

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

BOARD MEETING

June 25, 2024

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on June 25, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Central Pines Conference Room at the Central Pines Regional Council office and through the Zoom teleconferencing platform. The following members were in attendance:

Karen Howard (Chair)	Chatham County
Javiera Cabellero (Vice Chair)	City of Durham
Jamezetta Bedford (Member)	Orange County
Carl Rist (Member)	City of Durham
Melissa McCullough (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Danny Nowell (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Mark Bell (Member)	Town of Hillsborough
Brenda Howerton(Alternate)	GoTriangle
Camille Berry*(Alternate)	Town of Chapel Hill
Bergen Watterson*	Town of Chapel Hill
Ben Berolzheimer*	Town of Chapel Hill
Tina Moon	Town of Carrboro
Thanh Schado*	Chatham County
Eric Vitale	City of Durham
Erin Convery*	City of Durham
Curtis Scarpignato*	City of Durham
Lindsay Smart*	City of Durham
Brian Taylor *	City of Durham
Bill Judge*	City of Durham
Hannah Salvaggio*	City of Durham
Ryan Eldridge*	Durham County
Matt Efird*	Town of Hillsborough
Paul Black*	GoTriangle
Matt Day	Central Pines Regional Council
Darlene Weaver*	Orange County
Brandon Jones	NCDOT Division 5
Chad Reimakoski	NCDOT Division 7
Stephen Robinson*	NCDOT Division 7
Bryan Kluchar *	NCDOT Division 8
Jeron Monroe*	NCDOT Division 8
Julie Bogle *	NCDOT TPD
Kelly Milligan	Orange County
Joe Geigle	FHWA
Jacob Rigg*	RTA
Joe Milazzo	RTA
Dale McKeel	
Doug Plachcinski	DCHC MPO
David Miller	DCHC MPO

46	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
47	Filmon Fishastion	DCHC MPO
48	K.C. Chae	DCHC MPO
49	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
50	Jean Debnam	DCHC MPO
51	Madeline Galliano*	DCHC MPO
52	Cameron Schuler	DCHC MPO
53	Daniel McKiernan	DCHC MPO
54	Samad Rangoonwala*	DCHC MPO

55
56 Quorum count: 7 of 10 voting members
57 *Attended remotely

58 Chair Karen Howard called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

59 **PRELIMINARIES:**

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61 **1. Ethic Reminder**

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63 Chair Karen Howard referenced the ethics reminder. There were no known conflicts.

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66 **2. Roll Call**

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

69
70 **3. Adjustments to the Agenda**

Chair Karen Howard asked the Board if there were any adjustments to the agenda. There were no
adjustments. Doug Plachcinski asked to add the FFY 2024-5339 Apportionment Letter to the Consent
Agenda.

71 **4. Public Comments**

72 Chair Karen Howard asked if there were any public comments. Dale McKeel, of the NC
73 Conservation Network, commented on Item #8 (Amendment #3) of the agenda. Mr. McKeel asked that
74 the board not add TIP HS-0007D to the amendment to allow additional time for analysis of alternatives.
75 Mr. McKeel is asking the MPO to investigate and adopt a cost-savings approach similar to those being

76 used in Georgia and other agencies. Dale is asking the MPO to adopt an intersection control evaluation
77 to ensure consistent documentation to support transparency of decisions.

78 Mr. McKeel also commented on Item # 12 (Locally Administered Projects). He stated that
79 regarding the Status Report, there is a backlog of bike and pedestrian projects funded but not delivered
80 across NC. He would encourage the MPO to focus on delivering those projects before requesting more
81 funding.

82 Mr. Joe Milazzo, Executive Director of the Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA), mentioned the
83 success of the RTA tour in Richmond Virginia. He announced the August 6 RTA Transportation brunch at
84 the Western RDU Hotel. The focus is accelerating multimodal freeways across the Triangle and
85 applauded the MPO and NCDOT on Item 13.

