

**DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BOARD
January 28, 2025
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board met on January 28, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Central Pines Conference Room at Central Pines Regional Council. The following people were in attendance:

Karen Howard (MPO Chair)	Chatham County
Javiera Caballero (MPO Board Vice Chair)	City of Durham
Amy Fowler (Member)	Orange County
Carl Rist (Member)	City of Durham
Melissa McCullough (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Nida Allam (Member)	Durham County
Sally Greene (Member)	GoTriangle
Danny Nowell (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Mark Bell (Member)	Town of Hillsborough
Wendy Jacobs (Alternate)	Durham County
Marilyn Carter (Alternate)*	Orange County
Lisa Mathis (Alternate)*	NC Board of Transportation
Michael Parker (Alternate)*	GoTriangle
<i>*Denotes virtual attendance</i>	
Eric Vitale (TC Chair)	City of Durham
Nishith Trivedi	Orange County
Chad Reimakoski	NCDOT Division 7
Bryan Kluchar	NCDOT Division 8
Caroline Dwyer	Town of Chapel Hill
Becca Eversole-Robinson	Town of Chapel Hill
Matt Day	Central Pines Regional Council
Thanh Schado	Chatham County
Matt Efir	Hillsborough
Curtis Scarpignato*	Durham County
David Keilson*	NCDOT Division 5
Jared Draper*	Toole Design
Julie Bogle	NCDOT TPD
Josh Barrett*	City of Durham
Marie Parker*	Town of Carrboro
Sean Egan*	City of Durham
Wannetta Mallette*	Burlington Graham MPO
Bryan Murphy	NCDOT Traffic Safety Unit
Joe Geigle	FHWA
Becca Gallas	NCDOT Division 5
Rep. Zack Hawkins*	NC General Assembly, District 31
Doug Plachcinski	DCHC MPO
David Miller	DCHC MPO

KC Chae	DCHC MPO
Filmon Fishastion	DCHC MPO
Colleen McGue	DCHC MPO
Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
Samad Rangoonwala	DCHC MPO
Thomas Porter	DCHC MPO
Beth Seidel	DCHC MPO
Madeline Galliano	DCHC MPO

Quorum Count: 9 of 10 Voting Members

Chair Karen Howard called the meeting to order at 9:09 am. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Board were identified and are indicated above.

PRELIMINARIES:

1. DCHC MPO Non-Discrimination Policy Notice

2. Ethics Reminder

Chair Howard reminded everyone of the ethics reminder found in the agenda.

3. Roll Call

Chair Howard asked everyone to introduce themselves.

4. Adjustments to the Agenda

Chair Howard asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were none.

5. Public Comments

Chair Howard asked if any members of the public were signed up to speak. There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA:

6. Approval of November 19, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Beth Seidel, MPO Staff

7. Executive Director Performance Evaluation

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director

Amy Fowler moved to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Danny Nowell. The motion passed unanimously.

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ACTION ITEMS:

88 **8. Approval of the DCHC MPO Rebrand to Triangle West Transportation Planning**
89 **Organization**

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

91 **Colleen McGue, MPO Planning Manager**

92

93 Colleen McGue presented the new brand to the Board. The MPO's name and branding

94 changes are the result of a collaboration between the MPO, Carrboro Creative, and Triangle

95 Digital Media that began in early 2024. This collaboration included a focus group meeting with

96 the MPO Board in March 2024. The new brand includes fresh new colors, fonts, and a logo that

97 better captures the excitement with which we do our work. The new name, Triangle West

98 Transportation Planning Organization, along with the brand are an opportunity to further commit

99 our organization to equitable, innovative, and collaborative transportation work in the western

100 part of the Research Triangle.

101 There were several questions from the Board regarding the mission. Mark Bell moved to

102 approve the new name, Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization, and the new

103 brand. The motion was seconded by Javiera Caballero. The motion passed unanimously.

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105 **9. FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Updates**

106 **Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff**

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108 Amendment #5 to the FY2024-33 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) continues to

109 modify and add projects from the recent Call for Projects. This amendment also incorporates

110 recently awarded funds such as the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and

111 Equity (RAISE) grant and 5310 funds into both existing and new projects.

112 As there are projects with changes in excess of \$2M and 25% from the original amount, per

113 the MPO's Public Involvement Plan (PIP), this amendment will be released for a 21-day public

114 comment period. The current timeline for adoption includes Board approval of this amendment

115 today.

Amy Fowler made a motion to approve TIP Amendment #5. The motion was seconded by Sally Greene. The motion passed unanimously.

