



# INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES

**April 2024**

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## Studies

### [Southeast Area Study Update \(https://seareastudyupdate.com/\)](https://seareastudyupdate.com/)

Study recommendations, report documentation, and supporting materials have been finalized and uploaded to the project website. The project team will reach out to provide detailed information for SEAS member jurisdictions and a final touchpoint with the CTT will be scheduled in April. Staff will provide an overview of the SEAS final report and request endorsement of study recommendations from the Executive Board at its meeting in May. **(Staff Contact: Gaby Lawlor)**

### [MTP Bicycle & Pedestrian Element Update](#)

This study will include a review of the existing Bicycle/Pedestrian Element of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), with the purpose of determining a better and more meaningful approach to document bicycle and pedestrian projects or corridors in the MTP, and to assist the MPO with producing a dataset more meaningful and productive for member agencies to use for local planning and project implementation in service to a regional vision.

The bicycle and pedestrian element database and schema development is being finalized. Development of data maintenance protocol and visualization tools is underway. There will be one final steering committee meeting in June, to present recommendations coming out of this study.

**(Staff contact: Gaby Lawlor)**

### [NW 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 will focus 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.

Materials are being finalized for upcoming public engagement activities over the course of April and May. Engagement activities will consist of pop ups to promote a public survey and to provide an opportunity to engage directly with County residents. To learn more about the study or stay up to date with ongoing activity, visit the project website: <https://www.northharnetttransitstudy.com/>

**(Staff contact: Gaby Lawlor)**

### [Morrisville Parkway Access Management Study \(Study Website\)](#)

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the two-mile section of Morrisville Parkway between Davis Drive and NC 54/Chapel Hill Road in Morrisville to make travel safer for vehicles and pedestrians. The corridor will be evaluated for general safety improvements associated with access management. The study will examine the median openings, access controls, signage, signalization, intersection operations, multimodal connectivity along and across the corridor, speed limits and traffic calming opportunities.

This four-lane median-divided facility has seen significant traffic volume growth in recent years and has

been identified in the Town of Morrisville's comprehensive plan as a high priority corridor for safety improvements. A notice to proceed was issued to the firm VHB, Inc. in August 2023 and the study is proceeding per the scope. The consulting team has prepared initial and refined recommendations for the corridor. With the support of the Technical Steering Committee (TSC), the consulting team reviewed key plans and corridor data, held a Stakeholder's site visit/project area walking tour on September 12<sup>th</sup>, initiated the first level of public engagement by conducting a 30-day public survey and participating in several in-person local public outreach events on Morrisville Parkway to meet the users of the corridor, explain the study and gather public input about the corridor. Phase 2 of public involvement is the virtual project room which presents the study recommendations garnered from our work. The virtual project room opened March 4, 2024, and runs through April 7<sup>th</sup> and seeks to obtain final public comments and feedback on the recommendations for the corridor. The TSC has met in October and December to provide technical input and will meet one more time on April 22<sup>nd</sup> before the project completion in June 2024.

**(Staff contact: Crystal Odum)**

#### **FY 24 Coordinated Public Transit Human Service Transportation Plan Update**

The MPO issued a RFP soliciting for consultants to begin an update to the region's Coordinated Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP) in FY 24 and issued a notice to proceed to the firm Moore & Associates October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. The last major update to the region's plan was in 2018 as a component of the initial Wake Transit Bus Services Implementation Plan. In 2020, the coordinated plan was updated to reflect some changing priorities in the region regarding the establishment of a regional Mobility Management Program. The MPO conducted a Mobility Management Study in FY 22 and FY 23 to establish a framework and partnership structure for delivering a Mobility Management Program for the region. The MPO also established and administers a Mobility Coordination Committee (MCC) to monitor the implementation of recommendations from the adopted 2018 CPT-HSTP and to assist with regional public transit and human service transportation services coordination. The MCC will act as the technical steering committee to the consulting team for the FY 24 CPT-HSTP update. In addition to helping the region remain federally compliant and eligible to receive specific federal grant funds, this coordinated plan is also intended to help coordinate the aforementioned regional transportation services, efforts and programs over the last few years particularly those that affect the elderly, disabled and low-income populations. The MPO will pool funding with the Wake Transit program to deliver the update to the plan while following Wake Transit Community Engagement policies. Thus far the consultant initiated a project overview presentation and site visits with the MCC partners and reviewed all relevant regional plans. The team has prepared a public engagement plan, a Regional Plans Summary Report, stakeholder surveys, a community survey and a database of over 440 key transportation stakeholders. On 2/6 and 2/7 the team conducted 17 local community engagement pop-up table events in towns/cities across the region advising of the plan update and collecting public surveys. During the months of January through March the team conducted the engagement phase of the study that includes completing analysis on the stakeholder and community surveys and in lieu of holding a joint public virtual and face-to-face meeting/webinar in southeast Raleigh the team targeted various human service stakeholders to complete surveys by participating in the Crosby Advocacy Group's retreat in Raleigh on 3/19/24. Next phase of the work is to synthesize all gathered existing conditions, service information and public input to review and assess gaps and duplications in service. The consultant is preparing (3) reports - the Existing Conditions and Service Inventory, Summary of Stakeholders and Public Input and Needs Assessment and Service Analysis reports. [The next TSC/MCC meeting will be held April 18<sup>th</sup>](#) before project completion June 30, 2024.

