



Wake County Transit Planning Advisory Committee

TPAC Regular Monthly Meeting • September 18, 2025 • 9:00am-11:30am

<https://campo-nc.webex.com/campo-nc/j.php?MTID=m3dda985bdba912aa6b84329974fbf41>

Meeting Code: 2539 907 5747 **Join by Phone:** 1-650-479-3208

If you need assistance to participate in this event, please email [Ms. Plancich.plancich@campo-nc.us](mailto:Ms.Plancich.plancich@campo-nc.us) or call 984-542-3601 at least 72 hours (3 business days) in advance of the scheduled meeting.

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions (Kelly Blazey, TPAC Chair)

Ms. Blazey welcomed everyone to the September TPAC meeting.

There are two (2) new TPAC members were introduced: Julien Griffee, Garner Senior Planner, new alternate voting member coming to us from Charlotte and various other agencies and Jason Hardin as the second primary voting member for GoTriangle, previous role was with Raliegh’s TOD program.

9.18.25 TPAC Attendance & Voting Record		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/Cary	Kelly Blazey	1				Wake County	Tim Gardiner	1			
Vice Chair/Apex	Katie Schwing	1				Wake County	Akul Nishawala		1		
CAMPO	Alex Rickard		1			Wake Forest	-	-	-	-	-
CAMPO	Ben Howell	1				Wendell					
CAMPO	Stephanie Plancich				1	Zebulon					
CAMPO	Steven Mott				1	AECOM	Nathan Spencer				1
CAMPO	Suvir Venkatesh				1	Raleigh - RTA	Nardra Johnson				1
Cary	Christine Sondej	1				Online Guests					
Cary	Fabian Rodriguez				1	Garner	Erin Joseph				
Fuquay-Varina	Allison Wylie		1			GoTriangle	Steve Schlossberg				
Garner	Julien Griffee		1			GoTriangle	Nedra Rodriguez				
GoTriangle	Paul Black	1				GoTriangle	Curtis Hayes				
GoTriangle	Jason Hardin	1				GoTriangle	Michelle Jeng				
GoTriangle	Austin Stanion				1	CAMPO	Crystal Odom				
GoTriangle	Kelley Smith				1	Cary	Sheri Legans				
GoTriangle	Paul Kingman				1	Cary	Mark MacDougal				
Holly Springs	Chris Garcia	1				Raleigh	Sylvia Greer				
Knightdale	Tucker Fulle				1	Raleigh	Taylor Cooleen				
Morrisville	Bret Martin		1			Raleigh	Gabe Wilkins				
NC State Univ.						Raleigh	Tierra Hobley				
Raleigh	David Walker	1				Raleigh	Mason Chamblee				
Raliegh	Het Patel		1			Raleigh - RTA	Letonia Williams				
Raleigh	Shavon Tucker			1							
Raleigh	Tracy Chandler			1							
Raleigh	Andrew Miller			1							

2. Adjustments to the Agenda - None

3. General Public or Agency Comment - None

4. FY 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)

(Information item: Steve Schlossberg: Tax District Administration, Nedra Rodriguez: GoTriangle, 20 minutes)

Link to ACFR: <https://gotriangle.community.highbond.com/document/b0bfc69b-cf46-4fe8-8bce-e99b19d7822c>

The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) provides a detailed account of GoTriangle’s financial operations and is prepared in accordance with the standards set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), as required for public sector entities. It offers insight into the agency’s fiscal condition at the close of the previous year and outlines the economic outlook for both the current and upcoming fiscal periods. The FY2024 ACFR was compiled and submitted for audit by GoTriangle’s accounting and finance team several months late so findings are now being addressed and reported. On August 20, 2025, the external audit firm Mauldin & Jenkins presented their professional opinion on the FY2024 financial statements to the GoTriangle Board of Trustees.

Ms. Rodriguez noted that the lateness of the audit was a direct result of losing all senior financial staff and waiting on the hiring process to pull the ACFR document together and address immediate change needs at GoTriangle. There were four findings identified including correcting opening balances for the year that were misstated, applying payroll FICA information in the report, and other accounting issues impacting both the FY23 and FY24 reports.

Ms. Rodriguez and Mr. Schlossberg both stated that the final ACFR is expected to be published by end of October 2025. They noted that the new state deadline for them is December 30th, but that goes against the ILA requirement that they be complete by December 15th. They plan to continue meeting the ILA deadline.

Staff contact: Steve Schlossberg, sschlossberg@gotriangle.org
Received as information.

