

1 **DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD**

2 **4 November 2020**

3
4 **MINUTES OF MEETING**

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6 The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board met on
7 November 4, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. remotely via Zoom. The following people were in attendance:

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9	Wendy Jacobs (Chair)	Durham County
10	Jenn Weaver (Vice Chair)	Town of Hillsborough
11	Pierce Freelon (Member)	City of Durham
12	Charlie Reece (Member)	City of Durham
13	Pam Hemminger (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
14	Damon Seils (Member)	Town of Carrboro
15	Renée Price (Member)	Orange County
16	Karen Howard (Member)	Chatham County
17	Michael Parker (Member)	GoTriangle
18	Javiera Caballero (Alternate)	City of Durham
19	Amy Ryan (Alternate)	Town of Chapel Hill
20	Lydia Lavelle (Alternate)	Town of Carrboro
21	Heidi Carter (Alternate)	Durham County
22		
23	Joey Hopkins	NCDOT Division 5
24	David Keilson	NCDOT Division 5
25	Richard Hancock	NCDOT Division 5
26	Stephen Robinson	NCDOT Division 7
27	Bryan Kluchar	NCDOT Division 8
28	Julie Bogle	NCDOT Transportation Planning Division
29	Joe Geigle	FHWA
30	Ellen Beckmann	City of Durham
31	Sean Egan	City of Durham
32	Bill Judge	City of Durham
33	Evan Tenenbaum	City of Durham
34	Bergen Watterson	Chapel Hill Planning
35	Jomar Pastorelle	Chapel Hill Planning
36	Tina Moon	Carrboro Planning
37	Zach Hallock	Town of Carrboro
38	Scott Whiteman	Durham County
39	Nish Trivedi	Orange County
40	John Hodges-Copple	Triangle J Council of Governments
41	Meg Scully	GoTriangle
42	Jay Heikes	GoTriangle
43	Kurt Stolka	University of North Carolina
44	Cha'ssem Anderson	University of North Carolina
45		
46	Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO

47	Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
48	Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
49	Dale McKeel	City of Durham/DCHC MPO
50	Anne Phillips	DCHC MPO
51	Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
52	Casey Chae	DCHC MPO
53	Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
54	Filmon Fishastion	DCHC MPO
55		
56	Michael Crook	Home Depot
57	Iona Thomas	McAdams
58	Beth Trahos	Nelson-Mullins
59	Mike Waldroup	Resident

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Quorum Count: 9 of 10 Voting Members

66 Chair Wendy Jacobs called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A roll call of MPO Board Member
67 and Alternates was performed. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO
68 Board were identified and are indicated above. Chair Wendy Jacobs requested that MPO staff indicate
69 when an MPO Board official enters the meeting.

70

PRELIMINARIES:

71 **2. Ethics Reminder**

72 Chair Wendy Jacobs read the Ethics Reminder and asked if there were any known conflicts of
73 interest with respect to matters coming before the MPO Board and requested that if there were any
74 identified during the meeting for them to be announced. There were no known conflicts identified by
75 the MPO Board Members.

76 **3. Adjustments to the Agenda**

77 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

78 **4. Public Comments**

79 Chair Wendy Jacobs stated that Mike Waldroup and Beth Trahos requested to make public
80 comments about the 15-501 Study agenda item.

81 **5. Directives to Staff**

82 Aaron Cain stated that there were no additional directives to staff.

83 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

84 **6. October 14, 2020, Board Meeting Minutes**

85 Michael Parker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Pam Hemminger seconded
86 the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

87 **ACTION ITEMS:**

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89 **7. US 15-501 Corridor Study**

90 **Andy Henry, LPA staff**

91 Chair Wendy Jacobs opened the public hearing. Beth Trahos stated that she was an attorney
92 representing New Hope Commons (NHC) shopping center, and she related that there are concerns
93 that NHC will not retain its connectivity due to the design in segment two of the 15-501 Corridor
94 Study despite design revisions. Beth Trahos requested a detailed technical review of the designs.
95 Michael Waldroup voiced concerns about the current design plan for the areas surrounding
96 Patterson Place. Michael Waldroup presented his own design plans to the MPO Board and requested
97 that a subcommittee convene to add more community involvement. Chair Wendy Jacobs closed the
98 public hearing.

