

January 27, 2021

To: GoTriangle Board
From: Caroline Dwyer, AICP, Project Manager, Renaissance Planning
Re: Update on Orange County Transit Plan

Background

With the discontinuation of the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) project, a new Orange County Transit Plan is necessary to determine the priorities and projects that are most important and beneficial to Orange County and its constituent municipalities. In early 2020, Renaissance Planning was selected as the lead consultant to spearhead the effort of drafting a new Orange County Transit Plan. The project is organized into two main phases. Phase 1 introduces key transit planning concepts and frames choices in terms of easy-to-understand values to generate alternative conceptual transit scenarios. Phase 2 identifies proposed projects, prioritization criteria, and available revenues to produce implementation recommendations through 2040. The project team is currently transitioning from Phase 1 tasks to Phase 2 tasks (see image).

Tasks by Phase		
Phase 1	T1	PSC Coordination
	T2	Transit Choices Brochure
	T2	Regional Connections Opportunities Report
	T3	Engagement Preparations
	T3	Engagement Wave 1
	T4	Conceptual Scenario Development
Phase 2	T5	Identify projects
	T5	Prioritization process development
	T5	Preferred Scenario
	T6	Engagement wave 2 prep
	T6	Engagement Wave 2
	T7	Revenue forecasting
	T7	Implementation Plan
	T8	Final Report

Progress Summary

Several key project milestones have been met, including:

- Five (5) meetings with the Policy Steering Committee
- Project website launched: www.octransit2020.com
- [Public Engagement Plan](#) (PIP) completed
- [Transit Choices Brochure](#) was completed
- A review draft of the Regional Connections Opportunities was completed.
- A first round of public engagement was conducted from September 2020 to October 2020:



- A print and online [public survey](#) received 215 responses
- Approximately 60 individuals participated in a virtual [Transit Summit](#) on October 1, 2020.

Public engagement for the next phase of the transit plan is expected to begin in late January. This phase of engagement will focus on receiving feedback on the conceptual transit service scenarios being developed from the first round of public engagement in the fall of 2020.

Issues and Analysis

The team of consultants and staff developing the Orange County Transit Plan have every intention of planning and executing an equitable approach to community outreach and engagement. Issues related to COVID-19 make it difficult to reach certain populations. The Orange County Transit Plan team is committed to reaching all communities and the public engagement plan can be modified as our efforts to do this evolve.