

# WAKE COUNTY TRANSIT PLAN

## Transit Planning Advisory Committee

TPAC Regular Monthly Meeting via WebEx • October 18, 2023 • 9:30am-12:00pm

### Minutes

**I. Welcome and Introductions** (David Eatman, TPAC Chair)

TPAC Attendance		PM= Primary Member, VA= Voting Alternate, OA= Other Alternate, MG= Meeting Guest									
Agency/Org	Name	PM	VA	OA	MG	Agency/Org	Name	PM	VA	OA	MG
Chair/Raleigh	David Eatman	1									
Vice Chair/Wake Co	Akul Nishawala	1				Morrisville	Caleb Allred	1			
Apex	Katie Schwing	1				Morrisville	Danielle Kittredge			1	
CAMPO	Shelby Powell	1				NC State University	Andrea Neri	1			
CAMPO	Ben Howell	1				Raleigh	David Walker		1		
CAMPO	Stephanie Planchich				1	Raleigh	Het Patel			1	
CAMPO	Evan Koff				1	Raleigh	Shavon Tucker			1	
CAMPO	Suvir Venkatesh				1	Raleigh	Melanie Rausch				1
CAMPO	Crystal Odum				1	Raleigh	Ben Bruster				1
Cary	Kelly Blazey	1				Raleigh	Logan Healy				1
Cary	Christine Sondej	1				Raleigh	Sylvia Greer				1
Cary	Kevin Wyrach			1							
Cary	Mark MacDougall				1	Wake County	Tim Gardiner	1			
Fuquay-Varina	Allyssa Holman		1			Wake County	Akul Nishawala	1			
GoTriangle	Michelle Peele	1				GoWake	Anita Davis-Haywood				1
GoTriangle	Jennifer Hayden	1				Wake Forest	Emma Linn	1			
GoTriangle	R. Curtis Hayes			1		Zebulon	Catherine Farrell	1			
GoTriangle	Steve Schlossberg			1		HDR	Bill Gilmore				1
GoTriangle	James Carter				1	AECOM	Nathan Spencer				1
GoTriangle	Scott Thomas					Kimley-Horn	Betty White				1
GoTriangle	Jessica Perkins										
GoTriangle	Paul Black				1						
GoTriangle	Paul Kingman				1						
Holly Springs	Chris Garcia	1									
Knightdale	Andrew Spiliotis	1									

**II. Adjustments to the Agenda** - None

**III. General Public or Agency Comment** – None

## TPAC ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

### IV. Adoption of TPAC Meeting Minutes

(Action Item: David Eatman, TPAC Chair) **Attachment A**

**Motion** to adopt the September 2023 TPAC meeting minutes made by Michelle Peele. Second by Caleb Allread. Passed.

## PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING ITEMS

### V. Discussion of purpose and Need for NCDOT FAST 2.0 Study

(Information Item: Nick Morrison, MCDOT, 20 minutes)

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, the TPAC's Program Development (PD) Subcommittee reviewed the submitted FY2024/Q2 Amendment Requests. One request, submitted by Wake County, is a request to allocate Wake Transit funds in support of NCDOT's proposed Fast 2.0 Study. Members asked several questions about the project's scope, purpose and need and specific benefit to Wake Transit partners. Answers to the questions were not known at that time. It was requested by the PD members that, prior to any action taken by the TPAC to recommend funding of the request, the members receive a presentation addressing their questions. Staff at NCDOT will provide a presentation and do their best to answer member questions with what is known at this time. It is early in the scoping process with WSP, so many details are still being discussed.

NCDOT Intermodal Division (IMD) staff provided the Freeway, Arterial, Street and Tactical (FAST) Transit Priority Infrastructure Study overview to TPAC members as requested. After providing an overview of the IMD priorities, Nick Morrison dove into the project specific information. The 1<sup>st</sup> two slides (below) compare the 2021 FAST study with the scope for FAST 2.0.

