

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

BOARD

January 23, 2024

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board met on January 23, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Long Leaf Conference Room located at Central Pine Regional Council. The following people were in attendance:

Karen Howard Board Chair	City of Durham
Javiera Cabellero Board Vice Chair	Town of Carrboro
Carl Rist*	City of Durham
Camille Berry*	Town of Chapel
Jamezetta Bedford	Orange County
Wendy Jacobs	Durham County
Danny Nowell	Town of Carrboro
Michael Parker	GoTriangle
Mark Bell	Town of Hillsborough
Yolanda Jordan	Federal Highway Administration
Lisa Mathis	NC Board of Transportation
Melissa McCullough	Town of Chapel
Brandon Jones *	NCDOT, Division 5
Chad Reimakoski*	NCDOT, Division 7
Bryan Kluchar*	NCDOT, Division 8
Darlene Weaver*	Orange County
Amy Fowler*	Orange County
Tina Moon*	Town of Carrboro
Josh Mayo*	Town of Chapel Hill
Ben Berolzheimer*	Town of Chapel Hill
Bergen Watterson*	Town of Chapel Hill
Caroline Dwyer*	Town of Chapel Hill
Matt Cecil*	Chapel Hill Transit
Matt Day	Central Pines Regional Council
Jay Heikes*	GoTriangle
Geoff Green*	GoTriangle
Eric Vitale*	City of Durham
Bill Judge*	City of Durham
Tom Devlin*	City of Durham
Matt Efird*	Town Hillsborough
Julie Bogle*	NC Department of Transportation
Thanh Schado*	Chatham County
Ed Harrison*	
Catherine Fray*	Town of Carrboro
Bryan Murphy	NCDOT- Traffic Safety Unit

Doug Plachcinski	DCHC MPO
David Miller	DCHC MPO
Colleen McGue	DCHC MPO
Filmon Fishastion*	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry*	DCHC MPO
Kelly Fomenko	DCHC MPO
Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
KC Chae	DCHC MPO
Jean Debnam	DCHC MPO
Madeline Galliano	DCHC MPO

Quorum Count: 9 of 10 Voting Members

Chair Karen Howard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A roll call was performed.

The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Board were identified and are indicated above.

PRELIMINARIES:

1. Ethics Reminder

The ethics reminder was not read aloud.

2. Roll Call

The roll call was performed by Doug Miller.

3. Adjustments to the Agenda

Chair Karen Howard asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

4. Public Comments

Chair Karen Howard asked if there were any members of the public comments. There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

5. Approval of the December 13, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes Jean Debnam, MPO Staff

NCDOT must spend all their federal safety funding and also, they have to do more reporting and develop a plan each year to state how they plan to spend the funding. Mr. Murphy said NCDOT can focus on low-cost efforts in rural areas that have tremendous impacts on safety.

Michael Parker asked why the state was raising speed limits when it is evident that speed has a negative impact that increases fatalities.

Wendy Jacobs said we should get serious about our safety. Ms. Jacobs referred the board to an article from the New York Times “Why are Americans driving so deadly”. The article agrees with the MPO’s discussion that we are designing speedways, and speed is not being enforced and the behaviors of motorist. Wendy Jacobs said more people died in Durham riding bikes and crossing streets than due to gun violence.

Javiera requested to add data from other states who have been aggressive with their safety efforts so we can see how other communities are tackling the safety issue.

Camille Berry asked if Mr. Murphy could look at presenting different opportunities for setting more realistic goals. Ms. Berry also suggested we consider having two visits not so close to the end of the year to discuss these issues.

Doug Plachcinski commended NCDOT for their work on vision zero action and he plans to coordinate some return visits to this discussion and to gather information from the Safe Streets for All grant. Through the SS4A grant we have letters of interest for consultants and a broad supported stakeholder process set up with the hopes of having a consultant by March. This process should help with improving our process.

Chair Karen Howard asked for Chatham County numbers to be added to the report and she asked if we could see percentages based on the population growth.

Javiera Cabellero requested adding whether drivers were insured or uninsured. Brian responded that he could investigate all these requests.

Michael Parker made a motion to adopt the resolution that supports state safety targets. Jamezetta Bedford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Public Hearing: Amendment #1 to the FY 2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff

Colleen McGue filled in for Filmon Fishastion. Mrs. McGue asked for a motion to open the public hearing. Javiera Cabellero moved to open the public hearing. Jamezetta Bedford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Colleen asked for public comments. There were no public comments. Javiera Caballero moved to close the public comments.

