

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES**

**A. Hot Spot Program** – Two projects for the FY 2016 hot spot program are currently underway and include: 1) a functional design for the NC 55 Holly Springs Bypass, and 2) an interchange reconstruction alternatives analysis for I-440/U.S. 1/U.S. 401 (Capital Blvd). The Capital Area MPO is currently under contract with Kimley-Horn to carry out the interchange study, with a kickoff meeting having occurred on March 14, 2016. The Capital Area MPO is under contract with Ramey Kemp for the NC 55 Holly Springs Bypass study, with a kickoff meeting having occurred on March 21, 2016. These studies and associated technical memos will be completed by June 30, 2016. (Staff Contact: Bret Martin)

**B. 54 & More Study** – A feasibility study is underway to investigate the costs and impacts of proposed facility upgrades to the NC 54 Corridor from NC 540 to Northwest Maynard Road, within the Municipalities of Morrisville and Cary, including roadway widening, intersection improvements, improvements for pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit services, potential railroad grade separations, crossing consolidation, proposed rail transit, and proposed railroad expansion plans for freight, intercity passenger rail and commuter. A DRAFT report has been released for review and comment. (Staff Contact: Alex Rickard)

**C. Transit Systems Planning** – After a joint public hearing between CAMPO and GoTriangle Boards, the Wake Transit Plan and Interlocal Governance Agreement (ILA) were adopted by resolution of the CAMPO Executive Board on May 18, 2016. The GoTriangle Board and Wake County Board of Commissioners will consider adoption of the plan and ILA at their May and June meetings, respectively. Work will continue over the summer to develop the Transit Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC) and its associated work products to prepare for plan implementation. (Staff Contact: Bret Martin)

**D. Southeast Area Study** - The Southeast Area Study is the MPO's third area study following the Southwest and Northeast Area Studies. The study area will encompass the southeastern portion of Wake County including the Town of Garner and portions of the City of Raleigh and the western portion of Johnston County including the towns of Clayton, Archer Lodge, Wilson's Mills, Smithfield and Selma. The focus of the consultant currently is on the SEAS Hot Spots, which are particular locations in Archer Lodge, Garner and Smithfield. More information can be found on the project website at [www.southeastareastudy.com](http://www.southeastareastudy.com) (Staff Contact: Alex Rickard)

**E. Regional Freight Plan Study** - The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, in

cooperation with the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO), and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has hired the consultant services of Parsons Brinckerhoff to develop a Regional Freight Plan for the Triangle region. The proposed study is jointly funded by the agencies as mentioned above. The partnership recognizes the importance and need for these agencies to jointly address freight issues in the region. The purpose of the plan is threefold:

- To conduct a comprehensive regional study of freight, goods movement, and services mobility needs;
- To develop a framework to proactively address freight and goods movement mobility needs and challenges in our region; and
- To examine all modes of a freight transportation system with emphasis on trucks, rail and air cargo and to develop freight recommendations for the 2045 joint Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

It is envisioned that the proposed plan will guide freight investments in a manner that supports the region's goals for safety, social equity, economic productivity, sustainability, and livable communities. The project team will include the staff from the funding partners and will also include the consultant team project manager, other consultant team members, and other regional staff chosen for their subject-matter expertise. Finally, the consultant team will work with key private- and public-sector stakeholders and create a Regional Freight Advisory Committee throughout the study process.

The Steering Committee held its latest meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2016. The Steering Committee addressed several items which included provisions from the recently passed "Fixing America's Surface Transportation" (FAST) Act, as well as the proposed vision, goals and objectives for the Regional Freight Plan, which will be incorporated into the 2045 MTP. The Regional Freight Stakeholders Advisory Council (RFSAC) will be held in the May/June timeframe. Details on the date and time will be provided soon. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

**F. LAPP** – The FFY18 Call for Projects is anticipated to open in August. Questions regarding the LAPP Program can be submitted to Danna Widmar at [Danna.Widmar@campo-nc.us](mailto:Danna.Widmar@campo-nc.us). (Staff Contact: Danna Widmar)