[ncdot.gov](http://ncdot.gov)

### Triangle Region Freeway, Arterial, Street & Tactical (FAST) Transit Priority Infrastructure Study (2021)

- Original study completed in 2021
- Partnership with local governments, the regional business community, regional planning bodies, and regional transit providers
- FAST (1.0) Objectives:
  - Develop and illustrate an example regional FAST network
  - Create a guidance framework for quickly implementing transit advantages for communities
  - Help institutionalize transit priority measures in the statewide planning and development process.



### FAST 2.0 Overview

- Formulate a regional vision, goals and brand for transit and mobility
- Accelerate the implementation of Freeway, Arterial, Street, and Tactical (FAST) transit priority infrastructure – Make our freeways and regional boulevards “transit ready.”
- Evaluate potential BRT corridors & connections to RDU Airport
- Advance SMART (Systematic Management of Adaptable Roadways through Technology) freeway corridors

**Freeway, Arterial, Street, and Tactical (FAST) transit** is a scalable approach for quickly integrating “transit advantage” infrastructure along the roadway system to support enhanced transit service. The “FAST” approach prioritizes transit efficiency and reliability while improving mobility for all users.

Study partners include RTA, NCDOT as the development and management staff, Cary, Chapel Hill, Durham, Raleigh, CAMPO, DCHC, Central Pines, RTP, GoTriangle, RDU Airport and five counties: Wake, Durham, Orange, Johnston, and Chatham.

### FAST 2.0 Potential Focus Strategies



Project process will be conducted in five phases: Initiation and planning, data collection and analysis, vision and brand development, actionable plan and recommendations, and endorsement. To date NCDOT has selected WSP as the consultant for the project. Scope development/refinement in November with project kick-off planned before the end of the year.

Kelly Blazey asks Nick to explain how partners are going to be involved in the scope development process once WSP is on board? Nick explained that the initial scope components were drafted by RTA with input of partners, over the summer. The scope process planned for Oct/Nov is meant to review and refine it to solidify our path

forward. She next asked about the vision and branding mentioned as part of this plan noting that Wake Transit and partners have gone through significant effort to develop a brand over the past several years. John and Nick acknowledged that this phase was not in the 1<sup>st</sup> draft description of the project but was later added to ensure it was considered as part of the process. John stated that the task is not meant to supersede existing branding. If GoForward and other Wake branding is already in place, then NCDOT can incorporate what exists.

Shelby Powell noted that CAMPO has not been kept current on this project progress, for example, they did not get looped in when the project scope was updated with the new components and definitions. She asked that they be included moving forward. She asked for a copy of the most recent scope draft. John will send that out. She also stated that a lot of related work to this project has already been done (example: red lane study, Bus on Shoulder study, BRT Extensions MIS, etc.) for our region; that a foundation already exists. She wants to ensure that Fast 2.0 is going to build upon and enhance previous work and not duplicate effort. John responded that there will be some new work, but it is expected that previous recommendations will be explored deeper for developing an implementation strategy.

Andrew Spiliotis asked about the corridor selection process and what the 3 IMD microtransit studies are that are coming up. Nick noted that the corridor selection process has not been defined, it could include some areas outside of the funding partner boundaries. John thinks there are now 6 microtransit study areas being considered. He'll get those details to share. Andrew requested that New Bern BRT extension to Knightdale be considered as a corridor in the FAST study. Nick asked for members to email corridors of interest to them to be included in upcoming planning discussions.

Michelle Peele asked for more information on what the single digital ticketing component of the study is expected to provide. Nick replied that there is interest in evaluating the feasibility of implementing a statewide ticketing solution. There are not a lot of details defined yet about how this issue and others such as TDM coordination will be scoped in FAST 2.0 but it is being looked at and discussed and will be reviewed over the next few months.