5. Concur with Funding Strategy for Wake BRT: New Bern Ave Construction Package 2

(Action item: Het Patel, Raleigh, 10 minutes)

Mr. Patel provided an update on the Wake BRT: New Bern Avenue project. The project's construction activities were separated into three packages based on feedback received from industry day and contractor feedback through one-on-one meetings. Package 1, focusing on downtown Raleigh streets out to

Poole Road, was awarded on July 1, 2025. Package 2 was advertised for bids on July 25, 2025, with a bid opening for September 19, 2025. Staff will provide a summary of bid activities and next steps for advertising

construction Package 3 for the project

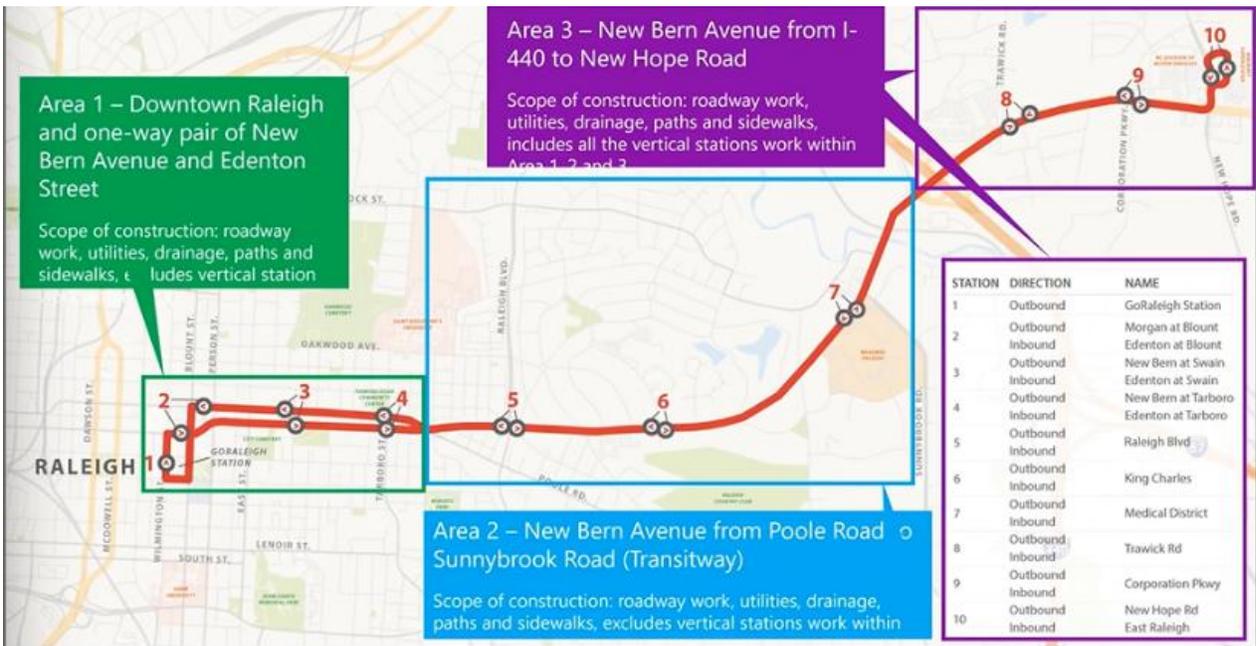
in October 2025. Staff will also provide an update on budget and contingencies utilized through awards

of Package 1 and Package 2 construction activities at the October 2025 TPAC meeting.

Mr. Patel reminded members of the current list of projects being worked

on as part of the WakeBRT network.





And then shared information about the development process noting the 10 planned stations serving the New Bern Ave corridor. He shared a timeline of New Bern development process noting that the Wake Transit funded MIS kicked off in 2018 with Raleigh as project sponsor. Entered FTA small starts development in 2019 with \$40.5 million FTA award in 2020-21. Ground-breaking was held in 2023. Have had trouble getting construction agreements in place, thus the current breaking up of the project into 3 parts. First construction award was in July 2025.

Next Mr. Patel reviewed the budget background. The total project budget estimate in 2018 was \$72M, but is now \$105.3M. To date, Raleigh has used \$7-8M of the project contingency. In order to ensure that the award for Phase 2 construction can be awarded this month, the City is requesting approval to borrow contingency money from Southern or Western Corridor for New Bern and they'll replace those funds once budgets for those projects is better known.

