



DCHC MPO Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

9:00 AM

Meeting to be held by teleconference.

Watch on Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/MPOforDCHC/>

Any member of the general public who wishes to make public comment should send an email to aaron.cain@durhamnc.gov and the comment will be read to the Board during the public comment portion of the meeting.

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**[21-100](#)

Attachments: [2021-05-12 \(21-100\) MPO Board Directives to Staff](#)

CONSENT AGENDA**6. April 14, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**[21-152](#)

A copy of the April 14, 2021 Board meeting minutes is enclosed.

Board Action: Approve the minutes of the April 14, 2021 Board Meeting.

Attachments: [2021-05-12 \(20-152\) 04.14 MPO Board Meeting Minutes_LPA2](#)

ACTION ITEMS

7. CTP Amendment #3 (15 minutes)[21-122](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

The DCHC MPO Board released the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment #3 at their April meeting. Today, the Board will conduct a public hearing on Amendment #3 staff will provide an update. A compilation of public comments (received as of May 4th) is attached.

The CTP is a joint process in which both the MPO Board and the North Carolina Board of Transportation (BOT) adopt the final plan. NCDOT staff has asked that Amendment #3 provide more data and justification on the need to make changes to the particular projects. As a result, staff is working to create problem statements for the projects in Amendment #3 that include criteria such as volume exceeds capacity, safety data, and local plan designations.

It should be noted that Amendment #3 preserves the alignment of the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit as a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) facility. The principal travel corridors also have BRT alignments designated: Fordham Boulevard; US 15-501, US 15-501 bypass, and NC 147 in Amendment #3; and, NC 54 in the original CTP. In some areas, these BRT facilities and the BRT designated for the former D-O LRT alignment are redundant. However, staff chose to keep all these facilities in the CTP until there is a clearer understanding of the desired transit alignments in these corridors. The Technical Committee (TC) dedicated considerable discussion to this topic and there will likely be additional staff meetings to continue that discussion over the next several weeks.

The Amendment #3 report (which provides background on the reason for the changes, lists the changes in a table, and displays the amended maps) and interactive maps are available at the MPO's CTP Web page: <http://www.dchcmpo.org/programs/ctp/default.asp#tabs4> Staff continues to review the details of the tables and maps for to ensure consistency and correctness.

The proposed adoption schedule includes:

- * MPO Board released for public comment -- 4/14/21
- * Conduct public engagement -- 4/14/21 through 5/26/21
- * Board conducts public hearing -- 5/12/21
- * MPO Board adopts -- 6/9/21

TC Action: Received update and provided comments. There was no action.

Board Action: Conduct a public hearing and provide comments.

Attachments: [2021-05-12 \(21-122\) CTP Amendment3 Compilation of Comments](#)

8. 2050 MTP -- Deficiency and Needs Analysis (25 minutes) [21-146](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

The Deficiency and Needs Analysis is the next step in the development of the 2050 MTP. It presents regional, corridor and roadway level analysis to identify future transportation deficiencies by modeling a 2016 transportation network with 2050 population and employment, which is sometimes known as a future no-build scenario. The attached presentation helps people understand the various data and graphical tools. The detailed data, graphics, and interactive maps are available on the 2050 MTP Deficiency Analysis web page: <http://www.dchcmo.org/programs/transport/2050mtp/default.asp#tabs6>

TC Action: Recommended that the DCHC MPO Board release the 2050 MTP Deficiency and Needs Analysis for a 30-day public comment period.

Board Action: Provide comments and release the 2050 MTP Deficiency and Needs Analysis for a 30-day public comment period.

Attachments: [2021-05-12 \(21-146\) 2050MTPDeficiencyAnalysis-Presentation](#)

9. Federal Infrastructure Update (10 minutes) [21-153](#)**Dale McKeel, LPA Staff**

On March 31, the Biden Administration proposed the American Jobs Plan. In total, the American Jobs Plan proposes more than \$2 trillion in new federal spending over the next 8 years, 2022 to 2029. Of this, more than \$600 billion would be invested in transportation infrastructure and in programs to promote resilience. The Administration's fact sheet on the proposal is at

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/31/fact-sheet-the-american-jobs-plan/>. Congress is now tasked with developing legislation around the President's proposal that may eventually be enacted into law. As part of this task, MPO staff has provided reference letters for three local earmark requests. DCHC MPO staff will provide a brief presentation.

No action is necessary on this item; it is for informational purposes only.

