

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD

June 8, 2022

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board met on June 8, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. remotely via Zoom. The following people were in attendance:

Jenn Weaver (Chair)	Town of Hillsborough
Karen Howard (Vice Chair)	Chatham County
Jamezetta Bedford (Member)	Orange County
Michael Parker (Member)	GoTriangle
Leonardo Williams (Member)	City of Durham
Javiera Caballero (Member)	City of Durham
Pam Hemminger (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Wendy Jacobs (Member)	Durham County
Damon Seils (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Mark Bell (Alternate)	Town of Hillsborough
Adam Searing (Alternate)	Town of Chapel Hill
Ellen Beckmann	Durham County
Nishith Trivedi	Orange County
Tom Altieri	Orange County
Josh Mayo	Chapel Hill Planning
Bergen Watterson	Chapel Hill Planning
Matt Cecil	Chapel Hill Transit
Tina Moon	Carrboro Planning
Brandon Dawson	Chatham County
Bill Judge	City of Durham
Brian Taylor	City of Durham
Sean Egan	City of Durham
Evian Patterson	City of Durham
Matt Day	Triangle J Council of Government
Jay Heikes	GoTriangle
Meg Scully	GoTriangle
Kurt Stolka	University of North Carolina
Brandon Jones	NCDOT Division 5
Tracy Parrott	NCDOT Division 5
Pat Wilson	NCDOT Division 7
Stephen Robinson	NCDOT Division 7
Bryan Kluchar	NCDOT Division 8
Jeron Monroe	NCDOT Division 8
Nick Morrison	NCDOT IMD
Julie Bogle	NCDOT Planning Division

41	Monique Holsey-Hyman	City of Durham
42	DeDreana Freeman	City of Durham
43	Eric Vitale	City of Durham
44	Erin Convery	City of Durham
45	Tasha Johnson	City of Durham
46	Tom Devlin	City of Durham
47	Jacob Rigg	Regional Transportation Alliance
48	Joe Geigle	USDOT Division 5
49	Kevin Robinson	Town of Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation
50	Travis Crayton	Research Triangle Park
51	Rachel Stair	Raleigh Durham Airport Authority
52	Brian Rhodes	Resident
53	Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
54	Dale McKeel	DCHC MPO/City of Durham
55	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
56	Kayla Peloquin	DCHC MPO
57	Mariel Klein	DCHC MPO
58	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
59	David Miller	DCHC MPO

60 Quorum Count: 9 of 10 Voting Members

61 **1. Roll Call**

62 Chair Jenn Weaver called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Voting Members and Alternate
63 Voting Members of the MPO Board were identified through a roll call and are indicated above.

64 Chair Jenn Weaver shared that the MPO's new Executive Director, Doug Plachcinski, will begin
65 his tenure on July 5. Aaron Cain added that Dr. Monique Holsey-Hyman has been appointed as the
66 MPO's new Alternate Voting Member for the City of Durham.

67 **PRELIMINARIES:**

68 **2. Ethics Reminder**

69 Chair Jenn Weaver pointed out the Ethics Reminder and asked if there were any known
70 conflicts of interest with respect to matters coming before the MPO Board and requested that if there
71 were any identified during the meeting for them to be announced. There were no known conflicts
72 identified by MPO Board Members.

73 **3. Adjustments to the Agenda**

74 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

75 **4. Public Comments**

76 There were no public comments.

77 **5. Directives to Staff**

78 Chair Jenn Weaver referenced the Directives to Staff included in the agenda packet and stated
79 most are in progress with one item pending.

80 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

81 **6. Approval of the May 11, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes**

82 Kayla Peloquin, LPA Staff

83 **7. FY22 UPWP Amendment #3**

84 Mariel Klein, LPA Staff

85 **8. FY23 UPWP Amendment #1**

86 Mariel Klein, LPA Staff

87 **9. FFY 2022 Section 5307/5340 Full Apportionment Split Letter**

88 Mariel Klein, LPA Staff

89 **10. FFY 2022 Section 5339 Full Apportionment Split Letter**

90 Mariel Klein, LPA Staff

91 **11. Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Grant – FY21 and**
92 **FY22 Call for Projects and Program Management Plan**

93 Mariel Klein, LPA Staff

94 **12. TIP Amendment #11**

95 Kayla Peloquin, LPA Staff

96 Pam Hemminger made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jamezetta Bedford seconded
97 the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:**13. Draft FY2024-2033 STIP****Kayla Peloquin, LPA Staff**

