

Item Title: Wake County Response to Draft FY19 Transit Work Plan

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners receives an update on Wake Transit Implementation and authorizes a letter from Wake County to the Transit Planning Advisory Committee in response to the Draft FY 2019 Transit Work Plan

Item Summary:

Wake County continues to work in partnership with transit stakeholders on implementation of the Wake County Transit Plan. Since the passage of the half-cent sales tax for transit, Wake Transit added Sunday service and increased mid-day service for GoCary routes; increased Sunday service for GoRaleigh to match Saturday levels and increased frequency on the GoRaleigh Route 7 from every 30 minutes to every 15 minutes; and increased frequencies on GoTriangle Route 100 and Route 300 which connect Raleigh, Cary, RTP, and the airport. Currently underway are several studies to inform the implementation of the four big moves identified in the Wake Transit Plan, including the Wake Bus Plan, the Major Investment Study, the Community Funding Area Program Management Plan, a Staffing Study, and a Public Engagement Strategy Plan.

On January 23, 2018, the Transit Planning Advisory Committee released the FY 2019 Draft Work Plan for public, agency, and stakeholder comment. The draft plan outlines 2018-2019 proposed expenses for bus operations and items that support it like bus purchases and bus infrastructure like bus stops, park and rides, and transfer centers. Other funds are allocated to reserves to fund future year capital expenditures for bus rapid transit and commuter rail projects while those projects remain under study.

The FY 2019 Draft Transit Work Plan includes new proposed routes in Southeast Raleigh, Northwest Raleigh, Weston Parkway in Cary with service to Park West Village in Morrisville, span frequencies for GoTriangle serving the airport, RTP, Durham and Chapel Hill, and additional on demand trips for rural and disabled passengers. Also proposed is for youth 18 years of age and younger to be able to ride GoRaleigh, GoCary, and GoTriangle buses for free with a GoPass starting July 1st. The FY 2019 Draft Work Plan also includes funding the bus stops and other capital to support new service as well as the next phase of studies for commuter rail and BRT.

On February 12, 2018, staff presented to the Board of Commissioners' Transit Committee an update on Wake Transit Implementation and the Draft FY 2019 Transit Work Plan.

Staff has prepared a draft letter in response to the Draft FY 2019 Transit Work Plan. The letter, directed to the Chair of the Transit Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC), includes comments prepared by staff and those provided by the Transit Committee. The TPAC, as authorized by the Transit Governance ILA, is a committee composed of technical staff from transit providers, CAMPO, Wake County, NCSU, and all municipalities. The TPAC will review all public and agency comments and finalize the FY 2019 Transit Work Plan for consideration of adoption by CAMPO and GoTriangle in June.

Attachments:

1. Presentation
2. Letter to the Transit Planning Advisory Committee
3. FY 2019 Draft Transit Work Plan