

TRIANGLE WEST TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 8, 2025

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization Technical Committee met on April 8, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in the Long Leaf Conference Room at the Central Pines Regional Council office and through the Zoom teleconferencing platform. The following members were in attendance:

Eric Vitale (Chair)	City of Durham
Caroline Dwyer (Vice-Chair)	Chapel Hill Transit
Jennifer Belle (Member)	City of Durham
Lindsay Smart (Member)	City of Durham
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham
Becca Eversole-Robinson (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Ben Berolzheimer (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Bergen Watterson (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Tina Moon (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Matt Efird (Member)	Town of Hillsborough
Nishith Trivedi (Member)	Orange County
Sarah Williamson (Member)	Orange County
Curtis Scarpignato (Member)	Durham County
Ellen Beckmann (Member)	Durham County
Aaron Cain (Member)	Durham County
Thanh Schado (Member)	Chatham County
Becca Gallas (Member)	NCODT Division 5
Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT TPD
Matt Day (Member)	Central Pines Regional Council
Jenna Kolling (Alternate)	Central Pines Regional Council
Delia Chi (Alternate)	RDU Airport Authority
Anne Calef (Alternate)	Research Triangle Foundation
Tracy Parrott (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 5
Davis Keilson (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 5
Chad Reimakoski (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 7
Shuchi Gupta	Central Pines Regional Council
Sean Uyehara	Central Pines Regional Council
Paul Black (Member)*	GoTriangle
John Grant (Member)*	NCDOT Traffic Operations
Cha'ssam Anderson (Member)*	University of North Carolina
Landon Coley (Alternate)*	University of North Carolina
Erin Convery (Alternate)*	City of Durham
Nishant Shah (Alternate)*	NCDOT Division 7
Marie Parker *	Town of Carrboro
Jeron Monroe*	NCDOT Division 8
Ty Cheek*	

47 Brooke Roper* Durham County
48
49 Colleen McGue Triangle West TPO
50 David Miller Triangle West TPO
51 Filmon Fishastion Triangle West TPO
52 Yanping Zhang Triangle West TPO
53 Beth Seidel Triangle West TPO
54 Monet Moore Triangle West TPO
55 Thomas Porter Triangle West TPO
56 Samad Rangoonwala Triangle West TPO
57 Madeline Galliano Triangle West TPO
58 KC Chae* Triangle West TPO
59 Dolly Hall-Quinlan* Triangle West TPO
60 Eve He* Triangle West TPO
61 Quorum count 19 of 31 voting members

62 *Attended remotely

63 Chair Eric Vitale called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.
64

65 **PRELIMINARIES:**
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67 **1. Roll Call**

68 The roll call was completed verbally and by using a sign-in sheet for in-person attendees and the
69 Zoom participant list for remote attendees.

70 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

71 Chair Eric Vitale asked the Technical Committee if there were any adjustments to the agenda.
72 There were no adjustments.

73 **3. Public Comments**

74 Chair Eric Vitale asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

75 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

76 **4. Approval of the March 11, 2025 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes**
77 **Beth Seidel, Clerk to the Board**
78

79 Thanh Schado made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Matt Day seconded the motion.
80 The motion passed unanimously.

81 **ACTION ITEMS:**

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83 **5. Triangle West TPO Regional Safety Action Plan Adoption**
84 **Colleen McGue, TPO Planning Manager**
85 **Jared Draper, Toole Design**
86

87 Colleen McGue shared that over the past nine months, the Triangle West TPO has been in the
88 process of developing a regional safety action plan to improve transit, pedestrian/bicyclist and highway
89 safety throughout the Triangle West planning area. The Vision Zero Safety Action Plan includes a
90 snapshot of the crash types, severities, and locations and identifies strategies for improving overall safety
91 in the region. This plan is the result of the data analysis, community engagement, and stakeholder
92 discussions that have taken place over the course of this planning effort.

93 Jared Draper presented the Safety Action Plan and that the comments received and discussions at
94 engagement events are being reviewed and incorporated into the final plan.

95 A motion was made by Nish Trivedi to recommend that the TPO Board adopt the Triangle West
96 TPO Safety Action Plan and was seconded by Aaron Cain. The motion passed unanimously.
97

98 **6. Public Participation Plan Adoption**
99 **Monet Moore, Principal Planner**

100 Monet Moore reviewed the Public Participation Plan (formerly referred to as the Public Involvement
101 Policy) for the Technical Committee. The PPP explains how to involved community members and other
102 stakeholders in planning a transportation system that supports regional goals like better travel options,
103 economic growth, sustainability, and fairness. The PPP explains how the public will be informed, how they
104 can share their feedback, and how long public comment periods will last. The plan outlines how major
105 plans, programs, and studies will be developed and incorporated feedback from the public. The PPP also
106 includes guidelines that the TPO will follow to better connect with and be a part of the regional community.

