

# **INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES**

# September 4, 2025

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# **Studies**

## Regional Rail Infrastructure Investment Study

At the request of the CAMPO and TWTPO 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 TWTPO convened a Rail Visioning Committee from their respective Rail Subcommittees on December 6, 2024, and kicked off the Technical Steering Committee with jurisdictions, GoTriangle and NCDOT in attendance. CAMPO and Consultant have conducted a review of the universe of projects and analysis of potential service concepts. With input from the Technical Steering Committee, CAMPO, TWTPO and the Consultants have conducted the Federal, State and Local funding screening to match projects to the funding opportunity for which they are most competitive. This study has concluded with several deliverables designed to help this region move forward. The Joint Rail Subcommittee will be meeting in September to review the output of this study and discuss next steps. Project deliverables include:

- Project Universe: This includes the list of projects/bottlenecks to bring the region to the regional rail that the Joint Rail Subcommittee of the Executive Board for CAMPO and TWTPO envisioned.
- Federal Funding Screening: A document that looks at each project and what federal programs it may be eligible for as well as how competitive they are for each.
- State Funding Screening: A document that looks at each project and how they may compete in the NCDOT Prioritization Process.
- Decision Tree for Strategic Investment: A priority order for investments that will best position the region for incremental progress while bigger programmatic investments are pursued.
- Decision-making Framework: This framework aims to help with coordination among this region's stakeholders.
- Comment Resolution Matrix: During the formulation of the final deliverables the project team received great feedback from our Technical Steering Committee, this matrix provides the response to the feedback and how they were incorporated into the final study.
- Future Studies Memo: Noted early was the very high-level nature of this study, during the development of this plan we noted areas that will need future study to prepare the region for the regional rail build out.

(Staff contact: Daniel Spruill)

#### Advanced Air Mobility Study

CAMPO was awarded an Advanced Air Mobility Grant from the NCDOT Division of Aviation for FY 2026 to examine the current condition of Air Mobility and explore what this mode of transportation could mean for the region. This study will be managed by NCDOT Division of Aviation alongside CAMPO to develop a high-level regional framework for AAM implementation and coordination between member jurisdictions.

(Staff contact: Daniel Spruill)

#### North Falls Lake Area Study (NFLAS)

This will be the first area study conducted in the northwest portion of CAMPOs jurisdiction. The study area will include roughly the southern half of Granville County and extends into portions of Franklin County and Wake County, as well as the municipalities of Creedmoor, Butner, Stem and Oxford. The goal of this study

is ultimately to lay out a long-term vision for development patterns within the framework of water resource and land management considerations, and for a multi-modal transportation network in the study area, with a detailed implementation strategy that includes short-term and mid-term recommendations to aid with the implementation of the long-term vision. The study will evaluate water supply watershed (WSWS) capacity and other environmental regulatory considerations, as related to residential development; the safety and mobility in the transportation network, including planned and existing roads, transit service and bicycle/pedestrian facilities.

Following several Project Management Team (PMT) meetings, the consultant team and CAMPO conducted the NFLAS Elected Officials meeting on July 30, 2025, the NFLAS Stakeholder Committee meeting on August 6, 2025, and the NFLAS Core Technical Team meeting on August 7, 2025. The information gathered at each of these events will be incorporated into the future pop events that will be held throughout the study area during the months of September through October, 2025. Also, the NFLAS website is being created to host materials, as well as capture public input through an online survey. The website will be available for the public soon.

(Staff contact: Kenneth Withrow)

# **Committees**

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

### FY 2027 Wake Transit Work Plan Development Update

The FY 2027 Wake Transit Work Plan kickoff occurred at the August TPAC meeting. Wake Transit partners are asked to review their base budgets and confirm their budgets for the upcoming fiscal year and to submit funding requests for any increases to existing operating projects above programmed funding amounts, any new projects, and all capital projects that will be budgeted funds in FY2027. The funding requests are due September 26, 2025, and will be reviewed by the Program Development (PD) Subcommittee at a special PD Subcommittee Work Session to occur in-person on October 29, 2025.

(Staff contact: Steven Mott)

#### FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan Amendments and Period of Performance Extensions

The FY 2026 Work Plan budget began July 1, 2025. Amendments may be needed throughout the year, and Wake Transit partners may submit amendment requests throughout the year in three cycles for the three quarters available for amendment consideration. The second quarter (Q2) amendment deadline was August 15, 2025. The Q2 amendment requests will undergo public review beginning September 5, 2025, and concluding October 7, 2025. The Q2 amendment cycle also coincides with the consideration of the period of performance (POP) extension requests. The POP extension requests seek to extend the expiration date for capital agreements held by Wake Transit project sponsors. Both sets of these requests will be reviewed by the Program Development (PD) Subcommittee at their September meeting. The TPAC will review these at their October meeting and consider a recommendation to the Wake Transit governing boards (the CAMPO Executive Board and the GoTriangle Board of Trustees). The Wake Transit governing boards will consider approval of these amendment and POP extension requests at their November 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 and is nearly complete. The Plan has had 3 phases of public engagement to date, with over 3,000 participants in online surveys and at in-person events and presentations. The consultants completed the Recommended Wake Transit Plan in June, and after TPAC review and consideration, the Recommended Wake Transit Plan will be released for public comment from September 5 - October 5, 2025. The GoTriangle Board of Trustees and the CAMPO Executive Board will hold a Public Hearing on the Plan at the September 17, 2025, CAMPO Executive Board meeting. The Plan is expected to be considered by the Executive Board and GoTriangle Board of Trustees for adoption in November.

