



MINUTES

TPAC Chair: Kelly Blazey (Town of Cary)
 Vice Chair: Katie Schwing (Town of Apex)

Wake County Transit Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC) Thursday, March 19, 2026 • 9:30am

In-person at CAMPO: 1 Fenton Main, Ste 201, Cary NC 27511
 Join the Listen ONLY [Webex Link](#) Call In: 1-650-479-3208 Meeting Code: 2539 907 5747

TPAC MEETING AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions** (Kelly Blazey, TPAC Chair)
 Members and guests were welcomed to the March TPAC meeting by the Chair. Stephen Wensman, new Planning Director in Rolesville, was introduced as a new alternate voting member.

3/19/26 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	Michael James	1	-	-	-
CAMPO	Shelby Powell	1				Wake Forest	Emma Linn	1	-	-	-
CAMPO	Ben Howell	1				Wendell	Kevin McCarthy	1			
CAMPO	Stephanie Plancich				1	Zebulon	Cate Farrell	1			
CAMPO	Steven Mott				1						
CAMPO	Suvir Venkatesh				1	Online Guests					
CAMPO	Sarah Keach				1	Raleigh	Andrea Epstein				
Cary	Mark Eatman		1			Raleigh	Melanie Rausch				
Fuquay-Varina	Allison Wylie		1			Raleigh	Reese Berman				
Garner	Julien Griffee		1			Raleigh	Rachel Anderson				
GoTriangle	Paul Black	1				Raleigh	Tracy Chandler				
GoTriangle	Jason Hardin	1				Raleigh	Shavon Tucker				
GoTriangle/TDA	Steve Schlossberg				1	Raleigh	Gabe Wilkins				
Holly Springs	Chris Garcia	1				Raleigh	Dawn Souza				
Knightdale	Tucker Fulle	1				Raleigh	Sara Tromba				
Morrisville	Phillip Vereen		1			Cary	Christine Sondej				
NC State Univ.	Andrea Neri	1				GoTriangle	Kelley Smith				
Raleigh	David Walker	1				GoTriangle	Meg Scully				
Raleigh	Het Patel	1				Rolesville	Stephen Wensman				
Raleigh	Dana Smith				1	Wake County	Natalie Wilson				
Raleigh	Taylor Cooleen				1	Unknown	Kuanyu Chen				
RTF	Travis Crayton	1									

- 2. Adjustments to the Agenda –**
 Move the Holly Spring Hopper update to the April TPAC meeting.
- 3. General Public or Agency Comment - None**

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Consent Agenda:

Items listed on the consent agenda are considered as a single motion. Any voting member of the TPAC may request an item be removed from consent and acted upon as a separate motion in the regular agenda.

a. Adoption of February 19, 2026, TPAC meeting minutes

Contact: Stephanie Plancich, TPAC Administrator

Attachments: Draft January 2026 TPAC Minutes

Action: Vote to approve the consent agenda made by Het Patel. Second by Emma Linn. No comments. Passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Workgroup Modification: Request to Create a General Budget & Finance Workgroup

Steve Schlossberg, TDA • 5 minutes

Summary: TDA staff, who coordinate both the Fares and Financial Policies Workgroups, is requesting merging them into one general Budget & Finance Workgroup. The workgroup will continue to work on assigned tasks to both groups with a goal to have recommendations complete between April & August.

Attachments: Summary Sheet, Workgroup ID Worksheet with Task Schedule

Discussion: Members commented that questions about UMO or other future programs needs a home and B&F Workgroup may not be the best place for those talks. They also made clear that the workgroup should meet as needed to complete tasks on their timelines, use it like a workgroup and not like a formal TPAC subcommittee. If it starts meeting monthly or otherwise acting like a subcommittee, we should review whether bringing back the B&F Subcommittee is needed. Steve responded that he understands the concern and that the group will meet every other Friday for the next few weeks to get traction and develop recommendations for some of the most immediate tasks.

Action: Approval of the merger of the Fares and Financial Policies Workgroup into the Budget & Finance Workgroup made by Het Patel. Second by Shelby Powell. No additional discussion. Passed unanimously.

6. Workgroup Modification: Request to Discontinue the Baseline Workgroup

Ben Howell, CAMPO • 5 minutes

Summary: Staff is recommending the Baseline Workgroup be discontinued at this time – work around baseline assumptions will be ongoing through Conference Committee discussions on VRT and through the Bus Plan effort.

