

# **INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES**

# February 2025

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# **Studies**

#### 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 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.

Following the joint CTT and Public Official workshop held in November, the project team has updated the study recommendations and is preparing materials for the final public engagement round. CAMPO staff will reach out to CTT members for input on engagement material in February and public engagement activities will commence late February, going into March. To learn more about the study or stay up to date with ongoing activity, visit the project website: <a href="https://www.northharnetttransitstudy.com/">https://www.northharnetttransitstudy.com/</a>

(Staff contact: Gaby Lawlor)

#### 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<sup>th</sup> of 2024 and kicked off the Technical Steering Committee with jurisdictions, GoTriangle and NCDOT in attendance. CAMPO and Consultant are now working on review of the universe of project and analysis of potential service concepts.

(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 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 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. Final Working Group meetings were completed in December, and the second round of Technical Advisory Team (TAT) meetings have been scheduled for late January/early February 2025. The dates, times, and locations are included on the next page.

Subregion Date Time Location

·Western Wake	January 23, 2025	1:00pm to 4:00pm	Fenton Main - Cary
·Granville	January 28, 2025	1:00pm to 4:00pm	Camp Butner room - Butner
·Harnett	January 30, 2025	1:00pm to 4:00pm	Resource Ctr & Library - Lillington
·Northeastern Wake	February 3, 2025	1:00pm to 4:00pm	Wake Forest Town Hall
·Central Wake	February 6, 2025	1:00pm to 4:00pm	Garner Town Hall
·Johnston	February 11, 2025	1:00pm to 4:00pm	Johnston Cty. Public Library
·Franklin	February 12, 2025	1:00pm to 4:00pm	Youngsville Town Hall

(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

Eight (8) Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment requests were submitted for the FY25/Q3 round. The amendment requests have come from CAMPO, the Town of Cary, the Town of Kightdale, the Town of Morrisville, and Wake County. The comment period began December 9, 2024, and ended January 10, 2025. The Program Development Subcommittee will considered the amendment request at their December 17, 2024, meeting, recommending approval for all amendment requests. The TPAC reviewed the amendment requests at their January 23, 2025, meeting, recommending approval to the governing boards. The CAMPO TCC and Executive Board will review the amendments at their February meetings.

(Staff Contact: Steven Mott)

#### FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan Development Update

The kickoff for the FY2026 Wake Transit Work Plan development cycle was presented at the September TPAC meeting by CAMPO and GoTriangle Tax District Staff. Three Work Plan development meetings occurred during the TPAC PD Subcommittee meetings in October, November, and December, where the subcommittee reviewed the submitted requests to be included in the draft FY26 Wake Transit Work Plan. After approving what projects would be included in the draft FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan, CAMPO staff coordinating with staff in the Tax District to provide preliminary budget information for review at the January PD Subcommittee meeting. The draft is expected to be sent to TPAC members on February 3, and then they will release it for public comment after discussing the draft at their February 20 meeting. The draft will be released for a 30-day comment period beginning February 25. The CAMPO TCC and Executive Board will receive updates on the draft FY26 Wake Transit Work Plan at their March 2025 meetings.

(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 met regularly throughout the year, and the Stakeholders have met in May and

September. The first phase of Public Engagement began May 6<sup>th</sup> and ran through July 21, 2024 and saw over 1,900 citizens participate in the survey and events. The second phase of public engagement kicked off on December 2, 2024 and runs through January 31, 2025. The Wake Transit Plan Update website includes the current survey, a toolkit for partners to use to publicize the engagement period, as well as a document repository, can be accessed directly at <a href="https://www.publicinput.com/waketransit2035">www.publicinput.com/waketransit2035</a>. The Plan Update is approximately halfway through the 18-month process. (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 January 8<sup>th</sup> Joint ADA and Community Transportation Sub-committees meeting the members prepared for the quarterly January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to formalize the committee where the members elected officers and adopted by-laws per the MMIS' adopted recommendations to formalize the committee. The members also continue voted to endorse the six-month work plans derived from the implementation schedule/work program for the two sub-committees (ADA and CT). Next subcommittee meetings are scheduled for February 7, 2025 where members will begin work on adopting the work plans and implementing the program.

Information on the MCC's work 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 have been working 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 5/24 for CAMPO staff to review. CAMPO staff organized a roundtable discussion on August 8<sup>th</sup> 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. Project Incubation meetings for the FY26 CFAP Application Window was from October 1st till October 21st. 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<sup>rd</sup>. 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<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and closed on January 31<sup>st</sup>. The CFAP selection committee has been finalized and will meet on February 20th and again on March 4th to recommend projects for inclusion in the FY26 Wake Transit Work Plan. More information and this year's development schedule can be found on CAMPO's **CFAP website.** (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.

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. The MM will provide regular updates on the mobility

program.

The MMP webpage is a work in progress and can be found on the CAMPO website at https://www.camponc.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-committee

(Staff contact: Sarah Williams)

**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 following new notices have been issued:

There will be major lane closures through end of January. Locations and dates are to be determined.

Continuing through February

Hillsborough Street Right Lane Closure eastbound (under I-440) for bridge demolition.

Note - Lane Construction and NCDOT have indicated that any closures for February would be associated with completing the Wade (Avenue) ramps. Getting the ramps completed is weather dependent, too cold to pave and make that shift.

If the weather breaks Lane Construction and NCDOT will get to them near the end of February/first of March.

(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

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