



## **DCHC MPO Board Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, August 9, 2023

9:00 AM

Committee Room 2nd Floor Durham City Hall

4307 Emperor Blvd  
Durham, NC 27703

## 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 June 14, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes [23-218](#)

Jean Debnam, LPA Staff

A copy of the June 14, 2023 Minutes is attached

**Board Action:** Approve the June 14, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.

**Attachments:** [2023-08-09 \(23-218\) June 14 2023 MPO Board Meeting Minutes \(Rev.\)](#)

### 6. Approval of the June 27, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes [23-217](#)

Jean Debnam, LPA Staff

A copy of the June 27, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes is attached.

**Board Action:** Approve the June 27, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.

**Attachments:** [2023-08-09 \(23-217\) June 26 2023 MPO Board Meeting Minutes \(Rev.\)](#)

### 7. Letter in Support of Chapel Hill Transit's North South Bus Rapid Transit (NSBRT) Project [23-220](#)

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

The Town of Chapel Hill requests that the MPO provide a letter in support of the Chapel Hill Transit's North South Bus Rapid Transit (NSBRT) project as part of Chapel Hill Transit's 5309 New and Small Starts Project Rating request.

**Board Action:** Authorize the MPO Executive Director to send a letter in support of the Chapel Hill Transit North South Bus Rapid Transit (NSBRT) Project.

**Attachments:** [2023-08-09 \(23-220\) Letter of Support for Chapel Hill NSBRT](#)

**8. Letter of Support for GoTriangle PROTECT Discretionary Program**[23-221](#)**Application****Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**

GoTriangle requests that the MPO provide a letter of support for GoTriangle's Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Discretionary Program application for the Nelson Road Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility - Modernization and Expansion Project.

**Board Action:** Authorize the MPO Director to send a letter in support of the GoTriangle PROTECT Discretionary Program Application.

**Attachments:** [2023-08-09 \(23-221\) Letter of Support for GoT PROTECT](#)

**9. Letter to NC Congressional Delegation Regarding 2024 THUD**[23-222](#)**Appropriations Bill Funding****Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**

Authorize the DCHC MPO Board Chair to send a letter to the NC Congressional Delegation urging the 2024 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) Appropriations bill is funded at the full levels authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, including programs supporting public transportation.

**Board Action:** Authorize the DCHC MPO Board Chair to send a letter to the NC Congressional Delegation urging the 2024 THUD Appropriations bill is funded at the full levels authorized by the IIJA, including programs supporting public transportation.

**Attachments:** [2023-08-09 \(23-222\) THUD Appropriations Support Letter](#)

**10. FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #16**[23-209](#)**Filmon Fishastion, LPA Staff**

Amendment #16 to the FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes the addition of funds to U-4726IK for Homestead Road Sidewalks and the approval of the following projects that were recommended for CMAQ funding: Morreene Road Bike/Ped Improvements (C-4928) and Hillandale Road Bike/Ped Improvements (U-4726HN). TIP Amendment #16 also adds projects to the Vulnerable Road User/Bicycle Improvement Program to take advantage of additional funding as a result of the August Redistribution efforts. This amendment was pre-authorized for public release on July 18, 2023, due to the timeline for approval needing to occur by the end of August. One change that has been made since the TC recommendation is updating project U-5934 to add transit accommodations to the description, per TC request.

Additional projects in this amendment include Item N updates from NCDOT, and other such project updates that fall under administrative modifications. A public hearing will be held at the August Board meeting to receive comments for this amendment.

