

**Joint Meeting of the Executive Boards of the  
Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO and the Capital Area MPO**

**May 31, 2018 9:00 am – 11:30 pm**

**Minutes of Meeting**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro (DCHC) Metropolitan Planning Organization Board and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) Board met on May 31, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at Research Triangle Park Headquarters in Durham, NC. The following people were in attendance:

Wendy Jacobs (Member, DCHC)	Vice Chair
Pam Hemminger (Member, DCHC)	Town of Chapel Hill
Jennifer Weaver (Member, DCHC)	Town of Hillsboro
Ellen Beckman (Member, DCHC)	City of Durham
Ellen Reckhow (Member, DCHC)	Durham County
Renee Price (Member, DCHC)	Orange County
Mark Bell (Alternate, DCHC)	Town of Hillsboro
Mark Marcoplos (Alternate, DCHC)	Orange County
Lydia Lavelle (Alternate, DCHC)	Town of Carrboro
Harold Weinbrecht (Member, CAMPO)	Chair
Sig Hutchinson (Member, CAMPO)	Vice Chair
Will Allen (Member, CAMPO)	GoTriangle
Vivian Jones (Member, CAMPO)	Wake Forest
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
Mo Devlin	DCHC MPO
Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Nishith Trivedi	Orange County
Zachary Hallock	Town of Carrboro
Kayla Seibel	Town of Chapel Hill
Bergen Watterson	Town of Chapel Hill
Shelby Powell	CAMPO
Alex Rickard	CAMPO
Chris Lukasina	CAMPO
Paul Black	CAMPO
Chrystin Odum	CAMPO
Adam Howell	Wake County TPAC
Gretchen Vetter	NCDOT
Kenneth Withrow	City of Raleigh
Tim Garrison	Wake County
Juliet Andes	Town of Cary

45	Ben Howell	Town of Morrisville
46	Shannon Cox	Town of Apex
47	Dylan Bruchhaus	Town of Morrisville
48	John Tallmadge	GoTriangle
49	Jeff Mann	GoTriangle
50	Steven Sullivan	GoTriangle
51	Danny Rogers	GoTriangle
52	Eddie Dancausse	FHWA
53	Joe Milazzo	Regional Transportation Alliance
54	Scott Levitan	Research Triangle Foundation (CEO)
55	Lisa Jemison	Research Triangle Foundation
56	Mushtaqur Rahman	Baseline Mobility
57	Julie Bogle	NCDOT – TPD
58	Mark Eatman	NCDOT – TPD
59	Richard W. Hancock	NCDOT Division 5

60

## 61 AGENDA

### 62 **1. Welcome & Introductions**

63 Harold Weinbrecht, Chair, CAMPO

64 Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair, DCHC MPO

65 CAMPO Chair Harold Weinbrecht and DCHC MPO Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs called the meeting

66 to order at 9:03 a.m. A roll call was performed. The Members of the MPO Boards were identified and

67 are indicated above. Harold Weinbrecht stated that the population in the Triangle is increasing,

68 therefore multimodal transportation is important for consideration and discussion between neighboring

69 MPOs. Wendy Jacobs stated that certain DCHC MPO Members and Alternates were not able to attend

70 due to budgetary meetings and other scheduling conflicts. She suggested that future spring meetings be

71 scheduled to avoid these conflicts. Wendy Jacobs also thanked everyone for their continued support for

72 the Durham-Orange Light Rail (D-O LRT) Project as the North Carolina budget bill is being reviewed by

73 the North Carolina General Assembly.

### 74 **2. Host Welcome**

75 Scott Levitan, President & CEO, Research Triangle Foundation

76 Scott Levitan thanked both MPOs for attending and reassured the DCHC MPO Board of the

77 Research Triangle Park (RTP) Foundation's continued support of light rail and other transit. Scott Levitan

acknowledged that a multimodal commuting site, Triangle Metro Center, has been designated adjacent to RTP.

Scott Levitan stated that RTP continues to add new development, such as Park Center and the Frontier. Scott Levitan discussed that there is a great need to get people from point to point throughout the RTP, which will increase once transit comes to the Triangle. Scott Levitan further added that the RTP Foundation and its consultant, WSP, are looking for immediate solutions using existing technology, as well as looking ahead for long term solutions. Scott Levitan stated that he is scheduled to attend another meeting, but Lisa Jemison from the RTP Foundation will remain to answer questions.