86

87 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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89 **4. Approval of the May 28, 2024, TC Meeting Minutes**

90 Jean Debnam, MPO Staff

91

92 **5. FFY 2024 5307 Full Apportionment for Durham NC UZA**

93 Madeline Galliano, MPO Staff

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95 **6. FFY 2024 5339 Full Apportionment for Durham NC UZA**

96 Madeline Galliano, MPO Staff

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98 Doug Plachcinski asked to add the **FFY 2024 5339 Full Apportionment for Durham**

99 **NC UZA** to the Consent Agenda for approval. Danny Nowell made a motion to approve the Consent

100 Agenda with the addition. Mark Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

101

102 **ACTION ITEMS:**

103 **7. FY 2025-2029 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan**

104 **Transportation Plan**

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

106 Doug Plachcinski the overview of the FY 2025-2029 Coordinated Public Transit-Human

107 Services Transportation (FY 2025-2-29 CPT-HST Plan). Mr. Plachcinski reminded the board that

108 the plan had been released for a 21-day comment period in May and the period ended on June
109 19, 2024. Doug stated the bulk of the changes were graphic design changes. The board
110 requested to add a responsible agency to each proposed strategy and Doug directed the board
111 to pages 22-25 of the presentation to see those changes. Doug gave the results of the
112 Stakeholder workshops, the challenges that were faced, and listed recommendations to address
113 the challenges. Doug stated a draft survey was created as part of the survey to gauge if
114 strategies for the challenges resonated. The timeline was presented, and the floor was open for
115 questions.

116 Jamezetta Bedford made a motion to open the floor for the public hearing. Melissa
117 McCullough seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. There were no public
118 comments. Jamezetta Bedford made a motion to close the public hearing. Carl Rist seconded
119 the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jamezetta made a motion to approve the final FY
120 2025-2029 Coordinated Public Transit- Human Services plan. Javiera Cabellero seconded the
121 motion. The motion passed unanimously.

122
123 **8. Amendment #3 to the FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**
124 **Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff**

125 Filmon Fishastion informed the board that beginning with Amendment #4 the Board would
126 be following an adjusted schedule that will allow for a full comment period before it comes back to
127 the Technical Committee for review. Mr. Fishastion said nothing had changed as far as the
128 contents of the amendments. The report has the results of the recent Request for Flexible
129 Funding and the funding swaps related to the rescinded Covid funding. The MPO is still working
130 with the NCDOT State Transportation Improvement Program Unit to generate STIP IDs for new
131 projects as well as add additional funding for new projects. Filmon added the public comment

132 information received from the June 11, 2024 TC Board Meeting where Dale McKeel requested
133 HS-0007D in Durham County to be delayed until further analysis and to reconsider the
134 recommendation for a traffic signal at the intersection of Old Oxford Highway and Snow Hill
135 Road.

136 Carl Rist commented on the public comment from Dale McKeel regarding HS007D, and
137 the need for more clarity. He wished to delay the action on Item 8. Doug Plachcinski called on
138 Brandon Jones from Division 5 to explain the implications of a delay on the item. Brandon Jones
139 explained the economic developmental impacts of deferring the request. Mr. Jones focused on
140 the additional cost associated with roundabouts versus a typical turn signal intersection and how
141 they are funded out of a budget that currently has a balance of negative \$17 million.

142 Brenda Howerton asked if the businesses were taking on any of the cost. Brandon
143 explained because of the traffic analysis that was done, DOT was not able to require private
144 entities/ businesses to pay more for a roundabout because it is a better solution.

145 Javiera Cabellero emphasized that we should make the entities aware that cost is not the
146 only goal we should worry about. Melissa McCullough requested clarity on why NCDOT does not
147 include roundabouts in road construction.

148 Chair Karen Howard commented we should also remember our fiscal responsibilities,
149 recognize our constraints, and have a conversation early in the process.

150 Jamezetta Bedford made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve this
151 amendment excluding the HS-0007D. The motion was seconded by Mark Bell. The motion
152 passed unanimously.

More discussion was held after the vote.

9. Destination 2055: Revised Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Objectives
Andy Henry, MPO Staff

Andy Henry gave an overview of what the MPO had been doing regarding outreach and public engagement. Mr. Henry went over the 2055 Goals and objectives of which the Technical Committee's feedback was incorporated, and gave a summary of the changes.

