

MEMORANDUM

To: Technical Coordinating Committee
DCHC MPO

From: DCHC MPO Lead Planning Agency

Date: July 27, 2011

Subject: **FY 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program, 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan Amendment #2, and Air Quality Conformity Process**

The DCHC MPO will be approving three documents by September 2011:

- the FY 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program,
- Amendment #2 to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan,
- and corresponding air quality conformity determinations.

The MTIP must be coordinated with the State Transportation Improvement Program which was approved by the Board of Transportation in July 2011. The LRTP amendment is needed to ensure that the MTIP/STIP and the LRTP are consistent. Since both documents are subject to the air quality conformity process, an air quality conformity determination report must be prepared and approved.

A proposed schedule for the three documents is listed below:

- 2/9/2011 For the air quality modeling process, the TAC needs to identify changes to non-exempt projects in the first four years of the MTIP and projects crossing air quality horizon years in the LRTP.
The TAC releases the draft MTIP and LRTP Amendment #2 for public comment.
- 3/1/2011 through 6/17/2011 Air quality modeling, emission analysis, and conformity report preparation.
- 3/9/2011 The TAC holds a public hearing on the draft MTIP and LRTP Amendment #2.
- 6/22/2011 The TAC authorizes the release of the air quality conformity draft for public comment.
- 8/15/2011 Air quality conformity draft must be released to provide 30-day comment period.
- 9/14/2011 The TAC holds a public hearing on the air quality conformity draft and approves the air quality determination report. TAC approves the final MTIP and LRTP Amendment #2.

10/1/2011 Deadline for federal approval of air quality conformity determination report to avoid a conformity lapse.
 *FHWA staff will try to expedite their approval to avoid a conformity lapse. However, they advise that we should be prepared for the likelihood of a two week lapse.

Draft MTIP

The North Carolina Department of Transportation released the draft FY 2012-2018 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in August 2010. The seven-year STIP is included within the Department’s ten-year work program for FY 2011-2020. The DCHC MPO met with NCDOT to discuss the STIP in November 2010. Subsequently, the TCC developed a recommended draft FY 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

In February, the TAC released the draft MTIP for public comment and held a public hearing at the March meeting. The MPO’s public involvement plan establishes a minimum three-week public comment period. An advertisement was posted in the Herald-Sun on February 16, 2011, and a press release was issued on February 28, 2011. Copies are available in the planning departments of all MPO member jurisdictions and in public libraries as well as on www.dchcmo.org.

Final MTIP

The final STIP is provided as Attachment 10A. This document was approved by the Board of Transportation on July 7, 2011.

The tables below include all projects where either the MPO requested a change to the draft STIP and/or where NCDOT changed the draft STIP. Projects where the MPO did not make any requests and no changes were made are not included in these tables.

Projects in final STIP:

Project	MPO Request	Final STIP	Final MTIP
I-3306 (I-40 widening)	Accelerate widening from US 15-501 to NC 86.	No schedule change – years 1 & 2 of 4 year project funded in FY 2019 & 2020. Overall cost increased.	Match STIP. Note request for first phase in description. Phasing to be determined during environmental study.
I-0305 (I-85 widening)	Include widening of NC 86 from 70A to Old NC 10.	Schedule delayed 2 years. Begins in FY 2019.	Match STIP. Note request for NC 86 widening in description. Inclusion of improvement on y-lines to be determined during environmental study.

R-5164 (resurfacing)	None.	More projects included as breaks. NC 147 and US 15-501 under construction. Main Street added as break to be let with B-3638.	Match STIP.
U-5304 (US 15-501 improvements)	Accelerate. Include Ephesus Church Road improvements.	No change.	Match STIP. Note request for Ephesus Church improvements in description. Inclusion of improvements to be determined during environmental study.
U-5324, was FS-1005C (NC 54 widening I-40 to NC 55)	Add funding.	Added year 1 of R and U funding in FY 2020.	Match STIP.
U-3308 (Alston Avenue widening)	None.	Schedule delayed 1 year. Construction begins FY 2015.	Match STIP.
U-4716 (Hopson Road grade separation, railroad improvements)	None.	Schedule delayed 1 year. Construction begins FY 2013.	Match STIP.
EB-4707 (Old Durham-Chapel Hill Rd. bike/ped)	Add \$1M in funding (placeholder).	Schedule delayed 1 year. Construction begins in FY 2012.	Match STIP. Amendments can be made as the estimate is confirmed and funding is identified.
FS-1008B (NC 751 widening US 64 to Durham County)	None. Widening is not in the 2035 LRTP.	Feasibility Study Scheduled	Match STIP.
B-5348 (SR 1005 bridge over Phil's Creek)	None.	Schedule accelerated 1 year.	Match STIP.
B-4943 (SR 1616 bridge over Dial Creek/Lake Michie)	None.	Schedule accelerated 3 years.	Match STIP.
B-5512 (SR 1902 bridge over Lick Creek)	None.	New project added. Construction in FY 2020.	Match STIP.
EB-5514 (University Drive bike/ped)	Project on MPO priority list.	New project added. Construction in FY 2015.	Match STIP.
C-5230 (Durham Traffic Signal Controller Upgrade)	None.	New project added. Uses statewide CMAQ funds.	Match STIP.
W-5318 (NC 86 safety improvements)	None.	Accelerated to ROW in FY 2012 and construction in FY 2013	Match STIP.
P-4405 (Rail crossing safety initiative)	None.	New project added. Uses HSR funds.	Match STIP.
EL-4999 (Acquisition of rail corridors and construction of bike/ped trails in Durham)	None.	Schedule accelerated. Project in progress by Rail Division.	Match STIP.
P-2918 (Rail equipment and capital yard maintenance facility)	None.	Schedule change. Uses HSR funds.	Match STIP.

