

# -INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PROJECT UPDATES

May 2021

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### Safe Routes to School Update

The SRTS Subcommittee met on Friday, March 12, 2021. Items discussed included creating opportunities to merge SRTS Walk Audit processes and NCDOT's Road Safety Audit processes, developing a baseline crossing guard inventory, receiving the current LAPP schedule, and obtaining an update concerning COVID Relief Funding that is available to CAMPO. The next meeting is scheduled to occur on Friday, June 25, 2021. **(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)**

### 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. 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.

The annual FY 22 Request for Proposals for the Triangle TDM Program was released in February and applications were due on March 12, 2021. 18 applications were received and the Oversight Committee has been meeting to review applications. Notice of award to applicants is expected in late May. The RFP and all documents can be found on the Triangle TDM Program website at: <https://www.tjcog.org/programs-land-use-transportation/transportation-demand-management>.

TJCOG also began updating the Triangle TDM Plan in 2019. The intent was 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 served as the lead consultant for NCDOT's Statewide TDM Program providing technical assistance for TJCOG's Triangle TDM Update work. In 2019, several peer reviews and focus group surveys with TDM stakeholders were held, and a technical assistance report was submitted to TJCOG who then presented the TDM Plan Goals Update to the TCC and Executive Board. The plan update is currently on hold due to NCDOT funding issues and COVID impacts. . However, the Oversight Committee has been working on a logo and branding effort, as well as integrating equity into the application process for TDM programs in line with proposed recommendations from the update. **(Staff contact: Brandon Watson)**

### Triangle Bikeway Implementation Study

The project team has used this quarter to work on technical design alignments and integrating public input into potential recommendations. The Study team is anticipating the next round of public engagement to occur this spring, starting with an updated website and new survey on June 11. The Triangle Bikeway Working Group will meet on June 17 at 2:00 pm; and the public meetings for the project will be held on June 29 at 12:00 pm and 5:00 pm. Anticipated project completion is December, 2021. **(Staff contact: Kenneth Withrow)**

## 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 in North Carolina. Both quarterly and annual reports are publicly available at:

<https://itre.ncsu.edu/focus/bike-ped/nc-nmvdp/>. **(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)**

## Mobility Coordination Committee

Given the complexity of our regional transportation system and the various types of mobility management programs that can be implemented, the MCC members recommended hiring a consultant to assist with the mobility management program development and implementation. CAMPO will conduct a Mobility Management Program (MMP) Implementation joint study, in partnership with Wake County, the City of Raleigh, and the Town of Cary, per CAMPO's FY22 UPWP (to be amended to include Raleigh and Cary). The Request for Proposals was issued for the phased approach study to collect proposals from 4/9/21 to 4/30/21. Phase I includes the review and analysis of existing regional studies, plans and programs, the impact of the mobility management program on each existing program as well as a recommendation regarding hiring a potential regional mobility manager. Phase I would also include the drafting of a high level "white paper" identifying benefits and challenges a MMP may create, best practices and a peer review, Board presentations and development of an Interlocal Agreement for agencies able to participate in Phase II which is the actual implementation of the mobility management program, operational details and public outreach strategy. The working sub-committees met last on June 4th and updated the full MCC committee at the quarterly April 22nd meeting. (April subcommittee meetings were cancelled due to staff workloads.) Next subcommittee meetings are scheduled for July 7<sup>th</sup>. Staff plans to have the consultant on board to participate in the July 22<sup>nd</sup> MCC Quarterly meetings. Periodic updates to the Wake Board of Commissioners, TCC/TPAC and the CAMPO Executive Board and other boards will be provided including schedule and workplan updates. As such staff provided an MCC update to the TCC and Exe. Board in May. Information on the MCC's work is on the CAMPO website: <https://www.campo-nc.us/about-us/committees/mobility-coordination-committee> **(Staff Contact: Crystal Odum)**

## NCDOT Highway Project U-2719 – Updates

For the Blue Ridge Road and Hillsborough Street intersection, closure of Blue Ridge Road has been pushed back until after the fair in 2021. There will be utility relocation and road work to prep for that closure. Current sections of the project expected to be on the long-term timetable schedule are the I-440 Westbound Off Ramp to Wade EB (Long Term Detour), and the I-440 EB Exit to Western Blvd Loop. The I-440 Westbound shift to median between Jones Franklin Road and I-440/Walnut Interchange, and the I-440 Eastbound Off Loop to Jones Franklin Road are currently under construction for a period of nine months.

