

NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting Minutes - Draft Executive Board

One City Plaza
421 Fayetteville Street
Suite 203
Raleigh, NC 27601

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

4:00 PM

Conference Room

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Hutchinson called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. Roll call was held to establish quorum. Chairman Hutchinson recognized Representative Erin Pare' and informed the Executive Board that the Representative had submitted a letter regarding the U.S. 401 Corridor Study.

Present: 17 - William Allen III, Scott Brame, T.J. Cawley, Joe Geigle, Jacques Gilbert, Virginia Gray, Vice Chair Vivian Jones, Ken Marshburn, Blake Masegill, Sig. Hutchinson, Russ May, Shaun McGrath, Neena Nowell, Lewis Weatherspoon, Harold Weinbrecht, Glenn York, and Porter Casey

Absent: 13 - Mary-Ann Baldwin, Ronnie Currin, Jessica Day, Grady Hunt, Valerie Jordan, Catherine Knudson, RS "Butch" Lawter, Melvin Mitchell, Matt Mulhollem, Michael Schriver, Bob Smith, Terry Turner, and Art Wright

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

3. Ethics Statement:

Vice Chair Jones read the ethics statement. No conflicts of interest were identified by members.

4. Public Comments

Terry Yeargan- 6325 Hilltop Road, Willow Springs, NC - Mr. Yeargan stated that he has shared written comments on the proposed U.S. 401 bypass with the Executive Board and thanked the Board, elected officials, and staff for their assistance and response to concerns. He emphasized that while the area around this corridor is rural, there would be significant impacts to property owners. He stated that while growth may be inevitable, it should be well planned and better integrated with planning for water and sewer. He stressed that coordination with Fuquay-Varina's long-term planning efforts is essential and that this proposed bypass corridor should be farther out. He ended by saying he agreed with Representative Paré's letter about studying additional alternatives for the U.S. 401 Corridor.

Meredith Douthit Crawford - Pepperwood Farms, 5544 Dunallie Drive, Fuquay-Varina, NC - Ms. Crawford owns Pepperwood Farm, a 118 acre hay and horse farm off Air Park Road. Pepperwood Farm falls inside the study area for the U.S. 401 Corridor Study and Ms. Crawford expressed concerns that if a route is selected that goes through her property she will likely have to close the farm. She expressed several conservation concerns, stating Pepperwood Farm contains five blue line streams that have been voluntarily put into conservation buffers, and that it also borders Terrible Creek to the south. Ms. Crawford explained the economic impact of her farm. This includes the operational costs with their vendors, contractors, and employees, and the fifty boarders who also pay for trainers and veterinary services. In closing, she asked the Executive Board to consider

the economic value of her farm in relation to the U.S. 401 Corridor and a future bypass alignment.

Martha Fish - 6615 Kennebec Road, Willow Springs, NC - Ms. Fish stated her farm is part of JC Rowland Farms, LLC and has been in her family for 260 years. She thanked Representative Paré for her support in this matter, and questioned the need for a U.S. 401 bypass given the number of other road improvement projects slated for the Fuquay-Varina area. She further questioned the ability of Fuquay-Varina to support the amount of forecasted growth. She asked the Executive Board to remove the U.S. 401 bypass from the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan in order to provide more time to study the need for such a project. She suggested that after further study of data, a more eastern and southern corridor would be more appropriate.

Wanda Pierce - Walter Myatt Road, Willow Springs, NC - Ms. Pierce owns property within the U.S. 401 Corridor Study area. She asked that the vote on the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan be postponed until the U.S. 401 Corridor Study is completed so that property owners have the opportunity to provide input on the study results. She then requested that the MTP maps be revised to reflect the U.S. 401 bypass as project A5 and B4 and that the MPO vigorously seek out additional public input into ideas and alternate routes for the corridor. She further requested the MPO prioritize the Fuquay-Varina Parkway, Old Stage Road, and other roadway projects in the area that would relieve traffic ahead of the new bypass project. She stressed the devastating impacts this project would have on numerous local farms including her farm, Bowden's Bend Cattle Farm (a NCDA bicentennial farm and a NCDA century farm). She closed by asking the Executive Board to please help family farmers by postponing the vote on the 2050 MTP and exploring alternatives to the current plan.

Joanie Bowden - 7130 Turner Fish Road, Willow Springs, NC - Ms. Bowden is one of the owners of Bowden's Bend Cattle Farm on Walter Myatt Road, which is in the path of the current alignment of the U.S. 401 bypass. She shared her objections to the construction of the proposed U.S. 401 bypass and instead encouraged the Executive Board to prioritize other roadway projects in the area, such as the Fuquay-Varina Parkway. She asked the Ex. Board to postpone the vote on the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and endorsed Representative Paré's letter asking CAMPO to study additional alignments for the corridor. She encouraged the exploration of additional routes further south and east of the current alignment. She asked that the project be removed from the MTP maps until the completion of the U.S. 401 Corridor study.