Attachments: [2021-05-12 \(21-153\) Federal Infrastructure Update](#)

10. **Material Change to the Durham County Transit Plan - New Regional Transit Center (15 minutes)**

[21-145](#)

Jay Heikes, GoTriangle

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

The current Regional Transit Center (RTC), operated by GoTriangle, is located adjacent to the GoTriangle offices and is seen as deficient due to its lack of proximity to major highways such as I-40 and NC-147/I-885, site access and circulation changes, and constraints to making improvements to the existing site.

The FY20 Durham Transit Work Program identified funding for a feasibility study to identify the needs, required facilities, and potential locations for a new RTC. This study was completed in early 2021. GoTriangle has identified potential federal funding sources which will require a local match, and is seeking funds from the Durham County Transit Tax to supply 20 percent of the local match.

Because a new RTC was not identified in the 2017 Durham County Transit Plan, and the requested funding is above the \$500,000 threshold for bus services as specified in the Interlocal Implementation Agreement (ILA), this request constitutes a material change to the Plan. Material changes must be approved by all three parties to the ILA: the GoTriangle Board of Trustees, the Durham County Board of Commissioners, and the DCHC MPO Board.

The Durham County Board of Commissioners will consider this item at its May 10, 2021 meeting; staff will apprise the MPO Board of the Commissioners' actions at the MPO Board meeting. The GoTriangle Board of Trustees will consider this item as part of its budget approval on June 23, 2021.

SWG Action: Recommended that the Boards approve a material change to the 2017 Durham County Transit Plan to provide funding for the local match towards construction of a new Regional Transit Center and include this funding in the FY22 Durham Transit Work Program.

TC Action: Recommended that the Board approve a material change to the 2017 Durham County Transit Plan to provide funding for the local match towards construction of a new Regional Transit Center.

Board Action: Approve a material change to the 2017 Durham County Transit Plan to provide funding for the local match for a new Regional Transit Center.

Attachments:

[2021-05-12 \(21-145\) Durham Transit Plan Material Change Request Memo](#)

[2021-05-12 \(21-145\) Durham Transit Plan Material Change Request Presentation](#)

[2021-05-12 \(21-145\) Durham Transit Plan Material Change Request Resolution](#)

11. FY21-22 Call for Projects Funding Recommendation (25 minutes)[21-137](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

The FY21-22 Call for Projects was split into two parts with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality projects due on February 10, 2021, and all other projects due on March 31, 2021. MPO staff has followed guidance in the DCHC Federal Funding Policy to make funding recommendations for Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable (STBGDA), STBGDA funds received through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), STBG-Any Area funds, and Regional and Bicycle Pedestrian Program funds.

Memos with funding recommendations for each funding source are attached.

Once the MPO Board approves the TC-endorsed slate of projects from the FY21-22 Call for Projects, MPO staff will work with the NCDOT STIP unit to ensure that the Transportation Improvement Program and State Transportation Improvement Program are amended to reflect new projects and increased funding for existing projects.

TC Action: Endorsed the list of recommended projects to the MPO Board.

Board Action: Approve the TC-endorsed slate of projects from the FY21-22 Call for Projects.

Attachments: [2021-05-12 \(21-137\) Funding Recommendation PPT_Updated](#)
[2021-05-12 \(21-137\) Regional Bike-Ped Memo](#)
[2021-05-12 \(21-137\) STBG-Competitive Memo](#)
[2021-05-12 \(21-137\) Non-Competitive Funds Memo](#)
[2021-05-12 \(21-137\) STBG Competitive Scoring Rubric](#)
[2021-05-12 \(21-137\) EJ Analysis](#)

12. Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #6 (10 minutes)[21-149](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #6 includes the recommended slate of projects from the FY21-22 Call for Projects. MPO staff will work with the NCDOT STIP unit to ensure that STIP numbers are assigned to new projects and funding amounts are updated to reflect MPO Board-approved funding awards for new and existing projects.

TIP Amendment #6 also includes the following changes requested by NCDOT:

- I-3306A, I-40 Widening from I-85 to the Durham County Line, Project to use GARVEE Bonds and description modified to reflect correct scope.
- I-3306AC, NC86 Upgrade to Superstreet from Northwood Drive to ramp at I-40 Interchange, Project break re-added to schedule superstreet component for separate letting.

NCDOT has asked that the TIP be amended to reflect changes to I-3306 by June 2021 so that they can secure Federal Highway Administration approval and construction authorization in time for the current August let date for the project.

GoTriangle has also asked that the TIP be modified to reflect local funding from Durham and Orange counties for the Regional Transit Center feasibility study (TD-5306).