Kayla Peloquin provided an overview of the preliminary draft of the 2024-2033 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) that was released on April 25, 2022, which included its development from the previous 2020-2029 STIP, as well as an introduction to the swap process. Kayla Peloquin explained that since the 2020-2029 STIP was over-programmed on projects, no new projects have been included in the draft 2024-2033 STIP. Kayla Peloquin said that project swaps must be agreed to by NCDOT and MPO/RPO(s), that projects swapped in cannot be of a higher tier than those being swapped out, and project budgets swapped in must be within 10% of projects being swapped out. Kayla Peloquin then shared the prominent DCHC MPO projects in the draft 2024-2033 STIP, updates to their implementation schedule, projects that were not included in the draft 2024-2033 STIP, and a timeline for identifying, recommending and approving project swaps.

Chair Jenn Weaver thanked Kayla Peloquin for the presentation and stated that in depth discussion of possible swaps is slated to occur at the MPO Board's August meeting. Brandon Jones mentioned for clarification purposes that projects listed as Right of Way (ROW) starting in FY29 or later are considered non-committed and need to go back through Prioritization 7.0 unless they are included in a swap. Pam Hemminger stated that she believes a project is missing from the draft and will investigate this with her staff. Damon Seils asked if the Technical Committee also reviewed and discussed the draft, and Kayla Peloquin replied that they did at their previous meeting and will continue to do so throughout the swap process.

Wendy Jacobs said that she appreciates the opportunity to swap projects. Wendy Jacobs asked what the process is for projects in the draft that may change or are in progress. Aaron Cain replied that this conversation is occurring with NCDOT, but if a project is changed significantly, then it would have to go through reprioritization. Aaron Cain added that project descriptions are being considered that would

meet the needs of both the City of Durham and NCDOT. Wendy Jacobs asked about impacts if the East Durham railway improvement project received funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) bill that would allow the project to be completed sooner, and Aaron Cain stated that this is a committed and fully-funded project by the state and that other projects continue to be identified that could receive funding from the IIJA bill. Jay Heikes added that there are active discussions investigating the potential to use STIP projects to help leverage federal funds through the IIJA bill.

This item was for informational purposes; no further action was required by the Board.

14. Material Changes to the Durham County Transit Plan

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain stated that per the inter-local agreement in Durham County, projects above certain thresholds are considered material changes to the transit plan and therefore requires approval by the Durham County Board of Commissioners, the MPO Board, and the GoTriangle Board of Trustees. Aaron Cain stated that as part of development of the FY23 Work Program, there are four projects the Staff Working Group (SWG) requested to be considered as material changes to the work program so they can move forward: a new paratransit maintenance facility, improvements to GoDurham's routes 9A and 9B, an increase to funding for bus stop improvements, and funding for improvements at Durham Station. Aaron Cain stated that the MPO Board is the first of the three entities receiving this information for consideration.

Wendy Jacobs stated that this item will be on the June 13, 2022 meeting agenda for the Durham County Board of Commissioners.

Damon Seils made a motion to approve the four material changes through resolution. Javiera Caballero seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

15. Triangle Bikeway Study**Dale McKeel, LPA Staff**

Aaron Cain stated that the Triangle Bikeway Study resolution that is being presented for consideration would indicate that the MPO Board accepts the study, that it will work with partners to advance the project forward, and that they study will help ensure that the identified corridor continues to be protected and known for future construction when funding becomes available.

Wendy Jacobs stated that it is important for the MPO Board to adopt this study as it is contingent on investments from other jurisdictions, and that the public comments were helpful and should be shared. Damon Seils agreed with Wendy Jacobs and is excited about this project moving forward. Wendy Jacobs mentioned that the surge in E-Bike popularity as an equitable and reasonably affordable mode of transportation adds to the importance of this plan, and that local jurisdictions could look into offering E-Bikes to its community. Leonardo Williams stated that he supports the project and emphasized that all demographics across the various regions continue to be considered moving forward.

Wendy Jacobs made a motion to accept the Triangle Bikeway Study through resolution. Damon Seils seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**16. IJJA Standing Update****Mariel Klein, LPA Staff**

Mariel Klein said that projects continue to be considered for potential IJJA bill funding and that an update will be provided at each MPO Board meeting. Chair Jenn Weaver stated that she appreciates this being a standing item. Leonardo Williams asked if there is a formal plan for requesting IJJA funds, and Aaron Cain replied that there is no formal plan yet due to this opportunity being new and that information about the program continues to be shared publicly. Wendy Jacobs asked if the competitive bridges grant opportunity that is expected to open in May is currently being explored, and Mariel Klein

replied that she will review that particular grant program's information and will follow up with Board members.

