



 DURHAM • CHAPEL HILL • CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Member Governments-

Town of Carrboro
 Town of Chapel Hill
 County of Chatham
 City of Durham
 County of Durham
 Town of Hillsborough
 NC Department of
 Transportation
 County of Orange

March 17, 2009

Roger L. Stancil, Manager
 Town of Chapel Hill
 Town Hall
 405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
 Chapel Hill, NC 27514

RE: Funding Request from the Town of Chapel Hill to Match Federal Transportation Planning Funds for the NC54/I-40 Corridor Study, Congestion Management System (Mobility Report Card) and Parking Model Survey and Study

Dear Mr. Stancil:

The purpose of this letter is to request \$60,000 from the Town of Chapel Hill to match Federal transportation funds for special projects that will benefit citizens of the Town. These projects include work related to the NC 54/I-40 Corridor/Sub-Area Study, Congestion Management Process (CMP) and the Parking survey/study to enhance the sensitivity of forecasting transit ridership. The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) is the recipient for Federal transportation funds in our area. The federal legislation designates funds for planning purposes in addition to highway, transit and multi-modal construction projects. To receive these funds, a local match of twenty percent (20%) of the total project cost must be provided.

The DCHC MPO is requesting that the Town of Chapel Hill budget \$60,000 in the upcoming fiscal year for the aforementioned projects. The following tables summarize the transportation planning special projects budget, the total local match required and the amount of that local match that the MPO is requesting from the Town of Chapel Hill.

1. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update.

a) Summary

- New Congestion Management Process required for MPO by federal transportation legislation (SAFETEA-LU), aims to identify congestion and traffic problems before they reach crisis proportions, and to measure successes in remedying existing traffic problems.
- Success of CMP depends on continuous monitoring and regular sampling of data.
- Continuation of Chapel Hill Mobility Report Card.
- Data collection – traffic counts, turning movement counts, travel time, speed, truck counts, bike and pedestrian counts, etc.

- Analysis and evaluation of congestion, recurring and non-recurring.
- Development of mitigation strategies
- Determination of improvement strategies and prioritization.

b) Funding Requested for CMP

- DCHC Project Cost: \$450,000.
- Federal Grant Funds \$360,000
- Total Local Match Required: \$90,000
- City of Durham Match: \$45,000
- Durham County Match: \$15,000
- Town of Carrboro Match: \$10,000
- Requested Chapel Hill contribution: \$20,000

2. NC 54/I40 Corridor/Sub Area Study

This corridor study is designed to analyze and articulate the transportation problems within the NC 54 corridor, to evaluate mitigating measures, and to identify transportation and land-use strategies for alleviating and mitigating current and future transportation problems and land development demands.

a) Summary:

- Conduct corridor and sub-area study (multi-modal transportation and land-use)
- Analyze and evaluate existing and future operational and planning issues
- Measure the land use impacts and transportation constraints.
- Recommend short term and long term solutions

b) Funding Requested NC54/I-40 Study

- DCHC Project Costs: \$300,000
- Federal Grant Funds: \$240,000
- Total Local Match Required: \$60,000
- City of Durham Match: \$28,000
- Durham County Match: \$12,000
- Requested Chapel Hill Contribution: \$20,000

3. Parking Study/Survey

Parking cost/search model is a vital component of the travel demand model and ridership forecasting. The parking cost parameter in the existing model is insensitive to parking availability and demand. Further, in mode choice component of the model, transit demand/ridership is not that sensitive to parking. This was evident from the Chapel Hill Transit Master Plan Study. To address this shortfall, the MPO is proposing parking enhancement in the travel demand model. The proposed survey and study will improve and support fixed guideway (regional rail/BRT) ridership forecasting and other public transportation analysis.

a) Summary

- Conduct parking study/survey for improvement of model parking cost, availability and

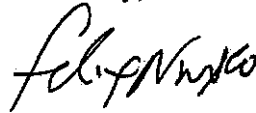
- demand, estimate models and implement improvements.
- To support transit ridership forecasting and future regional rail analyses.
- Will provide more sensitivity and more accurate demand forecasts.
- To measure impacts of parking on land use and vice versa.

b) Funding Requested for Parking Study

- DCHC Project Costs: \$250,000
- Federal Grant Funds: \$200,000
- Total Local Match Required: \$ 50,000
- City of Durham Match: \$20,000
- Durham County Match: \$ 5,000
- Town of Carrboro Match: \$ 5,000
- Requested Chapel Hill contribution: \$20,000

Chapel Hill's financial participation in these important transportation planning initiatives is critical to the MPO's ability to match available federal funds. Your assistance in providing this level of funding for the DCHC MPO is appreciated. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 560-4366.

Sincerely,



Felix Nwoko
Transportation Planning Manager
DCHC MPO/City of Durham

CC: Kevin Foy, Mayor Town of Chapel Hill/TAC Member
Ed Harrison, Chapel Hill Town Council/TAC Alternate
Ken Pennoyer, Chapel Hill Finance Director
Mark D. Ahrendsen, TCC Chair/Transportation Manager, City of Durham
David Bonk, Planning Department