



NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Staff Report

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Agenda Date: 3/19/2025
To: Executive Board

Agenda Item: 6.3

Unified Planning Work Program FY 2026

Shelby Powell, MPO Staff

The FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) draft is attached for review. The UPWP outlines the anticipated work plan and budget for the MPO for the fiscal year. In FY 2026, the MPO anticipates continuing to deliver the core programs of the MPO, including the Locally Administered Projects Program, Triangle Regional Model, Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, Public Involvement Program, Wake Transit Program, Regional Mobility Management Program, and Congestion Management Process.

Two studies from FY 25 will continue into FY 26 - the Northwest Area Study and the Triangle Bikeway NEPA/Design project. New studies for inclusion in the FY 26 work program are the Eastern Wake ITS Study, the Regional Advanced Air Mobility Study (pending receipt of grant funding), the Chatham County Wildlife Crossing Study, the Apex Pleasant Plains Park Access Study, the Apex US 1 Connectivity Study, and the continued implementation of the new updated Bicycle/Pedestrian element of the MTP.

Other elements of note in the UPWP are the MPO's self-certification of meeting federal planning requirements (Appendix C); the anticipated transit planning work to be performed by transit agency partners (Tables 4 and 5) using federal funds; and a summary of anticipated general MPO activities and funding sources in the coming year. This document has been updated from the previous version to include FTA Section 5303 funding allocated to the Clayton/Johnston County urbanized area, and to increase the STBG-DA funding allocated to planning activities for the fiscal year.

The FY 26 UPWP is available for a 30-day public review and comment from January 17, 2025 through February 18, 2025. A public hearing will be held at the March 19, 2025 Executive Board meeting. The Executive Board is anticipated to consider adoption of the FY 25 UPWP at its March 19, 2025 meeting.

The TCC recommended adoption of the FY 26 UPWP at its February 6, 2025 meeting. Since that time, slight adjustments have been made to the document to account for new information from NCDOT regarding transit funding allocations. The attached document shows slightly different amounts in Table 3 and Table 4A and Table 4D to show slight increases in 5307 funding for GoRaleigh, 5303 funding for the Clayton UZA, and slight decrease in funding for 5303 for GoRaleigh.

Requested Action: Conduct a Public Hearing. Adopt the FY 26 Unified Planning Work Program and certify the MPO's planning process meets federal requirements.