



**DCHC MPO Board
Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

9:00 AM

Committee Room 2nd Floor
Durham City Hall 101 City Hall Plaza
Durham, NC 27701

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****5. Directives to Staff**[19-100](#)

Attachments: [2019 11-13 \(19-100\) MPO Board Directives to Staff.pdf](#)

CONSENT AGENDA**6. October 9, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes**[19-187](#)

A copy of the October 9, 2019 Board meeting minutes is enclosed.

Board Action: Approve the minutes of the October 9, 2019 Board Meeting

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-187\) 10.09.19 MPO Board Meeting Minutes_LPA2.pdf](#)

ACTION ITEMS

7. **NCDOT's Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Guide (20 minutes)** [19-193](#)

Hanna Cockburn, Director, NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division

Dale McKeel, LPA Staff

On August 29, 2019, MPOs across North Carolina were provided NCDOT's new Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Guide. The Complete Streets Policy has the support of the N.C. Board of Transportation, and the Implementation Guide provides comprehensive guidance for incorporating a complete streets approach into NCDOT's planning, programming, design, and maintenance processes.

Hanna Cockburn, Director of the NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division, will attend the MPO Board meeting to discuss these documents and answer questions. The Technical Committee at its October 23 meeting reviewed the attached list of questions, which was then sent to Ms. Cockburn in advance.

Board Action: No action is necessary at this time. This item is for informational purposes only.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-193\) NCDOT Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Guide](#)
[2019-11-13 \(19-193\) Questions about NCDOT's new Complete Streets Policy a](#)

8. Update of the Triangle Region TDM Plan[19-181](#)**Andrea Eilers, Triangle J Council of Governments****Dale McKeel, LPA Staff**

The N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) adopted a statewide Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan in 2004. In 2006 and 2007, organizations in the Triangle region came together to create the Triangle Region 7-Year Long Range TDM Plan. This Plan had a single goal of reducing annual growth in Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) by 25 percent, to support Senate Bill 953. The Triangle Region TDM Plan was first updated in 2014 to revise the list of activities and update the hotspots, which are targeted priority areas for funding under the program.

A second update to the Triangle Region TDM Plan is being done in 2019 and is expected to be completed by early 2020. This update is necessary for several reasons. First, the Triangle TDM Program has surpassed its original goal of 25 percent reduction in growth of VMT for many years and needs a more challenging goal. Second, Senate Bill 953 has since expired and, in the absence of any new goals, it is important to revisit and update the program's goals. Third, with new technology-based mobility entrants such as Uber and Lyft, the arrival of new modes such as scooters, concerns about congestion, and adverse impacts on health from increasing vehicular traffic, it is critical that the Triangle TDM Program makes itself more relevant to the changing transportation landscape. Lastly, the Triangle TDM Program has historically relied on VMT as the measurement of its success, though the program provides many additional benefits, such as reduced congestion, better environmental quality, reduced road construction, and better public health and safety. It is important to communicate these benefits to promote alternate commuting and mitigate the future anticipated challenges in the region arising from population increases, climate change impacts, and technological advances.

Staff from Triangle J Council of Governments will present the Triangle Region TDM Plan goals. It is recommended that the MPO Board conduct a public hearing and adopt the Triangle Region TDM Plan goals at its December meeting.

TC Action: Recommended that the Board release the Triangle Region TDM Plan for public comment.

Board Action: Receive the report and release the Triangle Region TDM Plan for public comment.

Attachments:[2019-11-13 \(19-181\) 2020 Draft Updated Triangle TDM Goals 10-14-19.pdf](#)[2019-11-13 \(19-181\) Draft Triangle Transportation Demand Management Update](#)[2019-11-13 \(19-181\) FY19 Annual Impact Report.pdf](#)[2019-11-13 \(19-181\) FY19 TDM Annual Executive Summary.pdf](#)

9. Update on Durham and Orange County Transit Plans (45 minutes)[19-191](#)

Travis Myren, Orange County Assistant Manager
Pat Young, Durham City-County Planning Department
Patrick McDonough, GoTriangle
Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

The Durham and Orange County Transit Plans direct the allocation of revenue levied from the additional half-cent sales tax and vehicle registration fees that voters approved in 2011 and 2012, respectively, to fund transit projects in the two counties. The Plans were updated in 2017; however, due to the discontinuation of the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit project, development of new plans are currently underway.

