**TRIANGLE WEST TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

**Technical Committee**

**October 14th, 2025**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization Technical Committee met on October 14th, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in the Central Pines Conference Room at the Central Pines Regional Council. The following people were in attendance:

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| Eric Vitale (TC Chair) | City of Durham |
| Caroline Dwyer (TC Vice Chair) | Chapel-Hill Transit |
| Aaron Cain (Member) | Durham County |
| Anne Calef (Alternate) | RTP Foundation |
| Thanh Schado (Member) | Chatham County |
| Sarah Williamson (Member) | Orange County |
| Ellen Beckmann (Member) | Durham County |
| Curtis Scarpignato (Member) | Durham County |
| Bergen Waterson (Member) | Town of Chapel Hill |
| Becca Eversole-Robinson (Member) | Town of Carrboro |
| Paul Black (Member) | GoTriangle |
| Stephanie Trueblood (Member) | Town of Hillsborough |
| Julie Bogle (Member) | NCDOT TPD |
| Matt Day (Member) | CPRC |
| Tasha Johnson (Member) | City of Durham |
| Bill Judge (Member) | City of Durham |
| Chad Reimakoski (Member) | NCDOT Division 7 |
| Darlene Weaver* (Member) | Orange County |
| John Grant* (Member) | NCDOT Traffic Operation |
| Brooke Roper* (Alternate) | Durham County |
| Caroline Lamb* (Alternate) | Durham County |
| Erin Convery (Alternate) | City of Durham |
| Jason Hardin* (Alternate) | GoTriangle |
| Nishant Shah* (Alternate) | NCDOT Division 7 |
| Logan DiGiacomo* (Alternate) | GoTriangle |
| Leta Huntsinger | WSP |
| Marie Parker* | Town of Carrboro |
| Tom Devlin * | City of Durham |
| Sarah Johnson* | Toole Design |
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| Doug Plachcinski | Triangle West TPO |
| Colleen McGue | Triangle West TPO |
| Yanping Zhang | Triangle West TPO |
| KC Chae* | Triangle West TPO |

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| Filmon Fishastion | Triangle West TPO |
| Samad Rangoonwala | Triangle West TPO |
| David Miller | Triangle West TPO |
| Thomas Porter | Triangle West TPO |
| Yuwen He* | Triangle West TPO |
| Dolly Hall-Quinlan* | Triangle West TPO |

Quorum Count: X of X Voting Members

Chair Eric Vitale called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The Voting Members and Alternate Members of the Triangle West Technical Committee were identified and indicated above.

**PRELIMINARIES:**

1. **Roll Call**

Chair Eric Vitale asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Adjustments to the Agenda**

TPO Planning Manager Colleen McGue shared that a resolution needing a signature from the Board Chair to officially adopt the Massey Chapel Road Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment that was approved by the Board on September 23rd was printed for TC review and has been added as an item on the consent agenda.

3. **Public Comments**

No public comments

**Reports from Staff:**

4. **Report from TPO Staff** **25-101**

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**Colleen McGue, Planning Manager**

TPO Planning Manager Colleen McGue reminded attendees that Triangle West is hosting a Vision Zero Safety Summit on November 20th and encouraged them to register for it. Manager McGue added that summit attendees would receive a free copy of Veronica Davis's book.

## 5. Report from the Technical Committee Chair

**Eric Vitale, TC Chair**

No Report

## 6. North Carolina Department of Transportation Reports

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

Written Report provided.

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

Member Reimakoski reported that Division 7 continues to work on the areas in the median between NC 86 and MM 268; traffic has been shifted to the new travel lane in several areas including the I-85 interchange, NC-86, and mile marker 268 in Durham County. I-85 Southbound by I-40 Eastbound is still closed; there is a 15-day ramp closure on old NC-86.

**Reuben Blakely (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8, - NCDOT**

Written Report provided.

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

Member Bogle reported that NCDOT has a new secretary; videos of the NC Transportation summit session had been posted and that the 2024 AADT counts had been published.

**John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT**

No Report.

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

No report.

## CONSENT AGENDA:

## 7. Approval of September 9th, 2025, TC Minutes

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**Samad Rangoonwala, Transportation Planner**

**8. TIP Accelerated Amendment #2**
**Filmon Fishastion, Transportation Planner**

**9. FY25 UPWP Administrative Modification #2**
**Thomas Porter, Transportation Planner**

**10. FY26 UPWP Amendment #1 BBPA**
**Thomas Porter, Transportation Planner**

Triangle West TPO Executive Director Doug Plachcinski explained that because the TPO effectively operates using a yearly grant application in the UPWP. Due to this, Triangle West's UPWP does not always align with the Central Pines Regional Council's budget. Executive Director Plachcinski explained this Amendment would bring the UPWP and CPRC's budget into alignment, and to expect an item like this around October of each year moving forward.

TC Member Julie Bogle asked for additional clarification on the FY2025 UPWP Administrative Modification and FY26 UPWP Amendment. Executive Director Plachcinski agreed to circle back with Member Bogle and schedule a call to go over the items.

