

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES**

### **A. (SRTS) John Rex Endowment Grant Award Update**

The Wake County Model Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Project is in its fourth year. The project has been extended an additional six months as of September 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. Also, the North Carolina Department has set aside \$1.5 million of Transportation Alternative Program funds for Safe Routes to School programming. Communities can use the funds to develop creative programs that educate children and parents about safely walking and bicycling to school. As of May 17, 2019, Wake County Human Services was awarded the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)'s Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Non-Infrastructure Grant. This grant will allow Wake County Human Services to continue supporting Safe Routes to School work in Wake County for the next three years (2019 – 2022); and Ms. Jennifer Delcourt will remain in place to coordinate the new Safe Routes to School grant project. The Subcommittee and Ms. Delcourt will work together on various projects over the three-year period; as well as review the Program Elements as developed in 2015. Discussion topics at the September 20 meeting included the JRE Grant, NCDOT BOT's adoption of the Complete Streets Policy, updates concerning UPWP tasks this fiscal year, updates concerning Vision Zero, and activities occurring with the Wake County Public School System. There were no updates for the John Rex Endowment Grant as of the Friday, December 13, 2019 SRTS Subcommittee meeting. The next SRTS Subcommittee meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday, June 19, 2020 beginning at 10:00 am. Please go to <http://www.iwalktoschool.org/> for additional details. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

### **B. 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 consultant team has received final comments from stakeholders and is working to complete all final materials. MPO staff and the consultant team are working to schedule final presentations to the MPO's Technical Coordinating Committee and Executive Board. (Staff Contact: Alex Rickard)

### **C. R.E.D. Priority Bus Lanes Study - Update**

This study when completed will provide a comprehensive review of best practices for implementing transit priority R.E.D. lanes with shared access and a review of peer areas. R.E.D bus lanes are defined as roadway lanes potentially treated with red product to identify priority bus lanes that allow right hand turns, emergency response vehicles and driveway access. The study recommendations will evaluate 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 region. The project team has obtained input from the Core Technical Team (CTT) throughout the two years of the study, the TCC and the Executive Board including on criteria weighting. The fourth and final CTT Workshop, a virtual WebEX meeting, occurred April 1, 2020. The consulting team discussed the draft findings of Task 6 (Priority Corridors Listing) and demonstrated use of the priority lane tool for future use. The CTT provided comments on the 5<sup>th</sup> technical report. Previous reports #1 through #4 have been uploaded to the CAMPO website while the consultants are preparing the final report. The study, conducted by Renaissance Planning and WSP, Inc., is on schedule to conclude June 30, 2020 on time and on budget and will be presented to the TCC and Executive Board at the August meetings. (Staff Contact: Crystal Odum)

#### **D. Fayetteville/Raleigh Passenger Rail Study**

The Capital Area Metropolitan Area Planning Organization (CAMPO), in partnership with the Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (FAMPO) and NC DOT, has selected the team of Metro Analytics and Stantec, Inc. to conduct a passenger rail feasibility study to examine the viability of passenger rail service between Raleigh and Fayetteville, North Carolina through travel market demand across various trip types, the viability of using one of the two existing rail corridors and a general analysis of economic feasibility of providing passenger rail between these cities.

The purpose of this study is to determine if the market exists for passenger rail between Raleigh and Fayetteville. If the market exists, the study will determine which of the two existing corridors would be the best option for providing that service. The study is envisioned to be conducted in two phases. Phase I will be this high-level study of the two main rail corridors between the CAMPO and FAMPO regions to determine which corridor may be most appropriate for a passenger rail application based on corridor infrastructure, ridership potential, and market demand analysis. A Phase II study may be commissioned to develop specific recommendations for improvements to each rail corridor identified in Phase I.