A presentation will provide information on existing conditions and pipeline projects for Durham County that are being used in the development of the plan, as well as an update on next steps and upcoming events. A presentation will also be made on the process that will be used to update the Orange County Transit Plan.

Board Action: Receive the presentations on the Orange and Durham County Transit Plans.

10. MPO Reorganization and Governance (15 minutes)[19-195](#)**Damon Seils, MPO Board Chair****Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

The DCHC MPO has reorganized its staff in light of some events taking place earlier this year. In Spring 2019, the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit project was discontinued. With the development of new transit plans in Durham and Orange counties, there is a need for a stronger presence in the MPO regarding transit planning. To accomplish this, the Staff Working Group administrator position was moved from half-time to full-time through the GoTriangle budget process, and has been elevated to a Manager position in order to better reflect the level of work intended for this new role. In addition, the City of Durham undertook a classification and compensation study which recommended a more hierarchical organizational structure for MPO staff (see attachment). The new MPO staff organization does the following:

- Creates the Planning Manager position from the former Staff Working Group Administrator. This position will supervise the three Principal Planners currently in the MPO. This position will also manage the transit plan process for Durham and Orange counties, as well as serve as the primary point of contact for the MPO on other major transit initiatives, such as Greater Triangle Commuter Rail. Recruitment for this position is currently taking place;
- Maintains the other Transportation Manager position with two modeler positions as direct reports. One of those positions is currently vacant, and recruitment is ongoing;
- Continues the Grants Administrator and Web/GIS Applications positions reporting directly to the Senior Transportation Manager. The Web/GIS Applications position is currently vacant, and recruitment is ongoing; and
- Has the Senior Technician report to the Web/GIS Applications position, rather than directly to the Senior Transportation Manager.

The Chair will appoint a committee to develop and make recommendations to the Board no later than April 2020 regarding the resources for the MPO staff; the Board's responsibility, as noted in the Bylaws, for oversight of the staff; and the role of the Planning Manager, the Staff Working Groups, and the MPO in the transit plan process for Orange and Durham Counties.

Board Action: Form a committee to make recommendations regarding staff resources and oversight.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-195\) Revised DCHC MPO Staff Organizational Chart.pdf](#)

11. NC 54 West Corridor Study - Phase Two (20 minutes)[18-179](#)**Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

Phase two of the NC 54 West Corridor Study was presented to the MPO Board in September 2019. The primary recommendation of the study is the widening of NC 54 from NC 119 in Alamance County to Old Fayetteville Street in Carrboro to four lanes with a median and sidepath for bicycle and pedestrian travel. The study also recommends installing several roundabouts along the corridor to improve traffic flow and safety at major intersections. If the MPO Board were to adopt the study, staff would then implement the recommendations by working with NCDOT to develop a project for the widening of NC 54, which would include recommending local points for such a project in SPOT.

A completed draft was released for public comment by the MPO Board on October 9, 2019. In addition to making comments directly to staff, five formal public comment opportunities are available:

- October 15 - Carrboro Board of Aldermen
- October 24 - Public Meeting, Carrboro Town Hall
- October 30 - Chapel Hill Town Council
- November 7 - Orange County Board of Commissioners
- November 13 - MPO Board Public Hearing

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen adopted a resolution opposing the recommendation to widen NC 54 (staff will provide a copy of the resolution at the MPO Board meeting). The Chapel Hill Town Council did not make a formal recommendation, though Council members did express interest in future transit in the corridor, as well as timing any future widening to actual congestion issues rather than depending on the model, should widening be the ultimate action. Comments from the Orange County Board of Commissioners will be provided at the MPO Board meeting.

Public comments received as of November 6, 2019, including synopses of comments made during the Carrboro Board of Aldermen, Chapel Hill Town Council, and public meetings, is attached.