Nathan Spencer - Executive Director WakeUP Wake County - Mr. Spencer invited the Executive Board and attendees to participate in WakeUP's Regional Investments for Regional Growth event on December 15th. WakeUP submitted a letter of concerns to the MPO on the proposed 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. He complimented the MPO staff but suggested the process staff is using for the MTP development is too heavily weighted towards reducing travel times and not on providing citizens with transportation options. He further suggested that this proposed MTP will not help us meet the climate change goals that have been set by many local governments. He closed by asking the Ex. Board to reconsider these issues with respect to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan adoption.

Amanda Cedillo - Walter Myatt Road, Willow Springs, NC - Ms. Cedillo asked the Executive Board to consider postponing the adoption of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan until the U.S. 401 Corridor study is completed. She further asked the MPO to explore and earnestly research alternative ideas and alignments for the bypass.

Member Blake Massengill thanked those who had provided public comments in response to the US 401 corridor study. While Mr. Massengill is sympathetic to property owners and those potentially impacted by this future project, the data shows that the project is needed to support future transportation mobility and the Town of Fuquay-Varina supports the project. Mr. Massengill stated that the Town of Fuquay-Varina would be hosting a public meeting on January 11th to gather additional public input on alternative ideas for the corridor. Mr. Massengill made a motion for CAMPO to review alternative ideas including an additional southeast alignment for the corridor and report back to the Board no later than their regular March meeting. Member Lew Weatherspoon stated that the US 401 corridor was extremely important to Harnett County and seconded the motion.

5. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Board Member Jones, seconded by Board Member Gilbert, that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

5.1 Executive Board November 2021 Meeting Minutes Draft

Attachments: [Minutes: November 17, 2021 Executive Board Meeting](#)

The Minutes were approved.

5.2 FY 2018 Wake Transit Work Plan Project Period of Performance Extensions Bret Martin, MPO Staff

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1 - FY 2018 Project Funding Agreement Period of Performance Extensions](#)

The FY 2018 Wake Transit Work Plan Project Period of Performance Extensions were approved.

End of Consent Agenda

6. Regular Agenda

6.1 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP/CTP) Update Chris Lukasina, CAMPO Staff

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[MTP Maps & Project List Handout](#)
[Public Engagement Summary Draft 2050 MTP Dec 2021](#)
[2050 MTP Schedule](#)

Chris Lukasina, CAMPO Executive Director, reported on this item.

Mr. Lukasina provided a brief overview of the MTP and its development process. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan is the region's long-range transportation plan and includes both a fiscally constrained element as well as an unconstrained vision plan element known as the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). As such, this plan serves as both the region's federally recognized MTP and state recognized MTP and

CTP. This plan is required to be updated every four years and is developed through partnership with the Durham Chapel-Hill Carrboro MPO.

Mr. Lukasina reviewed the MTP development cycle which takes up to 18 months and starts with development of Vision and Goals followed by deficiency and alternatives analysis. During the alternatives analysis phase, different combinations of transportation investment and land use foundations are evaluated. At their October meeting, the Executive Board selected the All Together scenario as the preferred scenario and as such, the starting point for the draft 2050 MTP. Mr. Lukasina reviewed the draft MTP including modifications to the Opportunity Places land use foundation and changes to the transportation networks through the application of fiscal constraint.

*Adjustments from the All Together preferred scenario to the draft 2050 MTP include:
Opportunity Places land use foundation*

- increased asserted development at Anchor institutions*
- more intense, mixed use development at Mobility hubs*
- TOD development on developable parcels along frequent transit corridors*
- asserted Low-Income Housing Tax Credit style projects on affordable housing opportunity sites*

Transit Network

- CRT service north of Franklinton moved to the CTP*
- CRT service along the Eastrans rail corridor moved to the CTP*
- BRT service east of New Hope Road moved to the CTP*

Roadway Network

- over 400 roadway projects moved to the CTP*
- additional secondary roads and complete streets projects added to 2nd and 3rd decades*

Mr. Lukasina provided an overview of the 2050 MTP revenue forecast and noted the only change from the preferred scenario was the updated developer funded projects provided by member governments.

Mr. Lukasina reminded the Board that all of the maps and materials related to the MTP development are available for review on the MPO's website.

Bonnie Parker provided an overview of the public engagement efforts for the 2050 MTP.

Public engagement activities were coordinated with the Durham Chapel-Hill Carrboro MPO and ran from October 28th through December 8th. The majority of emails and comments received were requests to remove the future U.S. 401 bypass project from the MTP. All comments received are provided as an attachment to the agenda packet. The MPO also received several letters from various organizations and regional partners. Those letters are also included in the public engagement attachment.

Ms. Parker reviewed the overall public engagement process for the eighteen month MTP development cycle. Ms. Parker emphasized that the MTP is a culmination of other planning activities and each of those planning projects have their own public engagement process and are reflected in the MTP.