Staff contact: Het Patel, het.patel@raleighnc.gov

Motion was made by Paul Black for TPAC to concur with the City of Raleigh's intended use of Wake Bus Rapid Transit program contingency funds to support the Wake BRT: New Bern Avenue Construction Package 2 award, if needed. Second by Bret Martin. None opposed. Passed.

6. Review of Community Funding Area Program Management Plan Edits
(Action item: Suvir Venkatesh, CAMPO, 15 minutes) **Attachment A**

The Wake Transit Community Funding Area Program Management Plan (CFA PMP) was updated as part of the 2035 Wake Transit Plan development process. The CFA PMP outlines how the Community Funding Area (CFA) Program is structured, the application process, and performance metrics and reviews for CFA projects. The PMP was updated to include new funding and a lower local match for applicants. The CFA PMP was included in the Phase 3 public review period in May 2025, and it has also been reviewed by the Transit Plan Core Technical Committee and TPAC. It will be released for a final public review period from The PMP was presented to the TPAC in August, where an additional revision was requested

CFA PMP UPDATE

Revision Highlights

- Added Unincorporated Wake County as an Eligible area/applicant
- Lowered Local Match Requirement from 50% to 35%
- Removed funding cap on Planning/Technical Assistance Projects
 - Establish 3% Target for Planning funding each year
 - Projects still required to provide 35% Local Match
- Increased overall funding for CFA Program
 - Tripled funding from \$20M over next 10 years to \$60M
 - All CFA project funding will come from this pot of money
- Revised Scoring Criteria to account for new match requirement
- Added appendix providing options to consider in future for graduation framework
- Added clarification of process for scope and/or budget changes during Annual Review process

including a change in proposed adoption process. TPAC will review the modifications in September and is asked to release the draft for public review from September 22 – October 21, 2025. CAMPO staff then will bring the finalized CFA PMP document to the TPAC for recommendation to the Wake Transit governing boards in October.

Mr. Martin stated that he appreciated that the adjustments Morrisville requested had largely been incorporated into the final draft. Mr. Gardiner asked for clarification on how the adoption of the CFAPMP will tie in with the adoption of the 10-year Wake Transit Plan. Mr. Venkatesh replied that both plans are anticipated to be adopted by the governing boards on November 19th. CAMPO does not expect any hold-ups in adoption for either document but if something changes the TPAC will be informed.

Staff contact: Suvir Venkatesh, suvir.venkatesh@campo-nc.us

Motion to release the draft 2025 CFA Program Management Plan for public review and comment made by Tim Gardiner. Second by Bret Martin. None opposed. Passed.

7. FY 2027 Community Funding Area (CFA) Program Kickoff
(Information item: Suvir Venkatesh, CAMPO, 15 minutes) **Attachment D**

Mr. Venkatesh presented an overview of available funding amounts and the schedule for the FY 2027 Community Funding Area (CFA) Program call for projects and project selection process. He noted that the kickoff materials have been updated in anticipation of both the 2035 wake transit Plan and update CFAPMP being adopted before the call for CFA projects opens. AS discussed in the previous item this includes a lower match requirement, new geographic eligibility, updated scoring rubric and increased funding levels over the next 10 years.

Mr. Venkatesh reviewed the FY27 applicant schedule highlighting the October 29th mandatory applicant training and January 5th call for projects. The full schedule posted to the CFA Program webpage also includes dates for preliminary meetings, pre-submittal requirements and the scoring & selection processes. Suvir proposed changes to the program outlined in the updated CFA Program Management Plan.

The FY27 CFAP budget is just over \$6.5M, with \$1.9M available for new projects.

The schedule provided in [Attachment C](#) provides key dates for the ongoing management of the FY27 application cycle. For more information visit <https://www.campo-nc.us/funding/CFAP>.

AVAILABLE FUNDS	
FY 2027 CFA Program: Available Funding	
CFA PROGRAM ACCOUNTING	AMOUNT
Programmed Operating Projects in FY27 (65% match)	\$3,770,105
Amount for CFA Reserve (TO005-Z) in FY27	\$2,229,895
Carryover Amount from FY26 CFA Reserve (TO005-Z)	\$331,135
Remainder from FY25 Operating Projects (Apex/Morrisville/Wendell)	\$177,255
TOTAL FY27 CFA Fund Balance	\$6,508,390
30% Geographic Balance Cap	\$1,952,517
<i>GoWake Forest (assuming 65% match)</i>	<i>(\$1,450,287)</i>
<i>Holly Springs Microtransit (assuming 65% match)</i>	<i>(\$376,698)</i>
<i>Morrisville Smart Shuttle (assuming 65% match)</i>	<i>(\$651,739)</i>
<i>GoApex Route 1 (assuming 65% match)</i>	<i>(\$980,665)</i>
<i>GoWake SmartRide (assuming 65% match)</i>	<i>(\$310,716)</i>
Unspent (Committed) Capital Funding from Previous FY's	(\$792,340.21)
Available for new Planning, Operating & Capital Projects in FY27	\$1,945,945
3% Planning Target	\$58,378.35

