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2 **TRIANGLE WEST TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION Board Meeting**

3 **March 24th, 2026**

4 **MINUTES OF MEETING**

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6 **The Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization Board met on March 24th, 2026, at**
7 **9:00 a.m. in the Long Leaf Conference Room at the Central Pines Regional Council. The**
8 **following people were in attendance:**

Javiera Caballero (Board Chair)	City of Durham
Nida Allam (Member)	City of Durham
Amy Fowler (Member)	Orange County
Sally Greene (Member)	GoTriangle
Melissa McCullough (Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Wendy Jacobs (Member)	Durham County
Mark Bell (Member)	Town of Hillsborough
Lisa Mathis (Member)*	Board of Transportation
Carl Rist (Member)	City of Durham
Eric Vitale (TC Chair)	City of Durham
Bergen Watterson*	Town of Chapel Hill
Ben Berolzheimer*	Town of Chapel Hill
Paul Black*	GoTriangle
Logan DiGiacomo*	GoTriangle
Jason Hardin*	GoTriangle
Thanh Schado*	Chatham County
Ellen Beckmann*	Durham County
Erin Convery*	City of Durham
Marie Parker*	Town of Carrboro
Chad Reimakoski*	Division 7 – NCDOT
Bryan Kluchar*	Division 8 – NCDOT
Julie Bogle*	Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT
Drew Finley*	Fountain works
Herman Spurling	Resident
Ted Simpson	Resident
William Smith	Resident
Kim Crossman	Resident
Doug Plachcinski	Triangle West TPO
Colleen McGue	Triangle West TPO

Monet Moore	Triangle West TPO
Yanping Zhang	Triangle West TPO
Samad Rangoonwala	Triangle West TPO
Filmon Fishastion	Triangle West TPO
Thomas Porter*	Triangle West TPO
KC Chae*	Triangle West TPO
Lucia Ciro*	Triangle West TPO
David Miller	Triangle West TPO

9

10 *Denotes virtual attendance

11

12 **Quorum Count: 8 of 11 Voting Members**

13

14 Chair Javiera Caballero called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Voting Members and
15 Alternate Voting Members of the Triangle West TPO Board were identified and are indicated
16 above.

17

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PRELIMINARIES:

19 **1. Roll Call**

20 Chair Caballero asked in-person attendees to introduce themselves.

21

22 **2. Ethics Reminder**

23 Chair Caballero reminded Board members that ethics disclosure forms are due by April 15th.

24

25 **3. Adjustments to the Agenda**

26 Chair Caballero asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. There were none.

27

28 **4. Public Comments**

29 Chair Caballero asked if any members of the public were signed up to speak for general public
30 comment. There were none.

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REPORTS FROM STAFF:

34 **5. Report from TPO Staff**

35 **Doug Plachcinski, CFM, Triangle West TPO Executive Director**

36 Executive Director Plachcinski relayed the written staff report and highlighted several additional
37 items. Director Plachcinski informed the Board that Brian Rhodes, a longtime GIS staff person to
38 the DCHC MPO, passed away the prior week, with services planned for the following day.
39 Director Plachcinski noted that a draft project agreement had been included with the report,
40 incorporating initial feedback from City of Durham staff and city attorneys.

41 Director Plachcinski announced that a date has been confirmed for a joint regional safety
42 summit with the Capital Area MPO, scheduled for November 13th, with the venue expected to
43 be finalized that week. Director Plachcinski reported attending the National Association of
44 MPOs policy fly-in in Washington the prior week and informed the Board that a federal
45 transportation reauthorization is exceedingly unlikely this year, though markup language for
46 the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) reauthorization is expected in the second
47 quarter of 2026.

48 Director Plachcinski noted that following adoption of the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation
49 Plan (MTP), staff have received requests for presentations to member boards and commissions
50 and encouraged members to reach out. Director Plachcinski also reported that a meeting has
51 been scheduled with the NCDOT Chief Engineer's Office to discuss project development
52 protocols and improving project delivery for large NCDOT projects, with Fountainworks
53 facilitating the discussion.