Ellen Beckman commented that she is glad NCDOT is leading this study effort and asked about endorsement of the final results; what Boards will review and be asked to endorse them. John said that they didn't know, outside of the NCDOT departments, how that process will work, but as the scoping and planning evolves, he will keep everyone updated. He did comment that they intend to include the local partners throughout the process so what comes as final recommendations should not be a surprise. Nick stated he would work with Ellen to set up a time to share this presentation with the Durham folks.

Joe Milazzo, agreed with Ellen and Shelby's previous statements, and asked Nick and John if his interpretation of FAST 2.0 as an extension of the first FAST study with an additional focus of tying the state and local transportation priorities together in one coordinated plan. They confirmed this is a good description.

Stephanie asked Nick to forward the most current scope and other supporting information to her to be forwarded out to the TPAC members. David Eatman seconded the comments made, reiterated the need for clear and continuous communication from NCDOT to all partners and thanked Nick and John for presenting.

**Requested Action:** Receive as information before considering the FY24/Q2 amendment requests.

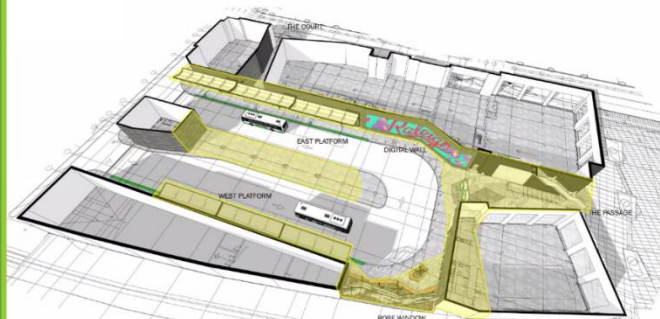
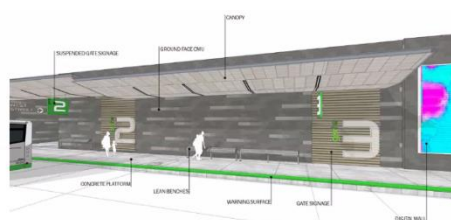
**VI. RUS Bus Progress Update Presentation**  
(Information Item: Katherine Eggleston, GoTriangle, 20 Minutes)

GoTriangle staff provided a project progress update, including information regarding the FY2024 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Amendment request for the RUS Bus project.

Shelby Powell asked if the repayment of the added funds would be handled similarly to state repayments of funds, she asked that we set up and share a repayment

### Public Project

- ❖ Ground Floor Transit Center
- ❖ Wayfinding and Accessibility Enhancements
- ❖ Street Improvements
- ❖ BRT Infrastructure
- ❖ Traffic Signal Upgrades
- ❖ Low/No Emission Rolling Stock



progress report to provide the TPAC regular updates on progress. Steve Schlossberg stated that GoTriangle will update their RUS Bus quarterly report form to include repayment progress as a unique line item to accommodate this request. He also noted that the current amount of project funds, including funds already slated for repayment to the program, are included in the financial model. It was also noted from the presentation that there are a lot of “ifs” surrounding the plan to repay the funds to Wake Transit. Katherine acknowledged that there are some unknowns at this time.

Evan Koff asked about the construction schedule to develop a strategy for how to mitigate impacts to the transit service and center since the overbuild will come after services are set to begin. Katherine said that this overlapping schedule has always been an expectation of this project. GoTriangle staff with partners are working to ensure the safety and transit mobility plan is updated, as needed, to ensure sustained transit services.

Michale James asked about the repayment plan if the current or another developer doesn’t take on the overbuild project. Katherine said that they expect the real estate market to become attractive again in the near future, but it is cool right now. It may take longer, but it is expected that a developer will take advantage of the opportunity.

