FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION AND GOTRIANGLE TO PUBLISH SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DURHAM-ORANGE LIGHT-RAIL TRANSIT PROJECT – PROPOSED REFINEMENTS

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued an Amended Record of Decision (Amended ROD) in December 2016 for the Durham-Orange Light-Rail Transit (D-O LRT) Project, which is in Durham and Orange counties, North Carolina.

Since the publication of the Amended ROD, proposed changes to the project, called "Proposed Refinements," that address public and agency comments to the project include measures to reduce project cost, incorporate recommendations from other studies to improve accessibility to stations and encourage potential future development. The Proposed Refinements include:

- Modification to the station platform lengths.
- Adjustments to the location and configuration of the station platforms, as well as corresponding refinements to the track alignments.
- Modifications to the planned park-and-ride lots.
- Inclusion of bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the project.
- Elevation of the alignment on Erwin Road.
- Inclusion of drainage, grading and site preparation throughout the project.
- Modifications to the roadway along Pettigrew Street and Alston Avenue and adjacent roadways.
- Addition of a station at Blackwell and Mangum streets.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and based on the FTA regulations on environmental impact and related procedures (23 Code of Federal Regulations [C.F.R.] Parts 771 and 774), the FTA and GoTriangle prepared a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (Supplemental EA) to document potential impacts associated with the Proposed Refinements. The D-O LRT Project identified in the Amended ROD remains the same, with the exception of the Proposed Refinements.

The FTA considered all of the anticipated impacts of the Proposed Refinements in aggregate with the impacts described in the Amended ROD. Based on the information presented in the Supplemental EA, the FTA anticipates that the Proposed Refinements would not result in new, significant adverse social, economic or environmental impacts. The Supplemental EA also includes a preliminary determination in accordance with Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act that the Proposed Refinements would not result in any new use of properties protected by Section 4(f). **WAYS TO COMMENT:** The FTA and GoTriangle encourage you to provide comments on the Supplemental EA and updated draft Section 4(f) Evaluation. Comments may be provided in writing until Nov. 30, 2018:

- Email: <u>lightrail@gotriangle.org</u>
- Postal mail: GoTriangle ATTN: SEA Proposed Project Refinements, PO Box 13787 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
- Project website: <u>GoTriangle.org/lightrail</u>

SUPPLEMENTAL EA LOCATIONS: The Supplemental EA is available in the following formats:

Electronically:

• Project website: <u>GoTriangle.org/lightrail</u>

Hard copies are available for review until Nov. 30, 2018, at:

• GoTriangle's Administrative Office, 4600 Emperor Blvd., Suite 100, Durham, NC 27703

Local libraries:

- UNC Chapel Hill Davis Library, 208 Raleigh St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514
- Duke University Perkins Library, 411 Chapel Drive, Durham, NC 27708
- North Carolina Central University James E. Shepard Memorial Library, 1801 Fayetteville St., Durham, NC 27707
- Orange County Main Library, 137 W. Margaret Lane, Hillsborough, NC 27278
- Orange County Carrboro Branch (McDougle Middle School), 900 Old Fayetteville Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
- Town of Chapel Hill Public Library, 100 Library Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
- Durham County East Regional Library, 211 Lick Creek Lane, Durham, NC 27703
- Durham County North Regional Library, 221 Milton Road, Durham, NC 27712
- Durham County South Regional Library, 4505 S. Alston Ave., Durham, NC 27713
- Durham County Southwest Regional Library, 3605 Shannon Road, Durham, NC 27707
- Durham County Stanford L. Warren Branch, 1201 Fayetteville Road, Durham, NC 27707

PUBLIC MEETINGS: Three public meetings will be held to discuss the Proposed Refinements. Each of the meetings is open to the general public and will include the same information.

- Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018: Noon to 2 p.m. SpringHill Suites by Marriot 5310 McFarland Drive, Durham, NC 27707
- Monday, Nov. 5, 2018: 5 to 7 p.m.
 Extraordinary Ventures
 200 S. Elliot Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
- Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018: 5 to 7 p.m. Monument of Faith Church 900 Simmons St., Durham, NC 27701

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Anyone desiring additional information may contact Ashley Schultz, public engagement specialist, at GoTriangle, PO Box 13787, RTP, NC 27709, by phone at 919-314-8748 or by email at lightrail@gotriangle.org.

Spanish language translation will be provided at all meetings. To request other translation services or ADA accommodations, please call 919-485-7572 at least five business days before to the meeting. Interpretación al Español será proveída en todas las reuniones. Para interpretación en otros idiomas u otras acomodaciones especiales (ADA), por favor llame al 919-485-7572 con al menos 5 días de antelación.