
Wednesday, March 27, 2024

12:00 p.m.

GoTriangle Board Room

Board members present | Brenda Howerton, Vivian Jones, Michael Parker, Sally Greene, Jennifer Robinson

Board members attending remotely | Mary-Ann Baldwin, Susan Evans, Leo Williams [12:23 - 12:57 p.m.]

Board members absent | Corey Branch [excused], Michael Fox, Patrick Hannah [excused], Valerie Jordan

Chair Brenda Howerton officially called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. A quorum was present.

I. Adoption of Agenda

Action: On motion by Jones and second by Parker the agenda was adopted. Upon vote by roll call, the motion was carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

No comments.

III. Consent Agenda

Action: A motion was made by Parker and seconded by Jones to approve the consent agenda. Upon vote by roll call, the motion was carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda items were approved:

- February 28, 2024 | Regular Session Minutes.
- February 28, 2024 | Closed Session A Minutes.
- February 28, 2024 | Closed Session B Minutes.
- Authorized President/CEO to purchase 82 Sierra Wireless AirLink MG90 G5 routers from Brite for a maximum price of \$282,609.
- Authorized President/CEO to execute a contract for the purchase of ten low floor diesel buses with associated maintenance equipment from Gillig Corporation for a maximum price of \$6,700,000.
- Authorized President/CEO to execute a contract for the purchase of two light transit vehicles from Interstate Transportation Sales for a maximum price of \$258,000.
- Authorized President/CEO to increase the contract value for RUS Bus Transit Design Advisory Services with RK&K to a cost not to exceed \$1,237,206.

Robinson arrived.

IV. Presentations

A. Triangle Travel Trends Analysis

Paul Black introduced Leta Huntsinger, Associate Director of the Institute for Transportation Research and Education. Her presentation is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. Huntsinger compared data collected from the 2016, 2018, 2021 and 2022 surveys.

Triangle Recurring Household Travel Survey				
	2016	2018	2021	2022
Total person trips	7,058,973	6,857,412	4,293,700	6,745,868
Total vehicle trips	5,762,139	5,717,259	3,843,879	5,805,168
Average trip length all modes	6.1	6.2	5.0	7.0
Average trip length auto	7.0	7.0	5.4	7.5
Average daily trips per household	10.8	9.8	5.7	8.8
Average daily trips per person	4.4	4.0	2.4	3.6
Persons per household	2.47	2.46	2.36	2.44
Workers per household	1.22	1.25	1.26	1.27
Drivers per household	1.77	1.80	1.75	1.74
Vehicles per household	1.84	1.90	1.88	1.80
Auto trips for work	92%	94%	97%	94%
Auto trips for university	71%	78%	90%	60%
Auto trips for other reasons	83%	87%	92%	86%
Non-motorized trips	14%	12%	9%	10%

Rider characteristics

- 43% of riders identify as African American; 30%, white
- 43% of riders are employed; 23%, students
- 78% of riders speak English at home
- 39% of riders have used rideshare services in the past 30 days
- 7% of riders have used bike share or scooter share in the past 30 days
- 45% of riders live in a household with no vehicle
- 58% of riders have a valid driver's license
- 48% of riders earn less than \$25,000 annually

Huntsinger noted that people's lives are complex now and transit needs to meet serve not just typical commuting for work, but also other trips for people who depend on transit or choose transit. Additionally, telework travel patterns vary and transportation planning and infrastructure need to respond to that type of travel as well.

B. Results of Regional On-Board Origin-Destination Survey

Paul Black introduced Ann Steedly, Planning Communities. Their joint presentation is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. Black explained that this origin-destination survey typically is conducted every five years and differs from the annual customer preference survey. Rather than collecting rider satisfaction and preferences, this survey records characteristics of individual trips and geocodes rider and trip information.

Survey highlights region-wide

- 9 transit agencies participated
- 9,892 surveys completed [15% of riders surveyed on 112 routes]
- 63% of riders are between 18-34 years old
- 43% of riders identify as African American
- >90% walk to/from the bus stop and their origin/destination

Survey highlights for GoTriangle

- 1,352 surveys completed [23% of riders surveyed on 13 routes]
- 60.7% of trips are home-based work or school trips
- 27.4% of riders are between 25-34 years old
- 40% of riders identify as African American
- >88% walk to the bus stop from their origin, 91% walk to their destination
- 48% of riders transfer buses, 18% make two or more bus transfers

V. General Business Agenda**A. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

None.

B. Administration & Governance Committee Report**1. Nelson Road BOMF Expansion Project Delivery Method**

Katharine Eggleston reviewed the fleet and facility study that we've been working on over the last couple of years recommended an expansion of our maintenance capacity to accommodate future, expanded service.

Scope

- Build-out design capacity of 120 fixed-route vehicles
- Expansion of employee parking
- Addition to building to house improved staff facilities and amenities
- Reconfiguration of existing building to improve maintenance efficiency
- Addition of second service lane and bus wash
- Reconfiguration of revenue vehicle parking and servicing staging areas
- Addition of shade canopy over parking to support installation of future additional charging infrastructure and potential solar generation
- Construction phased to maintain bus operations throughout

GoTriangle typically uses the conventional design-bid-build delivery method for small projects; however, staff did an evaluation of delivery methods for this more complex project. Comparing several criteria for the different delivery methods, the initial recommendation was to use design build bridging. It offers advantages for cost control, risk management and allocation, and staffing requirements. Discussion at the committee meeting concentrated on which method provides the most competition for bidders and less reliance on outside counsel and others to deliver the project. With construction management at risk being more commonly used right now in North Carolina, staff is recommending to move forward with the construction

management at risk delivery method. The next step will be a procurement for designer and then construction manager at risk. The schedule has been extended slightly to accommodate an additional procurement step, but is projected to be complete in the second half of 2028.