54 Board Member Allam raised questions about the draft project agreement, specifically regarding
55 enforcement mechanisms if a project by a city or county fails to meet its deadline. Director
56 Plachcinski agreed to add language and circulate a revised draft for review, noting that CAMPO
57 has an escalating provision and that Charlotte and the Raleigh MPOs have similar accountability
58 mechanisms.

59 Board Member Jacobs also asked that the merchandise ordering link be resent and commended
60 Planning Manager Colleen McGue for her MTP presentation to the Durham Bike and Pedestrian
61 Advisory Commission, encouraging other members to invite staff to present at relevant
62 settings.

63 **6. Report from the Board Chair**

64 **Javiera Caballero, Board Chair**

65 Chair Caballero reported that the joint CAMPO meeting tentatively planned for April will not
66 take place. The joint meeting has been rescheduled to September 30th. Chair Caballero
67 encouraged members to add the date to their calendars.

68

69 **7. Report from the Technical Committee Chair**

70 **Eric Vitale, TC Chair**

71 No report.

72

73 **8. North Carolina Department of Transportation Reports**

74 **Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation**

75 Board of Transportation Member Lisa Mathis provided an update on several items. BOT
76 Member Mathis reported that winter weather significantly impacted NCDOT this year, with
77 more than 10 million gallons of brine and over 100,000 tons of salt used. She also provided an
78 update on Hurricane Helene recovery, noting the latest cost estimate is nearly \$5.8 billion, with
79 substantial work ongoing on Interstate 40 in the Pigeon River Gorge.

80 Board Member Mathis reported that following updated federal guidance issued in August
81 granting states greater flexibility in station placement, NCDOT reassessed North Carolina's
82 alternative fuel corridors and reduced planned National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI)
83 funded locations from 41 to 16 to better target communities with limited or no EV charging
84 access. A request for proposals for businesses interested in applying for NEVI funds is planned
85 for later in the month.

86 Finally, Board Member Mathis announced a \$16.3 million grant to improve freight and rail
87 infrastructure on 12 railroads and at the Port of Morehead City through the Freight and Rail
88 Crossing Safety Improvement Program. She also noted NCDOT's participation in America 250
89 North Carolina. A Board member asked whether any of the rail grants were awarded to projects
90 within the TPO's divisions. Board Member Mathis agreed to investigate and provide a written
91 response.

92

93 **Becca Gallas (David Keilson), Division 5 – NCDOT**

94 Written Report Provided.

95

96 **Wright Archer (Chad Reimakoski, Nishant Shah), Division 7 – NCDOT**

97 Chad Reimakoski reported no additional items beyond the Division 7 project update included in
98 the packet.

99

100 **Reuben Blakely (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 – NCDOT**

101 Bryan Kluchar reported no changes to the Division 8 project update. Kluchar noted that the
102 Chatham County 15501 project will be rescored in Prioritization 8 (P8), with scores expected by
103 the end of May.

104

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

106 Julie Bogle reported that NCDOT is transitioning from the Office of Strategic Initiatives and
107 Program Support to the newly established Office of Strategic Advancement (OSA). Bogle noted
108 that OSA is designed to strengthen how NCDOT plans, prioritizes, and executes strategic
109 department-wide work, focusing on three key areas: innovation and technology adoption,
110 performance and accountability, and cross-functional initiatives. Alpesh Patel has been
111 appointed Director of OSA, transitioning from his role as Transportation Planning Division
112 Director, with Cameron McNeil joining as Deputy Operations Director.