**TC Action:** Recommended that the MPO Board approve the TIP Amendment #16.

**Board Action:** Approval of TIP Amendment #16.

**Attachments:**[2023-08-09 \(23-209\) Amendment #16 Full Report](#)[2023-08-09 \(23-209\) Amendment #16 Summary Sheet\\_V2](#)[2023-08-09 \(23-209\) Amendment #16 Resolution v2](#)**ACTION ITEMS**

**11. 2050 MTP Amendment #1 and AQ CDR (15 minutes)**[23-205](#)**Andy Henry, LPA staff****2050 MTP - Amendment #1**

At their June 27 meeting, the DCHC MPO Board released Amendment #1 to the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for a public comment period from June 27 through August 7, 2023. The DCHC MPO Public Involvement Policy requires this minimum public input period of 42 days for a major MTP amendment. It was noted that the MTP identifies the future highway, public transportation, bicycle, pedestrian and other transportation projects and that projects cannot be funded in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) unless they are included in the MTP. The DCHC MPO will adopt the FY 2024-2033 TIP on August 9, 2023, and thus the following projects require amendment in the 2050 MTP to allow these projects to go forward in the TIP:

- **I-40 auxiliary lanes** - Add this project to the 2050 MTP. A single auxiliary lane, approximately 0.75 mile in length, will be constructed from the end of the I-885/I-40 westbound ramp to the NC 55 exit ramp. This auxiliary lane will be on only one side of the roadway and the 12-foot shoulder is capable of accommodating Bus on Shoulder System (BOSS) operations. This widening is in the FY2024-2033 STIP but not in the 2050 MTP for a few different reasons. The MPO included very few road widening projects in the 2050 MTP to support goals related to the natural environment and climate change. Also, staff consider this improvement as an operational improvement because of the limited extent and the intent to more effectively use the existing travel lanes. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) considers a lane addition of 1 mile or less an operational improvement, as well. Operational improvements are not specifically defined and listed in the Transportation System Management section of the MTP. The estimated cost is from the STIP.
- **NC 55 Southbound Lane** - Add this project to the 2050 MTP and include bicycle, pedestrian and transit facilities in the description. A single auxiliary lane, approximately 0.10 mile in length, will be constructed from Meridian Parkway to the I-40 ramps. This auxiliary lane will be on only one side of the roadway. The project will need to comply with NCDOT Complete Streets policy and the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) includes bike lanes and a multiuse path (MUP) in this section. This widening is in the FY2024-2033 STIP but not in the 2050 MTP for a few different reasons. The MPO included very few road widening projects in the 2050 MTP to support goals related to the natural environment and climate change. Also, staff consider this improvement as an operational improvement because of the limited extent and the intent to more effectively use the existing travel lanes. Operational improvements are not specifically defined and listed in the Transportation System Management section of the MTP. The estimated cost is from the STIP.

- NC 98 (Holloway Street) - Segment the current 2050 MTP project into three separate projects to match the funding sequencing in the FY2024-2033 STIP. The funded segment, i.e., Junction Road to Lynn Road, will move to the 2040 horizon in the MTP, and have a safety project description that includes a median, and bicycle, pedestrian and transit facilities. The remaining two segments will stay in the 2050 horizon and include the same description. The estimated cost for the Junction Road to Lynn Road segment is from the STIP. The estimated cost for the other two segments is a proportional distribution based on the project length from the original 2050 MTP cost.

The following attachments support this action item:

- A summary and compilation of the public comments received as of July 31 (for both the MTP amendment and AQ CDR);
- A draft of the resolution that will adopt the 2050 MTP Amendment #1; and,
- Details on Amendment #1, including the exact changes to the highway table, which is Appendix 2 of the 2050 MTP.

#### Air Quality Conformity Determination Report (AQ CDR)

Transportation Conformity Determination Report (AQ-CDR) demonstrates that certain pollutant emissions from the future transportation sector will not exceed a specified threshold. The AQ CDR must also be updated to reflect the changes to the future transportation sector depicted in 2050 MTP Amendment #1 and FY 2024-2033 TIP. It was released for the same public comment period as the 2050 MTP Amendment #1.

The following attachments support this action item:

- A compilation of the public comments received as of July 31 (for both the MTP amendment and AQ CDR);
- A draft of the resolution to adopt the updated AQ CDR; and,
- The updated AQ CDR.

