

TO: CRTPO Delegates & Alternates
FROM: Neil Burke, AICP, PTP
Planning Coordinator
DATE: February 16, 2017

**SUBJECT: I-485 & Weddington Road Interchange Conformity Determination & Old Monroe Road/John Street Widening MTP/TIP Modification
Agenda Items 7a & 7B**

Agenda Item 7a: I-485/Weddington Road Conformity Determination Analysis Report

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommend to the MPO that it release a draft air quality conformity determination report for a 30-day public comment period.

BACKGROUND:

- NCDOT has determined that the construction of the I-485/Weddington Road interchange (R-211EC) will affect the operations of the auxiliary lanes on I-485 between this interchange and the I-485/John Street interchange.
- The addition of one additional lane in each direction between the two interchanges will alleviate the problem.
- The addition of the lanes will result in the need for an air quality conformity determination.
- The Charlotte region has been designated as “maintenance” for air quality. Therefore, when a project in the MTP and/or TIP has a scope change, an air quality conformity determination analysis must be conducted to ensure that the emissions resulting from the project scope change does not result in total emissions that would cause the CRTPO to exceed its emissions budgets.
- An air quality conformity determination analysis is required because the addition of auxiliary lanes were not analyzed in the previous conformity determination analyses that included the I-485 Express Lane project in the 2040 MTP and 2016-2025 TIP.

Agenda Item 7b: Old Monroe Road/John Street Widening MTP/TIP Modification

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommend to the MPO that it open a 30-day public comment period on amendments to the 2040 MTP and 2016-2025 TIP to segment the I-485/John Street interchange from the U-4714 project to allow the addition of loop ramps at the interchange to be constructed with the I-485 Express Lanes (I-5507) project.

BACKGROUND:

- The I-485/John Street Interchange currently operates at capacity during the weekday peak hours.
- The John Street widening project (U-4714) did not include interchange improvements at I-485 as it is currently depicted in the 2040 MTP and 2016-2025 TIP.
- The NC Board of Transportation has amended the STIP to segment the U-4714 project to allow the addition of loop ramps at the interchange to be let with the I-485 Express Lane (I-5507) project as a congestion-relief measure.

- Due to proximity, the 30-day public comment period for the U-4714 MTP and TIP amendments can be combined with the I-485/Weddington Road Interchange Conformity Determination public comment period.