This Phase 1 study will be conducted through fiscal year 2020 with the assistance of a technical steering/ jurisdictional stakeholders committee and conclude by June 30, 2020. A project portal at [www.ral2fayrail.com](http://www.ral2fayrail.com) has been established to house all project information/material. The Kickoff Technical Steering Committee meeting occurred September 25, 2019. The project team reviewed existing data sets, completed the peer agencies review, contrasted and compared the two study routes, introduced quantitative and fatal flaw analyses for discussion and is continually gathering jurisdictional and expert input from the TSC members. A series of focused meetings were held with local stakeholders in Fayetteville, Harnett and Raleigh the week of March 2nd to further identify/isolate key jurisdictional issues of the study. TSC meetings #4 and 5 of 6, were held April 20<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup> with the team going over the operational assessment and ridership projections. The next and final TSC meeting is scheduled for June 11th to discuss the final operational assessment, a marketing impact analysis, the potential for a Phase 2 of the study and the study recap. The project remains on time and on budget. **(Staff Contact: Crystal Odum)**

#### **E. Triangle Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program**

The purpose of the Triangle TDM Program is to coordinate and evaluate regional TDM activities that aim to reduce traffic and air pollution by promoting commute alternatives such as transit, carpooling, biking, walking, teleworking, and vanpooling. The current goal is a reduction in the growth of vehicle miles traveled by 25%. CAMPO serves on the Oversight Committee as one of three funding partners with NCDOT and DCHC, along with representatives from Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG) and the NC Department of Environmental Quality Division of Air Quality.

TJCOG began updating the Triangle TDM Plan in 2019. The intent is to redefine the purpose/goal of the Triangle TDM Program and update the table of activities drawing largely from the report created by Gresham Smith. Gresham Smith serves as the lead consultant for NCDOT's Statewide TDM Program providing technical assistance for TJCOG's Triangle TDM Update work. In April/May of 2019, several peer reviews and focus group surveys with TDM stakeholders were held and a technical assistance report was submitted to TJCOG in May 2019. This report focuses on aligning Triangle TDM with the NCDOT Public Transportation Statewide Strategic Plan and

continuing the expansion and effectiveness of TDM in the Triangle Region. TJCOG presented the TDM Plan Goals Update in December 2019 as information to the TCC and Executive Boards. Public comment period on the Plan Goals Update closed on December 20, 2019. An Oversight Committee meeting was held in early February to discuss public and MPO comments, and feedback is currently being incorporated into the plan. Additionally, the FY 19 Annual Impact Report for the Program was released in late 2019 and can be viewed at the website below.

The FY 21 Request for Proposals for the Triangle TDM Program were due on January 15, 2020. The Oversight Committee met in April to review the applications. A total of sixteen applications were received, two of which as innovative pilots. However, due to NCDOT funding issues, TJCOG does not yet have a funding notification from NCDOT. TJCOG is working closely with MPO leadership to try to get this issue resolved, but is not able to send award notifications to applicants at this time. TJCOG is also working with the Oversight Committee to explore some options if this cannot be resolved by the start of FY 21. More information on the Triangle TDM Program can be found at: <https://www.ticog.org/programs-land-use-transportation/transportation-demand-management>. (Staff contact: **Brandon Watson**)

#### **F. Triangle Bikeway Implementation Study**

The Capital Area MPO, in cooperation with the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO are planning in FY 2020 to conduct an Implementation Study for a regional bicycle connection from Raleigh to the Park Center site at Research Triangle Park in Durham County via a separated greenway type facility generally following the I-40 corridor; and a Feasibility Study between the Park Center site and US 15-501 in Chapel Hill; which will also address bicycle/pedestrian facility gaps along NC 54 in Durham County. The Implementation Study will build upon feasibility study work completed by Wake County. The purpose of this bikeway is to serve commuters between Raleigh, Durham, Cary, RTP and Morrisville; and connect with existing and extensions of a planned facility in the City and County of Durham, which ultimately connects to US 15-501 in the Town of Chapel Hill. An RFP for this study was advertised between June 26 and July 26, 2019. Candidate interviews have occurred, and negotiations have been finalized with the consultant team of McAdams; leading to a “Notice to Proceed” as of the end of March 2020. The consultant staff have used this time to work on website review, crowdsource map review, URL address discussion, stakeholder list review / completion, scheduling for Case Study briefings, and scheduling for first Working Group meeting. (Staff contact: **Kenneth Withrow**)