Projects not in final STIP:

Project	MPO Request	Final STIP	Final MTIP
C-4402 (NC 54 bicycle facility)	Project programmed by DCHC MPO using CMAQ funds selected for 2006-2012 TIP. Inactive project.	Deleted. "To be evaluated as part of FS-2005C"	Not included. Previous CMAQ funds were subject to rescissions. Future CMAQ funding could be considered if needed.
Z-4007B (SR 1927 Brewer Road at NS RR crossing safety improvements)	None.	Deleted. "Construction not authorized"	Not included.
NC 54 widening Fordham Blvd. to I-40	Add project for short-term recommendations of NC 54 Corridor Study.	Not included.	Not included. Amendments can be made to include individual projects recommended by final study.
Fayetteville Road widening	Add project with funding in FY 2016-2018.	Not included.	Include as requested.
Erwin Road modernization	Add project with funding in FY 2016.	Not included.	Include as requested.
Jack Bennett Road modernization	Add project with funding in FY 2016.	Not included.	Include as requested.
Churton Street widening	Add project with funding in FY 2019-2020.	Not included.	Include as requested.
Eno Mountain Road Mayo Street realignment	Add project with funding in FY 2020.	Not included.	Include as requested.
NC 86 widening (north of Hillsborough)	Add project with funding in FY 2020.	Not included.	Include as requested.
Orange Grove Road extension	Add project with funding in FY 2020.	Not included.	Include as requested.
Park and Ride Facilities	Add projects with funding in FY 2016-2020.	Not included.	Include as requested.
Orange Grove Road Pedestrian Bridge	Add project with funding in FY 2016.	Not included.	Include as requested.

Minor corrections:

Project	MPO Request	Final STIP	Final MTIP
CMAQ Projects	Include all MPO projects and approved schedule	Corrections made.	Match STIP.
STPDA Projects	Include all MPO projects and approved schedule (see Attachment 6B for more details)	Corrections made.	Match STIP.
New Freedom Grant Projects	Include all MPO projects and funding.	Listed projects are estimates. Amendments to be made as individual projects selected.	Include as one MPO-wide project. Amendments to be made as individual projects selected.
Job Access/Reverse Commute Grant Projects	Include all MPO projects and funding.	Listed projects are estimates. Amendments	Include as one MPO-wide project. Amendments to

		to be made as individual projects selected.	be made as individual projects selected.
Chapel Hill Transit project TE-5202 (Carolina North – Carrboro Fixed Guideway)	Fix project description and operator.	\$6.2M for capital in FY 2017	TE-5202 should be deleted or modified to be a Triangle Transit project from Chapel Hill to Durham with funding for PE.
TE-4903 (Durham-RTP-Raleigh Fixed Guideway)	Fix description of funding	\$2.0M for capital in FY 2013	Change funding to PE.

Attachment 10C is an updated the STPDA table that will correspond with the final MTIP.

2035 LRTP Amendment #2

Amendment #2 to the 2035 LRTP corrects the mileage for five projects to match the figures in the STIP/MTIP and changes the air quality horizon year for one project (Carver Street Extension). Attachment 10B is the resolution and table for Amendment #2. Additional changes are listed in the table to correct the Capital Area MPO’s projects.

Several DCHC MPO projects were coded incorrectly in the modeled network for the 2035 LRTP air quality conformity determination. The air quality conformity determination for the 2012-2018 STIP/MTIP and 2035 LRTP Amendment #2 will correct this error. Since the projects were correctly listed in the 2035 LRTP report, no amendment is needed to correct this modeling error.