99 Andy Henry stated that Chair Wendy Jacobs had previously asked MPO staff to respond to
100 comments from the public and members of the MPO Board. Andy Henry continued that a steering
101 committee was convened to respond to the questions from the MPO Board and residents, and the
102 responses are in the agenda packet. Andy Henry stated that alternatives were discussed, and design
103 elements proposed in the US 15-501 Corridor Study are aimed at addressing projected traffic increases.

104 There was consensus among the MPO Board that the design for the 15-501 corridor ought to
105 better prioritize multimodal transportation over vehicle travel. Chair Wendy Jacobs and Pam
106 Hemminger discussed more involvement with stakeholders for their input on the corridor design.
107 There was discussion about using a different consultant for the study. Chair Wendy Jacobs requested
108 that MPO staff present their ideas for the next steps in the 15-501 Study to the MPO Board on
109 December 9. Andy Henry suggested that MPO Board members provide him with further input
110 following the meeting.

111 No additional action was required by the MPO Board.

112 **8. Triangle Region ITS Strategic Deployment Plan Update**
113 **Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff Casey Chae, LPA Staff**

114 Felix Nwoko stated that the Triangle Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)
115 Strategic Deployment Plan Update was discussed and released for the 21-day public comment period
116 at the MPO Board meeting on October 14, but no public comments were received. Felix Nwoko
117 added that the Triangle Regional ITS Strategic Deployment plan is an element of the Metropolitan
118 Transportation Plan (MTP) and will be incorporated in the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.

119 Pam Hemminger made a motion to adopt the Triangle Regional ITS Deployment Plan. Vice
120 Chair Jenn Weaver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

121 **9. State of the Region Report**
122 **Felix Nwoko, LPA staff**

123 Felix Nwoko stated that the State of the Region Report was released for a 21-day public
124 comment period on October 14, but no public comments have been received. Felix Nwoko stated that
125 the MPO staff is creating a brochure for public consumption, as well as adding information to the
126 DCHC MPO website.

127 Charlie Reece recommended that MPO staff review how the State of the Region Report can
128 be integrated with other reports. Chair Wendy Jacobs added that this report could help inform the
129 county transit plans and land-use plans.

130 Charlie Reece made a motion to adopt the 2019 State of the Region report. Pam Hemminger
131 seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

132 **10. TIP Amendment #3**

133 **Anne Phillips, LPA Staff**

134 Anne Phillips stated that MPO staff prefers that the MPO Board does not approve the
135 recommended action for Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Amendment #3 because more time is
136 needed to discuss a proposed swap of projects with North Carolina Department of Transportation
137 (NCDOT). Anne Phillips asked that the Board delay the public comment period as well.

138 Anne Phillips stated that Amendment #3 to the TIP consists of projects that have been amended
139 in the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) by NCDOT and projects that were affected by
140 NCDOT's STIP reprogramming exercise. Anne Phillips continued that projects amended by NCDOT in the
141 STIP need to be amended in the MPO's TIP so that the TIP and STIP remain in concurrence. Anne Phillips
142 added that DCHC MPO is also amending several locally administered projects to reflect more realistic
143 project delivery schedules.

144 Anne Phillips stated that, in accordance with conversations with NCDOT, three locally
145 administered projects are being delayed, allowing Woodcroft Parkway Extension (U-5823) to move into
146 construction into FY 23 from FY 31 in the STIP reprogramming exercise. Anne Phillips stated that the
147 three locally administered projects are: Third Fork Creek Trail (EB-5837); Guess Road Sidewalks (EB-
148 5834); and NC 55 Sidewalks (EB-5835). Anne Phillips stated that MPO and City of Durham staff are
149 proposing schedule delays for these three projects so that the City of Durham does not lose design work
150 that has already been completed on the Woodcroft Parkway Extension. Anne Phillips noted that the City
151 of Durham paid for the design of the Woodcroft Parkway Extension with local funds.

152 Damon Seils made the motion to return TIP Amendment #3 to MPO staff for further discussion.

153 Michael Parker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

154 **11. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment #2**

155 **Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

156 Andy Henry proposed that the Briggs Avenue Extension project be removed from the
157 Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) for several reasons. First, CSX will not provide approval for an
158 at-grade crossing. Andy Henry explained that there are further issues with rerouting due to conflicts
159 with residential and commercial land-use, but a serviceable grid system will remain without the Briggs
160 Avenue Extension. Andy Henry stated that, following the public comment period, the MPO Board would
161 vote on approval of the CTP amendment on December 9. Andy Henry noted that COVID-19 guidelines
162 require an additional 24-hour comment period following the December 3 public comment deadline.

