TRIANGLE WEST TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
October 27th, 2026
MINUTES OF MEETING

The Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization Board met on October 27th, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Long Leaf Conference Room at the Central Pines Regional Council. The following people were in attendance:

Javiera Caballero (Board Chair)	City of Durham
Danny Nowell (Board Vice Chair)	Town of Carrboro
Carl Rist (Board Member)	City of Durham
Nida Allam (Board Member)	Durham County
Wendy Jacobs (Board Member)	Durham County
Amy Fowler (Board Member)	Orange County
Melissa McCullough (Board Member)	Town of Chapel Hill
Mark Bell (Board Member)	Town of Hillsborough
Sally Greene (Board Member)	GoTriangle
Marilyn Carter (Board Member)	Orange County
Karen Howard* (Board Member)	Chatham County
Lisa Mathis* (Board Member)	NC Board of Transportation
Matt Hughes (Board Alternate)	Town of Hillsborough
Eric Vitale (TC Chair)	City of Durham
Anne Calef	Research Triangle Foundation
Ellen Beckmann	Durham County
Sarah Williamson	Orange County
Matt Day	Central Pines Regional Council
Chad Reimakoski	NCDOT Division 7
Ben Berolzheimer*	Town of Chapel Hill
Bergen Watterson*	Town of Chapel Hill
Caroline Dwyer*	Town of Chapel Hill
Duncan Dodson*	Town of Carrboro
Lindsay Smart*	City of Durham
Mathew Clark	GoTriangle
Patrick DeCorla-Souza*	Former Program Manager, FHWA
Michael Replogle*	Institute for Transportation and Development Policy
Jordan Powell*	Durham Bike and Pedestrian Committee
Doug Plachcinski	Triangle West TPO
Colleen McGue	Triangle West TPO
David Miller	Triangle West TPO
Monet Moore	Triangle West TPO
Thomas Porter	Triangle West TPO
Samad Rangoonwala	Triangle West TPO

Andy Henry	Triangle West TPO
KC Chae*	Triangle West TPO
Yuwen He*	Triangle West TPO
Yanping Zhang*	Triangle West TPO
Madeline Galliano*	Triangle West TPO

*Denotes virtual attendance

Quorum Count: [11] of 12 Voting Members

Chair Javiera Caballero called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the Triangle West TPO Board were identified and are indicated above.

PRELIMINARIES:

1. Roll Call

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

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

Chair Javiera Caballero asked if there were any additions to the agenda. A personnel matter was added to the Closed Session at the end of the meeting.

3. Public Comments

Chair Javiera Caballero asked if any members of the public were signed up to speak. There were none.

4. Informational Report: HOTTER Lanes

Patrick DeCorla-Souza, Former Program Manager at FHWA
Michael Replogle, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy

Executive Director Plachcinski introduced Patrick DeCorla-Souza and Michael Replogle. Patrick DeCorla-Souza presented the HOTTER lanes concept, which converts the left lane of an existing freeway into a peak-period lane that is tolled for single-occupant vehicles and free for carpools and transit, while opening the right shoulder as a general travel lane during peak periods, without widening. Surplus toll revenue would fund express bus service, mobility hubs, first and last mile connections, cash rewards for carpoolers and transit riders, and active traffic management. He proposed a demonstration project on I-40 between US 15-501 and I-540, estimated to generate $435 million in net revenue, and noted that converting approximately 211 lane miles of candidate corridors from the 2019 Triangle Strategic Tolling Study could generate approximately $3.3 billion in net revenue.

