



They went that way!

Road I Course participants conducting turning movements and signaling motions along Academy Street in Cary.

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CAMPO BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN STAKEHOLDERS: BICYCLE RIDERS BECOME BICYCLE DRIVERS

Members of the Capital Area MPO Bicycle & Pedestrian Stakeholders Group sponsored a League of American Bicyclists (LAB) Road I Course for Planners and Engineers; which was held on Friday, September 14 at the Herb Young Community Center in the Town of Cary. The first goal of the LAB Road I Course is to teach transportation engineers, planners and police the fundamentals of vehicular cycling. The second is to explain cycling implications for traffic law, facility design, and public policy. Novice bicyclists to casual recreation bicyclists learned effective ways to negotiate traffic at left

turns and narrow roadways, how to be seen at night, secrets to making traffic signals turn green, as well as strategies for using the bicycle to travel to work, school, or shopping. Persons completing the course received Road I certification, and were recognized as bicycle drivers. Participants in the September 14 course included transportation professionals and planners from agencies within the Capital Area MPO and the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO. Transportation professionals from throughout the region have expressed an interest in participating in the

bicycling course. As a result, bicycle commuting and LAB Road I courses will be offered in the following manner throughout 2008:

Commuting by Bicycle—Friday, February 1—6:00 to 9:00 pm. at the Herb Young Community Center

LAB Road I Course—April 25, June 6, and September 12—9:00 am to 7:00 pm. At the Herb Young Community Center in Cary

HERE COME THE ROADS!

While the Capital Area MPO can lament the lack of highway construction projects for the foreseeable future, needed highway projects have been, or will be, completed in the near future. Listed below are projects that are scheduled to be completed in 2008 for Wake and Johnston Counties:

- Widening of Airport Boulevard from NC 54 to McCrimmon Parkway—August, 2008
- Revise interchange of SR 2000 (Wake Forest Road) and I-440 (Beltline) —November, 2008
- Bridge improvements along Penny Road over Swift Creek and over Middle Creek at southbound US 401 will be completed in

November and December 2008 respectively.

- Davis Drive will be under construction between NC 54 and Morrisville-Carpenter Road with a completion date of November 2009.

The Johnston County projects scheduled for completion in 2008 are the US 70 (Clayton) Bypass and the NC 96 bridge over the Little River and the bridge on SR 1722 (Mud Ham Road) over Little River.

A project that will open in 2008 of interest to Wake County citizens is the completion of Hopson Road (in Durham County) between NC 55 and Louis Stephens Drive. October, 2008.



North Carolina Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

NEWSLETTER DATE: JAN. 2008



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NC CAPITAL AREA MPO COMPLETES YEAR 2007

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In 2007, the NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization accomplished a number of goals. A major accomplishment was the official opening of two segments of I-540 between the US-64 Bypass and US-1 (Capital Boulevard). This was the result of a policy decision made by the Capital Area MPO Transportation Advisory Committee on March 19, 2003, which amended the 2002-2008 MTIP. This change joined the Eastern Wake Expressway (R-2641) to the Northern Wake Expressway (R-2000) as a "design-build" project.

Further accomplishments included the adoption of the annual Unified Planning Work Program, the Self-Certification Checklist, the 2007-2013 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP), and the creation of aggressive procedures that will benefit regional long-range planning and funding. Some of the procedures include the following:

- The Special Transit Advisory Commission (established in cooperation with the Durham-Chapel Hill Carrboro MPO)
- Audit of NCDOT's TIP Equity Formula Methodology and Process was requested
- TAC work session was held on May 11 to establish a Memorandum of Understanding between the Capital Area MPO and the North Carolina Turnpike Authority
- Acceleration of the I-40 widening project (I-4744) between Wade Avenue and US/US-64 was recommended.
- The 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) was amended and the Air Quality Determination for the 2030 LRTP and the 2007-2013 MTIP was approved



Dedication of I-540 in January 2007.

Courtesy NCDOT

- The 2009-2015 Project Priority Lists of Transportation Projects was adopted
- Bicycle, pedestrian, and transit projects eligible for STP-DA funding were endorsed.
- Resolutions of support for municipalities applying for Bicycle & Pedestrian planning grants, and as Safe Routes to School Demonstration grants were adopted.
- A resolution of support for Granville County's Comprehensive Transportation Plan was adopted. The Year 2008 will be as active with development of the 2035 LRTP, possible staff additions, and a proposed corridor study for NC-50.

