



# INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES

**March 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 Contact: Gaby Lawlor)**

### [U.S. 401 Corridor Study \(www.US401CorridorStudy.com\)](http://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 (which included public meetings, pop-ups, an online survey, and more, closed on November 5, 2023. CAMPO staff has been working to respond to questions from the public, synthesize engagement findings, adjust the recommendations as appropriate, and develop the final report for endorsement consideration by the Executive Board. Local presentations will be given on January 10, January 30, and March 4 for review and endorsement. Executive Board action on the study will occur by March 20, 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 continues to work to develop a bicycle and pedestrian element data schema that will be more conducive to the goals identified by CAMPO staff and the steering committee. There will be one final steering committee meeting in the spring, to present recommendations coming out of this study and obtain feedback on draft deliverables. **(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.

The Public Officials group for the study convened for the first time and were introduced to the study, provided with an overview of the socio-economic conditions and the transit-supportiveness of the study area, various transit service options. The group also took part in a visioning exercise aimed at identifying their view towards transit and how they would like to see transit develop in their jurisdictions. The project team is preparing for another round of stakeholder engagement in the form of focus group meetings and bus operator interviews. 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. The TSC has met in October and December to provide technical input and will meet at least one more time through the project completion in June 2024. The next phase of the study includes starting the phase 2 of public involvement – the virtual project room which presents the study recommendations garnered from our work. The virtual project room opens March 4, 2024 through April 7th and seeks to obtain final public comments and feedback on the refined recommendations for the corridor.

**(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 15 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 will be conducting the engagement phase of the study that includes completing analysis on the stakeholder and community surveys and holding a joint virtual and face-to-face meeting/webinar in southeast Raleigh (tentative date 3/21st). 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. **(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 March. **(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 study is expected to conclude by June 30, 2024. **(Staff contact: Shelby Powell)**

## Committees

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

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

The two (2) Major Amendments that were submitted in the FY24 Q3 Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment cycle – adding span and frequency to the GoRaleigh Caraleigh bus route and additional funding for construction contingency for the Raleigh New Bern Bus Rapid Transit corridor – approved by the Executive Board and GoTriangle Board of Trustees at their meetings in February.

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 will be released for public comment between March 8<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup>; the Program Development Subcommittee will review the amendment at its meeting in March, the TPAC will review the request at its meeting in April, and 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>. The Public Comment period opened on February 26<sup>th</sup> and will close on March 26<sup>th</sup>. New and/or updated project requests are due by March 15<sup>th</sup>, and will be reviewed by the Program Development Subcommittee at their meeting in March. 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 will be presented to the TPAC on March 13<sup>th</sup> and is expected to recommend these projects in the FY25 Wake Transit Work Plan during their April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. 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 held their first meeting in January, and will be meeting again on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The first phase of Public Engagement is expected to begin in mid- to 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. The next scheduled MCC meeting will be held March 6<sup>th</sup> for the joint subcommittee working group meeting to finalize the draft MOU and Bylaws, meet with the new mobility manager and prepare for the in-person/virtual 3/21st webinar 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 begin soon. Work on the current counter inventory will also include an initial upgrade of the counters to 4G in early 2024. 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 Triangle J Council of Governments - (TJCOG), now renamed the Central Pines Regional Council - (CPRC) has 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 application submittals closed 5:00pm EST on Monday, February 12, 2024. CPRC staff is currently reviewing and organizing the applications for a project selection committee, the Oversight Committee review.

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. 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 \(MTP\)](#) developed jointly by CAMPO and DCHC MPO for the Triangle region 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. Program representatives are also working to coordinate the TDM and Mobility Coordination Committee's public transit and human services mobility management programs.

The FY 23 TDM Annual Impact Report has been completed and will be presented to the oversight boards in the first quarter of the calendar year. The Annual Impact Report for the Triangle Transportation Choices program calculates reductions in vehicle trips, vehicle miles traveled, and vehicular emissions resulting from programs funded in that grant cycle by the Program. More information about the TDM Program can be found on the Central Pines Regional Council 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](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:

#### I-440 Beltline Widen- WB 440 Asphalt repair

LANE Construction has sent out an Advanced Notice for the full closure of westbound I-440 from the Western Boulevard offramp to the Western Boulevard onramp for the repair of the elevation difference at the Western Boulevard bridge. This work is planned for March 3, 2024, from 12:00 am to 5:00 am, Sunday night into Monday morning.

#### I-440 Beltline Widen-Old EB 440 Bridge demolition over Western Blvd (UPDATE)

Due to weather conditions the demolition of the old EB 440 bridge was postponed to February 26. Prep work was scheduled to begin Monday Night/Tuesday Morning and will end Saturday Morning. This will be ongoing for approximately 3 weeks (February 26 to March 11). Eastbound or westbound Western Boulevard will be closed nightly from Midnight to 5AM to allow the demolition of the old eastbound I-440 bridge. **(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)**