

# WAKE COUNTY TRANSIT PLAN

## Transit Planning Advisory Committee

TPAC Regular Meeting • February 12, 2020

### Meeting Attendance

#### Voting Members

<b>CAMPO</b>	Chris Lukasina	<b>Town of Garner</b>	Gaby Lawlor
<b>Town of Apex</b>	Shannon Cox	<b>Town of Morrisville</b>	Ben Howell
<b>Wake County</b>	Tim Gardiner	<b>GoTriangle</b>	Erik Landfried
<b>Town of Zebulon</b>	Michael Clark	<b>GoTriangle</b>	Saundra Freeman
<b>CAMPO</b>	Shelby Powell	<b>Town of Knightdale</b>	Jason Brown
<b>RTP Foundation</b>	Hank Graham	<b>City of Raleigh</b>	Michael Moore
<b>Town of Fuquay-Varina</b>	Jim Seymour (Phone)	<b>City of Raleigh</b>	David Eatman

#### Voting Alternates

<b>Town of Cary</b>	Kevin Wyrauch	<b>Town of Holly Springs</b>	Dirk Siebenbrodt
<b>Town of Cary</b>	Christine Sondej	<b>Town of Wendell</b>	Bryan Coates
<b>Town of Wake Forest</b>	Jonathan Jacobs		

#### Other Alternates

<b>GoTriangle</b>	Mike Charbonneau	<b>City of Raleigh</b>	Eric Lamb
<b>GoTriangle</b>	Steve Schlossberg	<b>City of Raleigh</b>	Het Patel
<b>GoTriangle</b>	Sharon Chavis	<b>City of Raleigh</b>	David Walker
<b>Town of Apex</b>	Jenna Shouse	<b>City of Raleigh</b>	Andrea Epstein
<b>CAMPO</b>	Bret Martin	<b>CAMPO</b>	Bonnie Parker

#### General Attendees

<b>TPAC Administrator</b>	Stephanie Plancich	<b>CAMPO</b>	Evan Koff
<b>GoTriangle</b>	Juan Carlos Erickson	<b>GoTriangle</b>	Burgetta Wheeler
<b>GoTriangle</b>	Andy Willard	<b>City of Raleigh</b>	Ryan Boivin
<b>GoTriangle</b>	Jay Heikes	<b>HNTB</b>	Mark Huffer
<b>GoTriangle</b>	Suzanne Clyburn	<b>HDR</b>	Patrick McDonough
<b>GoTriangle</b>	Samone Oats-Bullock	<b>GoTriangle</b>	Liz Raskopf
<b>GoTriangle &amp; CAMPO Boards</b>	Will Allen	<b>Wake Up Wake County</b>	Nathan Spencer
<b>CAMPO</b>	Gretchen Vetter	<b>CAMPO</b>	Crystal Odum

Note: The TPAC presentation was uploaded to the CAMPO website the morning of the meeting so that attendees on the phone were able to follow along with the discussion as it took place. It is now saved along with the agenda at: <https://www.campos-nc.us/about-us/committees/wake-county-transit-planning-advisory-committee-tpac/archives>.

#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Shannon Cox, TPAC Chair, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

#### **II. Adjustments to the Agenda**

None

#### **III. General Public or Agency Comment**

Nathan Spencer thanked the Wake Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project team for its ongoing hard work and for achieving a medium-high rating from the Federal Transit Administration for the New Bern Avenue BRT project yesterday. He reiterated continuing support from Wake Up Wake County as all BRT corridors progress through the project development process.

**IV. Meeting Minutes** (Stephanie Plancich, TPAC Administrator)  
**Attachment A** (*Presentation Slide 5*)

Stephanie presented the draft January 15, 2020 TPAC minutes for consideration of approval.

**MOTION to approve the January 15, 2020 TPAC meeting minutes was made by Michael Clark. Second by Michael Moore. Passed Unanimously.**

**V. TPAC Subcommittee Administrative Updates** (Stephanie Plancich, TPAC Administrator)  
**Attachment B** (*Presentation Slides 6-10*)

Stephanie presented the 2020 election recommendations for the Public Engagement and Communications (PE&C) Subcommittee and the Process Subcommittee for TPAC confirmation. She also presented the PE&C draft February-July Work Task List for the TPAC to discuss and endorse.