Jamezetta Bedford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Colleen discussed Amendment #1 to the FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which included the addition of funding to existing projects as well as adding new projects from the FY24 Call for Projects. The amendment also includes carryover adjustments from FY2020-2029 TIP Amendments 6, 9, 13, 14, 15, and 16. These amendments were already approved by the Board in previous meetings and are reissued for administrative purposes to reconcile data between the old and new plans, ensuring a more seamless transition into the State TIP (STIP).

Additional projects in this amendment include Item N updates from NCDOT (state provided amendments and modifications), and other such project updates that fall under administrative modifications. Two projects from Item N are not being amended into the TIP at this time as they are not in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); they are HN-0013 Erwin Road turn lanes, and HN-0014 Cornwallis Road turn lanes.

Jamezetta Bedford made a motion to approve Amendment #1. Javiera Cabellero seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. FY2024 UPWP Draft

David Miller, MPO Staff

Madeline Galliano, MPO Staff

David Miller presented the FY 2024 Draft and explained that the DCHC MPO is required by federal regulations to prepare an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that details and guides the urban area transportation planning activities. Funding for the UPWP is provided by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. The UPWP must identify MPO planning tasks to be performed with the use of federal transportation funds. Mr. Miller discussed a few of the priorities of the UPWP.

Wendy Jacobs asked if the Chapel Hill Transit High-Priority Transit Corridor Feasibility Study would interface with what Durham is doing with their corridors. Doug Plachcinski said there will be it is part of the Scope Development Study.

Carl Rist asked for an explanation of the Fast Study 2 and The Local Project Delivery Study. Doug Plachcinski explained both studies.

Mark Bell made a motion to release the FY2024 UPWP draft for public comment. Lisa Mathis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

12. Public Hearing and Destination 2055 Goals and Objectives Engagement Updates

Kelly Fomenko, MPO Staff

Andy Henry, MPO Staff

Colleen McGue, MPO Staff

Karen Howard asked for a motion to open the public hearing. Javiera Cabellero made a motion to open the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Lisa Mathis. The motion passed unanimously. Kelly Fomenko asked if there was anyone who wished to speak. There was no one present or online. Lisa Mathis made a motion to close the public hearing. Javiera Cabellero seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kelly Fomenko gave an overview of the Destination Goals and Objectives Engagement updates she reminded the Board that the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is the long-range transportation plan that covers the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) regional boundaries. This plan is updated every four years and this update is being led with the campaign name of "Destination 2055". The update of this plan is extensive and generally takes two years to complete. Engagement is guided through a Public Engagement Strategy which was approved for use by both MPO Boards in late 2023.

The first engagement phase for Destination 2055 starts with the visioning process, which looks at the goals and objectives of the plan. The goals and objectives survey was publicly released on November 16, 2023 and closed on January 15, 2024. Public hearings were scheduled at the CAMPO Board meeting on January 17 and at the DCHC MPO

Board meeting on January 23, prior to the joint CAMPO and DCHC MPO Board meeting to occur on January 31.

Other engagement efforts included: pop-up events at Durham Station, the Boxyard, and the Regional Transit Center; newspaper advertisements in the Triangle Tribunal, Que Pasa, and the News & Observer; and direct outreach to community groups.

REPORTS:

13. Report of Board Chair

Karen Howard, DCHC MPO Board Chair

There was no report from the Chair.

14. Report from the Technical Committee Chair

Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair

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235 There was no report from the TC Chair.
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237 **15. Report from the MPO Staff**

238 **Douglas Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**
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240 Doug Plachcinski reported has new members joining the MPO Staff in March. And
241 gave and update on the Safe Streets for All.
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243 **16. NCDOT REPORTS**

244 **Lisa Mathis, NCDOT Board Transportation**

245 Lisa Mathis reported that under the new teen drivers' law, the Level I license has
246 increased nine months. Mrs. Mathis also gave Booze it or lose it campaign and the Governors
247 Highway Safety Program.
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249 **Brandon Jones, NCDOT Division 5**

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251 No additional report.
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253 **_Chad Reimakoski, NCDOT Division 7**

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255 No additional report.
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257 **Reuben Blakley, NCDOT Division 8**

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259 No additional report.
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261 **Julie Bogle, NCDOT**

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263 No additional report.
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265 **John Grant, NCDOT Traffic Operations**

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267 No additional report.
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269 **Nick Morrison, NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division**

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271 No additional report.
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273 **17. Recent News Articles**
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275 **ADJOURNMENT:**

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277 There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.
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