

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES**

**A. Hot Spot Program** – The FY 2017 Hot Spot studies include a study of the I-40 / I-540/NC-540 interchange area and assistance with developing a methodology for programming MTP projects with the STI Bonus Allocation funds that will be allocated to the MPO. The MPO has selected consultants for both projects and are in the process of developing contracts. Both projects are expected to be completed by the end of June 2017. (Staff Contact: Alex Rickard)

**B. Transit Systems Planning** – The CAMPO Executive Board approved/adopted the TPAC-recommended first annual Wake Transit Work Plan (for FY 2017) at its January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, and the GoTriangle Board of Trustees approved it at its January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. The TPAC released a draft FY 2018 Wake Transit Work Plan for public and agency comment on February 17<sup>th</sup> that will be refined over the coming months before it is recommended by the TPAC to CAMPO and the GoTriangle Board of Trustees for consideration of adoption in May/June 2017. The public comment period ends April 3, 2017. In addition to the production of a draft FY 2018 Wake Transit Work Plan, it is anticipated that in late March the TPAC will release a draft Wake Transit implementation Master Participation Agreement for public comment and party adoption starting in April. This agreement will function as the master agreement among all parties expecting to be beneficiaries of Wake Transit Tax Revenue for Wake Transit Plan project implementation. Further in the coming months, the TPAC and its appointed task-specific technical committees will be involved in steering the execution of a number of tasks and studies that are part of the TPAC's on-call consultant transit planning services program. These tasks and studies include the completion of a staffing plan for Wake Transit Plan implementation, a Wake Transit Plan implementation public engagement strategy, a 10-year bus service implementation plan, a transit corridors major investment study to address fixed guideway projects, and a community funding areas program management plan. (Staff Contact: Bret Martin)

**C. Southeast Area Study** - The Southeast Area Study is the MPO's third area study following the Southwest and Northeast Area Studies. The study area encompasses the southeastern portion of Wake County including the Town of Garner, portions of the City of Raleigh and the western portion of Johnston County including the towns of Clayton, Archer Lodge, Wilson's Mills, Smithfield and Selma. The consultant and the sub-consultants are finalizing recommendations for all modes including the three hot spot locations in Archer Lodge, Garner and Smithfield. A second public symposium was held on January 12<sup>th</sup> 4-7PM at the Clayton Center. The final Study Oversight Team (SOT) meeting was held Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at the Clayton Center. CAMPO Staff and Kimley-Horn will present the findings and recommendations of the SEAS and the March TCC and Executive Board meetings. More information can be found on the project website at [www.southeastareastudy.com](http://www.southeastareastudy.com) (Staff Contact: Alex Rickard)

**D. Regional Freight Plan Study** - The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, in cooperation with the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO), and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has hired the consultant services of Parsons Brinckerhoff to develop a Regional Freight Plan for the Triangle region. The proposed study is jointly funded by the agencies as mentioned above. The partnership recognizes the importance and need for these agencies to jointly address freight issues in the region. The purpose of the plan is threefold:

- To conduct a comprehensive regional study of freight, goods movement, and services mobility needs;
- To develop a framework to proactively address freight and goods movement mobility needs and challenges in our region; and
- To examine all modes of a freight transportation system with emphasis on trucks, rail and air cargo and to develop freight recommendations for the 2045 joint Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

A presentation on the Regional Freight Plan was given at the Joint MPO Executive Board meeting on Wednesday, November 30, 2016. The Study and Final Report will be completed by Spring 2017. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

**E. (SRTS) John Rex Endowment Grant Award Update** - As of the December 18, 2015 SRTS Subcommittee meeting, UNC Highway Safety Research Center (HSRC) staff reported that they have held steering committee meetings at all five of the schools that are participating in the John Rex Endowment project. Along with the “common threads” found for each of the schools and their respective local government staff members is the need for sidewalks to the schools and greenway access. HSRC staff members also met with local government staff members in October and November, 2015 to conduct a “Policy Audit” to understand existing municipal policies and practices for pedestrian safety. Finally, HSRC staff has launched the project website as <http://saferouteswakecounty.org/>. The website was created to focus first on serving the needs of those involved in the project, but also broad enough that others who visit the site looking for SRTS info in general may find something useful. Activities have been done at all of the five partner schools in the form of steering committee meetings to create school action plans. All five SRTS Action Plans were completed in July. The plans are recommendations and are accompanied by a small amount of funding (\$16,000 per school). The Wake County SRTS Work Group met on August 19; and reviewed the John Rex Endowment grant activities, discussed policy directives for the Wake County Public School System, presented the Greenlight Expression of Interest (EOI) application process, and reviewed subcommittee updates. CAMPO staff addressed the Wake County School Board on October 4 to remind them of Walk to School Day, which was held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016. Walk to School Day events were held throughout the region; which included the Secretary of Transportation speaking to students and parents at Conn Elementary School on Wednesday morning, October 5. The SRTS Subcommittee met on Friday, March 17 to discuss the JRE Grant,

updated tasks activities that are incorporated within the FY 2017 UPWP, received legislative updates from the director of BikeWalkNC, and received updates from various subgroups within the Subcommittee. The next Subcommittee meeting has been tentatively scheduled for June 16, 2017 at 10:00 am. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

**F. NC Non-Motorized Volume Data Program - Phase II Region Roll-out** - The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) in cooperation with ITRE, the MPOs and RPOs in Highway Divisions 4, 5, 8, and 10 is working this year to develop a bicycle and pedestrian volume counting program with consistent methodologies that can be replicated statewide. Following a review of 44 sites, a total of 14 sites in the four cities of Apex, Cary, Raleigh, and Wake Forest were determined to be suitable. At this time the Memorandum of Agreement between CAMPO and NCDOT is under review. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

**G. Triangle Tolling Study** - The Capital Area MPO, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO, and NCDOT/NCTA are embarking on the development of a regional toll study that will identify the feasibility, applicability, and appropriateness of a variety of user pay systems for potential consideration across the Research Triangle region. Recommendations developed as part of this study will be used to inform the development of future Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) updates. Scope negotiations are underway with the consultant. The contract between CAMPO and the consultant was presented at the March 15 Executive Board meeting; and was endorsed by the Board for the CAMPO director to sign. Following the approval of an Interlocal Agreement involving the Capital Area MPO, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO, and NCDOT, the consultant will schedule work on the Tolling Study project; which is expected to begin in May, 2017. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

**H. NC 98 Corridor Study** – The Capital Area MPO, Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO, and NCDOT initiated a corridor study for NC 98 from U.S. 70 in Durham to U.S. 401 in southern Franklin County in FY 2017. The study will determine and address critical issues and needs along the corridor associated with mobility, operational function, and safety for motor vehicle users, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users. The study will provide recommendations for the ultimate vision for the corridor while also generating recommendations for the corridor that can be implemented in the short- to mid-term that address more immediate deficiencies but also work toward implementation of the ultimate vision. Recommendations developed as part of the study will be used to inform the development of future Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) updates, as well as the MPO's biennial prioritization of projects to be considered for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The first Study Oversight Team meeting took place at the Faith Harvest Church near the intersection of NC 50 and NC 98 on March 9<sup>th</sup>, and two public input sessions were held: the east half at Wake Forest Town Hall on March 21<sup>st</sup> and the west at the Reaching All Minds Academy on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The study will continue until no later than June 30, 2018. (Staff Contact: Paul Black)