Members asked if the budget displayed was based on the anticipated CFAPMP update. Mr. Venkatesh confirmed that it is, so these numbers will not match previously adopted MYOP or CIP figures. Everything should be right sized with the adoption of the FY27 Work Plan. Mr. Mott noted that the base budgets will reflect currently adopted information, so project sponsors should plan for the base budgets to change to the

35% match. Ms. Schwing suggested that sponsor create two versions so CAMPO staff can make needed updates once the new documents are adopted.

Staff contact: Suvir Venkatesh, Suvir.venkatesh@campo-nc.us
Received as information.

8. Review of the 2025 Draft Regional Transit Technology Plan
(Information item: Austin Stanion, GoTriangle, 15 minutes) **Attachment C (1-6)**

The first Regional Technology Plan was published in 2019. Emerging needs of Wake, Durham and Orange County transit operators as well as the necessity to keep up with changing technologies led to the request for an updated plan. The goals of the updated plan include developing a guidance structure that will move regional transit partners toward a more cohesive and consistent technology system which will provide transit riders with a more streamlined and user-friendly experience. The Tech Plan update process has been divided into 6 priority areas.

1. Real Time Information
2. Service Planning Tools
3. Transit Signal Priority
4. Regionally Integrated Payments
5. GTFS Coordination
6. Open Data

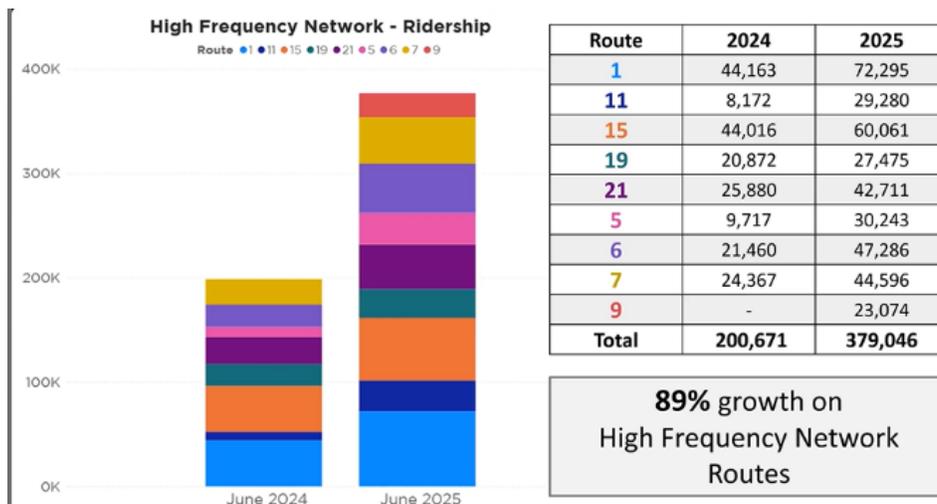
Each priority area has been assessed by the project management team and the resulting investment recommendations are being made available for public review and comment **September 22 - October 5, 2025**. Adoption of the Plan is anticipated in January 2026.

Next Steps / Key Dates	
• Public Comment Period:	Sep 22 - Oct 5
• Staff Comment Period:	Sep 22 – Oct 24
• Transit Plan Support Discussion:	Sep 30
• Final Review:	Nov 2025
• Adoption by Governing Bodies:	Jan 2026

Staff contact: Austin Stanion, astanion@gotriangle.org
Received as information.

9. GoRaleigh High Frequency Network Update
(Information item: Taylor Cooleen, Raleigh, 10 minutes)

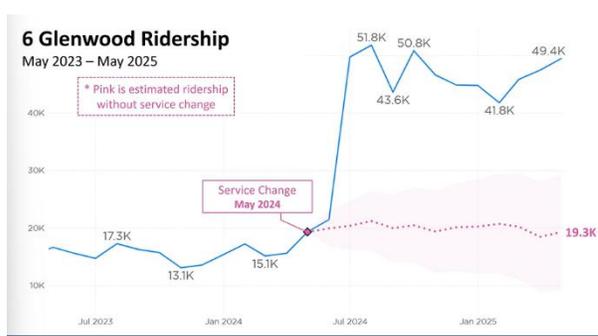
Ms. Cooleen presented on the ridership numbers of the high frequency routes funded by the Wake Transit Plan. Routes have been compared before their high frequency service change and after through forecasts based on monthly ridership data. The expansion of the high frequency network in Raleigh has increased ridership throughout the system by providing frequent and reliable mobility options. She shared that the data collected has a 95% confidence interval and is largely based on ridership data.