**MOTION to endorse the draft PE&C Work task List as well as to confirm Mike Charbonneau (GoTriangle) as Chair and Andrea Epstein (Raleigh) as Vice Chair for the PE&C Subcommittee and Tim Gardiner (Wake County) as Chair and Ben Howell (Morrisville) as Vice Chair for the Process Subcommittee was made by Shelby Powell. Second by Kevin Wyrach. Passed Unanimously.**

Shannon Cox thanked Bonnie Parker, the outgoing PE&C Chair, for her years of Wake Transit support and hard work and thanked all incoming Chairs and Vice Chairs for volunteering to serve in a leadership role.

**VI. Greater Triangle Commuter Rail (GTCR) Discussion** (Bret Martin, CAMPO & Jay Heikes, GoTriangle)  
**Attachment C1 and C2** (*Presentation Slides 11-29*)

Bret Martin, CAMPO, provided a recap of the January TPAC GTCR preliminary results presentation., then walked through a more comprehensive presentation to answer questions posed by the TPAC at its January meeting. Two handouts were provided by GoTriangle: written clarifications for the questions posed, as well as a summary of the draft MOU elements that clarifies roles, responsibilities and expectations for the next phase of study referred to as “early project development activities” for commuter rail.

Discussion covered the MOU development timeline, broke down specific tasks planned to be accomplished as part of the next phase of study, clarified which and when municipalities and other organizations will be engaged in the process, and in response to TPAC comments, GoTriangle has committed to provide a written quarterly progress update to the TPAC in addition to presentations at key decision points and to report out the results at major milestones.

When asked about how other area councils and boards were receiving the preliminary results and considering the next phase of study, Jay relayed that there is some concern about the \$1.8 Billion high-end price tag, but GoTriangle is getting a consistent level of support to enter the next phase of study, which will further refine the cost assumptions and determine overall project viability.

One unique ask was for GoTriangle to host a special public informational meeting in Durham to ensure that Durham County’s public and elected officials are clear about what the Greater Triangle Commuter Rail study is and that they understand what “early project development activities” will include if approved by the appropriate Boards. It is scheduled for 11:00am, Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Durham County Health and Human Services building in downtown Durham.

Received as Information

**VII. FY20 Wake Transit Work Plan 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Amendment Request** (Bret Martin, CAMPO)  
**Attachment D** (*Presentation Slides 30-33*)

In addition to the questions answered above, the TPAC asked specific questions about funding the “early project development activities” for commuter rail. Bret provided clarity to the TPAC explaining that the \$6 million request

by GoTriangle for Wake Transit funds to support the next phase of study is based on an assumption that Wake Transit funds would cover two-thirds of the total estimated cost, with the full estimated cost for the entire corridor being \$9 million. A finalized cost-share arrangement will be determined through CAMPO's and other agencies' consideration and approval of an MOU for the next phase of study.

Bret provided a summary table to show where Wake Transit funds would be pulled from to accommodate the \$6 million-dollar Q3 amendment request if approved by the TPAC. In short, about \$5.7 million previously set aside in reserve for commuter rail alternatives refinement and project development will be applied, along with a previously approved \$333,333 allocation for network capacity modeling that will be incorporated in the next phase of study.

It was asked if there were other reserves or allocations for any part of the commuter rail project remaining that still need to be allocated to a project sponsor and pulled down for the next phase of project implementation. Bret clarified that this Q3 amendment request, if approved, would use up all relevant line items, leaving just this one, which is an "up-to" amount, for use by GoTriangle as the project sponsor.

It was noted that Wake County provided comments on the joint disposition for all Q3, FY20 Work Plan amendment requests. They were received and considered. Some language changes were made, but there was no significant impact to what was presented at the January 15<sup>th</sup> TPAC meeting, nor to the Commuter rail request being considered here.