Attachments: Summary Sheet

Discussion: Members asked if bringing the workgroup back is an option and/or is being planned at this time. If it does get brought back, it should have a very specific task or set of tasks and timeline for developing a recommendation for TPAC and governing board consideration. Ben responded that it is likely that the workgroup may be recalled after other planned discussions, such as those involved with Bus Plan development, have taken place. He noted that few different upcoming projects will help to inform the baseline conversation. The hope is that they will help get us to a recommended path forward to approve.

Action: Approval of the proposed discontinuation of the Baseline Workgroup made by Het Patel. Second by Jason Hardin. No additional discussion. Passed unanimously.

7. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

Kelly Blazey, TPAC Chair • 1 minute

Action: Discuss and take action on any items removed from the consent agenda.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. FY 2027 Community Funding Area Project Selections

Suvir Venkatesh, CAMPO • 20 minutes

Summary: TPAC will review the project submittal and selection process and discuss the CFA Program projects recommended for inclusion in the FY 2027 Wake Transit Work Plan.

Seven (7) projects were submitted for funding consideration from Apex (4), Wendell (1) and Knightdale (2). Selection committee met February 19th. 5 of the 7 requests were recommended for funding in FY27.

Funding Recommendations- FY26 CFAP Selection Committee

Applicant	Project	Fully Fund Request?	With 10% Contingency **
Apex	Bus Stop Improvements	YES	NO
Apex	New Bus Stop Construction	YES	NO
Apex	Mobility Hub Design	NO*	NO
Apex	Mobility Solutions Study	YES	NO
Knightdale	Old Knight Rd Sidewalk	YES	NO
Knightdale	Second Ave Sidewalk	NO	NO
Wendell	GoWake SmartRide NE	YES	NO

* Project was included in FY27 Draft Work Plan and is assumed to be funded entirely through the Recommended Work Plan Funding Request process. Project will be funded through CFA Program as a backup only
 ** Program allows for 10% overage on project costs. Committee decided not to recommend this 10% overage for any project this year

Suvir noted that the Apex Mobility Hub, identified with an asterisk on the table, is not moving forward as a CFA Project, but it is moving forward as part of the Big Wake budget. This project meets a significant and time sensitive need supporting Wake Transit programmed growth and approved local transit plans. The PD Subcommittee voted to include the project as part of the FY27 Wake Transit Work Plan. TPAC will see it there during Work Plan review next month.

Members asked why we are not adding the typical 10% contingency to the budget. They asked if the project budget includes enough contingency or are we at risk for needing future amendments. Suvir responded that there is always some risk that costs will escalate and require an amendment request but, for the projects submitted this year, the selection committee felt that the contingency built into the individual project budgets sufficiently mitigated the risk.

The CFA Program projects will be included in the updated Draft Work Plan presented for TPAC recommendation in April.

Attachments: Summary Sheet, FY27 CFA Program Selection Process and Results Summary

9. FY 2026 2nd Quarter Financial Report and Status of FY25 Annual Reports

Steve Schlossberg, TDA • 15 minutes

Summary: Review of unaudited FY26 second quarter financials and update on delay with delivery of the FY25 progress report/ACFR.

Discussion: Members asked about Wake Transit advances to the RUS Bus project and status of reimbursement. Two loans were given. One came in under budget and has been paid back to the program. The \$11M provided to support the overbuild part of the project has a set timeline for repayment. If for some reason, GoTriangle cannot make the repayment, some action would have to come before the TPAC for discussion and resolution.

Steve next reminded the TPAC of the significant turnover that’s been occurring in GoTriangle’s finance department. He explained that it has been part of the reason that the ACFR completion has been running behind that last couple of years (for FY24 and FY25).

Members agreed that no formal action is required, and it was noted that GoTriangle will not be held to the December 15th ACFR and annual report deadline set in the ILA. GoTriangle will continue to update the TPAC on progress especially if they do not have the report prepared for presentation by April 2026.

Attachments: Summary Sheet, ACFR Progress Memo

10. Update on Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Extensions Concept of Operations Study

Ben Howell, CAMPO • 20 minutes

Summary: Project status update for the Bus Rapid Transit Concept of Operations study. Staff will present initial recommendations and review the BRT design guidelines.

Discussion: Planning team used the adopted BRT service levels referred to in the Wake Transit Plan as the base for the study. Guidelines are being developed in numerous categories: Station spacing and siting, facilities, roadway, technology, fleet, identity & branding, operations and stormwater & infrastructure. Early planning and contracting experience of Raleigh’s BRT staff has helped refine and inform the study.