**Requested Action:** Receive as information.

## VII. FY2024 2nd Quarter Wake Transit Work Plan Work Plan Amendment Requests

(Action Item: Evan Koff, CAMPO, 20 minutes) **Attachment B**

Seven (7) Wake Transit Work Plan amendment requests were submitted for consideration in the 2nd quarter of FY2024. Documentation, including more information on the nature of each request, is provided in Attachment B. Per the Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment Policy, the TPAC’s Program Development (PD) Subcommittee met on September 26<sup>th</sup> to review the amendment requests, to determine the appropriateness of changes in scope, the scope of new projects and potential financial impacts. Members unanimously voted to move six (6) of the requested amendments forward for TPAC consideration and one stipulation was assigned. The scope and financial disposition of the PD Subcommittee is also included in Attachment B.

Requests determined to be appropriate for moving forward include:

1. The proposed contract for additional safety and security services for GoRaleigh facilities.
2. The proposed creation of a Safety and Security Director position to manage the GoRaleigh's safety services.
3. The proposed change in budget to add \$10,000,000 in Wake Transit funding to the land acquisition phase of the Town of Cary's new downtown multimodal transit facility project.
4. The proposed change in budget to add \$11,000,000 in Wake Transit funding to the construction phase of GoTriangle's RUS Bus Project was deemed appropriate if that funding is returned to the Wake Transit Program by GoTriangle's current or future private development partner.
5. The proposed allocation of \$135,000 in Wake Transit funding to support NCDOT's Freeway And Street-based Transit (FAST) 2.0 Study was recommended for TPAC consideration only if the TPAC received a presentation answering member scope, purpose, and applicability questions.
6. The proposed change in budget to add \$130,000 in Wake Transit funding to the FY24 Work Plan and program an additional \$150,000 in the FY25 Work Plan for the Wake Transit Vision Plan Update.

Requests not recommended to move forward at this time:

1. The proposed request for an additional 0.5 FTE to be added to GoTriangle's Transit Plan Administration Staff, TO002-BD, did not receive a motion to move forward for consideration at this time.

The amendment requests were released for public comment from September 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Thirty-three (33) comments were received: eight (8) supportive, five (5) opposed, and twenty (20) were unrelated to the requests. See comment matrix in Attachment B.

Shelby noted recent news coverage talking about the City of Raleigh's acquisition of additional security services and asked staff to clarify how those new contracts will relate to the funds and positions being requested today, more specifically that the Wake Transit funds being requested are not going to be replacing funds the City is already spending or in process of spending. David Eatman responded that the exact details of how the enhanced security and safety measures specific to transit will be organized yet, but confirmed the Wake Transit funds being requested are to add additional security above what is already being acquired and will be focused on transit system support.

Shelby next asked for a project update presentation, similar to those received today, from Cary on the Multimodal Center, and asked for clarification on the need for a second influx of funds for parcel acquisition for the project. Kelly Blazey responded that the previous land acquisition amendment request was based on the initial parcel analysis. Since then, the in-depth appraisals have been done as well as costs for relocation. Construction for this project is anticipated to be funded in FY2026/27. The Town is conducting a Master Planning effort in FY2024 that will inform the project design phases.

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pGWVTM6?

Will Wake Transit funds contribute to any of the private components that may be identified through the Master Planning effort. Kelly clarified that no WT funds will be used for purposes other than transit improvements. She noted that the Town is also contributing \$10 Million to the project.

Michelle asked for clarification on the need to acquire 21 parcels for the project. The Master Plan will identify which of those parcels and associated relocation costs will be attributed to the transit vs private portions of the project. Michelle asked if they anticipate additional funding requests coming to Wake Transit as a result of the

Master Plan. Kelly stated that the results of the earlier feasibility study identified where the project needs to be to accommodate current and future transit modal needs. The Master Plan will look at what companion development can fit within the project area. Those additional project elements will not be funded by Wake transit.

On CAMPO’s amendment request, Michelle asked if the status of the request needs to change from major to minor with the proposed changes to the initial request and if that change would require additional public engagement. Shelby stated no extra engagement is needed because we are just merging to already reviewed scopes into one implantation element of the Work Plan. Both have been brought to the public for comment and will still be delivered as presented to them.

