

Special Advisory Commission for Development of a Vision Plan for Regional Major Transit Investments
(rev Tue Jan 16, 2007, 5:30 pm) (working draft)

Charge to the Commission

The NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Durham Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization have concluded that major transit investments will be crucial to the Triangle's future economic success and mobility. In this regard the two MPOs have proposed the development of a Special Advisory Commission for Development of a Vision Plan for Regional Major Transit Investments. The Commission will help establish a fresh look at transit for the Triangle. The Commission will develop a set of prioritized recommended major transit investments that can be incorporated in 2035 MPO Long Range Transportation Plans based on:

- Existing transit corridor plans
- The *Transit Infrastructure Blueprint* technical study
- Goals and objectives for regional major transit investments
- A community engagement process
- Collaborative dialogue among the members of the Commission

Establishment of the Commission

The Commission shall be appointed by the Transportation Advisory Committees of the Capital Area MPO and the Durham Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO. The Group shall be composed of 24 people, with 14 appointed by the Capital Area MPO and 10 appointed by the Durham Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO. All MPO TAC members shall be invited to attend any and all meetings of the Commission. The Commission shall present their recommendations to the two MPOs at a joint MPO TAC meeting on October 31, 2007 and provide periodic updates as appropriate.

Suggested Tasks

To accomplish its overall mission, the Commission may engage in any and all of the following focus areas:

- I. Review existing transit plans
- II. Determine level and process for public outreach
- III. Determine goals and objectives for regional major transit investments
- IV. Review and evaluate transit options available to the region for the next 20-30 years based on technical analysis concerning travel markets, costs of potential transit technologies, and land use information received from the Regional Transit Infrastructure Blueprint study
- V. Determine regional major transit investment recommendations
- VI. Other areas as deemed advisable by the Commission

General schedule of activities (draft)

January-February – MPOs name representatives to Commission

Late Feb/early March – Initial meeting(s):

- Confirm budget, staffing, and funding for facilitation, administration, and outreach
- Concurrence by members on charge of commission and overall schedule of work
- Determination of missing information and focus areas needed to execute charge

Spring – Technical activities and development of analysis framework:

- Commission develops framework of prioritized goals and objectives for making recommendations, including identification of problems needing to be addressed by transit
- MPOs, TTA, NCDOT transit staff collect data on travel markets, land use, costs of potential transit technologies, best practices in other areas, and other needs identified by Commission

Summer – Commission reviews blueprint data and related research

Fall – Commission develops recommendations

October 31, 2007 – Commission presents recommendations to two MPOs at joint MPO TAC meeting