



Triangle Transit Authority

September 22, 2004



Mr. George Chapman
 Chair, CAMPO TCC
 Professional Bldg., Suite 406
 127 West Hargett St.
 Raleigh, NC 27601

Dear Mr. Chapman:

Please find enclosed a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Triangle Transit Authority (TTA) and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). This MOU describes the relationship between TTA and CAMPO with regard to planning for future public transit projects in the region. It also describes the requirements that must be met before advancing to later stages of planning for transit projects.

The MOU structure follows the one establishing CAMPO. This MOU states that TTA will participate in public transit planning as part of the MPO and will carry out studies at the request of the MPO. The MOU sets out roles and responsibilities in much the same way as the MOU establishing the MPO does for the development of highway projects.

The MOU has been reviewed by the TTA General Counsel and approved by the TTA Board of Trustees. It is now ready for MPO review. Please contact Joseph Huegy on my staff at 485-7416 if you have any questions. Please also send him any modifications the MPO would like to make to the MOU before adopting it.

Sincerely,

Don S. Carnell, P.E.
 Assistant General Manager for Planning and Engineering



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding is made this _____ day of _____, 2004, by and between the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (hereinafter "CAMPO") and the Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority (hereinafter "TTA").

WHEREAS, Chapter 160A, Article 26, Section 160A-608 of the General Statutes of North Carolina states:

"The purpose of the Authority shall be to finance, provide, operate, and maintain for a safe, clean, reliable, adequate, convenient, energy efficient, economically and environmentally sound public transportation system for the service area of the Authority through the granting of franchises, ownership and leasing of terminals, buses and other transportation facilities and equipment and otherwise through the exercise of the powers and duties conferred upon it, in order to enhance mobility in the region and encourage sound growth patterns," and

WHEREAS, Chapter 160A, Article 26, Section 160A-610(11) of the General Statutes of North Carolina provides that the general powers of the Authority shall include:

"To develop and make data, plans, information, surveys and studies of public transportation facilities within the territorial jurisdiction of the Authority, to prepare and make recommendations in regard thereto."

NOW, THEREFORE, CAMPO and TTA do hereby covenant and agree as follows:

Section I

It is hereby agreed that TTA and CAMPO, together with the State of North Carolina and Durham Chapel Hill Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization, and in cooperation with the United States Department of Transportation, will participate in a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process with responsibilities and undertakings as related in the following paragraphs:

- 1) TTA will participate in CAMPO efforts to include public transportation projects in Long Range Transportation Plans. This will include assisting in identifying project alternatives.
- 2) TTA will assist CAMPO, if requested, in creating a Master Plan for a regional public transportation system for the region including establishing priorities for projects and financing plans for design, construction and operation. The plan may include:
 - a) Public participation,
 - b) Environmental Justice evaluation,
 - c) An environmental scan of project corridors,
 - d) Cost estimates for projects at precision appropriate to stage of analysis,
 - e) Ridership estimates,
 - f) Evaluation of user benefits for projects and system,
 - g) Transit supportive land use policies that could make the system more successful,
 - h) Project priorities,
 - i) Planned implementation schedule.
- 3) TTA can lead or participate in Alternatives Analysis studies for public transportation projects listed in the CAMPO adopted Long Range Transportation Plan at the request of CAMPO.

- 4) TTA will undertake project planning (preliminary engineering and environmental studies) for public transportation projects listed in the CAMPO adopted Long Range Transportation Plan at the request of CAMPO provided:
 - a) A Locally Preferred Alternative establishing preferred technology and alignment has been adopted by CAMPO at the conclusion of Alternatives Analysis,
 - b) A financing plan for the project identifies sources for local and federal funds to support the project,
 - c) The project can demonstrate levels of user benefits sufficient to qualify the project for New Starts funding under the USDOT Federal Transit Administration guidance if federal New Starts funds are anticipated to support the project.
- 5) Following successful completion of the project planning studies for a project, TTA will begin final design for public transportation projects provided:
 - a) A Record of Decision has been issued by the federal government for the project, if it is a federal project,
 - b) A financing plan for the project continues to identify sources for local and federal funds sufficient to support constructing the project and operating service,
 - c) The project continues to demonstrate levels of user benefits sufficient to qualify the project for New Starts funding under the USDOT Federal Transit Administration guidance if federal New Starts funds are anticipated to support the project.

Section II

Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding may terminate their participation by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the other party before termination.

Section III

In witness whereof, the parties of this Memorandum of Understanding have been authorized by appropriate and proper resolutions to sign the same, the CAMPO Transportation Advisory Committee by its Chair, and the TTA Board of Trustees by its Chair, this the _____ day of _____, 2004.

**RESEARCH TRIANGLE REGIONAL PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

(SEAL)

By _____
William G. Smith, Chair

Attest:

Michelle Dawson, Clerk to the Board

**CAPITAL AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATION**

(SEAL)

By _____
Chair, Transportation Advisory Committee

Attest:

Name, Title