Mr. Lukasina concluded the presentation with 2050 MTP schedule, the Board is being asked to provide an initial approval of the proposed MTP with Air Quality Conformity Determination to follow and final MTP approval scheduled for January 2022. Mr. Lukasina reported that the requested action to approved the 2050 MTP/CTP projects and

programs was recommended by the TCC at their December meeting.

Chair Hutchinson opened the floor for questions and discussion.

Member Will Allen stated that he was happy with the status of the plan and moved to approve the plan. Member Lew Weatherspoon seconded the motion.

Member Vivian Jones raised a question of how approving the MTP today may affect the question of how to address the U.S. 401 bypass.

Mr. Lukasina answered that with respect to the U.S. 401 bypass, the earlier motion by Member Blake Massengill directed staff to explore additional options for the corridor and report back no later than March. At that time, the Board would have two options regarding the U.S. 401 corridor study. Option 1 would be to allow the U.S. 401 corridor study to continue with its current scope and schedule. Option 2 would be to revise the scope and schedule of the U.S. 401 corridor study based on staff's findings and include additional routes or recommendations in the study's findings. Upon completion of the U.S. 401 corridor study the Board would have three options. Option 1, as always, is to do nothing. Option 2 is to direct staff to include the findings of the study in the next regular update of the MTP. Option 3 is to direct staff to begin an immediate amendment to the MTP to include the findings of the study.

Member Ken Marshburn asked in what order would the items in the slate vote be approved.

Chair Hutchinson reminded members that during virtual meetings a roll call vote is required for all actions and so the MPO has used a slate vote to bundle agenda items together into a single vote. Chair Hutchinson explained that while the slate vote is used to make meetings more efficient, any member can request that any item be pulled from the slate vote and voted on separately.

Mr. Lukasina explained that through a slate vote the minutes would reflect that Member Massengill's motion regarding U.S. 401 would be shown first, followed by the consent agenda, and finally the MTP action.

Member Marshburn asked for clarification on how the first motion related to the U.S 401 corridor study impacts the action on the MTP.

Mr. Lukasina answered that the U.S. 401 bypass would remain in the MTP and that the U.S. 401 corridor study would continue. The first motion by Member Massengill directs staff to research additional alignments and recommendations for the U.S. 401 corridor and report back to the Board by March. At that time the Board can decide to modify the U.S. 401 corridor study and include additional alignments and recommendations or continue with the original study scope and schedule. Upon the completion of the U.S. 401 corridor study, the Board can decide to do nothing with the findings of the study or direct staff to incorporate those findings into the MTP either during the next regularly scheduled MTP update or through an immediate MTP amendment.

A motion was made by Member Will Allen to approve the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, seconded by Member Lew Weatherspoon. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. Informational Item: Budget

- 7.1 Operating Budget - FY 2022
Lisa Blackburn, MPO Staff

Attachments: [Q1 Budget Projection FY 2022](#)

The Operating Budget Report was received as information.

- 7.2 Member Shares FY 2022
Lisa Blackburn, MPO Staff

Attachments: [Q1 Member Dues Projection FY 2022](#)

The Member Shares Report was received as information.

8. Informational Item: Project Updates

- 8.1 Executive Board December 2021 Project Updates

Attachments: [Project Updates - Dec. 2021](#)

The Project Updates item was received as information.

- 8.2 Public Engagement Updates
Bonnie Parker, MPO Staff

Attachments: [Exec Board Public Engagement Updates December 2021](#)

The Public Engagement Updates item was received as information.

9. Informational Item: Staff Reports

MPO Executive Director Chris Lukasina stated that:

- NCDOT is hosting a virtual public meeting for the US 1 freeway project (U-5307) Thursday December 9th at 6PM
- US 1 Council of Planning is developing a list of concerns for the U-5307 project related to the inclusion of frontage and backage roads, multi-modal concerns, and other recommendations identified in the US 1 corridor studies
- CAMPO has arranged for a short-term lease extension for the current MPO office spaces for approximately six months
- The Executive Board and TCC Chairs and Vice-Chairs recently visited several candidate sites for new office space. After receiving their feedback on sites, we anticipate bringing a recommendation to the Board in January
- Recently three CAMPO staff members have passed their planning certification requirements for the AICP certification. Congratulations to Gretchen Vetter, Brandon Watson, and Evan Koff.

TCC Chair – absent

NCDOT Transportation Planning Division – no report

NCDOT Division 4 – no report

NCDOT Division 5 – no report

NCDOT Division 6 – no report

NCDOT Rail Division – absent

NC Turnpike Authority – absent

NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division – absent

Executive Board Members – no members wished to add anything further

10. Adjournment

Chair Hutchinson thanked everyone for their participation, wished everyone a Happy Holidays and Happy New Years and adjourned the meeting.

Upcoming Meetings/Events