Board members asked about lane maintenance, the position of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), how revenue would be shared, the effect on bus-on-shoulder service and transit reliability, the role of a concessionaire, project financing and debt, the path and timeline for a pilot, long-term statewide transportation funding, case studies, and the role of GoTriangle. Executive Director Plachcinski noted that CAMPO is studying managed lanes on I-40, that a managed lanes project between NC 751 and I-540 has approximately $110 million programmed, that Division 5 is leading a tactical

improvements study, and that staff would seek assurances that toll credits benefit the region. Board Member Wendy Jacobs requested the item be placed on the joint CAMPO meeting agenda with NCDOT participation. Board Member Lisa Mathis stated she would discuss the concept with the NCDOT Chief Engineer.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

5. Report from TPO Staff

Doug Plachcinski, Triangle West TPO Executive Director

Executive Director Plachcinski announced that a special virtual Board meeting, and a corresponding Technical Committee meeting, will be held the first week of December to release Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) amendments for public comment in time to meet the NC Board of Transportation holiday deadline; a poll will be sent to schedule the meeting. Staff recognized Andy Henry , whose last day with the TPO is October 30th, 2026. Executive Director Plachcinski announced that registration is open for the 2026 Triangle Regional Transportation Safety Summit, featuring speaker David Zipper, and for the 2026 Triangle Bike and Pedestrian Summit in Carrboro, jointly hosted with the Town of Carrboro and Orange County.

Executive Director Plachcinski announced the retirement of Andy Henry, TPO Transportation Planner, and thanked him for his work at the organization. TPO Transportation Planner thanked Triangle West staff and the Board for their partnership.

6. Report from the Board Chair

Javiera Caballero, Board Chair

Chair Javiera Caballero thanked the members of the Governance Subcommittee, which will meet again this Friday, and stated that the full Board should be ready to receive the subcommittee's recommendations in November.

7. Report from the Technical Committee Chair

Eric Vitale, TC Chair

No report.

8. North Carolina Department of Transportation Reports

Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation

Board of Transportation Member Lisa Mathis reported that storms on the Outer Banks in late September and early October required NCDOT to launch 24-hour emergency ferry operations for the first time, and that NCDOT is working with partners on long-term solutions for barrier island access. She noted that, two years after Hurricane Helene, 99 percent of affected roads have reopened. She reported that the General Assembly suspended the state motor fuels tax through November 30th, with the lost revenue replaced through the Stabilization and Inflation Reserve. She also announced the release of the NCDOT 2026-2031 Strategic Plan, which centers on six priorities: transportation safety, workforce safety and readiness, program delivery, system reliability, infrastructure health, and digital modernization.

Becca Gallas (Matt Nolfo, David Keilson), Division 5 - NCDOT

Division 5 was not in attendance.

Wright Archer (Chad Reimakoski), Division 7 - NCDOT

Chad Reimakoski reported that right-of-way acquisition for project I-3306AC at I-40 and NC 86 should be completed next month, and that the I-40 widening from Orange County to the Durham County line is 87 percent complete, with completion moved to summer 2028 due to added flyover work. He noted an eastbound ramp closure at New Hope Church Road for four or more weeks beginning October 11th, and upcoming overnight ramp closures at Old NC 86, New Hope Church Road, NC 86, and US 15-501.

Reuben Blakely (Jessica Luther), Division 8 - NCDOT

Division 8 was not in attendance.

Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Office - NCDOT

The Transportation Planning Office was not in attendance.

Johnna Burkett, Integrated Mobility Division - NCDOT

The Integrated Mobility Division was not in attendance.

ACTION ITEMS:

9. Public Hearing: FY2028 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Doug Plachcinski, Triangle West TPO Executive Director

Board Member Amy Fowler made a motion to open the public hearing on the draft FY2028 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The motion was seconded by Board Member Carl Rist. The motion passed unanimously.

No member of the public signed up to speak at the public hearing.

Board Member Melissa McCullough made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Board Member Carl Rist. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Plachcinski presented the draft FY2028 UPWP, which was brought forward early so member jurisdictions can prepare their budgets. The current estimated local share is $1,127,803, with the City of Durham at 58 percent, the Town of Chapel Hill at 13 percent, Durham County at 11 percent, and GoTriangle's 7 percent taken off the top. [A Board Member] noted that this figure differs from the placeholder in the draft document and requested that presentations be included in the agenda packet. Executive Director Plachcinski stated he would meet with member managers, and that special studies in Orange County and Carrboro will be incorporated into the final UPWP to be presented November 17th. Board members requested that changes from prior versions be highlighted and that timelines be provided for special studies; staff noted these could be added to the existing Gantt chart.