## New Traffic Patterns

## 1. Full Closure of I-440

At this time, the project manager is sending me weekly updates for daytime and nighttime closure. For Friday, June 4 nighttime closures along I-440 will occur on westbound I-440 between Western Blvd to Athens Drive; along with left and right shoulder closure on Western Blvd ramp to eastbound/westbound I-440. Daytime closures along I-440 on Saturday, June 5 will occur at eastbound Western Blvd right turn lane from the eastbound I-440 exit ramp to Chaney Rd. Further details about the projects 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)

## Northeast Area Study Update

The initial Northeast Area Study (NEAS) was completed in FY 2014 and needed to be updated in order to prepare for the 2050 MTP, so the NEAS Update began in early 2020. It has been evaluating land use and transportation issues in the northeastern section of CAMPO's planning area. The study covers parts of Wake and Franklin Counties, and the municipalities of Knightdale, Wendell, Zebulon, Bunn, Rolesville, Wake Forest, Youngsville, Franklinton, and part of Raleigh.

Stantec has been working as the NEAS Update lead consultant and study outputs include: public engagement planning and implementation, development of guiding principles, Stakeholder Oversight Team (SOT) working sessions regarding scenarios for both transportation and land use, deficiency analyses, data collection and modelling, coordination with local staff and NCDOT through the Core Technical Team (CTT), and more. Unique aspects include a set of hotspot evaluations and conceptual design work, as well as an updated policy guidebook. An initial round of public engagement occurred over three months in the summer of 2020. Utilizing that and the technical analyses, draft recommendations were released in February 2021 for roadway, bike/ped, and transit improvements. Recommended improvement projects have now been placed into near-, mid-, and long-term buckets using feedback received through the second public engagement period that ended on March 10, 2021.

The second round of public engagement included a virtual tent to explore the recommendations through an interactive map, as well as an online survey, all of which are closed but still able to be viewed on the website. Final recommendations and a summary of the public feedback was shared with the CTT in March and the SOT in April. Final recommendations and workbooks have been posted and the final round of board briefings are going on through the summer seeking endorsement. The project will wrap up going to the TCC and Executive Board in August, seeking endorsement of the NEAS Update for use in future long range planning including the 2050 MTP development. Visit [www.neasupdate.com](http://www.neasupdate.com) for more information. (Staff Contact: Brandon Watson)

## 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. The Study will also look for opportunities to enhance the North Carolina rules and guidelines for using Bus on Shoulder in other parts of the state. The consultant team has conducted an evaluation of the study corridors against performance metrics and is developing an implementation strategy and updated public messaging. The study is largely complete, with the Executive Summary currently under development. Final recommendations from the study, as well as presentations to the TCC and Executive Board, are expected in June 2021. **(Staff Contact: Shelby Powell)**

### Western Wake Traffic Signal System Integration Study

CAMPO recently completed the Triangle Region ITS Strategic Deployment Plan Update, which included the need for interoperable signal systems across jurisdictional boundaries leading to a goal of regionalized intelligent transportation systems (ITS) including coordinated signal systems. In January 2021, CAMPO began a study to regionalize ITS systems, including integrating traffic signal systems from multiple jurisdictions into one signal system.

Recommendations will include guidance and implementation step details to be fit for use in other areas across North Carolina where regional ITS signal system integration efforts would be applicable. Exult Engineering was selected as the lead consultant. The study is centered on the Western Wake area, coordinating with NCDOT and the Towns of Apex, Cary, Fuquay-Varina, Holly Springs, and Morrisville. The project team is finishing up compiling signal system data from each municipality, a peer review of similar regional ITS integration efforts, the integration guidebook outline, and a Core Technical Team and Study Oversight Team meeting were both held in May. The project is anticipated to be completed by June 2022. **(Staff Contact: Brandon Watson)**

### US 401 Corridor Study

CAMPO has begun a study that will cover the US 401 Corridor from generally US 421 in Harnett County north to Banks Road in Wake County. For the purpose of this study, the corridor will be divided into three segments that enable the study team to focus on the requirements of each segment individually. The following extents for the three segments are:

- US 401 Fuquay-Varina Bypass
- US 401 - Fuquay-Varina @ Banks Road to the Harnett/Wake County Line
- US 401 - Southern Section – Harnett/Wake County Line to Lillington

The first Stakeholder Oversight Team meeting was held on Tuesday, March 16, at 1:30pm and received information about current project work upcoming outreach to the community in preparation for the first public meeting. Along with conducting a virtual public meeting on the project as of March 25, citizens were encouraged to complete a project survey; which concluded on April 19, 2021.

The second phase of the project (Developing Solutions) already underway and will continue into the month of August, 2021. [www.US401CorridorStudy.com](http://www.US401CorridorStudy.com) **(Staff Contact: Kenneth Withrow)**

## Wake Transit Plan Implementation Updates

### 1) Wake Transit Community Engagement Policy Update

The adopted Wake Transit Public Engagement Policy is currently being updated to streamline engagement requirements for Wake Transit-funded projects and program-level planning and to clarify the roles and responsibilities of involved agencies. The draft Wake Transit Community Engagement Policy was made available for public comment through April 5, 2021. It is anticipated that the TCC and Wake Transit governing boards will consider taking action to adopt the updated Community Engagement (CE) Policy at their respective August regular meetings. General project information is posted online at: <https://goforwardnc.org/wakeinput/>. **(Staff Contact: Stephanie Plancich)**

### 2) Wake Transit Performance Tracker

CAMPO is tasked with developing an online Wake Transit Performance Tracker. In May 2020, CAMPO executed a contract with WSP for support in bringing two components of the online resource to fruition.