TC Member Becca Eversole-Robinson made a motion to approve the consent agenda; the motion was seconded by TC Member Matt Day. The motion passed unanimously.

**Action Items**

**11. 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Financial Plan and Project List (MTP)**
**Yanping Zhang, Transportation Modeling Manager**
**Monet Moore, Principal Planner**
**Dolly Hall-Quinlan, Transportation Modeler**
**Eve He, Transportation Modeler**

TPO Modeling Manager Yanping Zhang invited TPO Principal Planner Monet Moore to overview the public engagement for the 2055 MTP. Principal Planner Moore went over the comments received during the 45-day public comment period. Most related to the CRX line between Chapel Hill and Raleigh and other transit services with one comment encouraging capacity improvements on key roadway corridors.

Modeling manager Zhang then went over the MTP schedule to outline the next step as approval of items for use in the Final MTP and AQ report. Today's item will go over the Project lists and the financial plan.

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Modeling manager Zhang presented the ITS and Technology based project list, noting that there were no public comments on this item, and the TPO is choosing not to make any changes to this list. For roadway projects there was one change in the project description for US 15-501 in Chatham County, changing those projects to a reduced conflict intersection for US-15-501 from Smith Level Road to the US-64 Bypass. Several other projects were moved forward or back in time to balance the financial plan and achieve air quality conformity.

Modeling manager Zhang then reviewed the changes to the transit projects, including an update to NSBRT to integrate with the I-40 BRT line to Raleigh, and the Durham-RTP BRT line integrating with the western BRT line to Cary, Raleigh, Garner, and Clayton. Finally, the CRX Express Bus would operate between Eubanks Park and Ride and Raleigh.

Modeling manager Zhang finished by presenting the Financial Plan that was put together by Matt Day at CPRC, he went over the key assumptions, the projected revenue and costs in each STI Tier by decade as well as Bike-Ped and Transit revenue and proposed costs generated by a hypothetical 1 cent sales tax divided 67% to Bike-ped and 33% to Transit, as well as the operations and management budget.

TC Member Ellen Beckman asked to confirm that the proposed 1 cent sales tax would start in 2036 and if the Transit/Bike ped breakout was based on needs or an assumption of what the NC General Assembly might approve.

Planning manager McGue clarified that it was not based on general assembly approval.

TC Member Becca Eversole-Robinson explained it's unlikely that the current General Assembly would approve the sale tax as proposed.

TC Vice Chair Caroline Dwyer asked what the mechanism for collecting the sale tax would be; Executive Director Plachcinski explained that was still to be decided. TC Member Matt Day clarified that the financial plan assumed and based on the revenue amounts on a 1 cent sale tax, but the MTP is agnostic on the revenue being generated with a sale tax; the money could be raised by other means.

Member Beckmann asked if the current half sales tax was represented in the transit funding bucket.
Member Day explained that the “Funding for new transit services” bucket represented the existing half-cent sales tax funding from GoTriangle.

TC Member Paul Black made a motion to recommend the Board adopt the 2055 MTP Financial Plan and Project list for incorporation in the 2055 MTP and Air Quality Conformity Document. The motion was seconded by TC Member Thanh Schado. The motion passed unanimously

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## 12. Functional Classification Requests and Urban Area Boundary Update
**Thomas Porter, Transportation Planner**

Transportation Planner Porter presented the Functional Classification update requests and the Urban Area Boundary Smoothing. He went over the changes to the urban boundary, background on the approval of the smoothed urban area boundary, and its approval from FHWA. Planner Porter presented the seven roadway segments across the TPO region that would have their functional classification updated

TC Member Julie Bogle made a motion to recommend that the board adopt the proposed functional classification changes, the motion was seconded by TC Member Sarah Williamson

## 13. Strategic Rail Infrastructure Study
**Filmon Fishastion, Transportation Planner**

Transportation Planner Fishastion went over the Strategic Rail Infrastructure study done with CAMPO; he presented on the types of rail projects from Light Rail to Passenger rail explaining that the Study team decided to focus on Passenger rail as those projects are built under FRA oversight rather than FTA oversight.

Planner Fishastion went over the development of the decision-making framework and proposed service concepts, examining where potential bottlenecks could be.

He explained that the agenda packet includes a project matrix which details each service concept and the projects that would make them up. These projects are cross referenced with a variety of metrics such as freight compatibility, overlaps with NCDOT's Corridor ID Program, and attractiveness to federal grant programs.

The local decision-making framework includes principles for deciding on a project's viability in conjunction with the strategic investment decision tree which outlines how to prioritize investment.

Planner Fishastion finished with proposed future studies to expand the work that was done during this study.

TC Member Thanh Schado made a motion to recommend the board endorse the Strategic Rail Infrastructure Study. The Motion was seconded by Member Beckmann. The motion passed unanimously.