TC Action: In an unanimous vote, the TC recommended that the MPO Board adopt a motion to:

- Receive the report;
- Direct MPO staff to proceed with the implementation of safety and operational improvements in the corridor as shown in the study, such as intersection improvements; and
- Direct MPO staff to work with local staff from Orange County and Carrboro and partners to identify future work.

Board Action: Receive the report; direct MPO staff to advocate for the implementation of operational and safety improvements in the corridor as shown in the study; and direct local staff from Orange County and Carrboro to work with MPO staff to identify future work.

Attachments: [2019 11-13 \(18-179\) NC 54 West Corridor Study Draft Report October 2018.pdf](#)
[2019 11-13 \(18-179\) NC 54 West Corridor Study Phase 2 Memo DRAFT.pdf](#)
[2019 11-13 \(18-179\) NC 54 West Corridor Study Phase 2 Figures DRAFT.pdf](#)
[2019 11-13 \(18-179\) NC 54 West Corridor Study Phase 2 Public Comments.pdf](#)

12. 2020 Safety Performance Measures (10 minutes)

[19-185](#)

Andy Henry, LPA Staff

Per federal statute, MPOs must adopt targets for their safety performance measures. MPOs may either adopt the targets developed by the state or they may develop their own. A resolution adopted by the MPO Board indicating the targets for 2020 must be adopted by February 27, 2020. Staff recommends adopting the NCDOT targets because the targets are ambitious, and using the NCDOT targets allows the MPO to use the NCDOT data. These targets would also be incorporated into the 2045 MTP.

The attached draft resolution includes NCDOT's safety performance measure targets, and the attached presentation provides further background and information on this item.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board adopt the resolution endorsing the state's safety performance measure targets.

Board Action: Review safety measures, provide comments, and adopt the resolution endorsing the state's safety performance measure targets.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-185\) 2020 Safety Performance Targets Presentation.pdf](#)
[2019-11-13 \(19-185\) 2020 Safety Performance Targets Resolution.pdf](#)

13. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan -- Amendment #2 (MTP) (10 minutes)[19-151](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

The MPO Board released Amendment #2 to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) in September and conducted a public hearing in October. There are three changes to the proposed amendment since the October Board meeting, including:

- * North Carolina Central University (NCCU) is included in the description of high capacity transit service on page 4 of Section 7. This change was based on a Board member comment at the October Board meeting.
- * "and other protected bicycle and pedestrian facilities" has been included with the SUP (shared use path) references in the Appendix 1 table and description on page 8 of Section 7 (i.e., bicycle and pedestrian policy). This was based on the public comment that was received.
- * The performance measures table in chapter 4 has new targets for the safety performance measures. This change is related to the safety measures item on this same agenda.

The final changes to the 2045 MTP report are shown in the attached Appendix 1 (i.e., highway project table), section 4 and section 7 of the report. The proposed resolution for adoption and a copy of the public comment are attached.

The changes in Amendment #2 achieve the reasons for initiating this amendment, which included:

- * Ensure consistency with the FY 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP);
- * Make new highway improvement projects eligible for SPOT 6.0 evaluation;
- * Add premium transit projects to serve demand in the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) corridor and to connect with Wake/Raleigh BRT projects;
- * Clarify MPO policy on freeway access and on appropriate bike/pedestrian facilities on arterial roadways.
- * Update the safety performance targets.

Note that the FY 2000-2029 TIP and the Transportation Conformity Determination Report (i.e., air quality) are related to Amendment #2 and will likely be adopted at the December Board meeting.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board adopt Amendment #2 to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) by resolution.

Board Action: Review and provided comments on Amendment #2, and adopt Amendment #2 to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) by resolution.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-151\) 2045MTP-Amend2-Sec7 \(Excerpt\).pdf](#)
[2019-11-13 \(19-151\) 2045MTP-Amend2-Sec4 \(Excerpt\).pdf](#)
[2019-11-13 \(19-151\) 2045MTP-Amend2-Appendix1.pdf](#)
[2019-11-13 \(19-151\) 2045MTP-PublicComments.pdf](#)
[2019-11-13 \(19-151\) 2045MTP-Amend2-Resolution.pdf](#)

14. FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (5 minutes)

[19-183](#)

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

On September 6, 2019, the North Carolina Board of Transportation adopted the FY2020-2029 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). In order to be able to implement the program, the MPO Board is required to adopt the DCHC MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP, sometimes called the MTIP). The STIP and TIP must match for the first four years of the program.