CAMPO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS

- ANGIER
- APEX
- BUNN
- CARY
- CLAYTON
- CREEDMOOR
- FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMIN
- FRANKLIN COUNTY
- FRANKLINTON
- FUQUAY-VARINA
- GARNER
- GRANVILLE COUNTY
- HARNETT COUNTY
- HOLLY SPRINGS
- JOHNSTON COUNTY
- KNIGHTDALE
- MORRISVILLE
- NC DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
- RALEIGH
- ROLESVILLE
- TRIANGLE TRANSIT AUTHORITY
- WAKE COUNTY
- WAKE FOREST
- YOUNGVILLE
- ZEBULON

"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are moving." Oliver Wendell Holmes



Recently opened Lynx line in Charlotte. Transit and transit investments are becoming significant topics of discussion within North Carolina's urban areas.

Transit—Will the Triangle STAC up to the Challenge?

The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) and the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) held a joint meeting on November 29, 2006 and decided to initiate a process to develop regional transit priorities. The leadership of both MPOs has determined that providing well-planned and timely major regional transit investments is an essential part of maintaining the Triangle region's current levels of transportation mobility, high quality of life, and economic prosperity.

The two MPOs agreed to appoint a Joint MPO Special Transit Advisory Commission to assist them in the development of "major transit investments". The recommended major transit investments to serve the Triangle will be based on:

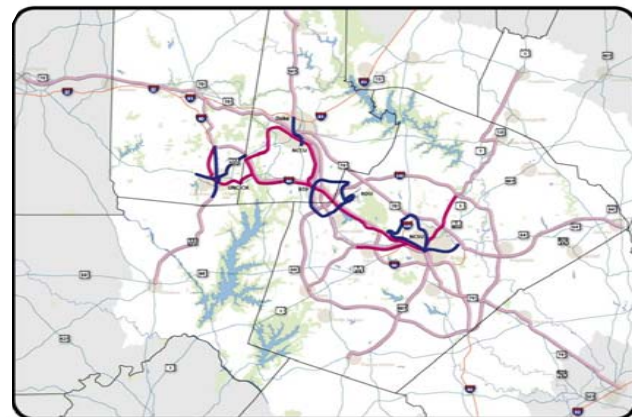
- Guiding principles for transit investments
- The Transit Infrastructure Blueprint Project analysis
- Priorities for transit investments
- A community engagement process

It was agreed that the committee should consist of 15 to 25 people. Following much discussion, the two MPOs approved a committee of 24, with 14 appointments from the Capital Area MPO and 10 appointments from the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO. The committee, known as the Special Transit Advisory Commission (STAC), consists of individuals from local boards and organizations selected from five interest areas: neighborhood/community, government, environmental, business, and university. The Special Transit Advisory Commission

has been meeting since May, 2007, and MPO staff, along with other regional staff, are assisting the committee members to accomplish their overall mission by providing technical assistance. The Special Transit Advisory Commission has reviewed existing transit plans and the goals and objectives associated with those plans. The Commission will review and evaluate transit options available to the region for the next 25 to 30 years and determine regional major transit investment recommendations.

As of their December 4, 2007 meeting, the Special Transit Advisory Commission has developed a set of guiding principles/goals for transit investments, come to a general agreement about the set of corridors where major investments should be made, and discussed the service concepts for those corridors. Certain corridors may use one particular technology in order to fulfill the service concept while others use more than one. Building on the work completed to date, the Special Transit Advisory Commission will need to develop a 2020 plan and confirm their 2035 "vision", for presentation to the public. The plan should show benefits to the entire region, including those who will never ride transit.

Two meetings will be scheduled in early 2008. The first meeting, in January, will focus on determining projects to be included in the 2020 plan and will include funding strategies that will be acceptable to the public. The second meeting, in February, will be devoted to reviewing the draft report. The report may include discussion of how to build support for the plan, governance issues, and future roles for the Commission.



Service Concept Map for Special Transit Advisory Commission

Did you know?