#### Schedule

- August 7 -- 2050 MTP Amendment #1 and the AQ CDR public comment period ends
- August 9 - Conduct public hearings and adopt the 2050 MTP Amendment #1 and AQ CDR

A public hearing is scheduled for this item at today's meeting and several members of the public are signed up to speak.

**TC Action:** Recommended that the DCHC MPO adopt the 2050 MTP Amendment #1 and the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report by separate resolutions.

**Board Action:** Adopt the 2050 MTP Amendment #1 and the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report by separate resolutions.

**Attachments:**      [2023-08-09 \(23-205\) MTPAmend1Memo revised](#)  
[2023-08-09 \(23-205\) Public Comments Summary](#)  
[2023-08-09 \(23-205\) Bike Durham Comments on 2050 MTP Amendment 1 and](#)  
[2023-08-09 \(23-205\) Conformity Determination Report Document - August 2023](#)  
[2023-08-09 \(23-205\) Resolution-2050MTPAmendment V2](#)  
[2023-08-09 \(23-205\) Resolution-AQCDR](#)

**12. Regional Travel Demand Model TRMG2V1.3 Adoption (10 minutes)**

[23-214](#)

**Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**

The attached memorandum provides a brief overview of the Regional Travel Demand Model and asks the MPO Policy Board to adopt the TRM.

**TC Action:** Recommended that the MPO Policy Board adopt the TRM.

**Board Action:** Adopt the TRM.

**Attachments:**      [2023-08-09-2023 \(23-214\) Adopt TRM v2](#)

**13. FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (10 minutes)**[23-206](#)**Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff**

On June 6, 2023, the North Carolina Board of Transportation adopted the FY2024-2033 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). In order to implement the program, the MPO Board is required to adopt the FY2024-2033 DCHC MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The STIP and the TIP must match for the first four years of the program.

There are a handful of new projects or updates that do not yet appear in the FY2024-2033 TIP but are programmed in the FY2020-2029 TIP. The FY2024-2033 STIP was temporarily locked from any future changes around April so any amendments that have occurred to the FY2020-2029 STIP since that time will be reflected in Amendment #1 to the FY2024-2033 STIP, post-adoption. Once adopted, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will review the STIP and TIP to ensure conformity. Once that review is complete, which is expected in September, the FY2024-2033 TIP will go into effect.

Per the MPO's Public Involvement Policy, the TIP was released for a 30-day public comment period on June 27, 2023 and concluded on July 26, 2023. The MPO received **85** public comments, which can be found in the attachments below. Most of these comments were in reference to two road widening projects in the STIP, those being I-5707 and U-5934. Comments also mentioned opposition to a widening of "Durham Freeway through Downtown," however project U-5937 is the only project on this segment and the project scope is to "construct auxiliary lanes and operational improvements." Details on those projects can be found in the attachments below. As a result of the July 26 TC meeting discussion, LPA staff have added an additional administrative modification to FY20-29 TIP amendment #16 which adds transit accommodations to the STIP description for U-5934.

A public hearing is scheduled for this item at today's meeting and several members of the public are signed up to speak.

**TC Action:** Recommended that the MPO Board approve the FY2024-2033 TIP, with the condition that transit accommodations be added to the STIP description for U-5934 I-40 to NC 147 in Durham.

**Board Action:** Approve the FY2024-2033 TIP.

**Attachments:**[2023-08-09 \(23-206\) DCHC MPO FY2024-2033 TIP](#)[2023-08-09 \(23-206\) FY2024-2033 TIP Public Comments](#)[2023-08-09 \(23-206\) Projects in Question](#)[2023-08-09 \(23-206\) Resolution for Adopting the FY2024-2033 TIP](#)



**14. SPOT P7.0 Project Candidates List for Public Review (20 minutes)**[23-207](#)**Colleen McGue, LPA Staff**

The Strategic Prioritization of Transportation (SPOT) process serves as input to the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). This process is in its 7th iteration, known as P7.0, and the highest scoring projects are expected to receive funding in the FY2026-2035 STIP. P7.0 project submissions must be submitted in SPOT Online (NCDOT portal) by September 29, 2023. In preparation for this, we are presenting the P7.0 project candidates for the four applicable modes within DCHC MPO boundaries, those being bicycle and pedestrian, highway, transit, and rail. DCHC MPO does not plan to submit any ferry or aviation projects in P7.0. DCHC MPO is allowed to submit 24 candidates per mode for this round. Projects already in the STIP do not count towards this submittal number; those projects are considered "carryovers" and will also be scored. NCDOT has provided some preliminary information regarding funding availability for P7, and that information is provided in the attachment below.