It was asked if the Wake Transit share would be reduced if other funding partners come onboard, for example, Johnston County? The answer was "not necessarily" because the funds being requested are an up-to amount being set aside so that GoTriangle can draw down what is needed over the next 18-24 months of study. How cost savings and overruns will be processed and divided up amongst all partners will be defined in the MOU currently being drafted. There are eight (8) existing parties to the MOU. They include: GoTriangle, CAMPO, DCHC MPO, NCDOT, NCR, and Wake, Durham, and Johnston Counties.

**MOTION to recommend approval of the FY20 Work Plan 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter amendment request to fund "Early Project Development Activities for Commuter Rail" to the Wake Transit governing boards, with the condition that no funds will be spent until an MOU is executed by the appropriate Boards was made by Hank Graham. Second by Tim Gardiner. Passed Unanimously.**

After the vote, Tim Gardiner made a statement to address comments he heard that were made outside of this meeting that the TPAC was overstepping its authority by requesting answers to the questions addressed in agenda items VI and VII. He commented that he disagreed with the sentiment, stating that this level of understanding and clarity are important so the TPAC can make informed decisions since it is responsible for recommending Wake Transit funding for large-scale, regionally significant projects to the governing boards.

#### **VIII. Wake Transit Plan Vision Update Progress Report (Bret Martin, CAMPO)** *(Presentation Slides 34-48)*

The Wake Transit Plan Vision Update process has been steadily progressing through the fall and winter months. Progress is now picking up pace with the release of the commuter rail preliminary results and plans for the project's next steps. Bret reported that Tasks 1 (Refine cost/schedule for major capital projects) and 2 (Countywide transit market analysis) are substantially complete. Task three, the process to determine what, if any, financial capacity may be available for added years, 2028-2030, is the next step to be accomplished.

Mr. Martin reviewed updated cost and schedule estimates for commuter rail and bus rapid transit. He discussed the financial impact of the updates from two perspectives: change in cost based on changes to years of expenditure and changes to project characteristics. He then reviewed the composite density results from the market assessment that has been completed. The consultant team was asked to pull from the results a list of areas within the county that exhibit pockets of higher projected composite population and employment density, including those that do not currently have high-capacity transit services planned in the 2045 CAMPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Four corridors were highlighted. Along I-440 in North Raleigh, Along US 1 between Raleigh and Apex, Along I-40 from RTP to Raleigh and North of RDU airport (Brier Creek area).

It was asked how results of the next phase of commuter rail study and other area studies will be incorporated into the plan. The short answer is, they won't. The Wake Transit Plan update is a snapshot of conditions and what is known today with the information we have available now. New data, information and refined study results are always emerging. We need to cut it off at some point so that we can meet our plan completion deadline of December 2020. We did, however, push the planning schedule a couple of months to ensure that the commuter rail preliminary results could be incorporated into the assessment processes.

It was asked how and when the TPAC and local elected officials will be engaged to provide feedback to the Vision Plan update process. Bret referred to the planned touchpoints that will be developed, announced and implemented over the next few months as the best time for all interested parties to provide their feedback. Stephanie and the public engagement team will first collect prioritization input on high-level investment tradeoffs. The next step is to get input that will result in the selection of a preferred investment scenario for the added years. We will rely on TPAC members to not only participate by providing feedback, but also in disseminating the survey, event announcements, etc. out to their staff, officials and community. Representatives from TPAC member agencies will also be invited to participate in the planned core design retreats.

Received as information

**IX. FY2021 Wake Transit Work Plan: Public Engagement Progress Report** (Liz Raskopf, GoTriangle)  
(Presentation Slides 49-55)

Liz Raskopf, GoTriangle, provided a presentation on outreach and engagement progress for the FY21 Work Plan. She reminded members that the public comment period runs through February 29<sup>th</sup> and reported that, in the first week of active engagement, 32 comments were received and over 600 community organizations and individuals were invited to participate. TPAC members were asked to support the engagement effort by sharing the prepared English/Spanish materials through their local channels, to communications staff and to their elected officials.

She showed a brief video of on-site outreach events that GoTriangle staff has already held, and then summarized the top 7 public comment themes emerging so far (See slide 52). Her last two slides highlighted demographic information of participants. She noted that providing demographic data was an optional question, in response to which about 45% of respondents chose to participate. This data will be used to determine how well respondents reflect the actual demographic profile of the county and can guide future outreach planning efforts.