**Motion** to recommend approval of the FY24 2nd Quarter Wake Transit Work Plan amendment requests to the Wake Transit governing boards made by Shelby Powell. Second by David Walker. Passed Unanimously.

**VIII. Overview of Recently Adopted Durham County Transit Plan**

(Information Item: Ellen Beckman, Durham County Transportation Director, 20 minutes)

The new Durham County Transit Plan was approved in spring 2023 by the Durham County Board of Commissioners, DCHC MPO Board, and GoTriangle Board of Trustees. This was the first major revision of the plan since 2011 and the first revision since the cancellation of the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit project in 2019. The plan document and background materials can be found online at:

<https://engagedurham.com/101/Durham-Transit-Plan>. Development of the updated plan took a long time to complete. Durham County approved a transit tax first in our region.

**Requested Action:** Receive as information.

**IX. Subcommittee Update**

Subcommittee meeting agendas and materials are posted online at least 3 days before each meeting at <https://www.campo-nc.us/about-us/committees/wake-county-transit-planning-advisory-committee-tpac/subcommittee>.

Subcommittee	Program Development	Community Engagement
Chair(s)	Kevin Wyrauch, Town of Cary	R Curtis Hayes, GoTriangle
Vice Chair(s)	Shavon Tucker, City of Raleigh	Bonnie Parker, CAMPO
Next Meeting	Tues. 10/24, 1:30-3:30pm	Thurs. 10/26, 1:30-3:00pm

Shavon Tucker, PD Vice Chair, noted the 2 action items on the agenda for next week and invited members to attend if interested in those discussions.

Curtis Hayes, CE Chair, invited members to CE meetings and announced the launch of the WakeTransit.org new blog page that launched this month. It is a new resource we can use to communicate with partners and the public. Rus Bus groundbreaking is on 10/24, 10am-12pm.

**X. Workgroup Updates:** (10 mins)

- Fare Workgroup – 10/27 @10am
- Technology Workgroup – 10/19 @ 10am
- Rail/Work Plan Workgroup – Need to discuss how Rail funds will be incorporated into the FY25 Work Plan. May look at setting a meeting in next couple of months.
- Baseline Funding/MOE Workgroup – CAMPO Executive Board will take action to approve the contract for consultant support in evaluating baseline funding options at their meeting later today.
- Wake Bus Plan CTT – Discontinued *Thanks to all!*

**XI. Other Business**

- NCSU has signed the Wake Transit master participation agreement. In response to a question from Michelle Peele, Ben noted that the agreement is being finalized and will be posted/shared in the near future.
- Reminder that CFA Program required applicant training is scheduled for 10/25 @ 3pm

**XII. Adjourn**

The next TPAC meeting will be virtual on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

10/18/23 TPAC Voting Record		Action 1	Action 2
<u>Agency/Org</u>	Action Item	Approve the Septmeber TPAC meeting minutes	Recommend the FY24/Q2 Amendment to governing boards
-	Motion -> Second ->	Michelle Peele Caleb Allred	Shelby Powell David Walker
Apex	Katie Schwing	Y	Y
CAMPO	Shelby Powell	Y	Y
CAMPO	Ben Howell	Y	Y
Cary	Kelly Blazey	Y	Y
Cary	Christine Sondej	Y	Y
Fuquay-Varina	Allison Wylie	Y	Y
Garner			
GoTriangle	Michelle Peele	Y	Y
GoTriangle	Jennifer Hayden	Y	Y



<b>Holly Springs</b>			
<b>Knightdale</b>	Andrew Spiliotis	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Morrisville</b>	Caleb Allred		
<b>NC State University</b>	Andrea Neri	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Raleigh</b>	David Eatman	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Raleigh</b>	David Walker	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Rolesville</b>			
<b>RTP Foundation</b>	Travis Crayton	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Wake County</b>			
<b>Wake County</b>	Akul Nishawala	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Wake Forest</b>	Emma Linn	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Wendell</b>			
<b>Zebulon</b>			