

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

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**February 22, 2023**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on February 22, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the second floor Committee Room at Durham City Hall, as well as through the Zoom teleconferencing platform. The following members were in attendance:

Nishith Trivedi (Chair)	Orange County
Ellen Beckmann (Vice Chair)	Durham County
Tom Devlin (Member)	City of Durham
Eric Vitale (Member)	City of Durham
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham
Aaron Cain (Member)	Durham County
Scott Whiteman (Member)	Durham County
Tina Moon (Member)	Town of Carrboro
Bergen Watterson (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Josh Mayo (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Carolina Dwyer (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Brandon Dawson (Member)	Chatham County
Brandon Jones (Member)	NCDOT Division 5
Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT TPD
Travis Crayton (Member)	Research Triangle Foundation
Matt Day (Member)	TJCOG
John Grant (Member)*	NCDOT Traffic Operations
Joe Geigle (Non-voting Member)*	FHWA
Erin Convery (Alternate)	City of Durham
Meg Scully (Alternate)*	GoTriangle
Matt Cecil (Alternate)*	Town of Chapel Hill
Stephen Robinson (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 7
David Keilson (Alternate)	NCDOT Division 5
Bryan Kluchar (Alternate)*	NCDOT Division 8
Bill Judge*	City of Durham
Brian Taylor*	City of Durham
Evian Patterson*	City of Durham
Nick Pittman*	Town of Chapel Hill
Tracy Parrott	NCDOT Division 5
Sana Pashankar	Duke University (student)
Cheyenne Smith*	LeChase Construction
Doug Plachcinski	DCHC MPO
Yanping Zhang	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO

43	David Miller	DCHC MPO
44	Casey Chae*	DCHC MPO
45	Kelly Fomenko	DCHC MPO
46	Filmon Fishastion	DCHC MPO

47 Quorum count: 16 of 25 voting members  
 48 \*Attended remotely

49 Chair Nishith Trivedi called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

50 **PRELIMINARIES:**

51 **1. Roll Call**

52 The roll call was completed using a sign-in sheet for in-person attendees, and the Zoom  
 53 participant list for remote attendees.

54 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

55 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

56 **3. Public Comments**

57 There were no public comments.

58 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

59 **4. Approval of the January 25, 2023 TC Meeting Minutes**

60 David Miller, LPA Staff

61 **5. Amendment #14 to the FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

62 Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff

63 **6. City of Durham Letter of Support Request for Areas of Persistent Poverty Program**  
 64 **Grant Application**

65 Evian Patterson, City of Durham

66 Aaron Cain asked the Technical Committee (TC) to consider amending the proposed  
 67 approval schedule for Item 5: Amendment #14 to the FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement  
 68 Program (TIP). This would allow the TC to recommend it for approval at its March 22 meeting,  
 69 and then have it presented for consideration at the MPO Board's April 12 meeting. The original  
 70 schedule delayed approval by a month to allow a 21-day public comment period between the  
 71 MPO Board release and the TC recommendation. Aaron Cain also requested that the TC  
 72 reconsider the details of the 21-day public comment period that the TC made at a previous

meeting in an attempt to not delay projects moving forward. Aaron Cain added that this would allow the TC to make a recommendation to the Board based on technical merits and not the public comments received.

Eric Vitale made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the proposed amendment approval schedule for Item 5. Matt Day seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **7. FY24 Call for Projects - Recommended Projects for Funding (30 minutes)** **Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff**

Kelly Fomenko shared the list of projects and recommendations that were shared at the January 25 TC meeting. Kelly Fomenko shared that the list of projects were released for public comment on February 13, and five comments – all positive – have been received as of February 21.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann made a motion that the TC recommend that the Board approve the FY24 Call for Projects recommended projects. Josh Mayo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **8. FY2024-2033 Draft STIP Swap** **Kelly Fomenko, LPA Staff**

Kelly Fomenko shared that the projects that are part of the FY2024-2033 Draft STIP Swap were released for public comment on February 13, and that seven comments have been received as of February 21, and that the majority pertained to the US 70 project.

Eric Vitale made a motion that the TC recommend that the Board approve the recommended STIP Swaps. Tom Devlin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

#### **9. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update - Study Area and Corridor** **Yanping Zhang, LPA Staff**

Yanping Zhang shared the eight steps that are part of the Congestion Management Process (CMP) and stated that the presentation today will focus on the second step: study area and corridors. Yanping Zhang said that the study area and MPO boundaries are based on U.S. Census data, and that the 2020 U.S. Census urban area data was released on December 2022 – Yanping Zhang shared a visual representation of this new data and revised boundaries, the corridor list and transit routes for study within the 2023 CMP.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann asked if jurisdictions within the DCHC MPO boundaries that are urban and have over 50,000 population are required to join the MPO as a member, and Yanping Zhang replied no. Doug Plachcinski shared that federal funding is currently based on the population of the main urbanized area, and while DCHC MPO could include non-contiguous members, they would not be included in the current funding formula. Doug Plachcinski added that the Pinehurst and Southern Pines area has been designated as a new urban area in North Carolina, and that they are currently discussing if they will create a new MPO or join an existing MPO with USDOT and NCDOT, which could affect MPO federal funding allocations.

Chair Nishith Trivedi asked if DCHC MPO member local matches will change based on this information, and Doug Plachcinski stated that this is not known at this time.

Bergen Watterson asked if the population increase lines up with the modeling and projections used in the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for transportation improvements. Andy Henry and Matt Day stated that the data in the 2050 MTP was updated before adoption to have consistency with the U.S. Census.

#### **REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

##### **10. Report from Staff**

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

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

##### **11. Report from the Technical Committee Chair**

**Nishith Trivedi, TC Chair**

Chair Nishith Trivedi stated that the first round of public engagement activities have been scheduled for the US 70 multimodal corridor study, which entail workshops on March 7, 9 and 14.

**14. NCDOT Reports**

**Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 – NCDOT**

Brandon Jones had no comments to add to the written report.

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

Stephen Robinson provided updates for the Homestead Road, New Hope Church Road, and I-40 projects. Bergen Watterson asked for an update on NC 54 improvements spanning Chapel Hill and Carrboro, and Stephen Robinson replied that he would follow up with Chapel Hill and Carrboro after the meeting.

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

Bryan Kluchar had no additional report.

**Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT**

Julie Bogle had no additional report.

**John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT**

John Grant had no additional report.

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

There was no additional report.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST:**

**13. Recent News Articles and Updates**

Chair Nishith Trivedi mentioned the recent news articles and updates.

**14. NCDOT Spring Litter Sweep Information**

Chair Nishith Trivedi mentioned the NCDOT Spring Litter Sweep information.

**Adjourn**

150            Technical Committee members recognized Andy Henry for his service with the DCHC  
151   MPO and congratulated him on his forthcoming retirement. There being no further business,  
152   the meeting was adjourned by Chair Nishith Trivedi at 10:05 a.m.