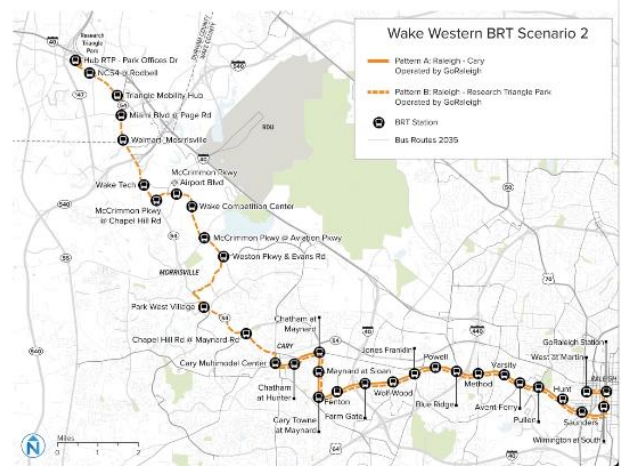
Ben reviewed the initial recommendations for branding requirements, service levels, and station placement. He explained that four (4) Western Extension scenarios and three (3) Southern Extension scenarios were evaluated and scored in 6 categories: travel time, transfer and wait times, operating costs, capital costs, other operational considerations and transit demand. All three major fixed-route transit providers were included as potential operators. GoRaleigh’s cost to operate was notably better than GoTriangle and GoCary. Each scenario has the extension being served half the amount of the core BRT corridor, In other words, every other trip will serve the extension.

Western and Southern scenario 2 options have been recommended for further development.

The study provided scalable guidance for vehicle selection, additional vehicle, frequency improvements and other upgrades over time.

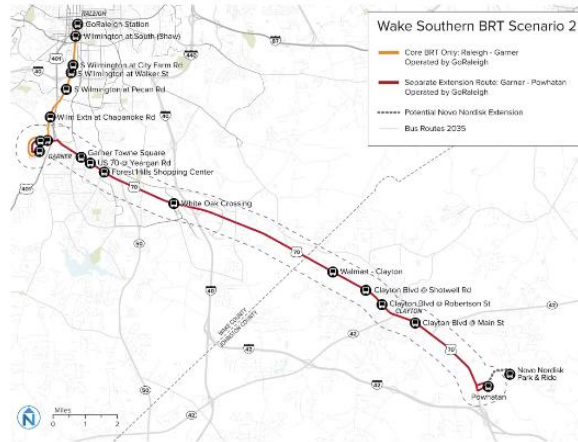
Western Extension Scenario 2

- *Operator:* GoRaleigh
- *Extension type:* Alternating Core BRT trips extend
- *Frequency on extension corridor*
 - *Weekday day:* 20 minutes
 - *Weekend day:* 30 minutes
 - *Early morning/Late night:* 40 minutes



Southern Extension Scenario 2

- **Operator:** GoRaleigh
- **Extension type:** Separate extension route
- **Frequency on extension corridor**
 - *Weekday day:* 20 minutes
 - *Weekend day:* 30 minutes
 - *Early morning/Late night:* 40 minutes



While the Western scenario was largely chosen based on rider experience and cost efficiency scores, the Southern scenario selection focused on corridor suitability and a variety of operational concerns.

The TPAC was reminder that CAMPO has been allocated STIP funds to

support the development of these two extension corridors. There is good statewide support to create this long BRT type service that spans from RTP south through Garner. Next steps in the study process are to create a detailed operating and capital investment cost model and development of funding and implementation plans. The compiled report will be made available for public review as part of the May 6th public comment period.

Members asked if the funding shown in the 2035 Wake Transit Plan financial model includes the cost for these projects. Ben confirmed that it does include both local and state allocations for capital investment and initial operating costs. The operating costs may not be enough depending on when the services get started.

Attachments: Summary Sheet, BRT Design Guidelines

11. Microtransit Service Update: Go Wake Forest

Emma Linn, Wake Forest • 10 minutes

Summary: Emma Linn provided a brief service overview noting special effort to partner with GoRaleigh and GoTriangle to ensure their community members are aware of how to utilize ADA/Paratransit access service when the local door-to-door service is insufficient to meet the needs of those individuals. Began Oct 2024, by December expanded from 3 vans to 10 vans with 2 back up vehicles.

Discussion: Members asked about how shared rides are paid for. Emma noted that they are working on that process.

Comparison from last year

Have hours changed since the service was started? They have not but there is consistent community comment that Sunday service is desired.

How are you measuring on-time performance? They use “trip within 5 minutes” standard for their internal reporting.

If you lost vehicles, would that cause a capacity issue? Yes, the Town needs 10 vehicles to meet current needs without seeing dished performance data.

What is the percentage of ADA/Paratransit trips? 3.6% or about 4200 rides.

