



INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES

November 2023

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Studies

Southeast Area Study Update (<https://seareastudyupdate.com/>)

The original Southeast Area Study, evaluating land use and transportation issues in the southeastern section of the MPO's planning area, was completed in 2018. This Update study is being conducted in coordination with NCDOT and the Upper Coastal Plain RPO.

Study recommendations are being finalized and prioritized. The project team will reach out in November to provide detailed information for SEAS member jurisdictions. A final touchpoint with the CTT and SOT will be scheduled in late November. **(Staff Contact: Gaby Lawlor)**

U.S. 401 Corridor Study (www.US401CorridorStudy.com)

This study covers the U.S. 401 Corridor from generally U.S. 421 in Harnett County north to Banks Road in Wake County. The corridor has been divided into three segments that enable the study team to focus on each individually:

- (1) Future U.S. 401 (Bypass)
- (2) Existing U.S. 401 - Fuquay-Varina from Banks Road south to the Harnett/Wake County Line
- (3) Existing U.S. 401 - Harnett/Wake County Line south to Lillington

The consultant work on the project concluded as of June 30, 2023. The fourth round of public engagement for the study is currently underway. Activities include public meetings, pop-ups, an online survey, and more. The survey will close on November 5, 2023. CAMPO staff will then synthesize engagement findings, adjust the recommendations as appropriate, and develop the final report for endorsement consideration by the Executive Board in early 2024. **(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)**

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 project team is completing a peer review, which includes interviews of previously identified peer MPOs, to help inform potential recommendations for CAMPO's MTP active transportation element. **(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.

Following Executive Board contract approval at their October meeting, the study has officially commenced. The project team will reach out to members to schedule a Core Technical Team kickoff meeting in November. **(Staff contact: Gaby Lawlor)**

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

Per the adopted FY24 UPWP, CAMPO, in partnership with the Town of Morrisville, invited qualified consulting firms or persons to submit Requests for Proposals 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 on 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, and the study is proceeding with traffic and safety data collection and review. A site visit of the project area occurred on September 12th while the first Technical Steering Committee (TSC) kick off meeting made up of key stakeholders was held October 9th. Public outreach for the study has begun with the team participating in the Town's successful Truck or Treat event on Saturday, October 21st setting up a table with information on the project, the Morrisville Shuttle and an online survey about the corridor. The Survey will close on November 18th. **(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 1st. The plan is required by FTA to be maintained for the region to access specific federal transit funds including for the 5310 Program for enhanced transportation services for elderly and disabled persons. 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 2018 CPT-HSTP and to assist with regional public transit and human service transportation services coordination. The MCC will act as the technical oversight 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 grant funds, this coordinated plan is also intended to help coordinate the 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 an update to the plan in FY 24. The consultant has initiated an introductory project overview and site visits with the MCC partners and has begun reviewing all relevant regional plans. The team is preparing a public engagement plan for the study. **(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. The RFQ for this study was revised and posted on September 11, with the anticipated notice to proceed in December 2023. The selection

committee met at the end of October to review the submitted SOQ packages and will begin contract negotiations with the preferred consultant. **(Staff contact: Gaby Lawlor)**

Committees

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

FY 2024 and Prior Year Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment Update

On Friday, August 25, 2023, seven (7) amendment requests to the FY 2024 Wake Transit Work Plan were submitted as part of the FY 2024 Q2 amendment schedule. There were three (3) operating and four (4) capital amendment requests. Regarding the operating amendment requests, there were two (2) from the City of Raleigh (contracting additional safety and security services and creating a director of safety and security position); and one (1) from GoTriangle (an additional 0.5 FTE of Transit Plan Administration staffing to build capacity for Wake Transit project implementation, specifically bus stop improvements). Regarding the capital amendment requests, there was one (1) from Wake County (financial support to fund Wake County and GoTriangle’s participation in NCDOT/RTA’s FAST Study); one (1) from the Town of Cary (to support land acquisition, master planning, and design work on the New Downtown Cary Multimodal Transit Facility); one (1) from CAMPO (a scope refinement for the Wake Transit Vision Plan update, and an incorporation of the update to the Community Funding Area Program Management Plan into said scope); and one (1) from GoTriangle (a request to pre-fund the construction of the RUS Bus Phase II private overbuild).

A public review period for these major amendment requests occurred from September 1st to September 30th, and a full discussion on the feasibility of incorporating these amendment requests into the FY 2024 Adopted Wake Transit Work Plan occurred at the Wake Transit Program Development (PD) subcommittee meeting on September 22, 2023, and at the TPAC meeting on October 18, 2023. The PD Subcommittee and TPAC both recommended all amendment requests to be approved, with the exception of the GoTriangle request for an additional 0.5 FTE, which was not recommended for approval. At the TPAC meeting, the CAMPO request was also revised to result in no financial impact to the FY25 Work Plan. The CAMPO TCC and Executive Board and GoTriangle’s Board of Trustees will review and decide on the Amendment requests at their respective November 2023 meetings. **(Staff Contact: Ben Howell & Evan Koff)**

FY 2025 Wake Transit Work Plan Development Update

The FY 2025 Wake Transit Work Plan request window closed on October 13, 2023. CAMPO, in coordination with Tax District Administration staff, will develop the annual funding request report which will help guide debate over project applicability and choices-and-tradeoffs. These conversations, which will occur over a series of meetings of the PD Subcommittee starting with their October 24th meeting, will result in a Draft FY 2025 Wake Transit Work Plan being distributed to the TPAC by January 26, 2024. 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 and Evan Koff)**