Action: A motion was made by Baldwin and seconded by Greene to adopt *Resolution 2024 0001 Approving the Written Evaluation Criteria to Use the Construction Management at Risk Delivery Method for the Nelson Road Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility Modernization and Expansion Project*. Upon vote the motion was carried unanimously.

C. Audit & Finance Committee Report

Susan Evans reported that the committee made three recommendations which appeared on the consent agenda. Reports on the FY2025 transit work programs from each of the three counties also were received. She added that the committee would meet next on Wednesday, April 3 with Vice Chair Patrick Hannah leading the meeting.

D. Operations Committee Report

Michael Parker reported that one item from committee regarding RUS Bus design services appeared on the consent agenda. The committee also discussed the alternative delivery methods for the BOMF which was just presented.

VI. Other Business

A. President and CEO's Report

A list of contracts approved by the president and CEO is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

Lattuca reported on the following items:

- First quarterly meeting with county managers and MPO leaders was held February 29. GoTriangle provided updates on capital projects, operations, our strategic plan initiative, the upcoming financial management review and legislative initiatives. Subsequently a letter was sent to the county managers to inform their boards about our intent to seek an increase in the vehicle registration tax to \$7 and have it indexed to inflation.
- Byron and I met with Senator Murdock.
- Met with RDU about how transit can support their increased passenger traffic. We will be working with them on transportation demand management options such as carpools and vanpools. We also discussed the possibility of applying for a grant to run electric van 24-hour service between Durham and the airport and Raleigh and the airport.
- The conference committee with Wake County regarding the vehicle rental tax will meet on April 12.
- The quarterly transfer of revenues to the county transit plans was delayed significantly. It has been corrected; however, there interest that would have accrued which must be determined and transferred. Board members questioned

why this was not discovered previously and not reported in the annual audits. Jennifer Hayden responded that the auditor provided a reconciliation sheet showing this variance. She stated that going forward, such variances will be communicated to the CEO. Board members were assured that processes for such things would be included in the upcoming financial management review.

1. Strategic Plan Update

Meg Scully, Director of Planning and Engagement and project manager for the strategic plan update, introduced, Matt Webb from TransPro Consulting, who provided an update. His presentation is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. Webb stated that board discovery interviews have been completed as well as an initial meeting with GoTriangle staff. Preparations have begun for stakeholder discovery interviews. Additional staff meetings will be held over the next several weeks.

2. Capital Projects Status Report

Katharine Eggleston introduced Richard Major, Director of Capital Development, who provided an update on construction progress for RUS Bus. He shared a time lapsed video of the construction site. Deep foundations have been poured and shear walls and the crash wall are being built. Construction is projected to finish by June 25, 2025.

3. Operations Update

The monthly report is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

Vinson Hines shared the following statistics from February:

- Average weekday ridership: 5,908 up 16% from 2023; down 9% from 2019.
- Average Saturday ridership: 3,674 up 52% from 2023; up 130% from 2019.
- Average Sunday ridership: 2,142 up 21% from 2023; up 128% from 2019.
- Average weekday boardings - paratransit: 154 up 16% from 2023; down .6% from 2019.
- Average Saturday boardings - paratransit: 53 up 43% from 2023; up 43% from 2019.
- Average Sunday boardings - paratransit: 22 up 83% from 2023; up 16% from 2019.
- Operators: 75 fulltime, 17 part-time, 10 new hires.
- Police responded to 2 incidents in February and EMS, 4.

Return to fares:

- All legacy fareboxes are operational.
- Next steps: operator training and coordination with transit partners

At the recent Triangle-area Bus Roadeo, bus operator Miguel Garcia and paratransit operator Venessa Noell qualified for first place in the bus and paratransit categories, respectively. They will compete at the state bus roadeo in April.

Transit operations appreciation day was held on March 18.

4. Communications Update

Eric Curry stated that all teams in the agency are working toward a return to fares on July 1. Communications is working on a plan to reach all riders through social media, face-to-face meetings, at the bus stops and through the media.

5. Human Resources Update

Sharon Chavis announced to the board the new bus operator sign-on bonus program which will pay \$2,500 to new bus operators, paid out over one year. She added that the employee referral program has increased from \$500 to \$1,200.

B. General Counsel's Report

Byron Smith reported that he would be attending the APTA Legislative Conference in April, including the advocacy afternoon meetings with legislators.

C. Chair's Report

No report.

D. Board Member Reports**1. CAMPO Executive Board Representative**

No report.

2. Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA) Representative

No report.

3. DCHC MPO Board Representative

Michael Parker reported that projects were reviewed as part of the Triennial Call for Projects, including GoTriangle's mobility hub. The list is out for public comment and will come back in April for approval.

VII. Adjournment

Action: Chair Howerton adjourned the meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Prepared by:



Michelle C. Dawson, CMC
Clerk to the Board