Each year, North Carolina's public transportation systems operate more than 1,900 vehicles and transports more than 40 million passengers.

Did You Know?

Between July 1, 2006 and June 30th, 2007 Capital Area Transit provided 4,068,169 trips. Based on survey results of passengers, 63% of those trips were work related and the average trip length is 3.4 miles. Thus, Capital Area Transit reduced work trip VMT by 8,714,018 miles.

"The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them."

Albert Einstein

"We are no doubt at a crossroads with our transportation system and in order to meet our ever-increasing transportation needs, we cannot afford to be content with the status quo." NCDOT Secretary Lyndo Tippett

CONGRATULATIONS GRANVILLE COUNTY!

Over the past year and a half, Capital Area MPO staff has worked with representatives of Granville County, municipalities within Granville County, and staff of the Kerr-Tar Rural Planning Organization to develop the Granville County CTP. During that time, a Granville County Transportation Committee was formed with representatives from within the county. Meetings were held to determine growth forecasts, problem area identification, and enhancement opportunities or desires. A process for update of this document was also identified. Public meetings were held

throughout the County and presentations were made to local planning boards and Town/City Councils or Commissions, as well as to the Granville County Board of Commissioners.

North Carolina General Statute, GS136-66.2, 2001, expanded transportation planning in N.C. to include consideration of all modes. It also placed responsibility for development and maintenance of a Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) on the MPO. This CTP is a multi-modal 30-50 year plan for the entire MPO planning area. The plan is expected to be a living document that provides

for inter-jurisdictional cooperation and planning and replaces the previously used thoroughfare plans. This Statute also established the MPO CTP as the only transportation plan recognized and endorsed by NCDOT. Granville County received the National Association of Development Organizations 2007 Award for the process used in creating the Granville County CTP.



Granville County's National Association of Development Organizations Award for the CTP.



Participants in one of Granville County's CTP meetings.

CAPITAL AREA MPO STAFF PROFILE

JJ WALTER—GIS PROGRAMMER ANALYST

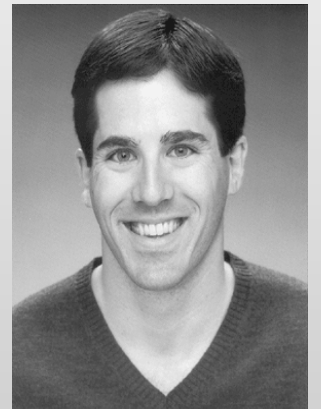
In September, 2007 the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization hired JJ Walter as a GIS Programmer/Analyst working on a range of projects from Comprehensive Transportation Planning to Socioeconomic data forecasting. JJ serves as the liaison to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Stakeholders Group, as well as sitting on

the Bicycle Advisory Committee to the City of Raleigh.

JJ previously worked in the GIS Division of the Information Technology Department for the City of Raleigh as a GIS Specialist; creating maps, reports, models and data for almost all city departments as well as the FBI, Wake County District Attorney's office, NC Health

Department and many private organizations.

He currently serves as the President of the North Carolina Arc Users Group, helping to connect GIS users across the state. Mr. Walter graduated in December 2000 with a B.A. in Geography, GIS emphasis, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Mr. JJ Walter

COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION NEWS SPOTLIGHT: JOHNSTON COUNTY TOWN OF CLAYTON

Johnston County is experiencing rapid population growth and thus feeling growing pains. The western portion of the county, added to the MPO's planning area in 2005, is seeing new transportation infrastructure built and improvement of existing roadways. One new addition is the construction of the Clayton Bypass (US-70). This project, scheduled to be

completed in 2009, will relieve some of the congestion along US-70 through the Town of Clayton. This controlled access facility will benefit commuters headed to RTP and downtown Raleigh as well as those traveling to North Carolina's beaches. Other noteworthy items taking place this year include adoption of the county's first

Comprehensive Transportation Plan and endorsement of Johnston County's portion of the North Carolina Mountain-to-Sea Trail. This trail will serve bicyclists and pedestrians.



US 70 construction in Johnston County

"Our goals can only be reached through a vehicle of a plan, in which we must fervently believe, and upon which we must vigorously act. There is no other route to success." Pablo Picasso