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*As we settle into 2020, the CAMPO Team is anticipating a busy year ahead in our continued partnership to improve the region's transportation network. Below you will find a few announcements for meetings and deadlines, work plans for 2020, and a look back at some of our 2019 accomplishments. Please feel free to reach out to [MPO staff](#) with any questions, and to share any of this information with your networks.*

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## JANUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Two Executive Board Meetings this month

- Regular Executive Board Meeting - Wednesday, **January 15** at 4 p.m.
- Joint Meeting of the Capital Area and Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO Boards – Thursday, **January 30** at 9 a.m., at Apex Town Hall

### MPO 101

Training for local officials and staff on Friday, [February 21](#) at 8:30 a.m.

### NCAMPO Call for Presentations (due Jan. 17)

Innovation, Information, and illumination are all on tap for the 2020 N.C. Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NCAMPO) Conference. Submit presentation ideas by **January 17**, 2020. The 2020 NCAMPO conference will be **April 22-24** in Greenville, N.C.



### PARTNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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1. NCDOT Bicycle Helmet Initiative
2. Transportation Summit
3. Mobi Award Submissions
4. Watch for Me NC
5. NC Comprehensive State Rail Plan Update
6. NC Moves 2050
7. EPA's Diesel Emission Reduction Program

## LOOK AHEAD AT 2020

Several transportation planning efforts will be continuing or starting this year. We will work to keep you updated with quarterly updates, but please feel free to reach out to MPO staff anytime for any of these. Read the latest from CAMPO on Census 2020, development of the 2050 MTP, highlights of some upcoming projects, and more on our [Look Ahead to 2020 webpage](#).

**LET'S GET TO WORK!**

## LOOK BACK AT 2019

It's that time of year when we are reminded that, "Time waits for no one". From setbacks like project delays to accomplishments such as new policies supporting the inclusion of sidewalks and bike facilities in roadway projects, take a [look back with us at 2019](#).

### GOOD TO KNOW:

- The [Technical Coordinating Committee](#) and [Executive Board](#) meet monthly.
  - TCC is the 1st Thursday at 10 a.m.
  - Executive Board is the 3rd Wednesday at 4 p.m.
- Board Meeting Agendas, Approved Minutes, and the **full meeting slideshow presentations** can be found at [www.campo-nc.us](http://www.campo-nc.us).
- The CAMPO Office will be closed on Monday, January 20, 2020 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



#### Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

**Mail:** One City Plaza 421 Fayetteville Street Suite 203 Raleigh, NC 27601

**Website:** <http://www.campo-nc.us> **Telephone:** (919) 996-4400

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# News & Announcements

## NCAMPO Call for Presentations

Innovation, Information, and illumination are all on tap for the 2020 N.C. Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NCAMPO) Conference. [Submit presentation ideas](#) by January 17, 2020. The conference will be April 22-24 in Greenville, N.C.

## NCDOT Announcements

- Applications for [NCDOT Bicycle Helmet Initiative](#) due Jan. 6. To reduce bicycle injuries and deaths, NCDOT is encouraging groups to apply for free bicycle helmets to be distributed at safety events to underprivileged children and low-income adults.
- N.C. [Transportation Summit](#) - January 8-9 at Raleigh Convention Center
- [Mobi Award](#) Submissions due Jan. 10. The Mobi Awards recognize multimodal projects that connect communities, create jobs, spark economic development and enhance quality of life. Nominations can be made by any N.C. city, town, county, metropolitan planning organization, rural planning organization, public transportation system/authority, airport authority, college, university or council of government. Entries should describe a transportation project that was completed within the last five years (or put into operation/service within that time period) and projects must combine two or more of the following modes of transportation: transit, bicycle/pedestrian, rail, aviation, ferry or highway.
- [Watch for Me NC](#) Program Applications due Jan. 31. Communities may apply to NCDOT for this nationally-recognized program that focuses on bicycle and pedestrian safety, education and enforcement. Communities selected to participate will receive free law enforcement training, technical assistance and safety tools provided by NCDOT and the UNC Highway Safety Research Center.
- NC Comprehensive State Rail Plan Update – Feedback Needed: The Comprehensive State Rail Plan helps identify needs and guides investments in North Carolina's freight and passenger rail network for the next 25 years and is currently being updated. Read more on the [project webpage](#) and provide your thoughts on the Update via the [online survey](#).
- NC Moves 2050 Feedback Needed by Feb. 14 via [Online Survey](#): NCDOT is conducting a two-year, multi-phased study that involves examining all aspects of North Carolina's transportation system, collecting data and information about its performance and anticipated challenges in the future and engaging the public to capture thoughts and ideas about the state's biggest challenges in the future.

## U.S. EPA Announcements

Deadline February 26: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is excited to announce the upcoming availability of approximately \$44 million in [Diesel Emission Reduction Program](#) (DERA) grant funds to support projects aimed at reducing emissions from the nation's existing fleet of older diesel engines. Under this competition, the DERA program is soliciting applications nationwide for projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions and exposure, particularly from fleets operating in areas designated by the EPA Administrator as poor air quality areas. On January 14, there will be a webinar to help potential applicants learn more about program details, changes from last year's RFA, who is eligible for the grants, what projects can be funded, how to apply, etc.