Melissa McCullough made a motion to approve the 4th option which was to increase travel choices and reliability while prioritizing multimodal improvements. Jamezetta Beford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9a. Local Point Allocation & Project Ranking for SPOT 7.0
Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff

Filmon Fishastion discussed the P7 Schedule and the changes made to the schedule to give reasonable time for a public comment period and time for approval. Mr. Fishastion informed the MPO board of where we were currently in the process. Filmon presented the initial list that would be going out for public review. Filmon also discussed the local input point allocations and the equal distribution of 2000 points amongst 20 projects across the three different modes of transportation. He shared the next steps and asked if there were any questions. Filmon also shared the results of an informal Technical Committee meeting held on June 14, 2024, where several members volunteered projects from each mode for ranking from the Regional Impact Category. He presented potential deviations from the adopted Policy for Regional Impact points, and discussed the next steps of the process.

Melissa McCullough made a motion to approve the objectives for use in the development Destination 2055. Danny Nowell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

10. Adjustment to Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) Boundary and Adjusted (Smoothed)

US Census Urban Area (UA) Boundary

Cameron Schuler, MPO Staff

K.C. Chae, MPO Staff

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CGM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

Cameron Schuler addressed the technical adjustments that were needed on the MPA and the AUA. One of the technical adjustments was related to the coordinate system used in the previous boundary which was corrected. Mr. Shuler presented maps to show how the AUA Boundary went outside of the MPA Boundary in certain areas. He also presented a side-by-side view of the 2023 and the 2024 MPA so the board could see the overlap of some of the areas.

11. Status Report on Locally Administered Projects (LAP)

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, Executive Director MPO

Doug Plachcinski gave an overview of the Locally Administered Projects program and discussed the federal funding sources and overall project status. He discussed the status of the projects in individual municipalities and gave some of the additions or funding additions and adjustments. He shared the Local Project Delivery Initiative scope which will include the development of strategies to improve project delivery in the DCHC MPO area.

12. Local Point Allocation & Project Ranking for SPOT 7.0

Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff

Doug Plachcinski asked during the “adjustments to the agenda” that this item be moved to Action Items. This Item became Item 9a of this agenda.

13. Draft Scope for US 70 East Phase 2

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive

Doug Plachcinski discussed Phase 2 of the draft scope for US 70 East. He stated the MPO Board felt the TC should try to consolidate the two alternatives that were explored in Phase 1 into a preferred alternative, therefore the MPO modified the draft scope to accommodate the consolidation. This consolidation will pick the best of both projects and move them into the Express Design Traffic Evaluation (EDTE), while simultaneously trying to define some metrics according to the MPO Goals and objectives. Mr. Plachcinski asked for comments and feedback. Ellen Beckmann commented she did not think asking the consultant to identify the MPO goals and objectives was sending the right message to consultants who have the expertise in analyzing and providing the necessary information. Doug stated the MPO has a more defined process for developing EDTE and we hope to lean on the consultant to give us performance measures for projects.

14. Report from the Board Chair

Karen Howard, MPO Board Chair

No additional report.

15. Report from the Staff

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive

Doug Plachcinski reported a request of interest for strategic planning and organizational assessment. He is reaching out to consultants to move us forward. Doug discussed his takeaways from the Richmond Trip. Doug explained to the board that due to Kelly Richard's departure, the MPO does not have the capacity to work with Durham Transit on their Bus Speed and Reliability Study. A meeting has been planned for the transit partners to discuss how to move forward without technical support.

235

236 **17. NCDOT Reports**

237 **Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation**

238 Not Present.

239 **Brandon Jones (David Keilson, Tracy Parrott) Division 5- NCDOT**

240 Brandon Jones had no additional report.

241

242 **Wright Archer (Chad Reimakoski, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 – NCDOT**

243 Chad Reimakoski gave additional project updates.

244

245 **Reuben Blakley (Bryan Kluchar, Jeron Monroe), Division 8 – NCDOT**

246 Bryan Kluchar had no additional report.

247

248 **Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT**

249 Julie Bogle mentioned a consultant for Chatham County is developing a model. They will begin a

250 CTP Study.

251

252 **John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT**

253 Not present.

254

255 Bryan Lopez (Interim) - NCDOT IMD

256 Not present.

257

258 **18. Recent News Articles and Updates**

259 Chair Karen Howard referenced the news articles.

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261 **ADJOURNMENT**

262 There being no other business to discuss, Chair Karen Howard adjourned the meeting at 11:17

263 a.m.