163 Damon Seils made a motion to release Amendment #2 to the Comprehensive Transportation
164 Plan (CTP) for public comment. Pam Hemminger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

165 **12. 2050 MTP - SE Data and TRM**

166 **Andy Henry, LPA**

167 Andy Henry stated that the deficiency analysis and needs assessment are the next milestone of
168 the 2050 MTP and it includes Socioeconomic (SE) Data and the Triangle Regional Model (TRM). The
169 alternatives analysis will follow. Andy noted that the presentation will mostly discuss the deficiency
170 analysis and needs assessment. Andy Henry added that John Hodges-Copple will present the scenarios
171 at the Joint DCHC MPO and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) meeting on
172 December 1. Andy Henry noted that the performance measures are currently being developed.

173 Andy Henry stated that the TRM encompasses both DCHC MPO and CAMPO. Andy Henry noted
174 that the two main aspects of socioeconomic data are employment and population, which is based on
175 dwelling units and jobs.

176 Andy Henry noted that 2050 is the forecast year for the MTP. Andy Henry continued that trends
177 from the North Carolina Office of State Management were used to build forecasts for population. Andy
178 Henry noted that employment forecasts were built using Woods and Poole. Andy Henry added that he
179 would bring performance measures before the MPO Board for approval before they are used for the
180 deficiency analysis.

181 Renée Price asked about the measurables for the needs assessment. Andy Henry
182 responded that the performance measures are aligned with the goals and objectives. Andy Henry
183 responded that MPO staff will use the performance measures in the needs assessment. Michael Parker
184 asked if projected transit demand is impacted by a lack of current transit investment. Andy Henry
185 responded that alternative analysis can be used with different scenarios to account for lack of current
186 investments. Andy Henry added that he would provide more information t at the MPO Board meeting
187 on December 9.

188 Chair Wendy Jacobs asked how the MPO Board can help residents access networks to travel to
189 their job sites. Andy Henry responded that different scenarios can be used for alternative jobs sites to
190 best make recommendations for land-use. Andy Henry noted that the TRM uses 2016 and 2020 as base
191 years while the Community Viz model projects areas of job growth. Michael Parker and Andy Henry
192 discussed that the TRM could expand to include Alamance and Johnson counties due to the rate of job
193 growth outpacing population growth. Chair Wendy Jacobs noted the importance of offering transit
194 options to residents. Renée Price and Chair Wendy Jacobs discussed the impacts of Covid-19 and how
195 workers are traveling less because they are often working from home. Chair Wendy Jacobs requested
196 that acronyms be spelled out in the titles of future reports for better understanding by residents.

197 The MPO Board received the presentation on the next steps and milestones of the TRM. No
198 further action was required by the MPO Board.

199 **13. Triangle Bikeway Study**
200 **Dale McKeel, LPA**

201 **Iona Thomas, McAdams**

202 Dale McKeel stated that Triangle Bikeway Study is a joint project with DCHC MPO and CAMPO to
203 review the regional bikeway network. Iona Thomas stated that the proposed Triangle Bikeway corridor
204 is approximately 17 miles long. Iona Thomas noted that the western side of the bikeway is a feasibility
205 study, whereas the eastern part is 30% design. Iona Thomas noted that the existing bicycle and
206 pedestrian networks are currently being evaluated as part of the Triangle Bikeway Study. Iona Thomas
207 discussed the impact of cleaner and quieter roadways due to technological advances such as electric
208 vehicles.

209 Iona Thomas noted that the public input phase is nearly completed. Iona Thomas added that she
210 will be returning to the DCHC MPO Board in spring 2021 to discuss alternatives, and she will return in fall
211 2021 to present recommendations for preferred alignments. Iona Thomas commented that the
212 community engagement approach included effective multijurisdictional coordination; broad stakeholder
213 involvement; meaningful engagement with under-engaged groups; and adaptive engagement during the
214 COVID-19 pandemic. Iona Thomas added that additional information can be found at
215 www.trianglebikeway.com. Iona Thomas noted that national case studies were reviewed because there
216 is not a similar project in the region.

217 Iona Thomas discussed that there is currently appropriate geographic representation in
218 engagement, but not enough minority participation. Iona Thomas added focus groups are being
219 convened to address gaps in engagement. Iona Thomas presented information from the survey
220 including the preferences and usage of the responders, noting that facilities further separated from
221 vehicle traffic were preferred. Iona Thomas provided an overview of the next steps for the study.