113

114 **Bryan Lopez, Integrated Mobility Division – NCDOT**

115 No report. Bryan Lopez was not present.

116

117 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

118 **9. Approving January 27th, 2026, Board Minutes**

119 **Samad Rangoonwala, Triangle West TPO Transportation Planner**

120

121 **10. Approving February 24th, 2026, Board Minutes**

122 **Samad Rangoonwala, Triangle West TPO Transportation Planner**

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124 **11. CMAQ Application for the NS-BRT**

125 **Katy Fontaine, Transit Development Manager, Chapel Hill Transit**

126 **Filmon Fishastion, Triangle West TPO Transportation Planner**

127

128 Board Member Jacobs noted a correction to the February 24th Board Meeting Minutes at line
129 261, where a comment was attributed to her but was made by Council Member Rist. The
130 correction was noted for the record.

131

132 Board Member Rist moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by
133 Board Member McCullough. The motion passed unanimously.

134

135 **ACTION ITEMS:**

136 **12. PUBLIC HEARING: Federal Certification Review**

137 Planning Manager Colleen Mcgue explained that the Triangle West TPO is preparing to undergo
138 its federal planning certification review, a process that occurs every four years to ensure
139 compliance with federal law. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit
140 Administration (FTA) will jointly review and evaluate the transportation planning process.
141 Manager Mcgue stated that a public hearing is required as part of the certification review
142 process.

143

144 Board Member Greene made a motion to open the public hearing on the Federal Certification
145 Review. The motion was seconded by Board Member Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

146

147 Four members of the public spoke about planned improvements to US-70, one of the Special
148 Studies underway by the TPO.

149
150 Board Member Jacobs made a motion to close the public hearing on the Federal Certification
151 Review. The motion was seconded by Board Member Rist. The motion passed unanimously.

152
153 No additional Board action was taken on this item.

154
155 **13. Title VI Report**

156 **Monet Moore, Triangle West TPO Principal Planner**

157 Principal Planner Monet Moore presented the 2026 Title VI Plan. Planner Moore explained that
158 the plan is produced based upon a template provided by the NCDOT Office of Civil Rights and is
159 required under the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the grounds of
160 race, color, and national origin, including language access. Moore noted that the previous Title
161 VI plan was adopted in 2019 when the organization was the DCHC MPO and housed with the
162 City of Durham.

163 Principal Planner Moore reviewed the related plans that feed into the Title VI plan, including
164 the Public Participation Plan adopted in 2025, the Language Access Plan adopted in 2025, and
165 the Environmental Justice Report currently open for public comment. Planner Moore outlined
166 the complaint and grievance procedures, noting a 180-day filing window, 10-day
167 acknowledgment period, and 15-day window for additional information. Planner Moore
168 reported that staff undergo Title VI training at least annually in partnership with NCDOT,
169 exceeding the three-year commitment in the plan.

170 Board Member Jacobs praised the maps included in the report.

171
172 Board Member Rist moved to release the Title VI Report for a 30-day public comment period.
173 The motion was seconded by Board Member Jacobs. The motion passed unanimously.

174
175 **14. LIP Methodology Adoption**

176 **Colleen McGue, Triangle West TPO Planning Manager**

177 Planning Manager Colleen McGue presented the Local Input Point (LIP) methodology for
178 Prioritization 8 (P8). Manager McGue reported that the TPO is currently in the partner data
179 review phase, with LIP methodologies due to the SPOT office by April 1st. Project scores from
180 NCDOT are expected by the end of May, after which staff will draft LIP assignments for Board
181 approval in June, with final approval anticipated in August.

182 Manager McGue reviewed the LIP allocation process, noting that the TPO receives 2,000 points
183 each for the regional and division tiers. Manager McGue explained that up to 500 points may
184 be shifted from the division to the regional tier, as was done in SPOT 7 due to limited funding
185 capacity in the division tier. She reported that division tier funding capacity is expected to be
186 limited again in P8.

187 Manager McGue outlined the criteria updates. The safety criterion now references the adopted
188 Vision Zero Action Plan and the High Injury Network. The equity criterion language has been
189 broadened to incorporate terminology used by the current federal administration. Manager
190 McGue noted that projects can receive up to seven points under the criteria, which are used to
191 produce a ranked list for point assignments of up to 100 points per project.

