

# INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES - Updated 6/16/25

## June 18, 2025

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# **Studies**

## North Harnett County Transit Connections Feasibility Study

The project team convened the CTT and public officials in a joint meeting on April 28th to discuss results of the second round of public engagement, and to present the draft implementation plan for the microtransit service in North Harnett. The study is on track to conclude by the end of June. A public comment period will be conducted for the public to review and comment on the final report July 21 – August 19, 2025, with the Executive Board expected to endorse the study at its August meeting. To learn more about the study, visit the project website: <u>https://www.northharnetttransitstudy.com/</u> (Staff contact: Shelby Powell)

## **Regional Rail Infrastructure Investment Study**

At the request of the CAMPO and DCHC MPO boards' Rail Subcommittees, the MPO's are partnering on a study to develop a passenger rail vision for the Triangle region. This study will culminate in a series of policy and project recommendations intended to facilitate deployment of passenger rail service in the area. It will recommend a critical path for investments in identified projects, a framework for transit plan participation decision making and a regional strategy for funding future rail projects. CAMPO and DCHC MPO convened a Rail Visioning Committee from their respective Rail Subcommittees on December 6, 2024, and kicked off the Technical Steering Committee with jurisdictions, GoTriangle and NCDOT in attendance. CAMPO and Consultant have conducted the review of the universe of project and analysis of potential service concepts. With input from the Technical Steering Committee, CAMPO and the Consultants have conducted the Federal, State and Local funding screening to match projects to the funding opportunity for which they are most competitive. Development of the Decision-Making Framework and Implementation Plan is underway. This study is anticipating finishing and presenting its final report on schedule.

(Staff contact: Daniel Spruill)

## Regional Multi-Modal Safety Action Plan

The Regional Multi-Modal Safety Action Plan is a project underway and will be finalized by June 2025. The Regional Multi-Modal Safety Action Plan when completed will better inform the safety-related performance metrics for the MPO, as well as evaluate available safety data to determine priority areas for safety improvement projects across multiple modes of travel in the region. The Multi-Modal Safety Action Plan will also ensure the completed plan meets the criteria for the IIJA's Safe Streets for All Program and Increasing Safe and Accessible Transportation Options planning criteria, thus allowing member agencies to apply for additional implementation funding through that program.

The Multi-Modal Safety Action Plan (aka The Blueprint for Safety Plan) process has resulted in the creation of the Blueprint for Safety Report, which is a plan to design a safer region, and it provides the building blocks for several objectives:

- Establishes a vision and commitment to reducing fatalities and serious injuries in the CAMPO region.
- Uses data to drive decision making regarding the region's top safety issues, where they occur, and who is most impacted.

- Incorporates feedback from the local communities and members of the public regarding their safety concerns. This helps paint a fuller picture of where problems are occurring outside of what the data say.
- Implements a proactive approach to addressing safety. Even if a crash has not occurred, analyzing crash trends provides an opportunity to prevent crashes from occurring.
- Identifies strategies and actions based on short-term needs and long-term goals for NCDOT, CAMPO, and the local agencies.

In addition to these objectives, CAMPO and NCDOT have several goals included within the Blueprint for Safety plan. Each goal focuses on correcting today's safety issues and planning for a safer tomorrow in the region.

- Articulate a vision for achieving a significant reduction in fatalities and serious injuries in the region.
- Inform other regional efforts, such as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and statewide efforts, such as the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP).
- Ensure consistency with the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).
- Create inputs for future grant applications for priority safety projects.
- Build a culture of safety throughout the region.

The Blueprint for Safety Report has been posted for public comment from May 19, 2025 - June 17, 2025. A public hearing is scheduled for June 18, 2025, at the Executive Board meeting. Approval of the Blueprint for Safety Report will be requested at the conclusion of the public hearing on June 18, 2025. **(Staff contact: Kenneth Withrow)** 

# Committees

## Wake Transit/Wake County Transit Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC)

## FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan Development Update

The Draft FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan was released for a 30-day comment period which began March 4 and concluded April 7, 2025. Staff worked with the Program Development Subcommittee at their March meeting to review new and revised projects for their inclusion in the FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan. The TPAC reviewed the Recommended Work Plan at their April 24, 2025, meeting voted to release it to the public for a second comment period. They also considered an inclusion of an amount of Vehicle Rental Tax, the status of which was "TBD" in the Draft FY26 Wake Transit Work Plan due to the continuing deliberation of the topic by the Conference Committee. The TPAC voted to include the same proportion of VRT in the Recommended FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan as was present in the FY 2025 Wake Transit Work Plan. The second public comment period will span 14 days, starting at the beginning of May. The Recommended Work Plan was reviewed at the May 1, 2025, TCC Meeting as an information item. A public hearing was held at the May 21, 2025, Executive Board meeting, and the document was presented to the GoTriangle Board of Trustees at their May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting along with the Durham and Orange FY26 Work Programs. Adoption by the Wake Transit governing boards is planned for June.