10. 2024 Update to Program Management Plan (PMP) for the Section 5310 Grant: Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities
Colleen McGue, MPO Planning Manager

Every 2 years, the MPO selects and funds transportation projects that improve mobility for seniors and people with disabilities through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Grant. The PMP creates rules for how the MPO will select, fund, and implement these projects. The PMP is being updated with references to recently updated 2024 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (the Coordinated Plan). Additional edits include clarification around the relationship between the City of Durham, the Direct Recipient of Section 5310 funding in the Durham UZA, and the DCHC MPO which manages the implementation of the Coordinated Plan and selection of 5310 Program of Projects, as well as the addition of a Checklist for Project Manager Review of Uniform Guidance Audit Findings as requested by the FTA during recent discussions with the City of Durham. No public comments were received.

Carl Rist made a motion to adopt the 2024 Update to the PMP. The motion was seconded by Amy Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Targets for Safety Performance Measures
David Miller, MPO Staff
Brian Murphy, NCDOT Traffic Safety Unit

David Miller shared a background of the annual target setting for highway safety performance measures. David Miller shared that MPO's are required to either support their state DOT safety targets or develop their own safety targets, and that the deadline to do so for 2025 is February 27.

Brian Murphy provided an overview of NCDOT's safety targets and methodology, and safety trend data at the state and MPO level.

There were some questions for the presenters. Sally Greene made a motion to adopt the NCDOT safety performance measures this year. The motion was seconded by Javiera Caballero. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Destination 2055: Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update
Monet Moore, Principal Planner

Monet Moore shared that staff are finalizing the deficiency analysis of the Destination 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and will be discussing it at the joint Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) and Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) Board meeting on Wednesday, January 29, 2025. The full deficiency analysis will be presented to the Technical Committee and DCHC MPO Board in February for review. Once the deficiency analysis is finalized, the Proposed Alternatives will be developed and refined. Public outreach and engagement for the Proposed Alternatives will begin in early April 2025. An updated plan for public outreach and engagement will be shared with the Technical Committee and Board prior to conducting the outreach and engagement for the proposed alternatives.

13. Annual Ethics Reminder
Colleen McGue, MPO Planning Manager
Beth Seidel, Clerk to the Board

Colleen McGue reminded everyone about the annual State Ethics Commission filing period for members. All MPO Board members and alternates must file new Statements of

Economic Interest (SEIs) and Real Estate Disclosure (RED) forms. The annual filing period runs from January 1 through April 15.

Beth Seidel, our new Clerk to the Board, is the new MPO Ethics Liaison. If you have any questions regarding filing with the State Ethics Commission, please reach out to Beth. An informational sheet from the State Ethics Commission was attached to the agenda, which explains the obligations for all MPO Board members and alternates, along with tips for filing electronically. There is a statutory grace period which commences with the 30-Day Notice letter; failure to file in that 30 day window can result in fines being levied. Fines total \$500, and failure to file is a misdemeanor.

Chair Howard asked if MPO staff could send individual reminders to be sure to file, and Ms. McGue stated that they would.

REPORTS:

14. Report from Board Chair **Karen Howard, DCHC MPO Board Chair**

No report.

15. Report from the Technical Committee Chair **Eric Vitale, TC Chair**

Eric Vitale introduced himself as the new TC Chair.

16. Report from MPO Staff **Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHC MPO Executive Director**

Doug Plachcinski mentioned that the strategic rail programming work that they are partnering with CAMPO continues. There have been meetings with the consultants, and everything is moving along. This is for passenger rail as well as freight. There has been good work and research led by Filmon and Colleen on an intersection control evaluation (ICE) policy

that Triangle West is helping to develop. The Technical Committee will be helping with the next steps, which include releasing an RFP for consulting services to assist with the development.

Doug also shared that the Regional Transportation Alliance group is hosting a western region caucus next Friday, February 7 from 1-3, hosted by Duke University.

17. NCDOT Reports

Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation

No report.

Becca Gallas, Division 5 – NCDOT

No report.

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

Chad Reimakoski shared an update on I-40 project, they are continuing to progress on concrete pavement and median barrier walls, working on the large bore pipes. They should start shifting traffic soon. Division 7 will have a public drop-in February 24-28 in Greensboro.

Reuben Blakey (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 – NCDOT

Send Chatham County questions to Bryan Kluchar. Division 8 will be hosting a week-long draft 2026-2035 STIP drop-in at their office in Carthage February 24-28.

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT

The Governor's Highway Safety grant applications are open and are due January 31. These grants are for initiatives addressing traffic safety. This will fund projects that occur in the FY26 year. The NCDOT applications are open for free bike helmets, through February 14.

John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT

No report.

Regan Buchanan (Interim), Integrated Mobility Division

No report.

18. Recent News Articles & Updates

228 Chair Howard pointed out the news articles included in the agenda packet.

229 **ADJOURNMENT**

230 The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 am.