

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

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

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

4:00 PM

Conference Room

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Hutchinson welcomed attendees to the meeting and established that a quorum was present.

Present: 16 - Scott Brame, TJ Cawley, Jessica Day, Jimmy Gooch, Vice Chair Vivian Jones, RS "Butch" Lawter, Ken Marshburn, Blake Masegill, Sig Hutchinson, Lewis Weatherspoon, Harold Weinbrecht, Porter Casey, Montell Irvin, Shaun McGrath, Deans Eatman, and Jacques Gilbert

Absent: 9 - William Allen III, Grady Hunt, Valerie Jordan, Matt Mulhollem, Michael Schriver, John Sullivan, Art Wright, Glenn York, and Mary-Ann Baldwin

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

There were no adjustments to the agenda

3. Ethics Statement:

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

4. Public Comments

Chair Hutchinson opened the meeting for public comments and recognized the three speakers that signed up to speak:

Ms. Joanie Bowden started her comments by noting that she had submitted written comments for this meeting record. Ms. Bowden stated that she and her siblings have been following the MPO's US 401 Corridor Study and are concerned about possible impacts to their family farmland. Ms. Bowden commented on how she and her family have opposed the current alignment going back as far as the MPO's Southwest Area Study in 2013. Ms. Bowden requested that the Board consider the proposed Alternative W that will be presented later in the agenda and that Alternative Z not be selected for further study as it would destroy their family farmland.

Ms. Wanda Pierce stated by stating she agreed with everything said by Ms. Bowden and thanked the Board for looking at additional corridors. Ms. Pierce stated her support for alternative W because of the devastating impacts alternatives X and Z would have on numerous farms with the Voluntary Agricultural District. She asked the Board to please consider alternative W as the selected corridor for the US 401 corridor.

Ms. Martha Fish expressed her gratitude to CAMPO for listening to the public and participating in a public meeting hosted by the Town of Fuquay-Varina and Mayor Massengill in January. Ms. Fish thanked Rep Pare for her assistance in requesting CAMPO to do that additional work. Ms. Fish expressed her support for alternative W because it will preserve numerous productive family farms within the study area and because it will utilize existing roadways. Ms. Fish mentioned that NCDOT was also holding public meetings for other projects along the corridor and how this would provide greater opportunity for the public involvement. Ms. Fish thanked CAMPO for their efforts to involve the public and strive to meet the needs of all stakeholders.

5. Minutes

Minutes were covered under Consent Agenda Item 6.1

6. 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.

6.1 Minutes - Feb. 16, 2022 Executive Board Meeting

Requested Action: Approve minutes

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes - Feb. 16, 2022](#)

This Minutes was approved.

6.2 **FY 22 Unified Planning Work Program - Administrative Modification #1**
Shelby Powell, CAMPO Staff

Requested Action: Adopt FY 22 UPWP Administrative Modification #1.

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[FY-22-UPWP-AdminModification-1-DRAFT](#)

This UPWP Item was adopted.

6.3 **Locally Administered Projects Program Additional Funding Request**
Gretchen Vetter, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Approve City of Raleigh's C-5604OF additional funding request.

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[LAPP Project Adjustments 3-3-2022](#)

This Miscellaneous Item was approved.

End of Consent Agenda

7. Public Hearing

There were no public hearings

End of Public Hearings

8. Regular Agenda

8.1

Triangle Bikeway Study

Kenneth Withrow, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information**Attachments:** [Staff Report](#)
[Triangle Bikeway Summary](#)

Mr. Kenneth Withrow, CAMPO Staff reported on this item.