### **3. Comments by the Public**

There were no comments from the public.

### **4. Major Transit Investments – Overview and Status**

John Hodges-Copple, Triangle J Council of Governments

John Hodges-Copple stated that DCHC MPO and CAMPO are increasing collaboration by having Joint MPO Board Meetings and Joint MPO Executive Committees. John-Hodges Copple also mentioned that Wake, Durham, and Orange counties have all adopted a sales tax, which was a part of a joint transit investment strategy.

John Hodges-Copple also discussed the major transit investments that are a part of the county transit plans, including Chapel Hill Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), D-O LRT, Wake-Durham Commuter Rail, and the Wake County BRT. John Hodges-Copple stated that the D-O LRT is in the engineering, or final, phase of planning; Chapel Hill BRT is in the project development phase; and the Wake-Durham Commuter Rail and the Wake County BRT projects are in the major investment study phase. John Hodges-Copple stated that the transit plan totals 82 miles of high quality transit investment and totals \$4.3B in cost.

John Hodges-Copple stated that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for DCHC and CAMPO extends to the mid-2040s and will increase the amount of transit. John Hodges-Copple stated that the Wake County Transit plan continues until the mid 2020s. John Hodges-Copple stated that,

under the MTPs, the D-O LRT project has an approximate two mile extension that would end in central Carrboro. John Hodges-Copple stated that in the MTP the Wake-Durham Commuter Rail Line extends to Hillsborough on one end and through Garner to Clayton on the other end. John Hodges-Copple added that there would also be an extension for the Wake-Durham Commuter Rail going north through Wake Forest and into Franklin County and south towards Apex; both of which would be in CAMPO jurisdiction. John Hodges-Copple stated that there would be extensions of the Wake County BRT that would go south toward Garner, north through upper Raleigh, and east along Harrison Avenue in Cary.

John Hodges-Copple stated that two greenway corridors, the East Coast Greenway and the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, could also bring economic development and increase quality of life in the Triangle with appropriate investment. Will Allen and John Hodges-Copple discussed the possibility of Amazon and Apple locating in the Triangle. Wendy Jacobs and John-Hodges Copple discussed disseminating the presentation to the members of DCHC MPO and CAMPO who could not be in attendance.

## **5. Major Roadway Investments – Overview and Status &**

### **6. SPOT 5 – Results to Date and Next Steps**

Alex Rickard, CAMPO & Aaron Cain, DCHC MPO

Alex Rickard stated there are numerous projects committed as a result of SPOT 3 and 4; most of which are under construction, and funding is secure. Alex Rickard stated that the largest project for CAMPO is the I-540 corridor from NC 55 in Holly Springs to I-40, which has committed funding. Alex Rickard also listed some of the other projects, including the I-40 corridor and US 1 from I-540 to NC 98. Alex Rickard stated that the Secretary of Transportation planned to accelerate a number of projects at the end of SPOT 4 in order to obtain greater future funding. Alex Rickard stated that this resulted in fewer of projects during the first five years of SPOT 5, but there are more planned projects in the latter five years. Alex Rickard stated that the Managed Motorways Project that Division 5 submitted is CAMPO's most important project for the STIP.

Aaron Cain stated that DCHC has worked with DOT to combine their US 70 project with CAMPO's in order to streamline the process. Aaron Cain stated that there are two major projects on I-85 and I-40, however, scheduling may be staggered in order to avoid major construction on those two projects at the same time.

Alex Rickard discussed that CAMPO's rail grade separation projects are now funded at the statewide level. Alex Rickard also noted that there is \$1B in regional funding that has not yet been awarded, and both MPOs have released their draft point allocations. Aaron Cain stated that the DCHC Technical Committee has made early recommendations, and there are plans for the MPO to adopt the draft point allocation in June 2018.