(Staff contact: Steven Mott)

#### Wake Transit Plan Update

The Wake Transit Vision Plan Update, which will extend the Wake Transit Plan's horizon to 2035, kicked off in December 2023. The Vision Plan Update includes substantial public outreach and is informed by a Core Technical Team (CTT) made up of members of the TPAC and a Stakeholder Committee made up of representatives of TPAC member agencies and jurisdictions, as well as other groups representing interested parties. The CTT has been meeting regularly throughout the year, and the Stakeholders met in May, September, and March. The first phase of Public Engagement began May 6, 2024, and ran through July 21, 2024, and saw over 1,900 citizens participate in the survey and events. Over 1,100 residents participated in the online and in-person engagement for the second phase. The consultants prepared the Draft Investment Strategy that was shared with the public during the third phase of public engagement, which occurred between May 1-30, 2025 – over 17 pop-up events and presentations were held. More information and opportunities for the public to provide feedback can be found on the project webpage at <u>www.publicinput.com/waketransit2035</u>. The final draft Wake Transit Plan will be released for public comment this summer, with adoption expected in the Fall.

#### (Staff contact: Ben Howell)

### **Mobility Coordination Committee**

The MCC is the CAMPO administered regional coordination committee borne out of the 2018 Coordinated Public Transit- Human Service Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP) established to administer and monitor recommendations of the adopted regional coordinated plan and other coordination efforts. Coordinated Plans set the regional priorities for transportation investments and initiatives for human services and public transit coordination for seniors, disabled and low-income persons. The most recent 2024 coordinated plan was adopted by the CAMPO Executive Board on September 18, 2024, and is now available on CAMPO's website. The MCC has begun the work implementing the updated recommendations and strategies identified in the updated plan. The 2024 plan is built upon the 2018 plan that established short, mid, and long-term goals for the committee as well as recommendations from the 2023 Mobility Management Program Implementation Study (MMIS) that outlined a plan for implementing the region's new mobility management program (MMP).

During the quarterly January 15, 2025, meeting the committee elected officers and adopted by-laws per the MMIS' adopted recommendations to formalize the committee. The members also voted to endorse the six-month work plans derived from the implementation schedule/work program for the two subcommittees (ADA and CT). Since the February subcommittee meetings, the members began action item tasks implementing the 6 mos. work program. In February, the Mobility Manager and the MCC Administrator provided the TCC a joint update on the work for mobility program and on the Mobility Coordination Committee. (The February Executive Board meeting was cancelled due to poor weather. Their update will occur in May.)

During the last 5 months, ADA members have reviewed existing agencies ADA applications and policies and discussed upcoming agency changes, prepared and reviewed a regional ADA coverage map, and the existing template for a regional ADA agreement. The group prepared an updated matrix of application similarities and differences and is reviewing other regional agency practices and policies for coordinating and collaborating paratransit services in larger regions. The CT subcommittee members explored sub-goal 3.2.4 "Explored the implementation of micro- transit service in Clayton" and under 3.2.5 "explored opportunities to increase service capacity by exploring various service delivery methods and mobility options and adding vehicles" using the expansion of micro-transit service to the Clayton area. They have welcomed various other agencies staff to present topics of interest such as the Western Regional Center staff to discuss transportation information exchanges and the feasibility of a service needs and brainstorm possible solutions, from CAMPO Community Engagement Planner on the Harnett County Transit Feasibility Study, CAMPO's project 2055 MTP and the US 1 Corridor Study. Members were also updated on the subcommittee work of the Mobility Manager, federal funding opportunities and FY 27 unified grant from NC DOT IMD.

Next subcommittee meetings are scheduled for July 6, 2025, where the members will summarize efforts of the last 6-month' work programs and complete discussions on the work programs for the next 6-month period.

Information on the MCC's work is on the CAMPO's <u>Mobility Coordination Committee webpage</u>. (Staff contact: Crystal Odum)

# **Programs**

## FY 2025 Community Funding Area Program Update

The Wake Transit Community Funding Area Program's (CFAP) FY 2026 application cycle began in September.

CAMPO staff worked with our consultants to complete the update to the CFA Program Management Plan as part of the larger Wake Transit Plan Update. The draft document was completed on May 2024 for CAMPO staff to review. CAMPO staff organized a roundtable discussion on August 8, 2024, with the CFA partners to discuss any final changes needed to the document before it is presented to the TPAC. Based on discussion form this meeting, a decision was made to postpone the PMP update until Spring/Summer 2025. The TPAC was informed of this decision during their September 2024 meeting. In early 2025, as part of the 2035 Wake Transit Plan Update policy recommendations, additional revisions were made based on partner feedback and CAMPO staff worked to incorporate them into the final, updated PMP. The document was released for public comment in the month of May.