**(Staff contact: Crystal Odum).**

### Apex Rail Switching Operations Relocation Study

This study will evaluate the feasibility of moving CSX rail switching operations out of downtown Apex. The intent behind this effort is to address the safety, traffic congestion, diesel engine emissions, vibration, and noise issues created by the CSX switching operations in downtown Apex. Contract negotiations are underway and notice to proceed is anticipated in April. **(Staff contact: Gaby Lawlor)**

### FY 24 Hot Spot – Youngsville

The MPO has contracted with Bolton-Menk to conduct a hot spot study in the Youngsville area to assist with determination of an appropriate alignment for a future southern bypass of the downtown area, as well as recommendations for safety improvements across the transportation network in downtown Youngsville. The consultant team has conducted traffic count data collection, and is reviewing alternative alignments for a proposed new location facility. The study is expected to conclude by June 30, 2024. **(Staff contact: Shelby Powell)**

### Regional Multi-Modal Safety Action Plan

The Regional Multi-Modal Safety Action Plan is a project underway and will be finalized by Fall 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 IJJA'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 initial Blueprint for Safety - Safety Plan Kickoff and Stakeholder Workshop was held on Thursday, March 14 from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm. Future events associated with the Safety Action Plan will be scheduled throughout the duration of the project. **(Staff contact: Kenneth Withrow)**

## Committees

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

#### FY 2024 and Prior Year Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment Update

One Major Amendment was submitted in the FY24 Q4 Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment cycle, requesting funds from the Regional Technology Reserve Fund for a Regional Technology Plan Update. The cost of the Update will ultimately be split among Wake County, Durham County and Orange County Transit Plans. The amendment has been released for public comment between March 8<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup>. The Program Development Subcommittee reviewed the amendment at its March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting and the TPAC will review the request at its meeting in April. The TCC, Executive Board and GoTriangle Board of Trustees will review the request at their meetings in May. **(Staff Contact: Ben Howell)**

#### FY 2025 Wake Transit Work Plan Development Update

The Draft FY 2025 Wake Transit Work Plan was released for Public Comment by the TPAC at their meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup> and the Public Comment period closed on March 26<sup>th</sup>. New and/or updated project requests were due by March 15<sup>th</sup> and were reviewed by the Program Development Subcommittee at their March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Recommended FY 2025 Wake Transit Work Plan is scheduled to be considered by the TPAC on April 17<sup>th</sup>, with the TCC, Executive Board and GoTriangle Board of Trustees considering the Recommended

Work Plan in May and June. More information on the FY 2025 Wake Transit Work Plan development cycle can be found by referencing the [FY2024 Master Calendar of Wake Transit/TPAC Activities](#). **(Staff Contact: Ben Howell)**

#### [FY2025 Community Funding Area Program Update](#)

The Wake Transit Community Funding Area Program's (CFAP) FY 2025 application cycle kicked-off at the August 2023 TPAC meeting. Applicants can meet with CAMPO staff to discuss their application concepts during the month of September. The CFAP Applicant Training was held on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and pre-submittal meetings were held in the month of December. Wake Transit staff provided comments on draft applications during these meetings. The call for projects closed on January 5<sup>th</sup> after which, projects were scored by Wake Transit Staff. The project selection committee met twice during the month of February (Feb 7<sup>th</sup> and Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>) to recommend projects for funding in FY25. The committee consisted of planning staff from GoTriangle, Central Pines Regional Council, and various municipalities. The committee recommended three projects in total- two capital projects and one planning study. Two capital projects were not recommended for funding this year and one application was withdrawn before the 2<sup>nd</sup> selection committee meeting. These recommendations were presented to the TPAC on March 13<sup>th</sup> and the projects will be included in the Recommended FY25 Wake Transit Work Plan. More information on the program and this year's development schedule can be found on [CAMPO's CFAP website](#). **(Staff Contact: Suvir Venkatesh)**

#### [Wake Transit Vision Plan Update](#)

The Wake Transit Vision Plan Update, which will extend the Wake Transit Plan's horizon to 2035, kicked off in December. The Vision Plan Update will include substantial public outreach and will be 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 met in January and March and will be meeting again in April. The first phase of Public Engagement is expected to begin in late April. The Vision Plan Update is expected to take 18 months to complete. **(Staff Contact: Ben Howell)**

#### [Mobility Coordination Committee](#)

The MCC is the CAMPO administered regional 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. 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 2018 plan establishes short, mid and long-term goals for the committee. Short-term goals (2019- 2022) consist of establishing the organizational structure to address the recommendations (the MCC), developing a consistent ADA program, preparing for changes in the state's Medicaid program, preparing a regional mobility framework for emerging partners and creating a regional mobility management structure/program. Given the complexity of our regional transportation system, in 2020 the CAMPO Board approved hiring a consultant with mobility management expertise to assist the committee members with the short-term goal of developing and implementing a mobility management program. The Mobility Management Program Implementation Study (MMIS) concluded on June 30, 2023, outlining a plan for implementing the region's mobility management program (MMP) with recommendations that include in part to formalize the MCC with by-laws and CAMPO to hire a regional mobility manager. The findings of the study are consistent with the 2018 CPT-HSTP goals and initial MMP recommendations.

