



AGENDA ACTION ITEM

Submitted by: Paul Black, Manager of Project Planning
Meeting date: November 5, 2025, Audit & Finance Committee

Subject: Recommended Wake Transit Plan

Recommended Action

Staff requests that the committee endorse language that recommends updating the draft 2035 Wake Transit Plan (the Plan) to expressly acknowledge that Vehicle Rental Tax (VRT) allocations are subject to annual allocation by the GoTriangle Board of Trustees. The committee's action on this item will be conveyed to the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) to prospectively initiate an update to the Plan at the meeting of CAMPO's Technical Coordinating Committee on November 6, 2025. Pending agreement to update the Plan, GoTriangle staff is prepared to recommend that the Board endorse the 2035 Wake Transit Plan by resolution at its meeting on November 19, 2025.

Item Summary

In February 2024, Wake County and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) initiated a Wake Transit Conference Committee under the Wake Transit Plan Implementation Interlocal Agreement (ILA) to address three significant concerns:

- The "portion" of Vehicle Rental Tax (VRT) collected by GoTriangle to be allocated to Wake Transit in Fiscal Year 2025;
- The "portion" of Vehicle Rental Tax to be allocated to Wake Transit in the ten-year period from FY2026 through FY2035; and
- The financial outlook for GoTriangle's Authority-controlled funds.

Several meetings have been held since the committee's formation. Item 1 was resolved, with GoTriangle allocating \$2.528 M of Vehicle Rental Tax to Wake Transit for FY2025 and \$0 for FY2026. Items 2 and 3 remain under discussion.

The 2035 Wake Transit Plan Update, prepared by CAMPO and recommended for approval by TPAC, includes forecasted Vehicle Rental Tax revenues and allocations of these revenues to Wake Transit. Throughout the plan development process, GoTriangle staff has requested that the Plan be revised to assume no allocation of Vehicle Rental Tax to provide a conservative revenue position pending conclusion of the conference committee process and further action by the GoTriangle Board.

CAMPO has retained the Vehicle Rental Tax in the Plan assumptions, and added the following footnote:

The portion of the Regional Vehicle Rental Car Tax Revenue attributable to Wake Transit continues to be under discussion by the Wake Transit Conference Committee formed in the Spring of 2024. If there is a decision by the Conference Committee to remove or amend the revenue assumptions for the portion of the vehicle rental tax attributable to Wake County, an amendment to this Plan will be required.

GoTriangle staff have provided the following potential revision to footnotes in the Plan (pp. 1-2, 5-49):

The portion of the Regional Vehicle Rental Car Tax Revenue attributable to Wake Transit continues to be under discussion by the Wake Transit Conference Committee formed in the Spring of 2024 **and is subject to annual allocation by the GoTriangle Board of Trustees**. If there is a decision by the Conference Committee to remove or amend the revenue assumptions for the portion of the vehicle rental tax attributable to Wake County, an amendment to this Plan will be required.

Executive staff of GoTriangle, CAMPO, and Wake County have agreed to continue discussions in the coming months to support the conference committee process, resolve outstanding concerns, and reach agreement on a long-term allocation approach for the Vehicle Rental Tax beginning with the FY2027 budget and beyond.

Pending action by CAMPO to update the Plan that is to be considered for vote by the GoTriangle Board of Trustees at its regular meeting scheduled for November 19, 2025, GoTriangle staff is prepared to recommend the Plan's approval by resolution, which would:

1. Endorse the 2035 Wake Transit Plan as an important framework for regional mobility investment; and
2. Direct staff to prepare operating and capital plans and budgets for FY27 and beyond that further GoTriangle's organizational transformation, strengthen its financial and operational foundation, and position the agency to meet the region's expanding mobility needs; and
3. Affirm that the Board will determine, through its annual budget process, the use of Vehicle Rental Tax revenues and other available funding sources; and
4. Affirm GoTriangle's intent to continue constructive engagement through the Wake Transit conference committee process; and
5. Charge staff to demonstrate accountability and transparency through regular performance tracking and reporting, and structure administrative and coordination activities to promote efficient, cost-effective operations; and
6. Declare its continued commitment to collaboration, transparency, and responsible governance in the implementation of the Wake Transit Plan and in delivering the region's shared vision for seamless, reliable, and sustainable public transportation.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact of this action.