Chair Javiera Caballero asked how Governance Subcommittee recommendations would be reflected. Executive Director Plachcinski explained that, once the Board approves a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and 75 percent of members adopt it, the UPWP would be reworked, with changes intended to take effect July 1st, 2027, followed by updates to the bylaws and flexible funding policy.

Vice Chair Danny Nowell summarized the subcommittee's discussions on voting structure, member contributions, leadership rotation, and project scoring. Board Member Amy Fowler stated the funding model should reflect project distribution as well as voting power. Board members requested that subcommittee materials be distributed ahead of the November 17th meeting, and noted that a replacement will be needed for Board Member Sally Greene, who leaves the Board in December.

10. Public Hearing: CTP Amendment - Triangle Bikeway
Monet Moore, Triangle West TPO Principal Planner

Board Member Mark Bell made a motion to open the public hearing on the proposed Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment for the Triangle Bikeway. The motion was seconded by Board Member Sally Greene. The motion passed unanimously.

No member of the public signed up to speak at the public hearing, in person or online. Principal Planner Moore noted that one comment had been received through the online survey and that staff conducted outreach at Move-A-Bull City earlier in the month. The item will return to the Technical Committee and Board in November.

Board Member Wendy Jacobs made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Board Member Mark Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Grant - FFY26 Program of Projects
Colleen McGue, Triangle West TPO Planning Manager
Thomas Porter, Triangle West TPO Transportation Planner

Planning Manager McGue introduced Transportation Planner Thomas Porter, who has joined the TPO's Planning Team as the Transit Planner. Planner Porter explained that FTA Section 5310 funds improve mobility for older adults and people with disabilities and may support vehicles, operations, and travel training for public and nonprofit recipients. The TPO fully funded all four applications: Orange County Transportation Services for fare-free paratransit service, the Orange County Department on Aging for a mobility manager position, Chapel Hill Transit for its Senior Shuttle, and GoDurham ACCESS for four vehicles. The remaining funds will support TPO administration. The Technical Committee recommended approval on October 13th, and funding notifications will be sent in November.

Board Member Amy Fowler made a motion to approve the proposed Program of Projects. The motion was seconded by Board Member Melissa McCullough. The motion passed unanimously.

12. FY2027 UPWP Amendment #3
David Miller, Triangle West TPO Principal Planner
Thomas Porter, Triangle West TPO Transportation Planner

Principal Planner David Miller explained that the amendment to the FY2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) requests the addition of the Section 5310 administrative funds and a City of Durham parking study. The parking study will evaluate parking operations, supply and demand, asset values, and redevelopment options, and will provide updated parking data for the Triangle Regional Model. A Board

Member asked whether the study would include all publicly owned parking in the City and County of Durham. TPO Principal Planner Miller responded that the facility analysis covers City-owned decks, while the inventory and supply and demand analysis will cover all downtown parking.

Board Member Carl Rist made a motion to approve FY2027 UPWP Amendment #3. The motion was seconded by Board Member Melissa McCullough. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

13. Approving September 22nd, 2026 Board Minutes
Samad Rangoonwala, Triangle West TPO Transportation Planner

14. TIP Accelerated Amendment #7
Filmon Fishastion, Triangle West TPO Transportation Planner

15. Interlocal Risk Financing Fund of North Carolina (IRFFNC) Membership
Doug Plachcinski, Triangle West TPO Executive Director

Board Member Melissa McCullough moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Board Member Amy Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

16. News and Updates
No discussion.

17. Closed Session

Board Member Carl Rist moved to convene the closed session. The motion was seconded by Board Member Danny Nowell. The motion passed unanimously.

When the Board returned from closed session, Board Member Danny Nowell moved to approve a 3% of annual salary one-time-payment for full-time Triangle West employees. The motion was seconded by Board Member Amy Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Javiera Caballero adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:30 The next meeting is scheduled for November 17th, 202

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