Project Incubation meetings for the FY26 CFAP Application Window was from October 1-21, 2024. These meetings were optional and by request of the applicants. No incubation meetings were requested this year. The CFA Applicant training was held on October 23, 2024. CAMPO staff provided an overview of the program, available funding, program schedule and application process for FY25. The pre-submittal meetings were held during the month of December. We received 4 applications from 3 applicants (Apex, Holly Springs, and Wake Forest). CAMPO staff reviewed the draft applications and provided comments and feedback. The call for projects opened on January 4, 2025, and closed on January 31, 2025. CAMPO received a total of four applications from three applicants: two from Apex, one from Holly Springs, and one from Wake Forest. The CFAP selection committee met twice; once on February 21, 2025, to discuss project details, funding, and implications for future years, and again on March 4, 2025, to recommend projects for inclusion in the FY26 Wake Transit Work Plan. The committee recommended all four applications for funding in the FY 2026 Recommended Wake Transit Work Plan. These recommendations were presented to the TPAC on March 20, 2025. The new projects were included in the recommended FY26 Wake Transit Work Plan. There are no further updates at this time. More information and this year's development schedule can be found on <u>CAMPO's CFAP website</u>.

(Staff contact: Suvir Venkatesh)

### **Mobility Management Program**

The 2023 Mobility Management Program Implementation Study (MMIS) outlined a plan for implementing the region's new mobility management program (MMP) including for CAMPO to hire a new regional mobility manager to guide the program and support the Mobility Coordination Committee. CAMPO hired the Mobility Manager in February 2024.

The Mobility Manager (MM) continues to meet with transit agencies and human service agencies in the region while continuing to lay the groundwork for the MMP. Some projects have included researching vanpool as a resource for rural transit and human service agencies to assist individuals in getting to and from work. The MM also works closely with the MCC by encouraging participation from other agencies and developing materials for MMP outreach. The MM is working on obtaining the Certified Mobility Manager credential through Easterseals.

During the next four years, the MM will continue to expand and optimize the mobility management program and support the implementation of the 2024 Coordinated Plan recommended goals. These continued efforts will advance mobility solutions in the region and ensure that transportation services are accessible and responsive to community needs. In February, the MM and the MCC Administrator provided the TCC a joint update on the mobility program and Mobility Coordination Committee while the MM continued work on the CMM and developing a Communications Plan for the MMP. The MM continues to research current programs related to Mobility Management and exploring new ideas for fostering collaboration between agencies.

The MMP webpage is a work in progress and can be found on the CAMPO website at <u>https://www.campo-nc.us/programs-studies/mobility-management</u>. For more information about the MCC and its activities, see the CAMPO website at <u>https://www.campo-nc.us/about-us/committees/mobility-coordination-committee</u>.

(Staff contact: Sarah Williams)

### FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program, Administrative Modification #2

This Administrative Modification to the FY 2026 UPWP included adding funding to the Wake Transit BRT Concept of Operations Study (\$13,338) that was not expended in FY 2025. This does not change the total project budget. This Modification was reported in the June 2025 Executive Board agenda materials. The Modified UPWP has been transmitted to NCDOT and posted to the MPO's website here: <a href="https://www.campo-nc.us/funding/unified-planning-work-program">https://www.campo-nc.us/funding/unified-planning-work-program</a>.

(Staff contact: Shelby Powell)

# **Projects**

### Triangle Bikeway East Design Project Update

In 2019, Triangle area agencies worked together to plan a regional, 23-mile, shared-use path linking Raleigh, Cary, Morrisville, Research Triangle Park (RTP), Durham, and Chapel Hill following the I-40 and NC54 corridor. The path will connect Triangle residents and visitors to jobs, popular destinations, trail networks, transit, and more, across the region. While the project is called a bikeway, it will be a shared-use path suitable for users of all ages and abilities both on foot and by bike.

After extensive analysis and collection of significant community input, the project team evaluated over 100 miles of potential routes to develop a recommended alignment route. During the evaluation process, potential routes were studied to understand challenges and constraints. The Study elicited high levels of support for this facility from the County and municipalities along the corridor in the MPO area, as well as support from the cycling community and the public. Both DCHC & CAMPO Boards adopted the Triangle Bikeway Study in Spring/Summer of 2022.

In order to further evaluate implementation and prepare the project for potential funding opportunities, the project was split and currently in different phases of design. More information about the study can be found on trianglebikeway.com.

In 2024, Wake County and the Research Triangle Foundation partnered to fund the NEPA environmental analysis and Bikeway design of the recommended facility for the eastern portion of the bikeway that consists of 14 miles between Research Triangle Park/TW Alexander Drive to the NC Museum of Art greenway bridge at 1-440/Wade Avenue.



McAdams was selected to begin design in September 2024 to progress the design of the Triangle Bikeway Eastern section. Surveying Activities are 95% complete on Segment 1 & 2 and Segment 3 is 0% complete as of June 3,2025 and work will continue through the summer. More regular updates will be forthcoming for Stakeholders as work continues to progress to 30% design.

### (Staff contact: Cara Russell)