#### **G. Non-Motorized Volume Data Program**

The Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) currently manages the North Carolina Non-Motorized Volume Data Program (NC NMVDP) on behalf of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). The purpose of the program is to establish a robust data collection framework to reliably calculate sidewalk, shared use path, bike lane, and shared lane volumes through the installation of permanent bicycle and pedestrian counters that continuously collect count data on representative facilities in North Carolina. The NMVDP has expanded to include additional permanent counters installed by the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department. Both ITRE and the City of Raleigh have agreed on the data monitoring and management processes; as well as future operational coordination. Data from the additional counters will also be incorporated into the quarterly data reports that are generated by ITRE. The annual data report has been released for public review. (Staff contact: **Kenneth Withrow**)

## **H. Mobility Coordination Committee**

The 2018 Raleigh Urbanized Area Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP), changed to the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan, Amendment #1 (CPT-HSTP), sets the priorities for transportation investments and initiatives for human services and public transit coordination. The plan, which was developed with input from a diverse Human Services Transportation Working Group sub-committee of the Wake Bus Plan Core Technical Team, is in concert with the larger Wake Bus Plan. It guides funding and service development for transportation projects supporting elderly, disabled and low-income individuals.

One of the recommendations of the Plan is to formalize the Coordinated Plan Working Group to establish a Mobility Coordination Committee (MCC) and to assign this group responsibility for implementing recommendations identified in the plan. The short-term goals for the MCC include creating a consistent framework for Wake County's ADA Services; coordinating the management and delivery of ADA services; monitoring the ongoing changes in the Medicaid program and transitioning the rural transportation programs into a mobility management framework.

On February 19, 2020, the Executive Board adopted the 2018 updated Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan, Amendment #1 and formalized the MCC.

CAMPO staff had convened the working group on May 22, 2019 inviting transit provider members from GoCary, GoRaleigh, GoTriangle, GoWake Access, Wake County, JCATS, KARTS and HARTS. Monthly meetings with the members have been continuous since then to implement the recommendations outlined in the plan. Over the past meetings, the MCC has developed its membership, organizational and meeting structures, completed a working DRAFT "Recommended Implementation Strategy Schedule" including six months of actionable items, supported the City of Raleigh and the update of the 5310 Program Project Management Plan and updated the regional plan. Three Sub-committees - Administration, ADA and Community Transportation with lead and support agencies were created. Beginning February 7<sup>th</sup>, Human Service agencies and other stakeholders joined the Community Transportation sub-committee sharing information and furthering coordination. The Sub-committees are monthly work sessions held on the same day back to back, while the full group once monthly meetings began meeting quarterly on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The committee continues its work on the short-term recommendations identified in the plan including reviewing transit provider ADA eligibility applications for potential unification, developing a potential regional methodology to address gaps in ADA service, attending advanced mobility management training and reaching out to peer groups and the national center for mobility management information to continue developing a regional mobility management program and structure and working to identify needs of the various human services providers who attended the February and March meetings. The April 3<sup>rd</sup> and the May 6<sup>th</sup> Sub-Committee meetings were cancelled due to the limited availability of members given the pandemic response. CAMPO staff is continuing with the scheduled MCC work including mobility management research, ADA eligibility applications analysis and transfer point mapping. The April 23<sup>rd</sup> Full Quarterly meeting (virtual WebEx) was also cancelled due to continued COVID-19 efforts. The next Sub-committee meetings are scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup>. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2020.

Information on the MCC including meeting schedule, agendas and meeting summaries are posted

on the CAMPO website. Periodic updates to the TCC/TPAC and the CAMPO Executive board will be provided. **(Staff Contact: Crystal Odum)**

## **I. NCDOT Highway Project U-2719 – Updates**

NCDOT staff held a Stakeholder Meeting on December 12, 2019 that included CAMPO staff, law enforcement, construction team members, and representatives not affiliated with CAMPO.