1. Interactive project map that will put the investment information contained in the annual Wake Transit Work Plan into a visual, searchable format. Users will be able to see detailed information on Wake Transit-funded service and infrastructure projects that have been completed, are underway or are planned for future years.
2. Graphic-driven dashboard that will display progress toward reaching Wake Transit program goals. The elements of the dashboard are intended to reflect programmatic goals set in the Wake Transit Plan, Bus Plan and other adopted materials.

June through December of 2020 was focused on planning and development activities. A beta test period occurred in late May and early June of 2021, and the full-scale community launch of the new tool is planned for July of 2021. **(Staff Contact: Stephanie Plancich)**

### 3) Wake Transit Art Funding Eligibility Policy

In response to TPAC member interest in having the ability to use Wake Transit funds for art and culture elements at transit facilities, the TPAC has requested that an Art Funding Eligibility Policy be drafted for its consideration. With the support of an Art & Culture Workgroup led by City of Raleigh staff and the TPAC Budget & Finance Subcommittee, it is anticipated that the draft will be considered by the TPAC, TCC and Wake Transit governing boards in the late summer of 2021. **(Staff Contact: Bret Martin)**

## NC 540 Bonus Allocation Projects

The [selected NC 540 Bonus Allocation projects](#) were adopted by the CAMPO Executive Board in April 2020 and have been programmed in the TIP and STIP. Three initial projects have been identified in the TIP and STIP with Bonus Allocation (BA) funding and are currently under the

initial preliminary engineering stages within NCDOT:

**HL-0006** Realign Hilltop Road to Lake Wheeler Road on new location, convert US 401 to superstreet from Lake Wheeler Road to Hilltop Needmore Rd: Project one of two regional-tier projects selected for BA funding. Original anticipated cost \$15m. Project has been assigned to firm VHB for planning and engineering tasks. An updated cost estimate from NCDOT increases the anticipated cost for the project to \$21.3m, not including preliminary engineering costs. This additional budget will be compensated with the \$10m in contingency funds set aside in the adopted BA list of projects. *If the total cost of projects exceeds the entire source of BA funds, additional costs will come out of the CAMPO STBGDA allocation (traditionally utilized under the Locally Administered Projects Program (LAPP)).* NCDOT Mobility & Safety has agreed to contribute HSIP funds to this project in order to extend the limits through the Dwight Rowland Rd. intersection on US 401.

**HL-0007** Construct a grade separation at the at-grade intersection of NC 55 and Technology Drive: Project two of two regional-tier projects selected for BA funding. Original anticipated cost \$30m. Project has been assigned to firm Meade & Hunt for preliminary engineering activities. The traffic analysis currently underway.

**HL-0008** Preliminary Engineering for various intersection improvements to be funded through CAMPO Bonus Allocation funding: This STIP and TIP ID will be used to fund the preliminary engineering activities on the intersection improvement projects identified for the division-level BA funding (\$45m). Once a project has graduated from the preliminary engineering phase, the project will receive an individual TIP and STIP ID and will be tracked as a standalone project. NCDOT's Division 5 has started the preliminary engineering on the first handful of projects on the Division-level intersection improvements list. Once Division 5 has completed PE on these projects, they will start PE on the next handful of projects. The intention is to go as far down the intersection improvements list as possible with the available \$45m. Note: these projects could increase or decrease in scope based on further analysis completed by NCDOT. The projects currently in the initial PE phase are:

- HL-0008A (Lake Wheeler Rd. at Ten Ten Rd.)
- HL-0008B (Kildaire Farm Rd. at Penny Rd.) **Project deemed not necessary after further discussions with NCDOT. Project removed from list.**
- HL-0008C (NC-50 (Benson Rd) at Timber Dr.)
- HL-0008D (Holly Springs Rd. at Sunset Lake Rd.)
- HL-0008E (Main St. at Holly Springs Rd.) **Project funded through LAPP and therefore will not use BA funding.**
- HL-0008F (Old Stage Rd. at Ten Ten Rd.)
- HL-0008G (Lake Wheeler Rd. at Hilltop Needmore Rd.)
- HL-0008H (Lake Wheeler Rd. at Simpkins Farm Ln.)
- HL-0008I (Old Stage Rd. at Rock Service Station Rd.)
- HL-0008J (NC 50 (Benson Rd.) at Rand Rd.)
- HL-0008K (NC 42 at Hilltop Rd)
- HL-0008L (Ten Ten at Bells Lake Rd)
- \*NC 50 at Steven Oaks Rd was on list but will have the westbound right turn lane constructed as part of Complete 540 project and left turn lane deemed not needed.

**(Staff Contacts: Gretchen Vetter & Alex Rickard)**