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 first meeting required by any potential applicant will be the applicant training, scheduled for the week of October 23rd. More information on this year’s application schedule can be found on [CAMPO’s CFAP website](#). **(Staff Contact: Evan Koff)**

Wake Transit Vision Plan Update

The Wake Transit Vision Plan Update, which will extend the Wake Transit Plan's horizon to 2035, is expected to kick off in early 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 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) and is the committee set up to administer and monitor recommendations of coordinated plans. 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, 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) and 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 advancing the mobility management program and regional ADA coordination, coordinating MCC work with the MMIS recommendations, and the FY 2024 CPT-HSTP update. The MCC will act as the technical steering committee to the consultant hired to update the plan after the Notice to Proceed (NTP) was issued on October 1st. 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.

Other ongoing committee work includes overlapping the Triangle Transportation Choices/Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program for synergies with the mobility coordination efforts. Committee members are also continuing to work with NCPTA, NCDOT, service providers and others participating in activities to improve the State's Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) program.

At the joint subcommittee meeting held on September 4th, members continued to work on the MOU for the MMP, by-laws to formalize the MCC and updating the Implementation Schedule for FY 24. A joint subcommittee meeting was held on October 6th and the quarterly meeting held on October 19th. The October MCC meetings introduced the consultant and the CPT-HSTP project tasks while the MCC provided input on the plans the consultant is to review.

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

[Unified Planning Work Program FY 24 – Administrative Modification](#)

The FY 24 UPWP was adopted in February 2023, and Amendment #1 was adopted in September 2023. An additional modification has been made to the document to update the final cost of the Northwest Harnett Transit Study to a total of \$306,000, of which \$123,000 will be spent in FY 24 and the remainder in FY 25. The cost increase was due to the expanded study area to account for the revised MPO boundary and to add additional public engagement techniques and efforts in order to adequately conduct the study. The modified UPWP will be posted to the CAMPO website in coming weeks.

[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 several CAMPO – Eco-Counter system sites to perform Eco-Counter system inspections, diagnostics and data retrieval. ITRE staff members will also be coordinating and visiting additional 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 has begun. Work on the current counter inventory will also include an initial upgrade of the counters to 4G pending agreement approval between Eco-Counter and NCDOT. Information on the current counters can be found at: <https://itre.ncsu.edu/focus/bikeped/nc-nmvdv/>. **(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)**

[Triangle Transportation Choices \(Triangle Transportation Demand Management \(TDM\) Program\)](#)

Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG, now renamed the Central Pines Regional Council - CPRC) issued a Call for Projects by February 10th, 2023, for the Triangle Transportation Choices/ Transportation Demand Management (TDM) grant program. Proposals were requested for three different funding opportunities for fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24) for traditional, innovative projects, and equity & inclusion pilot initiatives. The grant program announced its annual awards early May awarding 13 traditional applicants who will be receiving a combined total of \$1.61 million dollars for their FY24's TDM activities.

Continuing with its commitment to integrate equity in its funding process, the program awarded \$121,875 to four applicants for the second year of its Equity and Inclusion pilot for FY24. The program had kept aside \$200,000 for the pilot similar to FY23. The applications received requested a combined total of \$121,875 and the same was awarded. The awardees are returning applicants from FY23. These grants began on July 1, 2023 and end on June 30, 2024. Staff has begun preparing the RFP for next year.

The purpose of the Triangle TDM 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. CAMPO serves on the 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. Representatives are working to coordinate the TDM and Mobility Coordination Committee’s public transit and human services mobility management programs. The FY 21 TDM Annual Impact Report has been released and can be viewed here. The FY 22 report is expected to be released in November.

Information about the TDM Plan Update, FY 23 grantees, and FY 24 RFP information can be found on the Triangle Transportation Choices website at:
<https://www.centralpinesnc.gov/mobility-transportation/triangle-transportation-choices>.

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

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 has provided the following update on the project:

Lane is planning to adjust traffic on Westbound (WB) I-440/US-1 South from Walnut bridge toward Cary Pkwy exit 99 the night of October 27,2023. To perform this shift work, the below closure is planned to be installed.

All Westbound (WB) I-440 traffic will be directed to I-40 collector ramp starting at 9:00 pm on October 27, 2023. All work and closures are planned to be removed by 10:00 am on October 28, 2023, pending weather and completion of work.

Lane is planning to adjust traffic on Westbound (WB) I-440 from Western Blvd bridge to Walnut bridge the night of October 29, 2023, by moving the lane line to the constructed outside shoulder area. To perform this shift work, the below ramps and road closures are planned to be installed, see attached detour routes for traffic. All closures are planned to be removed by 05:00 pm pending weather and completion of work.

Closure of Western Blvd ramp to Westbound (WB) 440 is planned to be installed starting at 9:00 pm.
Closure of WB 440 exit ramp to Melbourne is planned to be installed starting at 9:00 pm.
Full closure of WB 440 directing all traffic to Western Blvd> Jones Franklin Rd > West Bound I-440 starting around midnight or prior if traffic volume is low.

If it becomes necessary to modify this schedule due, LANE will provide an updated to this email group of the new schedule as soon as is possible Further details about the projects are located at NCDOT’s [I-440 & Blue Ridge Road Improvements webpage](#). **(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)**