Jeremy Hogan at [JLHogan@LaneConstruct.com](mailto:JLHogan@LaneConstruct.com) is the project engineer with Lane Construction and the contact for any stakeholders that have questions during the process. Mr. Jeff Moore serves as Construction Coordinator; and reviewed the U-2719 I-440 project as a whole going briefly through each intersection. The major highlights are these:

- Project is design-build. Roadway plans have been submitted but other plans are still being finalized.
- Clearing continues at Wade Avenue quadrants and is proceeding along Western Blvd., Melbourne, and Jones Franklin Road. All clearing will be done in the ROW for now.
- **As of October 24, 2019, a closure notice was given for:**  
**Melbourne Rd. Bridge (Detour)**  
**Duration: 351 Days**  
**The reason for this notification is to remind the Department and affected government entities of the long-term closure of Melbourne Rd over I-440. A detour was installed on September 30th, 2019 and is being utilized to allow for the construction of the new Melbourne Rd bridge over I-440. This detour is anticipated to be in place for approximately 351 days.**
- Athens will be closed as soon as Melbourne is reconstructed.
- Barrier walls are being constructed along I-440 from I-40 to Western Boulevard, and along Wade Avenue from Edwards Mill Road to the I-440 interchange with Wade Avenue.
- Temporary ramps are also being constructed for westbound Wade Avenue onto eastbound I-440; and at eastbound Wade Avenue onto westbound I-440.
- There will be no daytime road closures in the next 6 months except temporary as necessary.
- Contractor must maintain 2 lanes of traffic on 440 during rush hour. Lane closures will only be temporary.
- Nighttime lane closures on 440 can be from 9 pm to 5 am.
- Greenway work at Meredith is not scheduled to start in the next 6 months. Meredith College expressed concerns about their summer camps.

### **For the Blue Ridge and Hillsborough Intersection**

- Work will only be on utility relocations until after the fair season. Jug handle detour from Hillsborough to Blue Ridge will be created before any closures.
- Hillsborough road work and closure will be after the State Fair of 2020. Blue Ridge Road will be closed before that but also after the State Fair of 2020.
- Total closure of Hillsborough Street will be about 6 months, outside of the State Fair season most likely around Dec 2020 to July 2021.
- Blue Ridge Road will be closed for around 19 months.

### **Long Term Closure(s)**

#### **1. I-440 Westbound Off Ramp (Long Term Detour)**

The reason for this notification is to provide the Department and affected government entities advanced notice of the upcoming ramp closure of Loop B (I-440 Westbound to Eastbound Wade Ave) scheduled to begin on Monday night, November 11th, 2019. This ramp closure will be utilized for the completion of the temporary ramp from Eastbound Wade Ave to Westbound I-440 (Ramp B) and for the construction of the final proposed alignment. The closure will be in place until the proposed final replacement movement is open to traffic and fully operation. The approved off-site detour will take the travel in public to the Westbound I-440 off ramp to Eastbound Hillsborough St where the Eastbound

Hillsborough St on ramp to Eastbound I-440 can be used to travel back towards I-440/Wade Ave interchange.

## 2. Melbourne Rd / Bridge Closure at I-440

o Duration – until Fall of 2020

Purpose is to rebuild Melbourne Bridge Crossing over I-440 (Access ramps at Melbourne open, Detour in place to Athens Dr. / Jones Franklin Road)

### OVERNIGHT CLOSURES

#### 1. I-440 WB and EB Closures for New Melbourne Bridge Girder Setting

Anticipated Date: 4/27/20

### New Traffic Patterns

#### 1. Western Blvd Westbound Under I-440 Bridge Traffic Shift

Anticipated Date: 4/28/20; Duration: none (9) months

#### 2. I-440 Eastbound Off Ramp to Western Blvd

Anticipated Date: 4/28/20; Duration: (9) months

#### 3. I-440 Eastbound Lanes Shift b/t Wade & Lake Boone Trail

Anticipated Date: End of May; Duration: TBD

#### 4. I-440 Eastbound Off Loop to Jones Franklin Rd

Anticipated Date: Mid of May; Duration: TBD

#### 5. Wade Ave Eastbound On Ramp to I-440 WB

Anticipated Date: End of May; Duration: TBD

Stakeholder meetings are held at the construction field office, 559 Jones Franklin Road; and currently on the second Thursday of every month effective 8/1/2019 until 7/31/2023 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

Further details about the project are located at [I-440 & Blue Ridge Road Improvements](https://www.ncdot.gov/projects/i-440-improvements/Pages/default.aspx)