107 Thanh Schado moved to recommend the TPO Board adopt the Public Participation Plan. The
108 motion was seconded by Matt Efird, and the motion passed unanimously.
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110 **7. SPOT Local Input Points Methodology**
111 **Filmon Fishastion, TPO Staff**
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113 Filmon Fishastion shared that in the SPOT 8.0 process, the first step is to update the Methodology
114 for Identifying New Transportation Improvement Program Project Requests. The TPO will use this
115 Methodology to select projects for submittal into SPOT 8.0.

116 The existing Methodology was drafted during the SPOT 6.0 cycle and amended during the SPOT
117 7.0 cycle. The updated draft Methodology is based on the 2023 Methodology with the following changes:

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

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

126 There seemed to be some confusion over the word “Methodology,” so TPO staff will go back and
127 look at rewording the name of this item. Becca Eversole-Robinson moved to recommend the TPO Board
128 adopt the SPOT Methodology for Identifying New Transportation Improvement Program Requests. The
129 motion was seconded by Ellen Beckmann and passed unanimously.

130
131 **8. FY 2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Updates**
132 **Filmon Fishastion, TPO Staff**
133

134 Filmon Fishastion shared that Amendment #6 to the FY 2024-2033 Transportation Improvement
135 Plan (TIP) contains project updates such as additional funding for the NS-BRT and the swaps that
136 occurred during the August Redistribution. This Amendment also approves the Item N updates for
137 December, January, and February.

As there are projects with changes in excess of \$2M 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. The TPO did not receive any public comments for this 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.

Aaron Cain moved to recommend that the TPO Board adopt TIP Amendment #6. The motion was seconded by Nish Trivedi and passed unanimously.

9. MTP: Alternatives Analysis – Concepts, Key Projects, and Results

Yanping Zhang, TPO Staff

Dolly Hall-Quinlan, TPO Staff

Eve He, TPO Staff

Yanping Zhang reviewed the steps in developing the 2055 MTP, and the Alternatives Analysis and Evaluation is the third step in this process. 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 share the 2055 MTP.

Since the Triangle West Board will not meet in May, staff are 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 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.

A motion was made by Aaron Cain to 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. The motion was seconded by Thanh Schado and passed unanimously.

INFORMATONAL ITEMS:

10. Triangle Transportation Choices FY24 Annual Impact Report Presentation
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.

Jenna Kolling, Central Pines Regional Council Senior Program Analyst, gave a presentation on the impacts of this program during FY24. 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.
- In FY24 alone, the program generated an estimated \$29 million in societal benefits, demonstrating its value beyond traditional transportation metrics.

Nish Trivedi asked when funding applications would be available for the next cycle, and Jenna Kolling replied next year. David Miller added that Triangle West TPO will help advertise the next call for funding proposals so members are aware of the opportunity.

11. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Deployment Roadmap
Matt Day, Central Pines Regional Council

The Capital Area MPO and Triangle West TPO jointly sponsor a Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Working Group, which is administered by Central Pines Regional Council (CPRC). Matt Day from CPRC shared that 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.

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 a 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.

12. Status Report on Locally Administered Projects (LAP)
Colleen McGue, Planning Manager

Colleen McGue shared that in October 2023 the Triangle West TPO 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

220 state reporting requirements associated with the funding source applied to their project, as well as MPO
221 reporting requirements.

222 The Triangle West TPO Federal Funding Policy states that recipients of federal funding will provide
223 a brief report on the status of their locally administered projects (LAP) to the MPO Board twice a year. The
224 FY 2025 UPWP includes a Local Project Delivery Initiative that is intended to assist the TPO, in
225 partnership with our local jurisdictions and NCDOT, with obligating and delivering projects in the Triangle
226 West area. Triangle West was awarded a Prioritization Process Pilot Program grant through USDOT in
227 December 2024 to complete this work. This project is currently awaiting a grant agreement. Once the
228 grant agreement is in place, a consulting team will be procured to conduct interviews with relevant
229 stakeholders to learn about current challenges and opportunities, and produce recommendations for
230 improving our federal funding process and LAP program. A desired outcome of this study is project
231 benchmarking, a web dashboard, and improved project sponsor update opportunities.

232 It was noted that the Roxboro to Durham Rail Trail may need to be moved under Durham County.
233

234 **REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

235 **13. Report from TPO Staff**

236 **Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC TPO Executive Director**

237 Colleen McGue was filling in for Doug Plachcinski and reminded everyone that there would be no
238 May meeting. She also mentioned that they were excited to be going to the North Carolina Association of
239 MPOs Conference next week, and there will be several staff members presenting at the conference.
240

241 **14. Report from the Technical Committee Chair**

242 **Eric Vitale, TC Chair**

243 No report.
244

245 **15. NCDOT Reports**

Becca Gallas, (Tracy Parrott), Division 5

No report.

Wright Archer, (Chad Reimakoski, Nishant Shah) Division 7

No report.

Reuben Blakley (Bryan Kluchar, Jeron Monroe), Division 8

No report.

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division

No report.

John Grant, Traffic Operations

No report.

Regan Buchanan - NCDOT IMD

It was noted that Regan Buchanan has left NCDOT and is now working with the City of Raleigh.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to discuss, Becca Eversole-Robinson moved to adjourn, and

Caroline Dwyer seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m.