The recommended funding award of \$2,273,501 for the Durham Belt Line Trail exceeds \$1 million. In addition, NCDOT has requested that I-3306A also be released for public comment. According to the MPO Public Involvement Policy, TIP Amendment #6 should therefore be released for a 21-day public comment period before it is adopted by the MPO Board.

TC Action: Recommended that the MPO Board release TIP Amendment #6 for a 21-day public comment period.

Board Action: Release TIP Amendment #6 for a 21-day public comment period.

Attachments:

[2021-05-12 \(21-149\) TIP Amendment #6 Full Report](#)

[2021-05-12 \(21-149\) Resolution on Design of I-40 NC 86 Eubanks Rd Interch](#)

[2021-05-12 \(21-149\) FY2020-2029 TIP Amendment #6 Resolution](#)

[2021-05-12 \(21-149\) TIP Amendment #6 SummarySheet](#)

13. SPOT 6.0 Draft Local Input Points Methodology (15 minutes)[21-148](#)**Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

The next step in the SPOT 6.0 process is to adopt a Methodology for Identifying and Ranking New Transportation Improvement Program Project Requests. The DCHC MPO will use this Methodology to assign Local Input Points to projects submitted during the current SPOT cycle. This Methodology must be approved by the MPO Board and an NCDOT Review Committee by July 1, 2021.

The existing Methodology was adopted in February 2018 during the SPOT 5.0 cycle. The updated draft Methodology is based on the 2018 Methodology with the following changes:

- A new flex policy, introduced by NCDOT, allows up to 500 Local Input Points to be transferred between the Regional Impact and Division Needs tiers.
- DCHC now has 1900 instead of 1800 Local Input Points
- Scoring for each mode has been updated to reflect SPOT 6.0 weights and definitions
- DCHC's qualitative scoring criteria now consists of safety and sustainability criteria

Significant changes from the 2018 Methodology are highlighted in the draft document in red. According to the DCHC MPO Public Involvement Policy and NCDOT guidance, the Methodology should be released for a 21-day public comment period and a public hearing must be held.

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

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

Attachments: [2021-05-12 \(21-148\) Local Input Points Methodology Draft](#)
 [2021-05-12 \(21-148\) Local Input Points PPT](#)

14. FY21 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment #3 (10 minutes) [21-154](#)**Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager****Tim Schwarzauer, Chapel Hill Transit**

FY21 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment #3 proposes to add a competitive grant that Chapel Hill Transit received from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to plan for transit-oriented development at 16 stations of the proposed 8.2-mile North-South Bus Rapid Transit (N-S BRT) project. The N-S BRT project will run along one of the town's busiest and most vital thoroughfares stretching from Eubanks Road in the north to Southern Village in the south.

The FTA notified Chapel Hill Transit that the grant must be included in DCHC's FY21 UPWP before funding can be released. There is no state or MPO funding in the grant - only \$592,500 in federal funds and the match of \$148,125 provided by the Chapel Hill Transit partners. This competitive grant has no funding implications for the MPO or the state. Although the deadline for amending the FY21 UPWP has passed, DCHC MPO will work with NCDOT to add this grant to the FY21 UPWP so that Chapel Hill Transit can access this funding.

Board Action: Approve FY21 UPWP Amendment #3.

Attachments:[2021-05-12 \(21-154\) UPWP Amendment Details](#)[2021-05-12 \(21-154\) FY21 UPWP amendment #3 Resolution_CHT 5303](#)**REPORTS:****15. Report from the Board Chair** [21-101](#)**Wendy Jacobs, Board Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the Board Chair

16. Report from the Technical Committee Chair [21-102](#)**Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair**

Board Action: Receive the report from the TC Chair.

17. Report from LPA Staff [21-103](#)**Felix Nwoko, LPA Manager**

Board Action: Receive the report from LPA Staff.

Attachments:[2021-05-12 \(21-103\) LPA staff report](#)

18. NCDOT Report [21-104](#)

Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation

**Brandon Jones (David Keilson/Richard Hancock), Division 5 -
NCDOT**

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

Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar, Jen Britt), Division 8 - NCDOT

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Branch - NCDOT

John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT

Bryan Lopez, Integrated Mobility Division-NCDOT

Board Action: Receive the reports from NCDOT.

Attachments: [2021-05-12 \(21-104\) NCDOT Progress Report](#)

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

Attachments: [2021-05-12 \(21-105\) news articles](#)

Adjourn

Next meeting: June 9, 9 a.m., Meeting to be held by teleconference.

Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings: None