Per the MPO's Public Involvement Policy, the TIP must be released for a 21-day public comment period and a public hearing which will take place at the December MPO Board meeting. Once adopted, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will review the TIP and STIP to ensure conformity. Once that review is complete, which is expected in March 2020, the FY2020-2029 TIP will go into effect.

The Draft TIP is attached for your review. Project sheets are being compiled and will be added to the draft upon completion.

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

Board Action: Release the TIP for a 21-day public comment period.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-183\) FY2020-2029 Draft Transportation Improvement Program.](#)

15. 2020 MPO Board and Technical Committee Meeting Schedule

[19-188](#)

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

The 2020 MPO Board and Technical Committee meeting schedule is provided as an attachment.

Board Action: Adopt the 2020 MPO Board Committee meeting schedule.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-188\) TAC TCC Meetings 2020.pdf](#)

16. Election of Officers for the DCHC MPO Board (5 minutes) [19-189](#)**Damon Seils, Chair****Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

Per the DCHC MPO Board's by-laws, the Board is to hold an election for the offices of Chair and Vice Chair at its last regularly scheduled meeting of the calendar year. Following the procedure used last year, the Board will form a nominating committee for officers and report back to the Board at its December meeting.

The current Chair, Damon Seils of Carrboro, is term limited and may not serve as Chair again next year. The new Chair must come from a jurisdiction in Durham or Chatham County. The Vice-Chair must come from a county other than the newly elected Chair.

Board Action: Form a nominating committee to nominate a Chair and Vice-Chair for 2020.

REPORTS:**17. Report from the Board Chair** [19-101](#)**Damon Seils, Board Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the Board Chair

18. Report from the Technical Committee Chair [19-102](#)**Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the TC Chair.

19. Report from LPA Staff [19-103](#)**Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

Board Action: Receive the report from LPA Staff.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-103\) LPA staff report.pdf](#)

20. NCDOT Report [19-104](#)**Joey Hopkins (David Keilson/Richard Hancock), Division 5 - NCDOT****Mike Mills (Pat Wilson), Division 7 - NCDOT****Brandon Jones (Bryan Kluchar, Jen Britt), Division 8 - NCDOT****Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Branch - NCDOT****John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT**

Board Action: Receive the reports from NCDOT.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-104\) NCDOT Progress Report.pdf](#)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

21. Recent News Articles and Updates [19-105](#)

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-105\) news_articles.pdf](#)

22. I-40 Partnership Meeting Presentation [19-190](#)

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Attached are the slides from the Regional Transit Alliance's I-40 Partnership Annual Meeting which took place on October 17, 2019.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-190\) I-40 Partnership Annual Meeting Presentations - October 1](#)

23. EB-6037, Rails to Trails Program [19-194](#)

Dale McKeel, LPA Staff

At its October 9, 2019 meeting, the DCHC MPO Board directed staff to provide additional information on STIP Project # EB-6037, Rails to Trails Program. This program focuses on opportunities to partner with eligible TAP (Transportation Alternative Program) recipients to secure rail corridor rights-of-way for multi-modal trail use. NCDOT announced the program in June of this year with an application deadline in July. The funds have been awarded to projects in the City of Shelby/Cleveland County (\$4.16 million), Henderson and Transylvania counties (\$6.4 million), and the City of Greensboro/Guilford County (\$4.44 million). The attached FAQ provides additional information about the program.

Board Action: Receive the report.

Attachments: [2019-11-13 \(19-194\) Rails with Trails Application FAQs.pdf](#)

Adjourn

Next meeting: December 11, 9 a.m., Committee Room

Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings:

2020 NC Transportation Summit - January 8-9, 2020, Raleigh, NC