



**TRIANGLE WEST**  
Transportation Planning Organization

# MONTHLY STAFF REPORT

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This Monthly Staff Report updates the Board and Technical Committee on the board directives. It summarizes DCHC MPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) task progress. **MTP HOME STRETCH!**

## MPO BOARD DIRECTIVES

DATE	REQUEST	STATUS DETAILS
November 4, 2020	Develop a strategy to move forward on the 15/501 Corridor Study that addresses concerns about bicycle and pedestrian treatments along the corridor as well as additional outreach to local stakeholders.	Underway. Draft scope under development. Project will also incorporate MTP performance measures driven by public input; similar approach as US 70 east project. We anticipate launching the next phase of US 70 work then pivoting to 15-501 with a similar approach at the beginning of the new fiscal year.
May 11, 2022	Develop a set of specific recommendations for the legislative delegation to consider based on potential consideration for the 2025 General Assembly session.	Underway. We will reexamine; engaging NCDOT for agency priorities in 2025. As part of strategic planning, Fountain Works will provide steps for developing legislative relationships and sharing information with MPO Board members. Additionally we attended an AMPO DC fly in for legislative week; met with NC delegation and staff to listen to their priorities around reauthorization.

# UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM TASKS

## **II – A. DATA AND PLANNING SUPPORT**

### **II – A – 1 Networks and Support Systems**

1. Vehicle Miles of Travel
  - ✓ Potential local development traffic impact analysis tool for regional VMT.
2. Street System Changes
  - ✓ Our team will work with NCDOT as they update the National Functional Classification designation for our MPO planning area. Additional modeling updates for MTP scenario analysis including preferred scenario.
3. Traffic Crashes and Safety Data
  - ✓ SS4A adopted; working with partners on potential grant applications.
4. Central Area Parking Inventory
  - ✓ Supporting Hillsborough Downtown Parking Study. Data collection and public outreach moving forward.
5. Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities & Counts Inventory.
  - ✓ Permanent counter battery replacement underway.
6. Network Data Collection
7. Capacity Deficiency Analysis- alternatives complete, moving forward with preferred alternative design while collecting public input.
8. Land Use, Socio-Economic Environmental Data Analysis – CommunityViz workgroup meetings ongoing.

### **II – A – 2 Travelers and Behavior**

- Dwelling Unit, Population, and Employment Changes, Base Year Data Collection, Travel Surveys, Vehicle Occupancy Rates, Travel Time Studies, Annual Continuous Travel Behavior Surveys (Household Survey).

### **III – A – 3 Transportation Modeling**

- Travel Regional Model Enhancements, latest version successfully deployed.
- Horizon Year Data Forecasts – Gearing up for alternatives analysis. Financial Planning – initial conversations about fiscal constraint for 2055 MTP pending. We will present up to three options with the MTP including state, federal, and local financial resources. The TC and Board should prepare to affirm a one (1) cent sales tax increase on top of the current half (1/2) cent sales tax.
- Developing internal capacity to use VisionEval. [VisionEval](#) is a collaborative project to build a family of strategic tools for performance-based transportation planning into a single open-

source programming framework. Strategic tools are designed to evaluate many alternative futures and policies to address pressing issues, despite uncertainty. Unfortunately, current FHWA resource uncertainty paused further VisionEval development for the time being.

## **II – B. PLANNING PROCESS**

### **II – B – 1: Targeted Planning**

- Congestion Mitigation Plan adopted. We will apply the methodology during MTP alternatives analysis. Expect a workshop discussion in February-March. Applying CMP process and data to US 70 phase II as part of study process. CMP implementation incorporated into MTP scenarios. Developing approaches for 15-501 analysis.

### **II – B – 2: Regional Planning**

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Goal and Objectives engagement completed, working through alternatives analysis development based on public and board feedback. Held virtual open house
- Comprehensive Transportation Plan – Preparing the schedule for the update in conjunction with MTP update. Met with Durham to understand public involvement expectations and how the community uses CTP in their development ordinances. Subcommittee established – initial working discussions with NCDOT regarding models.

### **II – B – 3: Special Studies**

- Durham Freeway Corridor Study – waiting for local partner updates
- Durham County US 70 Corridor Study – Phase II procurement process in contract negotiations. Reached out to Leesville Road Coalition to discuss transportation focused virtual town hall. Refining scope with direction from NCDOT Feasibility Studies Unit.
- Durham-to-Roxboro Rail Trail Feasibility Study – Ongoing public input and existing conditions analysis.. Next steps include analyzing public survey response and establishing the trail's name and branding.
- Durham City/County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan – second round public engagement activities being planned for May. Phase 1 survey results being analyzed, and comprehensive network being developed.
- Hillsborough Parking Study – first round public engagement activities being planned for April/May, including a survey and events.
- Strategic Rail Plan – working through strategy prioritization based on critical path implementation. Next step is to review concepts with NCDOT Rail Division prior to reconvening steering committee.
- Chapel Hill Transit High Capacity – Selected vendor in contract negotiations.

## **III – A. Unified Planning Work Program**

### **III-A-1: Unified Planning Work Program**

- 2026-2027 UPWP development targeted from draft completion by September. We will rebuild our budgeting spreadsheets with updated numbers and processes. Expect a different task element layout that connects to our (currently under draft) strategic plan.

### **III-A-2: Metrics and Performance Measures**

- Will crosswalk draft 25-26 UPWP with MTP goals and strategic planning outcomes before formal submission to FHWA/FTA through NCDOT. Internal working sessions with Fountain Works to process retreat outcomes and prepare draft strategic planning deliverables.

#### **B: Transportation Improvement Program III-B-1: Prioritization**

- Monitoring SPOT 8.0 development process. NCDOT may delay.

#### **IV-B-2: Metropolitan TIP**

- Project consistency across CTP>MTP>TIP>STIP for improved concurrency. Although the MPO adjusted the Plan to remove freeway conversions and other capacity increases, we have not carried those policies forward into the Program.

#### **V-B-3: Merger and Project Development**

### **IV- C: Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI) and Other Regulatory Requirements**

#### **III- C-1: Title VI**

#### **III-C-2: Environmental Justice**

#### **III-C-3: Minority Business Enterprise Planning**

#### **III-C-4: Planning for the Elderly and disabled**

#### **III-C-5: Safety/Drug Control Planning**

#### **III-C-6: Public Participation**

#### **III-C-7: Private Sector Participation**

- Ongoing partnership with RTA to support RTA with BRT workgroup development; supporting other RTA and chamber activities.

### **IV- D: Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning**

- Ongoing NCAMPO participation, legislative engagement.

### **V- E: Board Support, Member Services, and Administration**

- Transportation guiding principles and organization assessment post processing retreat downloads, in addition to developing Federal + State information communication protocols.
- Drafting new MOU for partners to reposition around our strategic planning efforts. Will incorporate new organization identity. Proposing dues structure changes and meeting 1-1 with member representatives.
- CMAQ applications will now be accepted continuously and processed each quarter. The end dates for the applications quarters are March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31.
- Durham SWG – Completed draft work plans and DCBOCC approved. GoTriangle endorsement expected.
- Orange SWG – Completed draft work plans and OCBOCC approved. GoTriangle endorsement expected.