## 14. 2025 Update to the ADA Transition
**Monet Moore AICP, Principal Planner**

Monet Moore, Principal Planner, presented the 2025 ADA Transition Plan for consideration for Adoption by the TPO Board. She reviewed the legal framework (Section 504, ADA Title II), the

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2017 plan, and the ADA Focus Group in partnership with the Triangle Disability Awareness Council. The group identified regional barriers and proposed improvements in transit stops, pedestrian infrastructure, communications, and staff training. The draft plan includes updated grievance procedures, accessibility audits of MPO facilities, and outreach strategies, and a set of recommendations to improve transit and bike/ped accessibility throughout the region. The TPO has brought on braille and ASL service providers as vendors**.** Principal Planner Moore also overviewed the public comments received from Bike Durham and the Triangle Disability Awareness council and how those recommendations were incorporated int the plan

TC Chair Eric Vitale commented that the City of Durham had recently hired an ADA Coordinator and that the city was working on a bus stop database. Several other TPO partners, including GoTriangle and Chapel Hill Transit, also completed bus stop databases and pledged to share data regionally.

Member Paul Black made a motion to recommend the board adopt the ADA Transition Plan; the motion was seconded by Member Curtis Scarpignato. The motion passed unanimously.

### 15. 2025 Update to the Language Access Plan

**Monet Moore AICP, Principal Planner**

TPO Principal Planner Monet Moore presented the Language Access Plan, formerly referred to as the Limited English Proficiency Plan The plan expands beyond Spanish to include Chinese, ASL, and Braille. The decision to rename the document from a "Limited English-Proficiency Plan" to the "Language Access Plan" was explained. Legal foundations for this plan include Title VI, Executive Orders 13166 and 97 98 14224, and DOJ guidance. A four-factor analysis identified Spanish and Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese) as Harbor languages. Key components include translated summaries of vital documents, staff training, and the creation of "I speak cards" for public engagement.

Chair Vitale asked if the plan meant that the TPO would be translating more documents. Principal Planner Moore clarified that TPO staff would be identifying core documents and having some of them translated, and others would be making translated summary sheets of the documents. With the TPO, we are able to have some of the full documents translated upon request.

TC Member Lindsay Smart made a motion to recommend the board adopt the Language Action Plan; the motion was seconded by TC Member Becca Eversole Robinson. The motion passed unanimously.

## Informational Items

### 16. Durham to Roxboro Rail Trail Feasibility Study

**Ellen Beckmann – Durham County Transportation**

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**Caroline Stahlschmidt – Destination by Design**
**Sarah Johnson – Toole Design**

TC Member Ellen Beckmann introduced Sarah Johnson, a consultant with Toole Design. Consultant Johnson presented on the Durham to Roxboro Rail Trail feasibility study including its timeline, the engagement work and results, showcasing the feedback received from the community as well as the proposed segmentation for the 18 mile corridor, updates on the right-of-way (ROW) acquisition led by The Conservation Fund, proposed cross sections and typical sections, as well as the field work done by the project team.

## 17. Durham Freeway Update (15 minutes)

**Erin Convery, City of Durham**
**Monet Moore AICP, Principal Planner**

City of Durham Sr. Manager of Multi-Modal Planning and Project Development Erin Convery presented on the reimaging Durham freeway plan, going over the project schedule, background both on the freeway and the plan as well as well as going over the community engagement and three proposed alternatives included an freeway modernization with pedestrian bridges for increased connectivity, a freeway cap and the removal of the freeway and transformation into an urban Blvd. Member Convery went over the cost estimates for each alternative, potential impacts on the rest of the transportation network and the community feedback on each alternative and next steps.

Member Beckmann asked what the project listed into the 2055 MTP was coded as, Member Convery and Modeling Manager Zhang clarified that it is currently listed as a boulevard conversion but the plan is not attempting to reach a defined final alternative rather to do a high level feasibility study of each alternative to then examine potential next steps and funding pathways.

## 18. Environmental Justice Report Methodology and Preliminary Findings

**Samad Rangoonwala, Transportation Planner**

TPO Transportation Planner Samad Rangoonwala presented a proposed update to the TPO's environmental justice report's methodology for identifying "EJ" communities. Planner Rangoonwala explained the shifting legal background for the report, the importance of the report to the TPO's Title VI compliance, and issues with the prior methodology. He reviewed the proposed new methodology, the creation of a scaled "transportation disadvantage index, data from the preliminary results and maps of the TPO area, and their TDI scores.

Technical Committee member Paul Black commented that the 75$^{th}$ percentile threshold used in the prior EJ report was designed to designate a specific number of block groups in the region as EJ communities and had been previously adjusted to maintain those targets. Member Black expressed support for the new methodology.

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**19. Draft FY2027 UPWP Local Match (5 Minutes)**

**Thomas Porter, Transportation Planner**

TPO Transportation Planner Thomas Porter presented the FY2027 UPWP Local Match; the proposed match includes increases for salary increases, and additional fringe costs. Executive Director Plachcinski promised to send out an additional breakdown of the FY2027 UPWP Local Match to members.

**20. Recent News Articles and Updates** **25-104**

**Adjourn**

Chair Eric Vitale Adjourned the meeting at 3:33pm

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