

INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES

May 1, 2025

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Studies

North Harnett County Transit Connections Feasibility Study

County leaders are interested in exploring opportunities for serving the area with transit. Transit connections between Harnett County and Wake County have been envisioned in the Harnett County CTP and the CAMPO MTP for several years. This study will be conducted in two phases. The first phase in FY 24 focused on an evaluation of the transit market in the area, along with public engagement and evaluation of public, stakeholder and elected official support for providing transit services. The second phase in FY 25 will build upon the outcomes of phase one to identify transit opportunities that could feasibly serve the area and recommend an implementation plan for those services.

The project team will convene 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 of the microtransit service in North Harnett. The study is on track to conclude by the end of June. To learn more about the study or stay up to date with ongoing activity, visit the project website: https://www.northharnetttransitstudy.com/

(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 are developing the Federal, State and Local funding screening to match projects to the funding opportunity for which they are most competitive.

(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 will be posted for public comment from May 14, 2025 - June 18, 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 2025 and Prior Year Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment Update

Two (2) Wake Transit Work Plan amendment requests were submitted for the FY25/Q4 cycle. The City of Raleigh submitted one amendment request, and GoTriangle submitted another amendment request. Both requests from the two agencies are for additional funds for the Low-Income Fare Pass/Transit Assistance Program (TAP). The public comment period for these began March 7, 2025, and will conclude on April 4, 2025. They will be reviewed by TPAC at their April meeting and come before the TCC and Executive Board in May.

(Staff contact: Steven Mott)

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 will review the Recommended Work Plan at their April 24, 2025, meeting and hold a vote to release it to the public for a second comment period and to consider 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 second public comment period will span 14 days, starting at the beginning of May. The Recommended Work Plan will be reviewed at the May 1, 2025, TCC Meeting. A public hearing will be held at the May 21, 2025, Executive Board meeting and will be considered for adoption at their June meeting.

(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 have prepared the Draft Investment Strategy that will be shared with the public during the third phase of public engagement, which will occur between May 1-30, 2025. The Plan Update is nearing completion of the 18-month process, with the final Plan expected to be adopted 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 is beginning 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 April 4th subcommittee meetings, ADA members discussed existing ADA applications and policies and upcoming agency changes, reviewed a draft regional ADA coverage map and an existing template for a regional ADA agreement. CT subcommittee members were apprised of JCATS activities presently underway under sub-goal 3.2.4 "Explore the implementation of micro- transit service in Clayton" and/or under 3.2.5 "explore opportunities to increase service capacity by exploring various service

delivery methods and mobility options and adding vehicles" using the expansion of microtransit service to the Clayton area, explore the feasibility of leveraging technology to improve operational efficiency and enable intercounty service. The CT subcommittee also welcomed Western Regional Center staff to discuss transit service needs and brainstorm possible solutions. During April 17, 2025, full quarterly meeting, members heard a presentation from CAMPO CE 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, the Mobility Manager and next upcoming administrative items (Membership letters, annual calendar FY 26). Next subcommittee meetings are scheduled for May 7, 2025.

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

Programs

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.

During the last year, the Mobility Manager has been actively laying the groundwork for a comprehensive MMP through continuous collaboration with both transit agencies and human service organizations. In partnership with internal CAMPO staff, the MM developed five strategic goals, which were derived from the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan and the MMIS. They are as follows:

- 1. Conduct an in-depth assessment of current service capacity programs to identify areas of improvement.
- 2. Prioritize and disseminate transportation education and information to the public across the region to enhance awareness and access.
- 3. Build a broader coalition of human service agencies to foster collaboration and shared solutions.
- 4. Enhance service coordination to ensure a more integrated transportation network.
- 5. Explore the full range of emerging mobility policies and coordination alternatives to stay ahead of trends and innovations in the field.

In addition to these efforts, the MM has pursued professional development to enhance their expertise. The MM attended the Association for Commuter Transportation International Conference as well as completed MPO 101 through the MPO Institute through AMPO's research foundation program. Looking ahead, the MM will complete a Certified Mobility Management Program (CMM) through Easterseals to earn the CMM credential.

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 https://www.campo-nc.us/programs-studies/mobility-management. For more information about the MCC and its activities, see the CAMPO website at https://www.campo-nc.us/about-us/committees/mobility-coordination-committees.

(Staff contact: Sarah Williams)

FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program, Administrative Modification #2

This Administrative Modification to the FY 2025 UPWP included minor budget adjustments to allocate contingency funds into the individual task codes in Table 3, and recording an increase in Wake Transit program funds for the Wake Transit Vision Plan Update. Task codes receiving reallocation of funds are II-B-7, II-B-9, II-B-10, II-B-11, II-B-13, 11-B-16, II-B-18 and III-D-3.

(Staff contact: Shelby Powell)

Projects

NCDOT Highway Project U-2719 - Updates

The overall completion is scheduled for 2025. Regular stakeholder meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month to ensure partners are updated on the progress of the project. Lane Construction and NCDOT has provided the following update on the project:

Grade Separation-Beryl Rd at Norfolk Southern/NC RR/CSX & NC-54 at SR-1664 Lane Construction has provided advanced notice to NCDOT and affected government entities of the upcoming full closure of Beryl Road for the bridge demolition.

This work is scheduled in the next two to four weeks and dates will be published once is solidified with the operations and transportation schedule.

(Staff contact: Kenneth Withrow)