



Technical Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

9:00 AM

Committee Room 2nd Floor
Durham City Hall 101 City Hall Plaza
Durham, NC 27701

1. Roll Call
2. Adjustments to the Agenda
3. Public Comment

CONSENT AGENDA

4. **Approval of the October 25, 2017 TC Meeting Minutes**

[17-198](#)

A copy of the October 25, 2017 minutes is enclosed.

TC Action: Approve the minutes of the October 25, 2017 TC meeting.

Attachments: [2017-11-15 TC Meeting Minutes 10.25.17.pdf](#)

ACTION ITEMS

5. Proposed D-O LRT Project Changes (20 minutes)[17-195](#)**Danny Rogers, GoTriangle**

In the updates to the Durham County Transit Plan and Orange County Transit Plan approved in April 2017, all parties agreed that any additions or deletions of stations along the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) Project would be subject to the approval of both county governing boards, the DCHC MPO Board, and the GoTriangle Board of Trustees (Durham County Transit Plan § 4.4.4.1, Orange County Transit Plan § 4.6.4.1). GoTriangle is requesting two actions from the DCHC MPO TC: 1) a recommendation of approval for a new station between Blackwell and Mangum streets in Durham, and 2) input on proposed changes to the location of the Gateway station in Chapel Hill.

In their comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), both the City of Durham and the Durham County Board of Commissioners requested that GoTriangle carefully evaluate the feasibility of a City Center Station between Blackwell and Mangum streets along Pettigrew Street during the project's Engineering Phase. In response to these comments, in the Combined Final Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision (FEIS/ROD), GoTriangle committed to continuing its work with Durham to evaluate the feasibility of a City Center Station during the Engineering Phase. With a reduction in platform length made possible by a move to two-car platforms, GoTriangle determined that a station platform could feasibly fit between Blackwell and Mangum Streets and without resulting in a potential impact to the historic Bull Durham building.

The purpose of the proposed Blackwell/Mangum Street Station is to offer more direct access to the city center of downtown Durham and event-based destinations in and around the American Tobacco campus, including the Durham Performing Arts Center and Durham Bulls Athletic Park

The cost estimate for the proposed additional station between Blackwell and Mangum streets is approximately \$2.5 million in Year of Expenditure (YOE) dollars more than the baseline design. As part of FTA-required cost management practices, changes to the base cost estimate (both savings and increases) associated with changes in the project design are tracked throughout Engineering and considered together. Although the overall project budget is set at entry into Engineering at \$2.476 billion, it is typical to shift expenditures between FTA cost categories to meet the needs of the project. In other words, savings in one area can cover additional expenditures in another area. This allows the agency and the project team to use the final design process to better align spending with goals and values.

In addition to the additional station in downtown Durham, GoTriangle requests input from the DCHC MPO TC on a proposed change to the location of the Gateway station in Chapel Hill. As shown in the attachment, the proposed station location would move the station approximately 600 feet, away from I-40 and closer to the Orange County Line.

GoTriangle is recommending this change for the following reasons:

- As part of GoTriangle's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) grant, GoTriangle held meetings with stakeholders to better understand the optimal development potential in

the area around the transit stations.

- It was determined that the existing Gateway Station location did not maximize the potential economic development opportunities for both Durham and Orange Counties. Quantitative analysis of the development potential is included in the attached memo from the TOD Consultant team.
- As a result of this process, it was recommended to shift the station and the light rail alignment to improve the overall opportunities for Durham and Orange counties.

The change would bring about the following benefits:

- The new location would increase potential economic development benefits.
- The new site layout is more conducive to urban redevelopment.

The cost estimate for the proposed change is approximately \$8 million (YOE) more than the baseline design. This is primarily due to a longer track alignment, additional required site and roadway construction, and additional real estate acquisition.

While moving the location of the Gateway Station does not require approval from the MPO Board, GoTriangle welcomes input from the MPO TC and Board on the proposed new station location.

Following the required approval of any changes, GoTriangle staff will submit an environmental re-evaluation to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to compare the environmental effects of the proposed refinement to the effects previously disclosed in the DEIS and determine if the commitments outlined in the Amended Record of Decision mitigate the effects. FTA will then determine if additional environmental documentation is needed or if the existing environmental documentation is sufficient.