Mr. Withrow reminded the Board that this was a cooperative project between the Capital Area MPO and the Durham Chapel Hill Carrboro MPO with a consultant team led by McAdams along with WSP and Toole Design. Mr. Withrow reviewed the nine project goals of equity, regional collaboration, feasibility, connect to jobs, transportation choice, identity, safety, public benefit+support, and resiliency. Mr. Withrow reviewed the study area for the project with spans along I-40 from Chapel Hill to Raleigh and provided an overview of the history and origins of the project. Several case studies were conducted as part of study including similar facilities in Winston-Salem, Seattle, Colorado, Atlanta, Hartford, and the Washington DC metro area. The study evaluated existing bicycle and pedestrian conditions along the corridor as well as planned trails and facilities. Mr. Withrow explained that the study also reviewed existing and planned transit services throughout the study area as well as major employers and planned developments, and NCDOT TIP/STIP projects. Mr. Withrow reviewed the community engagement approach for the study including strategies for multi-jurisdictional coordination, broad stakeholder involvement, meaningful engagement with under engaged groups, and a flexible approach during COVID-19. Input was received from a standing working group, focus groups, and other stakeholder coordination efforts. Mr. Withrow reported that over twenty key stakeholder meetings, nine working group meetings, four virtual public meetings, and three focus group meetings were conducted throughout the study and over 4000 survey responses were collected. Mr. Withrow reported that the Triangle Bikeway working group was transitioning into the Triangle Bikeway Advisory Committee and that their first meeting was scheduled for March 25th. Mr. Withrow reviewed the final steps of the study with the last action being the adoption by the DCHC Board in early May.

Chair Hutchinson commented on how Wake County bond funds were being used to support parks, open space, and greenway throughout the County. Chair Hutchinson reported that he had discussed the possibility of using additional bond funds to fund the full cost of the design and nepa process for both the Swift Creek Greenway and the Wake Count portion of the Triangle Bikeway. Chair Hutchinson reported that while no official votes had been taken, he was optimistic and hoped to report back to the Board in the coming months.

This Special Studies Item was received as information.

8.2 US 401 Corridor Study Update

Kenneth Withrow, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Revise the scope and schedule of the US 401 Corridor Study to include the additional alternative W (401/55/210), along with the existing study alternatives X (A4/B6/C1) and alternative Z (A2/B5/210) for further study.

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[US 401 Additional Alternatives](#)

Mr. Kenneth Withrow, CAMPO Staff and Mr. Will Letchworth, WSP reported on this item.

Mr. Withrow opened by thanking those that had provided public comment and input for the project. Mr. Withrow then introduced Mr. Letchworth of WSP to present the results of the additional analysis requested by the Board at their December meeting.

Mr. Letchworth started by thanking the members of the public who provided comments at the beginning of the meeting and throughout the project. Mr. Letchworth stated that public comments were used in weighting the impacts of the various corridors and had a direct impact on the evaluation and recommendations of the study.

Mr. Letchworth provided a brief review of the study's goals to:

- reduce congestion and increase transportation capacity and safety*
- incorporate public and stakeholder input*
- encourage economic development*
- accommodate appropriate modes of travel (transit, bicycle, pedestrian, freight)*

Mr. Letchworth reviewed the study schedule, project history, and explained how the various alternatives for a bypass route were broken into three sections:

- A section - US 401 south to NC 42*
- B section - NC 42 southwest to NC 55*
- C section - NC 55 west to US 401*

Mr. Letchworth explained how the alternatives were screened based on travel demand model performance and project impacts. This screening process led to the selection of two primary options. Alternative X was developed using section A4, B6, and C1. Alternative Z was developed using sections A2, B5, with planned improvements along NC 201 and the Fuquay-Varina parkway being developed as planned.

Mr. Letchworth reviewed the Board action at their December meeting which directed staff to evaluate a minimum two additional alternatives and present the findings at a future meeting. Staff was further encouraged to include one option that focused on exploring widening of existing roadways negating the need of a greenfield alignment and a separate alignment further east of the current set of alignments.

Mr. Letchworth then reviewed a series of maps that compared the original study alternatives with the additional alternatives developed based on the Board's December direction. The new alternatives include corridors farther to the east that utilized Old Stage Road and Rock Service Station Road. Other alternatives utilized existing corridors such as US 401 and NC 55. Mr. Letchworth explained that the evaluation analysis did not simply focus on the traffic analysis for the individual corridors but the entire network for the study area to evaluate a comprehensive impact for each alternative.

Mr. Letchworth explained that the analysis results showed that in general the further east

the least relief or benefit the new bypass would provide to the existing corridor. Based on these initial results, the analysis was further reduced to three new alternatives. Mr. Letchworth reviewed Alternative A which consists of improvements to Old Stage Road, Walter Myatt and Bud Lipscomb Road, and NC 210. Alternative C consists of improvements to Old Stage Road, Gardner Road, and NC 210. Alternative W consists of improvements to US 401, NC 55, and NC 210. Alternate X consists of previous segments A4, B6, and C1. Alternative Z consists of previous segments A2, B5, and NC 210. Mr. Letchworth explained that for each alternative, impacts were calculated and compared both against the existing conditions but also against the planned improvements in the adopted MTP.