(Staff contact: Ben Howell)

## Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Extensions Concept of Operations Study

The BRT Extensions Concept of Operations (ConOps) Study is a follow-up study to the BRT Extensions Major Investment Study completed in 2023, funded by Wake Transit and 6 local agency partners — Research Triangle Foundation, Regional Transportation Alliance, Town of Morrisville, Town of Cary, Town of Clayton and City of Raleigh. The purpose of the ConOps Study is to develop and study up to 3 operating scenarios, developing a final operating and financial plan for the Extensions. The CTT kick-off was held in July, with monthly CTT meetings starting in September. The Study is expected to be completed by June 2026.

(Staff contact: Ben Howell)

#### Wake Transit Staffing Analysis Study

The Wake Transit Staffing Analysis Study will analyze existing staffing and staffing needs for the Wake Transit Program for all Wake Transit-funded staffing positions at CAMPO, GoTriangle, Raleigh, Cary and future staffing needs for any Wake Transit agencies. The Study kicked off in August, and the first CTT meeting will be in September. The Study is expected to be completed in April 2026. The Study is fully funded by Wake Transit in the FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan.

(Staff contact: Ben Howell)

#### **Mobility Coordination Committee**

The MCC is the CAMPO administered regional coordination committee born 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 available on CAMPO's website. The MCC has begun 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 CAMPO's 2023 Mobility Management Program Implementation Study (MMIS) that outlined a plan for implementing the region's new mobility management program (MMP).

This past year the committee elected officers and adopted by-laws to formalize the committee per the MMIS' adopted recommendations. The members also voted to endorse the six-month work plans derived from the implementation schedule/work program for the two sub-committees (ADA and Community Transportation). During the last 7 months, ADA members reviewed existing agencies ADA applications and

policies, discussed and prepared for upcoming agency service changes, prepared a regional ADA coverage map, and reviewed the existing template for a regional ADA agreement. The group prepared an updated matrix of application similarities and differences and is reviewing the matrix as well as other regional agency practices and policies for coordinating and collaborating paratransit services in larger regions. The CT subcommittee members explored sub-goal 3.2.4 "Explore the implementation of micro-transit service in Clayton" and under 3.2.5 "explored opportunities to increase service capacity by exploring various service delivery methods and mobility options and adding vehicles" using the expansion of micro-transit service to the Clayton area. They have welcomed various other agencies' staff to present informational topics of interest such as the Western Regional Center staff to discuss transportation difficulties and to brainstorm possible solutions, from CAMPO Community Engagement Planner on the Harnett County Transit Feasibility Study, CAMPO's project 2055 MTP and the US 1 Corridor Study. Members were also updated on the subcommittee work of the Mobility Manager, federal funding opportunities and the FY 27 unified grant from NC DOT IMD.

For the August 8, 2025, sub-committee meetings, the members planned the meeting agendas for the September 3, 2025, 2-3 hours work sessions. For September 3, 2025, they will complete thee outstanding 6 months goals including work on an MCC Communications Plan, a potential unified ADA regional application and for the CT sub-committee more work on micro transit and fixed route connections.

Information on the MCC's work is on the CAMPO's <u>Mobility Coordination Committee webpage</u>. (Staff contact: Crystal Odum)

# **Programs**

#### FY 2025 Community Funding Area Program Update

CAMPO staff worked with our consultants to complete the update to the CFA Program Management Plan as part of the larger Wake Transit Plan Update. The document was released for public comment in May and will be recommended for adoption at the August TPAC meeting.

The FY27 CFAP Application cycle will kick off at the September 18<sup>th</sup> TPAC meeting. CAMPO staff will be giving an overview of the program, available funding, and program schedule for the upcoming fiscal year. There are no further updates at this time. More information and this year's development schedule can be found on CAMPO's CFAP website.

(Staff contact: Suvir Venkatesh)

# **Projects**

### Triangle Bikeway East Design Project Update

CAMPO staff has been working with regional partners to consolidate information to a new webpage for the Triangle Bikeway East Design Project. To keep up to date on the progress, please visit <a href="https://www.publicinput.com/TriBikeEast">www.publicinput.com/TriBikeEast</a>. Materials are being created for information sharing about the project and a more detailed update will be forthcoming to the Board this fall. For historical information about the study and larger corridor, visit <a href="https://www.trianglebikeway.com">www.trianglebikeway.com</a>.

(Staff contact: Cara Russell)