192 Manager McGue also presented a proposed addition to the methodology regarding express
193 design selection for Prioritization 9 (P9). She recommended that projects be selected from the
194 adopted 2055 MTP universe and scored using the LIP methodology and prior P7 scores.
195 Manager McGue confirmed that express design applies to highway projects only and that the
196 process is coordinated with NCDOT.

197 Board members raised questions about division tier financial capacity, coordination with
198 CAMPO and highway divisions on the SPOT process, and the relationship between express
199 design and P9 project requirements. Manager McGue clarified that highway divisions have
200 submitted transit and bike-pedestrian projects on the TPO's behalf in past rounds and that the
201 TPO maintains a strong working relationship with its three highway divisions. The LIP
202 methodology was released for a 30-day public comment period; no public comments were
203 received.

204
205 Board Member Greene moved to adopt the Local Input Point Methodology. The motion was
206 seconded by Board Member Rist. The motion passed unanimously.

207
208 **15. FY2026-2035 TIP Amendment #2**

209 **Filmon Fishastion, Triangle West TPO Transportation Planner**

210 Transportation Planner Filmon Fishastion presented Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
211 Amendment #2. Planner Fishastion reported that the amendment includes a new GoTriangle
212 project to improve bus stops in Hillsborough, modifications to TM-0066 to add additional
213 Section 5307 funds, and the programming of FY26 Community Project Funds to the Triangle
214 Mobility Hub and the Fordham Sidepath. The amendment was released for a 30-day public
215 comment period; no comments were received.

216
217 Board Member McCullough moved to approve TIP Amendment #2. The motion was seconded
218 by Board Member Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

219

220 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

221 **16. SE Data Dashboard**

222 **Yanping Zhang, Triangle West TPO Modeling Manager**

223 Modeling Manager Yanping Zhang presented the Socioeconomic (SE) Data Dashboard
224 developed following adoption of the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Manager

225 Zhang explained that the dashboard includes demographic and employment data for the years
226 2020, 2035, 2045, and 2055, and allows users to view data summaries at the MPO, county, and
227 grouped Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) levels. Manager Zhang noted that the dashboard is
228 currently in draft final status and will be published on the TPO website after finalization.

229 Board members requested clearer labeling for the percent change column. Board Chair
230 Caballero discussed how to share the tool with local governments, noting that City of Durham
231 transportation staff are already planning to host the dashboard on the city’s website, and
232 encouraged other jurisdictions to do the same.

233

234 **17. Strategic Plan Implementation Dashboard**

235 **Samad Rangoonwala, Triangle West TPO Transportation Planner**

236 **Drew Finley, Senior Project Manager, Fountainworks**

237 Drew Finley of Fountainworks presented the purpose and framework of the strategic plan
238 implementation dashboard. Project Manager Finley cited a nationwide study finding that 83
239 percent of organizations complete less than 25 percent of their outlined strategy, underscoring
240 the importance of structured implementation tracking. He explained that the dashboard
241 provides an organized framework for tracking success measures, translates high-level strategic
242 plan goals into measurable indicators, assigns accountability to specific staff, and streamlines
243 status reporting.

244 Transportation Planner Samad Rangoonwala presented the draft metrics for each of the six
245 strategic plan goals.

246 A Board member requested that mode share and vehicle miles traveled be included as metrics
247 under Goal 6. Another Board member praised the initiative and suggested standardizing
248 terminology between “leadership” and “leadership team” throughout the dashboard.

249

250

18. Recent News Articles and Updates

251 Chair Caballero referenced the news articles and updates included in the agenda packet. It was
252 noted that the April Board meeting has been moved to April 21st at 9:00 a.m. instead of April
253 28th. The joint CAMPO meeting originally planned for April will not take place.

254

255 **ADJOURNMENT**

256 Chair Caballero adjourned the meeting at 10:26 a.m.