222 Damon Seils and Renée Price requested that Carrboro be included in the feasibility study. Dale
223 McKeel responded that, during the earlier review of the scope, it was determined that the existing side
224 paths along 54 could be used as part of the network. Renée Price and Iona Thomas discussed outreach

225 strategies that could be used to obtain more diversity. The MPO Board received the presentation. No
226 further action required was required by the MPO Board.

227 **14. Move Durham**

228 **Ellen Beckmann, City of Durham**

229 Ellen Beckmann stated that the Move Durham plan has been in development for two years.

230 Ellen Beckmann noted that the Move Durham plan was created in coordination with DCHC MPO,
231 NCDOT, and local jurisdictions. Ellen Beckmann added that the plan was funded by DCHC MPO and
232 NCDOT. Ellen Beckmann noted that Alta Planning was the main consultant. Ellen Beckmann stated the
233 City of Durham adopted the plan in October 2020. Ellen Beckmann noted that the DCHC MPO will be
234 asked to incorporate Move Durham into several MPO transportation plans. Ellen Beckmann noted that
235 there would be no dedicated funding available to implement the plan.

236 Ellen Beckmann stated that the study area for Move Durham is central Durham, which has a
237 higher density and more transit than other areas in Durham. Ellen Beckmann noted several events have
238 impacted or will impact traffic patterns in central Durham including the opening of the East End
239 Connector, operational improvements along NC 147, and the discontinuation of the Durham Orange
240 Light Rail Transit (DOLRT). Ellen Beckmann stated that, while there are funding challenges with
241 implementation with the plan, it can serve as a blueprint for other areas within the MPO.

242 Ellen Beckmann stated that the study's vision was made after community comments during the
243 outreach phase, which occurred prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ellen Beckmann added that the vision
244 for Move Durham is to move people over moving traffic, and to improve safety and equity. Ellen
245 Beckmann stated that phase two evaluated priority corridors that were selected from feedback in phase
246 one. Ellen Beckmann added that policy and infrastructure recommendations were based on public
247 outreach.

248 Ellen Beckmann outlined the short-term and long-term recommendations. Ellen Beckmann
249 noted that long-term recommendations will be more difficult to fund. Ellen Beckmann reported that

250 NCDOT representatives prefer that certain streets be turned over to local jurisdiction and would be
251 decided case by case.

252 Ellen Beckmann noted that there were four main themes from the Durham Freeway's inclusion
253 as part of the study: distrust of government, issues of equity, improving non-vehicular connectivity, and
254 expanding pedestrian facilities. Ellen Beckmann noted that there were no specific project
255 recommendations made in this report.

256 Chair Wendy Jacobs and Ellen Beckmann discussed that the Durham Freeway's study is delayed
257 and will be discussed further in the Comprehensive Plan. Chair Wendy Jacobs and Ellen Beckmann
258 discussed the next steps, including MPO staff involvement in the Unified Planning Work Program
259 (UPWP). Damon Seils discussed the MPO's vision and mission relating to local projects. Pierce Freelon
260 recommended that the City of Durham engage the Race and Equity Task Force during the discussion of
261 the UPWP. Ellen Beckmann stated that her employment at Durham County is scheduled to start on
262 November 16.

263 This item is for informational purposes only; no action was required by the MPO Board.

264 **15. NC Moves 2050 Draft Recommendations**

265 **Julie Bogle, NCDOT**

266 Julie Bogle presented a video about the updated NC Moves 2050 Plan. The narrator of the video
267 presented material about how the NC Moves 2050 Plan was developed with the help of subject matter
268 experts and public input. The narrator stated that that the objectives of the NC Moves 2050 Plan are: (1)
269 multimodal inclusive and connected; (2) technology ready and enabled system; (3) safe and secure
270 system for all users; (4) a system that works for NC's economy; and (5) a resilient and high quality
271 system. The narrator discussed the strategies for each objective and the timeframe for their
272 implementation. The narrator stated that public comment period will begin on October 9 and close on
273 November 9. The narrator stated that the link for the survey can be found at ncmoves.gov.

274 The narrator stated that there is an implementation plan to track, report, and communicate
275 progress of the actions. The narrator added that profile sheets were created to aid the implementation
276 process for each action. The narrator continued that a webtool is being developed for public interaction
277 and will available after the plan is adopted. The narrator noted that the NC Moves 2050 Plan is
278 scheduled to presented to the Department of Transportation (DOT) Board of Transportation for
279 approval in December 2020.