<https://www.ncdot.gov/projects/i-440-improvements/Pages/default.aspx>. (Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)

## J. Wake Transit Vision Plan Update

In August of 2019, CAMPO kicked off the development of the Wake Transit Vision Plan Update, which will be a tune-up to certain assumptions made in the original Wake County Transit Plan and an extension of the planning horizon for the Wake County Transit Plan from 2027 to 2030. To date, the focus of the plan update has been on reassessing cost and schedule feasibility assumptions for major capital projects, producing a countywide transit market reassessment, and determining remaining financial capacity for additional transit investments through 2020. These tasks are substantially complete. However, economic uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will likely require the assumptions made for remaining financial capacity to change. CAMPO staff will work with our Wake Transit partners to determine next steps for the plan update based on this uncertainty.

The primary focus of the Wake Transit Vision Plan Update in the months ahead will be:

- 1) Revisiting assumptions made for determining remaining financial capacity for investment



through 2030;

- 2) Depending on the scale of remaining financial capacity through 2030, development of high-level investment tradeoffs and preparation for solicitation of input from stakeholders and the public, which is tentatively scheduled to occur in the July-August timeframe; and
- 3) Review of recommendations from regional and sub-regional plans to inform potential Wake Transit investments.

If remaining financial capacity through the 2030 horizon year is determined to be available, these activities will ultimately inform the development of investment alternatives through core design retreats with the Vision Plan Update Core Technical Team (CTT) and other stakeholders in mid-2020. The TCC and Executive Board will continue to be updated on the progress of the Vision Plan Update throughout its development and will be presented important outcomes of the Plan Update as it continues. **(Staff Contact: Bret Martin)**

#### **K. Northeast Area Study Update**

The Northeast Area Study (NEAS) was completed in FY 2014. The study evaluated land use and transportation issues in the northeastern section of CAMPO's planning area. The study covered parts of Wake and Franklin Counties, and the municipalities of Knightdale, Wendell, Zebulon, Bunn, Rolesville, and parts of Wake Forest, Youngsville and Franklinton. As with the Southwest Area Study in FY 18 and 19, the NEAS needs to be updated in order to prepare for the 2050 MTP. The update will involve extensive public outreach, and an evaluation of transportation projects, policies and priorities that may have evolved or shifted since the original study.

Stantec was selected as the top scoring consultant and approval of moving forward with the contract was approved at the Executive Board in January. Notice to proceed was issued to Stantec in February and the first Core Technical Team (CTT) meeting was held on March 10, 2020. A project work plan and public participation plan have been developed. The website with an interactive map for identifying issues/points of interest, as well as a survey, is active at [www.neasupdate.com](http://www.neasupdate.com). The Stakeholder Oversight Team (SOT) has been contacted with an invite to participate including information on the NEAS Update such as the website, survey, and interactive map used to identify points of interest or issues. Nine small group stakeholder interviews were held May 21 and 22 around a variety of topic areas with 46 attendees total. Feedback will be discussed at the next CTT/SOT meeting.

Stantec is currently working with CAMPO staff and the CTT on issues identification, analyzing existing conditions, land use scenario planning, policy recommendations, and preparing information for the next CTT/SOT combined meeting to be held on June 15. **Virtual public project symposiums have also been scheduled for Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM and Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.** The public symposiums will engage participants in discussion on what's important in the region to determine guiding principles, discuss trade-offs, and obtain feedback on identifying issues in the area. The project timeframe is anticipated to go through June 2021.

**(Staff Contact: Brandon Watson)**

#### **L. Bus on Shoulder Study**

CAMPO is partnering with DCHC MPO, NCDOT and GoTriangle to conduct a regional evaluation of potential expansion of the Bus on Shoulder System currently operated on I-40. Procurement to select a

consultant to lead the study is currently underway, and the study is expected to begin in July 2020. The study will evaluate current Bus on Shoulder operations against best practices from peer regions, and will recommend methods to evaluate and prioritize future Bus on Shoulder projects in the Triangle and across the state. Recommendations from the study are expected in June 2021. **(Staff Contact: Shelby Powell)**