High Frequency Routes

- 1 Capital
- 2 Falls of Neuse*
- 5 Biltmore Hills
- 6 Glenwood
- 7 South Saunders
- 9 Hillsborough
- 10 Longview*
- 11 Avent Ferry
- 15 Wake Med
- 19 MLK/Sunnybrook
- 21 Caraleigh

Bolded routes are currently Wake Transit Funded
* Future high frequency routes as planned in Wake Transit Plan Short Range Transit Plan

Ms. Cooleen provided a performance summary of each high-frequency route. One example is Glenwood Ave where ridership estimate pre-change was \$19K, and the actual was close to \$50K riders.

Members asked if there have been less rider complaints and instances of missed connections since the higher frequency of service began. Members also asked Raleigh to continue to track the data so we can show the impact of these large investments to others. They commented that this presentation and hopefully the future customer satisfaction surveys is a great way to confirm and validate the Wake Transit investment in a larger frequent network. Ms. Plancich asked how this success story is being shared with the riders and public. Taylor noted that Raleigh has a new 15-Minute logo to market and pull attention to frequent routes, they are developing a 10-minute version also. They are presenting to groups like TPAC to share the story. Members like the 15 and 10 minute logos that can help riders identify where fast services are located.

Staff contact: Taylor Cooleen, taylor.cooleen@raleighnc.gov
Received as information.

10. TPAC 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	Emma Linn, Town of Wake Forest	Mr. Gardiner Gardiner, Wake County
Vice Chair	Tracy Chandler, City of Raleigh	Andrew Miller, City of Raleigh
Next Meeting	Tuesday, 9/23 1:30-3:30pm	September meeting is cancelled

* = Alternative Meeting Schedule

- Ms. Plancich informed the TPAC the Emma Linn was elected as the new PD Chair. She noted that the next agenda is very full so please plan to attend the entire 2-hour meeting. Mr. Mott added that the PD voted for adoption of the Operations Security Funding Policy, so TPAC will see it as an action item in October.

- Mr. Gardiner reminded members that CE in September will be cancelled. Members can expect to meet later in the year and into the new year.

11. Workgroup Updates

- Financial Policies Workgroup (pkingsman@gotriangle.org) – Shooting for an October meeting to touch base on the reimbursement process – defining and clarifying reimbursement roles and responsibilities. Working to align process with FTA for consistency. TDA staff will work to schedule a discussion in the next month or so.
- Fare Workgroup (sschlossberg@gotriangle.org) – TDA staff will also be scheduling a Fare WG meeting once 1st year TAP number are in to discuss Wake Transit contributions and reimbursements for FY27.
- Technology Workgroup (astanion@gotriangle.org) – Will continue to meet bi-weekly on Thursdays through the next couple of months. Schedule may change once the plan is adopted.
- Baseline Funding Workgroup (ben.howell@campo-nc.us) – CAMPO staff are hoping to restart the maintenance

of effort/baseline discussion in October.

12. Lead Agency Updates and Other Business

- Raleigh Union Bus Station Facility (“RUS Bus”), GoTriangle’s newly opened transit hub located in the Warehouse District, has been named a recipient of the 2025 Imprint Award on behalf of the Downtown Raleigh Alliance. The Imprint Awards celebrate development projects that make a significant impact on Downtown Raleigh’s growth, design and vitality. GoTriangle was recognized with the Imprint Award at the State of Downtown Raleigh event on Thursday, August 28. The following week. Installation of the RUS Bus art Acorn was nearing completion.
- October 4th in downtown Fuquay-Varina, Celebration event will include the launch of their new Microlink service, shifting away from the FRX service.



13. Adjourn

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 23, 2025, 9:00am

Agenda Development Schedule:	
10/1	TPAC Agenda Request email sent out by Oct 1 st .
10/10	Agenda item information and all attachments submitted
10/16	TPAC agenda packet is posted online
10/20	All presentation slides submitted (widescreen PPT)