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## Look Ahead for 2020

Several transportation planning efforts will be continuing or starting in the year 2020. Staff send quarterly updates ([subscribe](#)), but please reach out to [MPO staff](#) anytime with questions or comments.

## Census 2020

The census will officially begin in April, but much planning has been ongoing for the past several months and public outreach is ramping up. In addition to providing important data on the demographics across all pockets in our community, the census is also used to update MPO boundaries, and therefore membership, every ten years.

## Strategic Planning Phase I

The Census outcomes present an opportunity to review and update [CAMPO's strategic plan - 2014](#). The update process will kickoff in 2020 and is anticipated to be complete in 2021.

## Development Begins on the 2050 MTP

Work continued thru 2019 to update the region's transportation forecasting model, known as the Triangle Regional Model (TRM). In 2020, CAMPO, along with the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO, will begin the public facing development of the Triangle region's long-range transportation plan, known as the [2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan](#) (MTP). Highlights include

- Forecasting and sharing estimates for growth and future traffic volumes,

- Setting overall goals for the 2050 MTP, and,
- Beginning to prioritize projects to keep, shift, or add to the draft 2050 MTP list.

Unique email updates will be sent as the MTP Update development moves forward.

## Transportation Planning Efforts

- Finalize [Transportation Demand Management \(TDM\) Plan Update Goals](#)
- Completion of 3 Technical Studies: 1) [R.E.D. Lanes Study](#), 2) [ITS Deployment Plan Update](#), and 3) [Commuter Corridors Study](#) (final report posted online soon)
- Completion of [Fayetteville/Raleigh Passenger Rail Study](#)
- Kickoff of [Northeast Area Study Update](#)
- Kickoff of [Triangle Bikeway Implementation Study](#)
- Update of the [Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan](#)

## Wake Transit Plan Implementation

- [Wake Transit Work Plan FY 2021 Development](#) - This is the work program that is developed annually for the Wake County Transit Plan (adopted in 2016).
- [Wake Transit Plan 2020 Update](#) - CAMPO is managing the project to update the Wake Transit Plan. As a 10-year plan, this update will extend from the original plan's outlook of 2027 by three years to 2030.

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## Look Back at 2019

### Project Delays – NCDOT

A number of state and local transportation projects were placed on hold in late 2019 due to funding constraints.

NCDOT has an updated status list on their [projects website](#).

### Complete Streets Policies

This past summer, CAMPO passed a resolution in support of the inclusion of Complete Street elements in projects. In August, the N.C. Board of Transportation adopted an updated Complete Streets Policy, and, following that, Sec. Trogden released an Implementation Guide. You can find information on both on our [Complete Streets Initiative](#) webpage.

## Completion of the Southwest Area Study Update

To achieve more robust public engagement and detailed focus on specific network issues, CAMPO conducts area studies. Outcomes and recommendations inform the long-range transportation plan that is updated every 4 years (the [MTP](#)). The Southwest Area Study Update evaluated the multi-modal network and land use scenarios in and around southwestern Wake County, northern Harnett County, and the municipalities of Angier, Apex, Fuquay-Varina and Holly Springs. The [Final Report](#) was endorsed by the Executive Board in August of 2019.

## Wake County Safe Routes to Schools

The Wake County Model Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Project completed its fourth year and was originally slated to wrap up in 2019. This John Rex Endowment-funded effort was aimed at improving child pedestrian safety in the county by increasing understanding of and support for SRTS programs, policies, and practices. As of the end of 2019

- Three municipalities (Cary, Fuquay-Varina, and Knightdale) had installed their grant-funded infrastructure improvements near their model school,
- The Wake County Public Schools System adopted a wellness policy encouraging walking and biking to school and revised their guidelines for new/renovated school sites to give more clear direction on safe pedestrian access, and,
- In May, Wake County Human Services was awarded a Safe Routes to School Non-Infrastructure Grant through NCDOT. This grant enables the county to continue supporting SRTS work for the next three years (2019 – 2022). CAMPO's [Safe Routes to School Subcommittee](#) will continue to work with the Wake program team, as well as other regional partners, on various SRTS projects in the year ahead.

## Repeal of the Rescission!

A mandatory rescission (cancellation) was attached to over \$7 billion of federal transportation funds nationwide, and was slated to take effect in 2020. Referred to as the Federal Rescission, it could have disrupted important transportation infrastructure investments in North Carolina, and specifically within several CAMPO area municipalities. However, in November of last year, Congress passed a resolution and the President signed it into law, that included language to repeal the rescission - effectively cancelling the "takeback" of funds. CAMPO staff continue to monitor federal actions closely and work with NCDOT to determine impacts from this potential rescission, and any others in the future.

## Completion of the Technical Triangle Strategic Tolling Study

This [study](#) was technical in nature and primarily involved data collection. It will inform the 2050 MTP development process.

## Wake Transit Plan Implementation

Work continued with planning for major improvements like Bus Rapid Transit and Commuter Rail, as well as the rollout of additional bus routes across the region. Check out the highlights from 2019 on the [GoForwardNC](#) website.