17. Letter of Support for Proposed Updates to the New Car Assessment Program

Chair Jenn Weaver introduced the letter of support for proposed updates to the new car assessment program to be sent to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Chair Jenn Weaver stated that the letter of support for program updates aligns with the MPO's goals of promoting safety and achieving zero transportation-related deaths and injuries. Chair Jenn Weaver thanked MPO staff for signing a letter of support as well.

The MPO Board agreed by consent to have Chair Jenn Weaver sign the letter of support.

18. Recent News Articles and Updates

Chair Jenn Weaver mentioned an article in the agenda packet that is related to changes in public transit commuting patterns that is relevant to the working goals of the MPO. Chair Jenn Weaver also mentioned a news item that discussed the \$58 million in federal funds awarded to the Raleigh-to-Richmond rail line.

REPORTS:

19. Report from the MPO Board Chair
Jenn Weaver, Board Chair

Chair Jenn Weaver had no report.

20. Report from the Technical Committee Chair
Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair

Ellen Beckmann shared that the Orange County Transit Plan's proposed projects are available online and ready for review. Ellen Beckmann also mentioned that Durham anticipates making available its draft plan in late June.

21. Report from LPA Staff

Aaron Cain mentioned that the federal government is piloting a program based on miller-based user fees, and that they have requested up to three elected officials from each MPO participate by attaching an electronic device to their vehicle that would calculate what their user fee would be. Aaron Cain added that this pilot program is being investigated as an alternative to the current gas tax and could serve as a standing fee that is not adjusted by inflation.

Aaron Cain stated that his interpretation of North Carolina state law indicates that MPO Board meetings will need to resume in-person meetings beginning at its August meeting, and while technology has been acquired that will allow non-voting members to attend meetings virtually, voting members and alternates will be required to attend meetings in person in order to vote and be counted towards a quorum.

Aaron Cain stated that Kayla Peloquin is leaving the MPO staff due to relocation and that her last day is June 30.

Dale McKeel stated that the annual Golden Modes program will be held June 14 from 2-3 p.m. and will explore sustainable transportation and travel options in the Triangle. Dale McKeel shared that the event will feature Governor Roy Cooper, Julie White from NCDOT, and Raleigh City Council Member Jonathan Melton. Dale McKeel shared the following link in the Zoom chat feature to attend virtually: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ek56yEWLRcSRhRGUDhhuGA.

Chair Jenn Weaver thanked Kayla Peloquin for her work with the MPO and mentioned comments in the Zoom chat feature expressing the same.

22. NCDOT Reports**Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation**

There was no report.

215 **Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 - NCDOT**

216 There was no report.

217 **Wright Archer (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 - NCDOT**

218 Pat Wilson said that utility adjustments continue on the resurfacing project on Franklin and
219 Main Street, that paving is not expected until the end of June, and the project is on schedule to be
220 completed by the MPO Board's August meeting. Pat Wilson also mentioned that work along the
221 shoulder of I-40 is expected to begin in late June to early July.

222 Damon Seils thanked Pat Wilson for the update, especially in regards to the resurfacing project
223 in Carborro and Chapel Hill, and the impact it is expected to have on their respective downtowns.

224 Chair Jenn Weaver reminded MPO Board members that the East End Connector celebration will
225 be held on June 30 at 10 a.m.

226 **Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 - NCDOT**

227 There was no report.

228 **Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division - NCDOT**

229 There was no report.

230 **John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT**

231 There was no report.

232 **Nick Morrison, Integrated Mobility Division – NCDOT**

233 Nick Morrison said that NCDOT's consultant team at Kittleson has begun design charrettes in
234 Henderson and Franklinton, will continue to offer public meetings in the communities within the S-Line
235 corridor, and that two additional public meetings will be held in Raleigh in mid-June. Nick Morrison
236 stated that he expects a wrap-up summary to be provided at the next MPO Board meeting.

237

ADJOURNMENT:

238

Chair Jenn Weaver welcomed Durham City Council member and new MPO Board Alternate

239

Voting Member, Dr. Monique Holsey-Hyman.

240

There being no further business before the MPO Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03

241

a.m.