The project lists are structured in the following order:

**1) Project Submissions** - *These projects are listed in no particular order at this time.*

There are 24 slots because the MPO is only allotted submission of 24 projects. Projects in this section include holding tank projects (those submitted in previous SPOT cycles that have a SPOT ID), and new projects that are in the process of being given preliminary scores.

**2) Additional Project Considerations** - *These projects are listed in no particular order at this time.* These projects include overflow of projects that are also important to the MPO. Projects here are also holding tank projects or new submittals, and also include projects that were submitted by other MPOs, RPOs, or local NCDOT Divisions. MPO staff is actively working with all partners to determine which projects may be submitted on our behalf.

The current timeline for SPOT P7.0 submissions is as follows:

**August 9** - MPO Board releases projects for 21-day public review.

**September 13** - MPO Board holds public hearing and approves projects.

**September 29** - Deadline for projects to be submitted into SPOT Online.

While the MPO is only allowed to submit 24 candidates per mode, the current lists exceed those numbers. Staff will be using public input, preliminary information from SPOT Online, information regarding funding availability, and member input to determine the final recommended list ahead of MPO Board approval.

**TC Action:** Recommended that the MPO Board release the project lists for a 21-day public comment period.

**Board Action:** Release the project lists for a 21-day public comment period.

**Attachments:**      [2023-09-13 \(23-207\) DCHC SPOT P7.0 Project Submissions 9-13 v4](#)  
[2023-09-13 \(23-207\) DCHC SPOT P7.0 Ranked and Scored Projects](#)  
[2023-09-13 \(23-207\) SPOT 7.0 Public Input](#)  
[2023-09-13 \(23-207\) CAMPO P7 Candidates v2](#)  
[2023-09-05 \(23-207\) SPOT P7.0 BikePed Submittal Candidates](#)  
[2023-09-05 \(23-207\) SPOT P7.0 Highway Submittal Candidates](#)  
[2023-09-05 \(23-207\) SPOT P7.0 Rail Submittal Candidates](#)  
[2023-09-05 \(23-207\) SPOT P7.0 Transit Submittal Candidates](#)  
[2023-09-05 \(23-207\) SPOT P7 Funding Availability](#)  
[2023-08-09 \(23-207\) August 4 2023 Update on P7 Funding Availability](#)  
[2023-08-09 \(23-207\) August 4 2023 P7 Funding Availability Table](#)

**15. Proposed US 15-501 Study Scope (10 minutes)**

[23-212](#)

**Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) completed a detailed study of the US 15-501 corridor from Ephesus Church Road in Chapel Hill to University Drive in Durham in 2021. The project team analyzed existing conditions, proposed recommendations, and created a final report and conceptual design. However, the MPO Board determined the study's recommended improvements did not meet the Board's adopted Goals and Objectives and declined to adopt the study. The MPO Board updated the Metropolitan Transportation Plan project description for the corridor from a freeway conversion to a boulevard conversion and modernization in 2022.

The DCHC MPO wants a consultant to collaborate with stakeholders to create a multimodal corridor solution that supports the MPO's adopted Metropolitan Transportation Plan' goals and objectives. We anticipate a recommended corridor alternative that provides access for all users, decreases energy consumption and emissions, improves safety, increases operational efficiency, and respects the natural and built environments.