GoTriangle recommends that the DCHC MPO TC and Board approve the addition of a station in the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT Project) between Blackwell and Mangum Streets along Pettigrew Street in downtown Durham.

TC Action: Recommend the Board approve the addition of the Blackwell/Mangum Street Station. Provide input on the proposed modified location of the Gateway Station.

Attachments: [2017-11-15 \(17-195\) Station Area Recommendations Update Memorandum 4-1](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-195\) Proposed Gateway Station Location Map.pdf](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-195\) Proposed Blackwell-Mangum Station Location Map.pdf](#)

6. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) (20 minutes)[17-155](#)**Andy Henry, LPA Staff**Preferred Option Released

The Technical Committee (TC) released the Preferred Option for a public comment period from November 1 through December 12, and the MPO Board conducted a public hearing on the Preferred Option at their meeting on November 8. The Preferred Option report is available at the following Web site and includes online highway and fixed-guideway maps: www.bit.ly/DCHC-MTP-Preferred.

2045 MTP Drafted

The TC will review changes made to the Preferred Option to create the final 2045 MTP and recommend that the MPO Board approve the final 2045 MTP at their December 13 meeting. See the attached table (shaded rows indicate changes) and map that depict the following changes that were made to the highway section of the Preferred Option:

Orange County/Carrboro

* Changed NC 54 cross-section from 3-lane to Modernization. The NC 54 study results will direct improvements to NC 54 in the future.

Orange County/Hillsborough

* Added improvements to NC 86, north of US 70 in Hillsborough, and include NC 86 and US 70 intersection improvements.

Durham/Durham County

- * Added modernization on NC 54 from Highgate to Fayetteville to fill the gap.
- * Added modernization on Hope Valley Rd (NC 751) from NC 54 to Woodcroft to fill the gap.
- * Added modernization on NC 147 from EEC to Briggs to fill the gap and extend to the west end to the Swift Avenue interchange.
- * Added Northern Durham Parkway from Sherron Rd to NC 98.

The attached financial plan shows the cost and revenue values that were updated based on the changes to the highway section. These changes are relatively insignificant. However, two issues remain. There is a \$139 million statewide deficit and \$190 million regional surplus in the last decade. The TC can discuss whether it is best to permit that these values balance one another out, especially given that they are in the last decade and the funding rules are likely to change by that time period. Finally, there is a total balance surplus of \$86 million, \$121 million and \$55 million in each decade. It has been staff's experience that it is best to have an MTP surplus to help fund future amendments.

2045 MTP Full Report

The 2045 MTP full report will be ready by December 8. The TC needs to discuss a process in which the TC will be comfortable with reviewing the full report so that it can go to the MPO

Board to be released at their December 13 meeting for a 30-day public comment period. The attached table shows the theme of the chapters and appendices that will be in the full report.

Performance Measures and Targets

The MPO Board recommended a few minor changes to the Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures and the Targets at their November 8 meeting. The revised documents are attached for review. Most of the needed data is not currently available but will be included in the document that goes forward to the MPO Board for release at their December 13 meeting.

Schedule

- * December 13 -- Board approve 2045 MTP (including Socioeconomic Data, project tables and maps, and financial plan), and release full 2045 MTP report, final Goals/Objectives/ Performance Measures, and Targets for public comment

- * January 10, 2018 -- Board adopt, by resolution, the 2045 MTP and report

TC Action: Review 2045 MTP and recommend approval by MPO Board, and review full 2045 MTP report, final Goals/Objectives/ Performance Measures, and Targets, and and recommend MPO Board release for public comment.

Attachments: [2017-11-15 \(17-155\) Draft2045MTP-Targets.pdf](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-155\) Draft2045MTP-PMs.pdf](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-155\) Draft2045MTP-Highways.pdf](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-155\) Draft2045MTP-FinPlan.pdf](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-155\) 2045MTP-ReportChapters.pdf](#)

7. Release of Amendment #1 to the FY2018-2027 TIP for Public [17-197](#)**Comment (5 minutes)****Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

On November 8, 2017, the DCHC MPO Board adopted the FY2018-2027 TIP. That TIP must now be reconciled with the FY2018-2027 STIP by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), a process that should take place by the end of the year.

