

Technical Committee

101 City Hall Plaza Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

9:00 AM

Committee Room 2nd Floor Durham City Hall

Regular Meeting

1. Roll Call

The roll call was completed using a sign-in sheet for in-person attendees, and the Zoom participant list for remote attendees. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that the Town of Carrboro has a Member vacancy due to Kent Johnson's departure.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the September 28, 2022 TC Minutes
 David Miller. LPA Staff

Tom Devlin made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Eric Vitale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

This Minutes was approved.

Amendment #13 to the FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff

Tom Devlin made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Eric Vitale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

This Informational Report was forwarded to the DCHC MPO Board due back on 11/9/2022

ACTION ITEMS

Durham County Transit Plan Recommended Scenario and Release for Public Comment (30 minutes)

Ellen Beckmann, Durham County Transportation Manager Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Chair Ellen Beckmann introduced the draft Durham County Transit Plan (DCTP), provided background on the half-cent sales tax approved by Durham County voters to fund public transit

improvements, and shared the financial breakdown of the DCTP revenues. Chair Ellen Beckmann shared that the draft DCTP process is nearing its end, with final plan approval expected in early 2023.

Aaron Cain shared the key themes of the draft DCTP: improve the current system, more projects sooner, connect the region with quick and reliable service, and a better experience at stops and station. Aaron Cain shared the details of the services and financial breakdown of the six key buckets in the draft DCTP, which include enhancing and extending bus service, commuter rail or other regional service, bus stop improvements and transit centers, more routes going more places, faster and more reliable bus service, and paratransit improvements. Aaron Cain said that over \$100 million is planned to be spent on improvements and new projects in Durham County by 2027. Chair Ellen Beckmann shared the final steps and key dates in the draft DCTP process, which culminates with anticipated adoption of the plan by the DCHC MPO Board, Durham County Board of Commissioners, and GoTriangle Board of Trustees in January 2023.

Tom Devlin made a motion to recommend to the MPO Board that it release the Draft DCTP for a 21-day public comment period. Eric Vitale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

This Informational Report was forwarded.to the DCHC MPO Board due back on 11/9/2022

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

DCHC MPO FY24 Call for Projects Advanced Notification (10 minutes)
 Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain said that the MPO will follow the same procedure as the previous year, along with the inclusion of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Carbon Reduction Program that has been included in the call for projects, and that jurisdictions will submit local preferences when their application is submitted. Aaron Cain said that preference is given to applications for existing projects first so they can be completed.

Aaron Cain asked the TC for advice on establishing a benchmark that indicates an end to a project. Chair Ellen Beckmann stated that closeout could take years to be complete. Doug Plachcinski proposed the benchmark be the point of project obligation, when funding is transferred to the state and local government management process, and the municipality is then responsible for the project. Meg Scully suggested the benchmark be when the final request for reimbursement is complete. Tracey Parrott stated NCDOT views the end of a project as the time of closeout due to necessary accounting and financial procedures. Margaret Hauth requested definitive language to be included in policy for guidance.

Tom Devlin asked if the City of Durham can apply for two new projects even though it has two projects going to construction soon. Aaron Cain shared that these City of Durham bike lane painting projects are under contract, but was told to wait until Spring. Aaron Cain, with the consent of the TC, said that it can be assumed that construction of these projects will be complete by June and therefore the City can apply for two projects for FY24.

Aaron Cain said that the amounts documented in the memo are currently estimates. Aaron Cain shared that the application form will be distributed by November 7 and will be due on December 9, that the ratings will be published in January, and the MPO Board will provide approval in March.

This Informational Report was forwarded to the Technical Committee due back on 1/25/2023

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

8. Report from Staff

Doug Plachcinski, AICP, CFM, DCHCMPO Executive Director

Doug Plachcinski had no information to add to his written report.

This Informational Report was forwarded.to the Technical Committee due back on 11/16/2022

9. Report from the Technical Committee Chair

Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair

Chair Ellen Beckmann had no new information to share.

This Informational Report was forwarded.to the Technical Committee due back on 11/16/2022

10. NCDOT Reports

Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 - NCDOT
Wright Archer (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 - NCDOT
Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 - NCDOT
Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division - NCDOT
John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT
Nick Morrison - NCDOT IMD

Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 - NCDOT: Brandon Jones provided an update to the Alston Avenue and East End Connector projects.

Wright Archer (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 - NCDOT: Stephen Robinson said that the I-40 widening project continues, and that Division 7 project update sheets are being revised to include more comprehensive information.

Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 - NCDOT: Bryan Kluchar stated that the draft FY2024-2033 STIP comment period ends October 28.

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division - NCDOT: There was no additional report.

John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT: There was no additional report.

Nick Morrison, Integrated Mobility Division - NCDOT: Nick Morrison stated that the next quarterly IMD webinar is scheduled for November 10.

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Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Ellen Beckmann at 9:37 a.m.

Next meeting: November 16, 2022 at 9 a.m., Committee Room

Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings:

- NC BikeWalk Transportation Summit, October 27-29, 2022 at East Carolina Heart Institute (115 Heart Dr, Greenville)
- N.C. Transportation Summit, January 18-19, 2023, at the Raleigh Convention Center (500 S Salisbury St, Raleigh)