**G. (SRTS) John Rex Endowment Grant Award Update** - As of the December 18, 2015 SRTS Subcommittee meeting, UNC Highway Safety Research Center (HSRC) staff reported that they have held steering committee meetings at all five of the schools that are participating in the John Rex Endowment project. Along with the "common threads" found for each of the schools and their respective local government staff members is the need for sidewalks to the schools and greenway access. HSRC staff members also met with local government staff members in October and November, 2015 to conduct a "Policy Audit" to understand existing municipal

policies and practices for pedestrian safety. Finally, HSRC staff has launched the project website as <http://saferouteswakecounty.org/>. The website was created to focus first on serving the needs of those involved in the project, but also broad enough that others who visit the site looking for SRTS info in general may find something useful. Activities have been done at all of the five partner schools in the form of steering committee meetings to create school action plans. The first action plan was presented on Wednesday, January 27 at Northwoods Elementary School in Cary; with additional action plans to be completed at the remaining four schools in the coming months. Finally, HSRC staff are working on a document titled, "Policies, Plans, and Practices for Child Pedestrian Safety: State of Wake County" which was presented before the SRTS Subcommittee at their February 5 meeting. The document is still in draft form and will be finalized this spring. During the SRTS Subcommittee held on Friday, April 22, HSRC staff indicated that the "Action Plans" for each of the five schools will be completed and ready for presentation at the June TCC and Executive Board meetings. Finally, CAMPO staff, Ms. Kristen Brookshire of the UNC-Highway Safety Research Center, and Ms. Amy Sackaroff, Chair of the Capital Area MPOs Conference on Thursday, May 12. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

**H. NC Non-Motorized Volume Data Program - Phase II Region Roll-out** - The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) in cooperation with ITRE, the MPOs and RPOs in Highway Divisions 4, 5, 8, and 10 is working this year to develop a bicycle and pedestrian volume counting program with consistent methodologies that can be replicated statewide. The aforementioned divisions will serve as Phase II of the statewide project that began in the Triad Region (Division 7 and 9) in 2013. Local government staff and CAMPO staff have filled out identifying proposed locations to count bicyclists and/or pedestrians for the NC Non-Motorized Volume Data Program; and have forwarded the information to ITRE.

Staff from ITRE are wrapping up the short duration count (SDC) collection that's being done to help inform the site selection process, so they are still not at a point to have the specific sites selected. For some general information to pass on, though, here are some tidbits:

- 52 sites were submitted and/or considered in the CAMPO region
- 44 sites were visited:
- 10 sites in the Apex/New Hill area
- 9 in Cary
- 21 in Raleigh
- 1 in Wake Forest
- 3 in RTP

We're trying to get short duration counts at most of the sites that we visited. As soon as ITRE staff has all the data compiled, they will share the information. (Staff Contact: Kenneth

Withdraw)

**I. Triangle Tolling Study** - The Capital Area MPO, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO, and NCDOT/NCTA are embarking on the development of a regional toll study that will identify the feasibility, applicability, and appropriateness of a variety of user pay systems for potential consideration across the Research Triangle region. Recommendations developed as part of this study will be used to inform the development of future Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) updates. An initial meeting of the Triangle Tolling Study Subcommittee, which consists of staff members from the Capital Area MPO, the Durham-Chapel Hill, Carrboro MPO, and NCDOT/NCTA, met on Thursday, May 19 to discuss the scope development of the Study. CAMPO staff and NCDOT staff members all compiling material for scope creation; and will send the draft scope out to subcommittee members in preparation for an RFP release at the end of June. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

**J. NC 98 Corridor Study** – The Capital Area MPO, Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO, and NCDOT will be initiating a corridor study for NC 98 from U.S. 70 in Durham to U.S. 401 in southern Franklin County beginning in FY 2017. The study will determine and address critical issues and needs along the corridor associated with mobility, operational function, and safety for motor vehicle users, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users. The study will provide recommendations for the ultimate vision for the corridor while also generating recommendations for the corridor that can be implemented in the short- to mid-term that address more immediate deficiencies but also work toward implementation of the ultimate vision. Recommendations developed as part of the study will be used to inform the development of future Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) updates, as well as the MPO's biennial prioritization of projects to be considered for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). An initial meeting of the Core Technical Team (CTT) for the study will meet May 26, 2016, to discuss scope development in advance of RFP publication anticipated for late May or early June. The study is anticipated to proceed by September 2016 and will continue until no later than June 30, 2018.