Mr. Letchworth explained how each alternative was scored with respect to property impacts, agricultural impacts, environmental impacts, and project costs. Mr. Letchworth then reviewed the final project scoring for each alternative. Mr. Letchworth explained that the analysis shows that Alternative W, Z, and X performed best and again reiterated that the analysis shows the farther east the less impactful the improvements will be to existing corridor.

Mr. Withrow then presented the TCC recommendation which is to revise the scope and schedule of the US 401 corridor study to include Alternatives W, along with the original alignment X and Z.

Vice-Chair Jones asked for clarification that the public comments received at the beginning of the meeting were all in support of alternative W and Mr. Withrow confirmed that was correct.

Member Massengill thanked the staff and project team for this additional work and asked if staff had an estimate on how this additional alternative would impact the schedule and budget. Mr. Lukasina responded that staff did not have that information at this time but if this contract amendment required Board action that would likely be at their April meeting. Member Massengill commented that based on the amount of public feedback he felt the additional cost and delay were well justified.

Chair Hutchinson commented that MPOs were established for local governments and elected officials to have a role in the transportation decisions of the state DOTs and that in CAMPO there are processes to capture public input to better inform those decisions. He thanked the staff and project team and members of the public for their role in that process for the US 401 corridor study.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Jones, seconded by Board Member Massengill, to revise the scope and schedule of the U.S. 401 corridor study based on staff's findings and include the additional route of alignment W (401/55/210), along with the original alignment X (A4 B6 C1) and partially original alignment Z (A2/B5/210) in the study's findings.

8.3 Amendment #8 to FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Bonus Allocation Projects Update

Gretchen Vetter, CAMPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

[CAMPO Bonus Allocation Programming April 2022](#)

[CAMPO TIP Amendment 8](#)

Ms. Gretchen Vetter, CAMPO Staff reported on this item

Ms. Vetter explained that the agenda item consisted of both amendment #8 to the FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program as well as a status update on the MPO's Bonus Allocation (BA) funding from the NC 540 project. Ms. Vetter reported that the purpose of the TIP amendment is to program Right-of-Way (ROW) and construction funding for several of the NC 540 BA intersection projects as well as to address changes requested to the Wake Transit Work Plan. Ms. Vetter reported that the TIP amendment public comment period will run from March 21 through April 19th with a public hearing scheduled for the Executive Board meeting on April 20, 2022.

Ms. Vetter provided a summary of bonus allocation funding as defined through the Strategic Transportation Investment (STI) law. Ms. Vetter explained how BA funds were awarded either through local contribution or tolling to highway projects and the limitations on how BA funds can be used. Ms. Vetter reported on how the current BA funds are a result of projects R-2721 and R-2828 and how the MPO anticipates future BA funds through the R-2829 project. Mr. Vetter reminded the TCC members of the MPO's methodology on programming BA funds and the adopted guiding principles:

- Inclusion in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)*
- Logical Nexus to Generating Source of Bonus Allocation Funds*
- Recognition of Funding Challenges with STI law*
- Recognition of Funding Opportunities with STI law*

Ms. Vetter reviewed the proposed project funding for the \$100 million BA funds from R-2721 and R-2828 adopted by the Executive Board in April 2020. Ms. Vetter provided an update on projects HL-0006 and HL-0007 with respect to cost increases. Ms. Vetter then provided an update on the HL-0008 intersection projects. Ms. Vetter explained that the MPO provided Division 5 with a prioritized list of intersection improvement projects and that Division 5 had reviewed those projects and made recommendations. These recommendations include modifications to scope and funding, remove project from consideration, and advance project to Right-of-Way and construction programming. Ms. Vetter reviewed the list of projects that were being recommended for programming of right-of-way and construction with some modifications to scope and budget based on NCDOT's analysis. Ms. Vetter then presented the list of projects that were being recommended to be removed from consideration for programming. Ms. Vetter explained these projects generally fell into two categories. The first are projects that have already been funded or constructed either through LAPP or developers since the list was provided to NCDOT. The second group are projects that fail to meet the standards or justifications for projects that NCDOT uses to award funding. As such, NCDOT recommended to remove the project from consideration.