## **7. Transportation Policy Priorities for the Research Triangle Region**

Chris Lukasina, CAMPO

Chris Lukasina stated that the draft talking points version of the Joint Triangle Transportation Policy Priorities has been created. The list was disseminated among the Joint Board members. Chris Lukasina stated that members of both MPO Boards can use this to discuss with other elected officials, state legislatures, or national delegations. Chris Lukasina stated that the Keys to a Mobile Future are; (i) *Economic Development and the Attraction of Diverse Talent*; (ii) *Healthy, Complete Communities Accessible to All Residents*; and (iii) *Safety for All Travelers from Youth to Seniors*. Chris Lukasina also stated the Regional Policy Priorities are; (1) *Invest for Success*; (2) *Level the Playing Field*; (3) *Enable Critical Corridor Investments to Be More Cost Effective*; (4) *Remove Funding Barriers for Small Towns and Rural Areas in Division with Large MPOs*; (5) *Return NC to Leadership in Active Transportation Investment*; (6) *Strengthen Support for Demand-Management and Technology*; and (7) *Recognize Statewide Projects in Other Modes, Not Solely Roadways and Freight Rail*. Each Regional Policy Priorities also have bullet points and a brief narrative.

Ellen Reckhow and Wendy Jacobs recommended revising the language in section two (2) in order to address issues of stability, reliability, and predictability. Ellen Reckhow and Wendy Jacobs

recommended changing the wording in a bullet point for section two (2) and three (3), to eliminate mention of 10% in relationship to caps on funding.

Sig Hutchinson stated that the purpose of the Transportation Policy Priorities is as a way to articulate the unified vision for the Triangle region to elected leaders and members of the General Assembly. There was discussion about the language of section five (5), *Return NC to Leadership to Become a Leader*, in order to emphasize a bolder stance in transportation investment. Renee Price and Jennifer Weaver discussed emphasizing section four (4), *Removing Barriers to Funding of Rural Areas in Divisions with Large MPOs*, in order to strengthen connectivity between urban and rural areas. There was discussion about editing language in order for the document to be able to be applied to a larger area in North Carolina, but it was decided that the Transportation Policy Priorities document would be used as a foundation that would only be applied to only the Triangle region at this time.

Ellen Reckhow stated that there are plans to proceed with a Technical Corrections Bill in the North Carolina legislature to address the funding of light rail in the new state budget. Ellen Reckhow stated that at the Research Triangle Regional Partnership Annual meeting on May 30 there was discussion that a strong public transit system would be necessary for the Triangle region to be more competitive in attracting businesses and labor.

Sig Hutchinson discussed making the necessary changes to the document and then disseminating the revised Transportation Policy Priorities among members and staff of the MPOs. Ellen Reckhow discussed the population growth in the Triangle, and the need to not only look for short term solutions, but also look for long term solutions as well. Sig Hutchinson and Ellen Reckhow discussed the need for approval of the Transportation Policy Priorities. Sig Hutchinson stated that an official endorsement was not required from the DCHC MPO Board.

#### **8. Updates from MPO Strategic Partners**

Jeff Mann, Go Triangle and Joe Milazzo, Regional Transportation Alliance

Jeff Mann described the status of the state budget and its impact on funding the D-O LRT and future light rail projects. Jeff Mann stated that the language in the budget would prohibit the D-O LRT from receiving a Full-Funding Grant Agreement. Wendy Jacobs discussed the importance of speaking to stakeholders about the Technical Corrections Bill and the future of light rail. Wendy Jacobs added that the \$1.2B of federal money for the D-O LRT project would result in an increase in jobs for the region and as well an increase in GDP and tax revenue. Wendy Jacobs stated that the D-O LRT project has been in compliance with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) rules and regulations. Jeff Mann added that State Senator Floyd McKissick has been an advocate for transit. Sig Hutchinson stated that \$88M has already been spent on this project. Ellen Reckhow stated that there is a high return on investment with this project. Harold Weinbrecht stated that he encourages everyone to discuss this issue with local stakeholders.

Joe Milazzo stated that the Triangle region is unique in mass transit adoption in that the Triangle is has had three countywide transit referendums pass the first time. Joe Milazzo also noted that his top priority will also be the I-540 corridor.

#### **Other Business**

There was discussion about the date for the next Joint MPO meeting. The meeting will be on October 31 at 9AM, but the location is TBD.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Joint MPO Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38am.