**TC Action:** Recommended that the MPO Board approve the proposed US 15-501 study scope.

**Board Action:** Approve the proposed 15-501 study scope.

**Attachments:**      [2023-08-09 \(23-212\) 15-501 Corridor Study - Scope 08-09-2023](#)

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**16. US 70 West Multimodal Corridor Study (10 minutes)**[23-211](#)**Nish Trivedi, Orange County**

This presentation will serve as an update to all member agencies on the progress of the US 70 West Multimodal Corridor Study from NC 751 in eastern Orange County to NC 119 west of Mebane in Alamance County.

**TC Action:** For information and received comments.

**Board Action:** For information and to receive comments.

**Attachments:** [2023-08-09 \(23-211\) Presentation US 70 West MCS MPO](#)

**17. Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Action Plan Update (10 minutes)**[23-213](#)**Colleen McGue, LPA Staff**

The DCHC MPO successfully applied for a United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) planning grant to develop a *Vision Zero Action Plan*. The DCHC MPO *Vision Zero Action Plan* will develop strategies to eliminate all transportation fatalities and severe injuries by the year 2050. The *Vision Zero Action Plan* will be a collaborative effort, combining the DCHC MPO, elected officials, stakeholders, and public outreach to create safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all. Atkins has been contracted to develop a draft scope for this plan in partnership with the community. The draft scope is included as an attachment to this agenda item. Following the TC meeting today, a Stakeholder Forum to gather ideas and input on the draft scope will be held. The comments, ideas, and suggestions from the Stakeholder Forum will be compiled and considered for incorporation into the final scope that will be released as part of a Request for Proposals/Request for Qualifications (RFP/RFQ) for the *Vision Zero Action Plan*. The RFP/RFQ is expected to be released early this fall. The planning effort for the *Vision Zero Action Plan* is expected to be underway this fall.

**About Safe Streets for All and Vision Zero**

Safe Streets for All (SS4A) is a federal grant program through the US Department of Transportation that funds regional, local, and tribal initiatives to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. More information is available at the following link:

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>

The SS4A program is aligned with Vision Zero, which is a collaborative partnership (including NC Department of Transportation) that works to eliminate fatal and serious injuries caused by crashes on all roadways. More information about NC Vision Zero is available at the following link: <https://ncvisionzero.org/>

**TC Action:** For information only and received comments.

**Board Action:** For information and only and to receive comments.

**Attachments:** [2023-08-09 \(23-213\) DCHCMPO Vision Zero Action Plan Draft Scope - 2023-07](#)

**18. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update - Performance** [23-139](#)**Measures (15 minutes)****Yanping Zhang, LPA Staff**

The congestion management process (CMP) is a systematic and regionally-accepted approach for managing congestion that provides accurate, up-to-date information on transportation system performance as well as assessments of alternative strategies for congestion management that meet State and local needs. Federal requirements state that the CMP shall be developed and implemented as an integrated part of the metropolitan transportation planning process. The draft performance measures for the Congestion Management Process (CMP), and an update on the latest CMP/MRC developments, will be presented.

**TC Action:** Received the presentation and provided comments.

**Board Action:** Receive the presentation and provide comments.

**Attachments:**      [2023-08-09 \(23-139\) CMP Update+PMs Presentation-8-8-2023](#)  
                              [2023-08-09 \(23-139\) PMs-objective\\_v3.1\\_draft-0808-2023](#)  
                              [2023-03-08 \(23-139\) CMP Update+StudyArea+Corridors-2-27-2023](#)

**REPORTS:****19. Report from the Board Chair** [23-100](#)**Jenn Weaver, Board Chair**

**Board Action:** Receive the report from the Board Chair.

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

**Board Action:** Receive the report from the TC Chair.

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

**Board Action:** Receive the report from LPA staff.

**Attachments:**      [2023-12-13 \(23-105\) MPO Staff Report](#)

**22. 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, Integrated Mobility Division - NCDOT**

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

Attachments:      [2023-12-13 \(23-103\) NCDOT Reports](#)

**Adjourn**

**Next meeting: September 13, 2023, 9 a.m., Committee Room**

**Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings: None**