MCC members continue to meet monthly to work through the 2018 CPT-HSTP's remaining recommendations, which includes focusing on advancing the mobility management program, coordinating MCC work with the MMIS recommendations, and completing the required 2024 CPT-HSTP update. The MCC acts as the technical steering committee to the consultant team hired on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, to update the plan. As part of that plan update work, the consultant will review the 2018 Plan's implemented and remaining goals with the MCC and adjust them as needed to coordinate with the new FY24 plan update recommendations developing a new MCC Implementation Schedule for the next five years.

At the joint subcommittee meetings held in January and February, members reviewed the DRAFT Memorandum of Understanding for the MMP and by-laws to formalize the MCC. During the quarterly January meeting, the CPTHSTP consultant provided a power point presentation status update on the plan work and laid out the next upcoming public engagement steps for the committee finalizing the February 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> public outreach table pop up events. During the March 6<sup>th</sup> MCC joint sub-committee meeting the working group met to finalize the draft MOU, met CAMPO's new mobility manager and prepared for the final outreach activities for the coordinated plan update.

Information on the MCC's work along with the Short-Term Goal Implementation report is on the CAMPO's [Mobility Coordination Committee webpage](#). CAMPO staff will be presenting regular updates to the TCC/Executive Board. **(Staff Contact: Crystal Odum)**

## Programs

### Non-Motorized Volume Data Program

The Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) currently manages the North Carolina Non-Motorized Volume Data Program (NC NMVDP) on behalf of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). The purpose of the program is to establish a robust data collection framework to reliably calculate sidewalk, shared use path, bike lane, and shared lane volumes through the installation of permanent bicycle and pedestrian counters in North Carolina. During this quarter, ITRE staff members are planning to visit Eco-Counter system sites throughout CAMPO to perform Eco-Counter system inspections, diagnostics and data retrieval. ITRE staff members will also be coordinating and visiting Eco Counter sites in Cary, Apex and Wake Forest during the next several weeks if persons wish to join ITRE staff at those locations. Work on the counters in the current inventory is scheduled to occur between April 2 through April 22 in all four of the NMVDP communities. Information on the current counters can be found at:

<https://itre.ncsu.edu/focus/bikeped/nc-nmvd/>. **(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)**

### Triangle Transportation Choices (Triangle Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program)

The Central Pines Regional Council (CPRC) issued a Call for Projects for the Triangle Transportation Choices/ Transportation Demand Management (TDM) grant program requesting proposals for three different funding opportunities for a pilot 2-year RFP covering fiscal year 2024-25 (FY25) and fiscal year 2025-26 (FY26). It is the first time the Program is offering grants for a two-year period of performance. A brief overview of these three different RFPs (traditional, innovative projects, and equity & inclusion pilot initiative) can be viewed [here](#).

The purpose of the Triangle Transportation Choices program is to coordinate and evaluate regional TDM activities that aim to reduce traffic and air pollution by promoting commute alternatives such as transit,

carpooling, biking, walking, teleworking, and vanpooling. The Program exclusively awards grants for non-infrastructure projects supporting education and outreach efforts and links NC state policy and funding with local and regional service providers, while drawing from the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and NCDOTs TDM Strategic Plan to ensure statewide continuity. CAMPO serves on the TDM Oversight Committee as one of three funding partners with NCDOT and DCHC, along with representatives from CPRC and the NC Department of Environmental Quality Division of Air Quality.

The application submittals closed 5:00pm EST on Monday, February 12, 2024. CPRC staff processed the applications for review by the program's Oversight Committee. The first round of Oversight Committee review began the week of Monday, March 25th. The committee's second round of review will begin the week of April 29th.

Specific questions about the program can be directed to Shuchi Gupta, Program Administrator at (919) 558-2715 or [sgupta@centralpinesnc.gov](mailto:sgupta@centralpinesnc.gov). **(Staff Contact: Evan Koff)**

## Projects

### [NCDOT Highway Project U-2719 – Updates](#)

The overall completion is scheduled for 2024. 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:

The intersection of Blue Ridge Road and Beryl Road will be closed for an entire year (until October 2024). This is due to the lowering the grade of Blue Ridge Road and constructing new bridges for Hillsborough Street, the railroad tracks and Beryl Road. The goal is to reduce traffic congestion and train-related conflicts with vehicles and pedestrians. A detour will have traffic follow Pylon Drive, Blue Ridge Road, Western Boulevard and Powell Drive from one side of the construction zone to the other. Lane Construction has not finalized a schedule for lane closures that would occur during the weeks of April 1 and April 8. **(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)**