What percent of vehicles are accessible? Currently there are 3.

Attachments: Summary Sheet

12. Presentation postponed to April.

Microtransit Service Update: Holly Springs Hopper

Chris Garcia, Holly Springs • 10 minutes

Summary: Service overview and status update for the Holly Springs Hopper which began operations on January 5, 2026.

Attachments: Summary Sheet

13. Microtransit Service Update: Fuquay-Varina MicroLink

Allison Wylie & Taylor Cooleen • 10 minutes

Summary: Service overview and status update for the Fuquay-Varina MicroLink service which began operations on January 5, 2026.

Insert few notes

This is a new Curb to Curb service that launched in January 2026 and is already exceeding expectations. They run two ADA accessible buses and the service is being operated as a free pilot program for the first year then will follow GoRaleigh's established fare structure. Service area includes 4 main zones that include the heart of downtown, both high schools, Rex hospital and the Wake Campus at the US401 and 540 interchange.

Two month totals include: 2901 completed rides, ~85% met demand rate and an average ride time of 13 minutes. Town and GoRaleigh staff are pleased with level of service and ridership, especially spanning the very cold January and February months. They have had several severe winter storm type events to contend with. Top comment from the community is when will the service be expanded. Town staff will be tracking performance and need with the intent of evaluating opportunity for growth in year 2. Some immediate staff tasks are exploring options to install bike racks on the buses and addressing connectivity gaps caused by the Wake Tech funded GoRaleigh 40X route which doesn't run all year. For example, this week, 40X is not running because it is spring break for the college. Current service hours are M-F from 6am -8 pm and Sat 7am-8pm.

TPAC member commented that GoTriangle route 311 doesn't quite get folks to Rex Hospital. If there is a way for the MicroLink and/or Hopper to work together to get riders from the end of Rt. 311 to the hospital campus and neighboring parks, it would meet a need for existing riders.

Attachments: Summary Sheet

OTHER BUSINESS

14. Subcommittee Chair Report

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>

Next Program Development (PD) Meeting: Tuesday, 3/31/26 at 1:30pm*

Next Community Engagement (CE) Meeting: Cancelled in March

Emma Linn thanked PD members for their participation in last month's work session discussion. Tim Gardiner noted that CE met twice on the task to develop a shared scope and set of reporting deliverables for engagement related work. That is complete and is moving to next steps of the TPAC process. The March meeting has been cancelled.

15. Workgroup Updates

- a. Austin Stanion – Regional Technology Update, Stephanie shared that the Regional Technology Workgroup continues to meet and effort to address TPAC/Wake Transit information is in progress. Hope to have better update from Austin in April.

16. CAMPO Lead Agency Updates

- a. Monthly Wake Bus Plan progress update. Contact: steven.mott@campo-nc.us
 - i. CTT meeting was held last Friday. Great turn out and feedback.
- b. The conference committee met and decided to exclude vehicle rental tax from the FY 2027 Work Plan. They have additional meetings scheduled to work on a future year determination.
- c. The draft FY27 Wake Transit Work Plan is out for public review through March 27, 2026.
- d. Two FY26 4th quarter Work Plan amendment requests out for public review through April 10, 2026.
- e. The Regional Technology Plan engagement period ended on March 17, 2026. CAMPO-TCC voted to recommend its adoption to the CAMPO Executive Board.
- f. Wake Transit On-Call contract, requests for proposals will be accepted through early April.
- g. CAMPO is kicking off a TSP study, the East Wake ITS Study. Contact evan.koff@campo-nc.us.
- h. CAMPO has hired a new LAPP Manager. Victoria Samayoa is the new program contact.
- i. Other CAMPO Updates?

17. GoTriangle/TDA Lead Agency Updates

- a. GoTriangle received a \$17.7 million federal Bus and Bus Facilities Program grant to support modernization and expansion of the Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility.
- b. LPA selection for the Triangle Mobility Hub will be considered by the GoTriangle board in April. CAMPO and other partner presentations will occur in May/June.
- c. GoTriangle won one of only 50 AdWheel Awards from the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) for the Raleigh Union Station Bus Facility (RUS Bus) awareness campaign in the Best Educational Comprehensive Campaign category.
- d. Service changes, including Rt 310 alignment changes and going to 15-minute service on Rt 100, go into effect on March 15, 2026.
- e. Other GoTriangle/TDA Updates?

18. TPAC Partner Updates

- a. Any news or business to share?
- b. Town of Garner public visionary workshop for their transit

ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 30, 2026 @ 9:30am

Motion to adjourn was made by Paul Black. Second by Michael James. Meeting adjourned.