TPAC members thanked GoTriangle's engagement team for its efforts on this Work Plan. They commented that it feels very coordinated and appreciate the effort and the level of transparency GoTriangle is providing to the TPAC and member organizations. They recognized Liz for giving this well-organized update.

Received as information

**X. Subcommittee Chair Reports**

**Budget & Finance (B&F):** (Chair: Steven Schlossberg)

The next B&F Subcommittee meeting is on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1-3:00pm. Agenda items include: discussion of FTA apportionments and reimbursement, reworking how ADA funds will be allocated within the Wake Transit budget, and members will hear a presentation from the Fare Work Group on the progress to develop a hold harmless agreement.

**Planning & Prioritization (P&P):** (Chair: Bret Martin)

The next P&P Subcommittee regular meeting is February 25<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-3:30pm. The subcommittee had a good January meeting. Discussion will continue in February to determine a consistent process for how funds will be backed out of the Work Plan to avoid duplication of costs. The subcommittee will close the loop on the reallocation of ADA funding also going through the B&F Subcommittee. *Added note:* Go Triangle staff will lead an initial Wake Bus Plan Update scoping discussion with the P&P Subcommittee members.

**Public Engagement & Communications (PE&C):** (Vice Chair: Mike Charbonneau) The PE&C Subcommittee is scheduled to meet from 1-3:00pm on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Raleigh will give a public engagement plan overview presentation for the Western and Southern BRT corridors, and GoTriangle will present the results of the 2019 Community Attitudinal Survey.

**Process:** (Chair: Tim Gardiner)

The Process Subcommittee will set and post its next meeting date in the next week. Agenda items will include: review and recommendation of their February-July Work Task List, review of the Lead Agency Guidelines narrative pages, and will start discussing a recommendation to the TPAC for the creation of ad hoc committees to handle periodic issues the Process Subcommittee has traditionally been tasked with. Tim humorously encouraged TPAC members to “not miss their opportunity” to attend these last few Process meetings, comparing the dissolution of the subcommittee to the closing of a favorite restaurant. The TPAC members acknowledged the years of work that the Process Subcommittee has put into the production of many core TPAC policies, guides and procedures. Their role was noted as being “critical” to Wake Transit success, and Tim was thanked for his leadership of the group.

## **XI. Other Business**

### **A. New/Old Business**

**LAPP Recommendations Update** (Gretchen Vetter, CAMPO)  
(Presentation slides 57-61)

On February 6<sup>th</sup>, the CAMPO TCC voted to recommend the proposed FFY2021 LAPP project package for funding. Gretchen Vetter provided the TPAC with an overview of the Target Investment Mix, which outlines the percentage of LAPP funds allocated to three modal categories. The target mix is 65% Roadway, 27% Bike/ped and 8% Transit. The transit total is \$2 million.

Five transit projects are included in the list of TCC-recommended projects (see slide 60). Four are fully funded, and one would receive 83% of the original request. These five projects total \$2,617,351. Public review and comment on the draft LAPP program for FFY2021 is open through February 16<sup>th</sup>. A public hearing will be held at the CAMPO Executive Board meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Development of the Mobility Coordination Committee** (Crystal Odum, CAMPO)  
(Presentation slides 62-67)

Crystal introduced the newly formed Mobility Coordination Committee (MCC) to the TPAC. She explained that the MCC serves Wake County but expands to encompass the entire CAMPO planning region. The MCC is a creature of CAMPO and is expected to be formally recognized at the Executive Board on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

The 2018 Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan recommended the development of a regional coordinative body that would integrate plan recommendations into the region’s transportation service network, that would undertake the tasks needed to accomplish plan objectives and that would provide oversight and tracking of performance. The MCC is fulfilling that role. Members include transit providers, human service agencies, municipal representatives, CAMPO staff and others.

The plan, now called the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP), is currently being amended and is open for public review and comment through February 16<sup>th</sup>. The draft plan can be downloaded, and comments submitted through the CAMPO website. Contact Crystal for more information about the MCC.

**B. TPAC Discussion - None**

### **C. Adjourn**

The next TPAC meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2020.