Ms. Vetter reported that this first group of intersection projects recommended for funding in the TIP amounted to \$25,468,780. Ms. Vetter reported that the balance for the second group of intersection projects would be \$20,231,220. Ms. Vetter then reviewed the

upcoming steps for the BA projects which included processing the TIP amendment to program the intersection projects, continued engineering work on HL-0006 & HL-0007 projects, and public engagement efforts expected within the coming months.

8.4

Strategic Plan Update

Chris Lukasina, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[CAMPO Strategic Plan 2022_Draft](#)

Chris Lukasina, MPO Executive Director reported on this item.

Mr. Lukasina provided a review of the MPO's Strategic Planning Process including the four phases:

- Phase 1 - Member and Stakeholder Input
- Phase 2 - Strategic Planning Retreats
- Phase 3 - Plan Development & Review
- Phase 4 - Implementation

Mr. Lukasina reported that the staff was in the process of completing phase 3, plan development, and that a document would be available for their review later this month.

Mr. Lukasina reported that a full briefing and detailed walkthrough of the plan recommendations would be provided at the April meeting.

Mr. Lukasina explained that the plan was being organized into three key components.

The first component is Strategic Focus Areas which include

- Public engagement and education
- Partnering with others
- Educating Elected Officials
- Policy Leadership
- Organizational Excellence

Mr. Lukasina explained that the second component, Operational Focus Areas, was a new addition to the Strategic Plan and includes:

- Increased Land Use and Transportation Coordination
- Enhanced Bike-Ped
- Increased Focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)
- Active Role as Transit Champion and Coordinator Regionally and Locally
- Prepared for the Future

The third key component for the Strategic Plan update is Focus Area Tactical Actions.

Mr. Lukasina explained that this component breaks out action items for each of the Strategic and Operational focus areas and becomes the MPO's "to do" lists. The action items are expected to be organized into short term (1-2 years), mid-term (3-5 years), and long-term (5+ years). Mr. Lukasina further explained that the action items were for the entire MPO and not just the MPO staff so there will be items for TCC members and other agency staff.

This Miscellaneous Item was received as information.

9. Informational Item: Budget

9.1

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: [Q2 Budget Projection FY 2022](#)

This Informational Report was received as information.

9.2**Member Shares FY 2022**

Lisa Blackburn, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as Information

Attachments: [Q2 Member Dues Projection FY 2022](#)

This Informational Report was received as information.

10. Informational Item: Project Updates**10.1****Project Updates - March 2022**

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: [Project Updates - March 2022](#)

This Informational Report was received as information.

10.2**Public Engagement Updates**

Bonnie Parker, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: [Ex. Board Public Engagement Updates 2022_03_09](#)

This Informational Report was received as information.

11. Informational Item: Staff Reports

MPO Director – Mr. Lukasina reported that there will be a virtual Wake Transit “Ask a Planner” event on March 17th that is designed for TCC, Executive Board members and other stakeholders to ask questions and receive information on the recommended Wake Transit Work Plan.

-Mr. Lukasina reminded the board that the annual NCAMPO transportation conference is scheduled for April 20-22 in Wilmington, NC. Mr. Lukasina reported that several CAMPO staff members were on the conference agenda for presentations and encouraged members to attend.

-Mr. Lukasina reported that the MPO is continuing to work to fill all vacant positions and that the administrative positions has been filled and the selected candidate is scheduled to begin work in the coming weeks. Mr. Lukasina also reported that interviews have been scheduled for the Wake Transit Manager position.

-Mr. Lukasina reported that the staff continues to work through the process of securing new office space and that cost estimates are higher than originally expected due to the construction market and possible budget modifications may be needed.

TCC - no report

NCDOT Transportation Planning Division - no report

NCDOT Division 4 - no report

NCDOT Division 5 - no report

NCDOT Division 6 - no report

NCDOT Rail Division – no report

NC Turnpike Authority – no report

NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division – no report

Executive Board Members – Chair Hutchinson commented that he had participated in the recent MPO 101 training and encouraged members to take advantage of this opportunity in the future. Chair Hutchinson reminded members that the MPO exists to serve this region and encouraged members to contact staff or Board leadership for information or other requests.

12. Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings/Events