

INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES

A. Hot Spot Program – Two Hot Spot studies were conducted in FY 2018: an analysis of the US 401/US 70/Mechanical Blvd intersections and surrounding network, and an analysis of the US 64/Hodge Road interchange general area in Knightdale. The final hot spot reports were distributed to affected local government staff in September, and are be posted on the MPO’s webpage. For more information please contact Shelby Powell.

B. Wake Transit Planning Studies & Tasks – The TPAC, with support from CAMPO and GoTriangle staff, is currently in the process of developing a draft FY 2020 Wake Transit Work Plan. The draft work plan is currently on track to be released for public and agency comment in late January of 2019. It is anticipated that the draft FY 2020 Work Plan will be presented to the TCC and Executive Board at their February meetings.

The TPAC and its appointed task-specific technical committees have completed or are wrapping up a number of tasks and studies that are part of the TPAC’s on-call consultant transit planning services program. More details on the major tasks that are wrapping up are below. (Staff Contacts: Bret Martin and Bonnie Parker)

1. Public Engagement Policy

The Public Engagement Policy is designed to provide a high-level overview of what the public can expect from public engagement activities associated with the implementation of the Wake Transit Plan, while retaining flexibility in the way individual project teams and agencies carry out their work. Action to recommend approval to the Executive Board by the TCC is the next step in the approval process. Both the Executive Board and the Board of Trustees will receive presentations at their meetings in January, CAMPO will complete its public hearing, and both boards will consider action to approve the recommended policy. The public comment period for the draft Policy is open until January 4, 2019.

2. Transit Corridors Major Investment Study

The MIS CTT has completed its review of interim deliverables associated with the bus rapid transit track (BRT) of the MIS, and the TPAC has taken action on them. The MIS CTT has shifted its focus to the commuter rail track of the study and is currently reviewing interim deliverables for existing conditions and design and performance benchmarking. These deliverables will move forward to the TPAC, TCC and Executive Board as they are recommended by the CTT. Beginning in January of 2019, the focus of the commuter rail portion of the MIS will shift to updating the alternatives analysis completed in 2011 for the corridor. This work will prepare GoTriangle, as the project sponsor for commuter rail, to enter project development toward the end of calendar year 2019.

C. (SRTS) John Rex Endowment Grant Award Update - The Wake County Model Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Project is in its fourth year and will wrap up in 2019. This John Rex Endowment-funded effort is working toward the goal of improving child pedestrian safety in the county by increasing understanding of and support for SRTS programs and identify opportunities to improve policies and practices that improve pedestrian safety for all users, especially children. Three municipalities have installed their grant-funded infrastructure improvements near their model school: Cary, Fuquay-Varina, and Knightdale. WCPSS has adopted a wellness policy that encourages walking and biking to school and revised their guidelines for new/renovated school sites to give more clear direction on safe pedestrian access. At the municipal level, project partners have applauded the municipalities that have recently adopted comprehensive plans that recommend the adoption of a Complete Streets policy. Other noteworthy municipal actions: Apex inventoried the infrastructure around all schools, Cary increased the budget for sidewalks, Raleigh will prioritize the use of \$2 million in transportation funds designated for SRTS projects. The next SRTS Subcommittee meeting will be held on Friday, January 11, 2019 in CAMPO Conference Room A. Please go to <http://www.iwalktoschool.org/> for additional details. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

D. Southwest Area Study (Update) - CAMPO and NCDOT are working to update the original Southwest Area Study that will address the changes in land use and transportation in the area since 2012 and serve to inform the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). CAMPO staff and staff members from the consultant team of Ramey-Kemp & Associates, and Stantec prepared for and participated in the Southwest Area Study Public Workshop held on December 5th in Holly Springs. Following the 20-minute presentation by CAMPO staff, participants went to various stations around the room to view maps, complete surveys, and provide comments. Citizens who live and/or work in the Study area but could not attend the event have been encouraged to learn more at the Study website and complete the online survey: <https://www.questionpro.com/a/TakeSurvey?tt=ZZO4v/ZZVxM%3D>. The next CTT meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2019 in Angier's Town Hall Boardroom. The project website is located at <https://www.swastudy.com/>. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

E. Triangle Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems Deployment Plan Update – The Capital Area MPO, Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO, and NCDOT are jointly funding an update to the 2010 Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Deployment Plan. The first stakeholder workshop was held in July. The consultant team is collecting information of existing ITS deployments throughout the Triangle region, continuing development of a regional needs assessment, and scheduling additional small group stakeholder interviews. (Staff Contact: Alex Rickard)

F. Triangle Strategic Tolling Study – Update

The Capital Area MPO, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO, and NCDOT/NCTA, with the consulting firm WSP, have embarked 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. ECONorthwest, a company working along with the consultant team on the Tolling Study, provided corridor results from their Toll Optimization Model during the August 23 Core Technical Team (CTT) meeting. Outcomes from that exercise were presented to the Stakeholder Oversight Team (SOT) during their meeting in September; along with recommended highway facilities that would be incorporated into the “Tier-Two” analysis, which is currently underway. Finally, a Study update to MPO Boards was presented to the Joint MPO Executive Board meeting on Wednesday, October 31. Additional information concerning the Triangle Strategic Tolling Study are located at <http://www.campos-nc.us/programs-studies/triangle-strategic-tolling-study>. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

G. R.E.D. Priority Bus Lanes Study - Update

The Capital Area MPO is seeking guidance on developing a methodology for determining suitability of R.E.D. transit priority bus lanes or other corridor treatments in the CAMPO area, and a priority list of recommended application of these treatments. The R.E.D. refers to red painted lanes with shared access for all vehicles making right-hand turns, emergency vehicles and driveway access lanes. This study will provide a comprehensive review of best practices for transit priority lanes with shared R.E.D access in peer areas with recommendations evaluating the applicability of priority lanes through qualitative analysis and the development and deployment of a methodology for evaluating and prioritizing transit priority lane treatments in the CAMPO area. CAMPO invited qualified consulting firms or individuals, who are experienced in transit bus lanes assessment and analysis, to submit proposals. Proposals were received Monday, August 27, 2018 and a Notice to Proceed to conduct the R.E.D. Bus Priority Bus Lanes study issued November 14, 2018 to the firm Renaissance Planning, Inc. This study has kicked off and is anticipated to be completed within an approximate timeframe of twenty (20) months during fiscal years 2019 and 2020. (Staff Contact: Crystal Odum)

H. Commuter Corridors Study – Update

The Capital Area MPO is seeking a qualified consulting firm or individual to conduct a corridors study to address select, congested commuter corridors to improve mobility in the CAMPO planning area. Multi-modal commuter corridors in the region are increasingly congested even with major financial investments (TIP, MTP, Wake Investment Plan projects) into the area’s transportation network. This technical study will develop and recommend various land use and transportation scenarios and investments that offer multi-modal, highly impact solutions to relieve or mitigate anticipated congestion, policy recommendations that would be necessary to support the various scenarios, planning level costs for transportation elements in each of the recommended scenarios and a communications and public engagement strategy that can be deployed by the MPO to discuss the scenarios with stakeholders and the public. This study will be conducted through fiscal year 2019 concluding by June 30, 2019. Proposals were received on Monday, October 15, 2018, a consultant firm selected, and the technical work scope finalized. The procurement process is on-going and a Notice to Proceed is anticipated to be issued by December 2018. (Staff Contact: Crystal Odum)