

NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Staff Report

Agenda Date: 1/2/2020 Agenda Item:

To: Executive B

NC Moves 2050 Update

Chris Lukasina, MPO Director

A strategic transportation plan connecting communities across North Carolina, NC Moves 2050 is focused on creating a more responsive, diverse and inclusive transportation system for keeping people and freight moving safely and efficiently. A million more residents will move to North Carolina each decade through 2050 - two-thirds of whom will create a string of metropolitan areas along the I-85 corridor from Charlotte to Durham.

This growth pattern will increase congestion along I-85 and may reduce highway reliability, which means North Carolina will need more opportunities for multimodal travel options. Conversely, rural North Carolina communities (such as areas east of I-95) will shrink in population, yet reliable, long-distance transportation networks and connections will still be critical to maintain their economic vitality.

These trends make now an opportune time to produce a bold, forward-looking transportation plan to guide investment policy and performance goals that will be more reactive to the dynamic change on the horizon.

To develop the plan, the N.C. Department of Transportation is conducting a two-year, multi-phased study https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/nc-2050-plan/Pages/timeline.aspx that involves examining all aspects of North Carolina's transportation system, collecting data and information about its performance and anticipated challenges in the future and engaging the public https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/nc-2050-plan/Pages/public-engagement.aspx to capture thoughts and ideas about the state's biggest challenges in the future.

There will be an update of the NC Moves 2050 progress at this meeting.

Requested Action: Receive as information.