Due to issues of consistency with the STIP within the first four years of the program, there are a number of projects within the TIP that will need to be changed through an amendment process. Because some of these projects change the funding amount by more than \$1,000,000, per the DCHC MPO Public Involvement Plan (PIP) the amendment must be released for a 21-day public comment period.

LPA staff requests that the TC recommend that the Board release Amendment #1 of the FY2018-2027 TIP for public comment. The Board would release the amendment for public comment at its December meeting and vote to approve the amendment at its January meeting.

The full report, summary sheet, and resolution for Amendment #1 are attached.

TC Action: Recommend that the Board release Amendment #1 for public comment.

Attachments: [2017-11-15 \(17-197\) TIP Amendment #1 Summary Sheet.pdf](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-197\) TIP Amendment #1 Full Report.pdf](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-197\) TIP Amendment #1 Resolution.pdf](#)

**8. FY2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment #2 (5 [17-194](#)
minutes)****Meg Scully, LPA Staff**

Amendment #2 of the FY2018 UPWP proposes to obligate Surface Transportation Block Grant - Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) funds for the City of Durham Downtown Transportation Study, and to re-allocate STBG-DA funds among task codes for Durham County. The attached memorandum and resolution with table provides details.

TC Action: Recommend the Board approve FY18 UPWP Amendment #2.

Attachments: [2017-11-15 \(17-194\) Memorandum FY18 UPWP Amend 2.pdf](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-194\) 2018 UPWP amend 2 Resolution with table.pdf](#)

9. **DCHC MPO Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan and Self-Assessment (5 minutes)** [17-190](#)

Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff

In compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) has prepared a Transition Plan and Self-Assessment. The MPO is required to develop a Transition Plan as well as monitor its recipients of federal funds. The draft ADA Transition has been reviewed by NCDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) who also participated in a Roundtable discussion hosted by the MPO.

TC Action: Recommend MPO Board approval of the DCHCMPO Transition Plan and Self Assessment.

Attachments: [2017-11-15 \(17-190\) ADA transition plan Flyer dchcmo outreach May 11-201](#)
[2017-11-15 \(17-190\) DCHC MPO ADA Transition Plan-110117 DRAFT-FINAL 2](#)

10. **2018 TC Elections (10 minutes)** [17-196](#)

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Per the TC's by-laws, officer elections must take place at the TC's January meeting. According to the by-laws:

- The current Chair, Ellen Beckmann, is eligible to serve a second one-year term
- The Vice-Chair must represent a jurisdiction in a county different from the Chair

Following previous procedure, a nominating committee is formed to provide nominations at the December TC meeting. The election takes place at the January TC meeting.

TC Action: Form a nominating committee to submit formal nominations for TC officers at the December TC meeting.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

11. **Report from Staff** [17-107](#)

Felix Nwoko, LPA Staff

TC Action: Receive report from Staff.

Attachments: [2017-11-15 \(17-107\) LPA staff report.pdf](#)

12. Report from the Chair [17-108](#)

Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair

TC Action: Receive report from the TC Chair.

13. NCDOT Reports [17-109](#)

Joey Hopkins (David Keilson/Richard Hancock), Division 5 - NCDOT

Mike Mills (Pat Wilson/Ed Lewis), Division 7 - NCDOT

Brandon Jones (Bryan Kluchar, Jen Britt), Division 8 - NCDOT

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Branch - NCDOT

John Grant, Traffic Operations - NCDOT

TC Action: Receive reports from NCDOT.

Attachments: [2017-11-15 \(17-109\) NCDOT Progress Report.pdf](#)**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:****Adjourn****Next meeting: December 20, 9 a.m., Committee Room****Dates of Upcoming Transportation-Related Meetings:****Joint DCHC MPO and CAMPO Board Meeting November 30, 2017 9:00 am - 12 pm****3rd Floor Meeting Room Apex Town Hall, 73 Hunter Street, Apex, NC 27502**