280 Chair Wendy Jacobs recommended that staff submit comments to the MPO Board for their
281 review before the November 9 deadline. Dale McKeel noted that he is currently working on reviewing
282 and providing comments, and he will send the information to MPO staff upon completion. Vice Chair
283 Jenn Weaver asked about participation in the survey. Julie Bogle responded that she would provide
284 answers following the meeting. Chair Wendy Jacobs asked if there would be funding associated with the
285 NC Moves 2050 Plan. Julie Bogle responded that funding will be discussed in further detail upon
286 implementation. Chair Wendy Jacobs asked how the three tiers were developed. Julie Bogle responded
287 that she would provide answers following the meeting. Chair Wendy Jacobs noted that the tiered
288 actions appear to have overlap.

289 The MPO Board received the report. No further action was required by the MPO Board.

290 **16. 2021 DCHC MPO Meeting Calendar**
291 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

292 Aaron Cain noted that an MPO Board is scheduled on September 8, which is the same day as
293 Rosh Hashannah. Aaron Cain suggested moving the date to either September 1 or September 15,
294 depending on the schedules of the MPO Board. Chair Wendy Jacobs and Aaron Cain discussed MPO staff
295 conferring with the respective offices of the MPO Board members and alternates to decide on a final
296 date.

297 **17. DCHC MPO Board Officer Nominations**
298 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

299 Aaron Cain noted that the DCHC MPO bylaws state that the MPO Board must vote on officers
 300 in December 2020. Aaron Cain added that Chair Wendy Jacobs and Vice Chair Jenn Weaver are eligible
 301 to serve a second term. Chair Wendy Jacobs recommended that Damon Seils, Karen Howard, and
 302 Javiera Caballero comprise the nominating committee. Charlie Reece noted that Javiera Caballero is an
 303 alternate to the MPO Board. Chair Wendy Jacobs nominated Charlie Reece in place of Javiera
 304 Caballero, noting his status as a member.

305 Michael Parker made a motion to form a nominating committee consisting of Damon Seils,
 306 Karen Howard, and Charlie Reece to recommend a slate of officers at the December MPO Board
 307 meeting. Pam Hemminger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

308 **REPORTS:**

309 **16. Report from the MPO Board Chair**
 310 **Wendy Jacobs, Board Chair**

311 Chair Wendy Jacobs reminded the Board that the Joint DCHC MPO and CAMPO meeting is
 312 scheduled for December 1 at 9 a.m., and it will be held virtually. Aaron Cain added that the agenda is
 313 forthcoming. Chair Wendy Jacobs requested that joint legislative goals for DOT funding be discussed in
 314 the upcoming joint meeting.

315 **17. Report from the Technical Committee Chair**
 316 **Nish Trivedi, TC Chair**

317 Ellen Beckmann stated that there is no additional report.

318 **18. Report from LPA Staff**
 319 **Felix Nwoko, Andy Henry, LPA Staff**

320 Felix Nwoko stated that there is no additional report.

321 **19. NCDOT Reports**

322 David Keilson, Division 5, stated that the intersection at Alston Avenue and Holloway Street is
 323 scheduled to reopen in January 2021. David Keilson added that the overall completion date of the

324 Alston Avenue project (U-3308) is scheduled for fall 2021. David Keilson stated that the Old
325 Durham/Chapel Hill Road project (EB-4707A) is scheduled to be completed by November 2021. David
326 Keilson added that the western section of that project is scheduled to be completed in December 2020.
327 David Keilson stated that the East End Connector project (U-0071) is scheduled to be completed in June
328 2021.

329 Stephen Robinson, Division 7, stated that the West Ten Road improvement project (U-6245)
330 has a start date in November 2020 and a completion date in April 2021. Stephen Robinson continued
331 that the NC 86 guard rail installation (SS-6007C) is scheduled to begin in October 2021 and is scheduled
332 to be completed in April 2022.

333 Bryan Kluchar, Division 8, stated that there is no additional report.

334 Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division, stated that there is no additional report

335 There was no additional report from John Grant, NCDOT Traffic Operations.

336 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

337 **21. Recent News, Articles, and Updates**

338 Chair Wendy Jacobs stated that the next DCHC MPO meeting is scheduled for December 9,
339 2020.

340 Renée Price made a motion to adjourn. Pierce Freelon seconded the motion. The motion passed
341 unanimously.

342 **ADJOURNMENT:**

343 There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Board, the meeting was adjourned at
344 11:58 a.m.