triangle West TPO Board authorize staff to release the Alternatives Analysis once all model results and documentation for the three scenarios are complete.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

### 10. Triangle Transportation Choices FY24 Annual Impact Report

25-136

### Presentation (15 minutes)

### Jenna Kolling, Central Pines Regional Council David Miller, TPO Staff

The Triangle Transportation Choices Program provides funding for Transportation Demand Management (TDM) initiatives across the Triangle region. Grant recipients use a variety of strategies-including marketing campaigns, digital outreach, in-person engagement, and promotional events-to encourage residents and workers to choose carpooling, vanpooling, transit, biking, walking, teleworking, flexible work schedules, and compressed workweeks instead of driving alone.

Since its launch in 2007, the program-jointly funded by Triangle West TPO, Capital Area MPO, and the NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division-has played a vital role in reducing congestion and making better use of existing transportation infrastructure. Over the past sixteen years, it has reduced roadway demand by 915 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

### Key Program Impacts in FY24:

- \$1.84 million in funding distributed across 18 grant recipients, including \$122,000 for four community-based and nonprofit organizations.
- 24,000 residents and workers now use alternative transportation regularly, reducing reliance on single-occupancy vehicles.
- 5 million single-occupancy vehicle trips averted.
- Over 70 million commute miles eliminated, cutting fuel consumption, emissions, and roadway congestion.

#### Strengthening Cost-Effectiveness & Societal Benefits

Building on last year's analysis, this year's impact report continues to highlight the cost-effectiveness and broader societal benefits of TDM investments. In addition to reducing congestion and emissions, the program delivers broader benefits, including:

- Global climate change mitigation by reducing transportation-related emissions.
- Delaying costly road expansions through improved system efficiency.
- Public health benefits by promoting active transportation (biking/walking).
- Lowering air and noise pollution, improving community well-being.
- Reducing fuel consumption, benefiting households and businesses.
- Decreasing traffic congestion and vehicle crashes, enhancing safety.

In FY24 alone, the program generated an estimated \$29 million in societal benefits, demonstrating its value beyond traditional transportation metrics.

**TC Action:** Receive the presentation and provide comment.

<u>Attachments:</u> 2025-04-08 (25-136) FY24 TTC TDM Annual Impact Report

2025-04-08 (25-136) FY24 TTC TDM Executive Summary - Annual Impact Repo 2025-04-08 (25-136) FY24 TTC TDM Annual Impact Presentation for Triangle V

### 11. <u>Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Deployment Roadmap</u> Matt Day, Central Pines Regional Council

25-135

The Capital Area MPO and Triangle West TPO jointly sponsor a Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Working Group, which is administered by Central Pines Regional Council. This working group is tasked with implementing the region's ITS Strategic Deployment Plan and coordinating other issues related to transportation technology and transportation systems management in the region. The working group recently drafted an "ITS Deployment Roadmap" document to help the group focus its efforts on the near-term steps that need to be taken to advance these goals over the next several years. The document can be found at this link.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) is a blanket term for a variety of activities that use advanced technologies and strategies to enhance transportation safety, efficiency, and productivity. ITS improvements are often performed as part of a larger Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) strategy or program. Common examples of ITS projects include traffic signal system interconnection/coordination, in-vehicle traveler information (connected vehicles), and emergency vehicle/transit vehicle signal pre-emption.

**TC Action:** Receive the report.

Attachments: 2025-04-08 (25-135) CPRC ITS Roadmap Presentation - April 2025

2025-04-08 (25-135) ITS-Deployment-Roadmap-2025

### 12. <u>Status Report on Locally Administered Projects (LAP (5 minutes)</u> Colleen McGue, Planning Manager

25-138

In October 2023 the Triangle West TPO Board adopted an update to the Federal Funding Policy, which guides the distribution of federal funds that flow through the TPO for local projects, such as Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable (STBGDA), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). By applying for federal funding for a project through the MPO's program, the applicant is committing to locally managing that project. The sponsor is responsible for all federal and state reporting requirements associated with the funding source applied to their project, as well as MPO reporting requirements.

The Triangle West TPO 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. The attached information will form the basis of the first report for FY25, which will be provided to the TPO Board at their April meeting.

The FY 2025 UPWP includes a Local Project Delivery Initiative. This initiative is intended to assist our TPO, in partnership with our local jurisdictions and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (the Department), with obligating and delivering projects in the Triangle West area. Triangle West was awarded a Prioritization Process Pilot Program grant through USDOT in December 2024 to complete this work. This project is currently awaiting a grant agreement. Once the grant agreement is in place, a consulting team will be procured to conduct interviews with relevant stakeholders (the Department, our local jurisdictions, and TPO staff) to learn about current challenges and opportunities, and produce recommendations for improving our federal funding process and LAP program. A desired outcome of this study is project benchmarking, a web dashboard, and improved project sponsor update opportunities.

**TC Action:** Receive report and provide comments.

<u>Attachments:</u> 2025-04-08 (25-138) LAP Report FY25 April 2025

### **REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

#### 13. Report from TPO Staff

25-101

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC TPO Executive Director

TC Action: Receive the Report from TPO Staff

<u>Attachments:</u> 2025-04-08 (25-101) MPO Staff Report

### 14. Report from the Technical Committee Chair

25-102

Eric Vitale, TC Chair

TC Action: Receive the report from the TC Chair

### 15. NCDOT Reports

**25-103** 

Becca Gallas (Tracy Parrot, David Keilson), Division 5 - NCDOT Wright Archer (Chad Reimakoski, Nishant Shah), Division 7 - NCDOT Reuben Blakely (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 - NCDOT Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division - NCDOT John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT Regan Buchanan, Integrated Mobility Division - NCDOT

**TC Action:** Receive the reports from NCDOT.

<u>Attachments:</u> 2025-04-08 (25-103) Division 5 Report

2025-04-08 (25-103) Division 7 Report 2025-04-08 (25-103) Division 8 Report

### 16. Recent News Articles & Updates

25-104

Attachments: 2025-04-08 (25-104) Bigger, Heavier SUVs Worsen Traffic Congestion in US - F

2025-04-08 (25-104) Bill proposes to fine drivers distracted by dogs or children
2025-04-08 (25-104) Bridges and Tunnels in Colorado Are Helping Animals Cor
2025-04-08 (25-104) Living Car-Free in Arizona, on Purpose and Happily - The
2025-04-08 (25-104) New NCDOT app tested at NC State helps protect pedestr

#### **Adjourn**

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 10, 1:30 pm, Long Leaf Conference Room

Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings: North Carolina Association of

MPOs Conference: April 15-17, 2025, Wilmington, NC