



# Chatham County Transportation Update

June 2024



# Thanh Schado

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- M.A. Geography conc. Transportation Planning
  - B.S. Sustainable Development
  - B.S. Community & Regional Planning
- Internship with the NC Construction Partnership Network Institute.
  - Small Town Revitalization
  - Community Engagement



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# **Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

# Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Overview

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- The Transportation Advisory Committee's (TAC) purpose is to assist the County Commissioners on:
  - Providing input into the development of the County's Comprehensive Transportation Plan every five to ten years as NCDOT requests;
  - Providing input into NCDOT's transportation project prioritization process within the county;
  - Major transportation projects or related issues of concern as assigned by the Board of Commissioners, Planning Department, or TAC Chairs.

# TAC Membership

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- The Committee has a total of 11 voting members and up to 8 non-voting members. Each of the 5 county commissioner districts appoints 2 voting members from a list of recommended candidates to ensure geographic equity.
- Currently, only one vacant voting seat.

First meeting 6/18  
(Tuesday) @ 6 pm  
Old Ag Center





# Transportation Planning in Chatham County

# Alternative Transportation Demand Study RFP

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Chatham County is seeking proposals from a qualified consulting firm, or team of firms, with a strong background in **community engagement**, qualitative data analysis, and relevant experience in conducting studies pertaining to **regional** transportation planning, **bicycle-pedestrian** design and multi-modal transit **system equity** to develop an alternative transportation demand (ATD) study for the county. This project will utilize community engagement to gauge transportation **needs and demand**, develop projections for future needs and demand, and provide stakeholders with **recommendations** on how to ensure the future conditions meet the projected needs of the community.



# Adopted Chatham County Transportation Plans

- [Chatham County Bicycle Plan](#)

- On July 18, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Chatham County's first Bicycle Plan. Siler City adopted the plan on August 1, 2011, and Pittsboro on October 10, 2011. The plan identifies biking networks and potential infrastructure and policy improvements for the county.

- [Chatham County Comprehensive Transportation Plan](#)

- The plan was adopted by Chatham County CTP and was last mutually adopted by the North Carolina Board of Transportation in January 2017.

# Other Adopted Transportation Plans including Chatham

- [NCDOT Strategic Transportation Corridors](#)

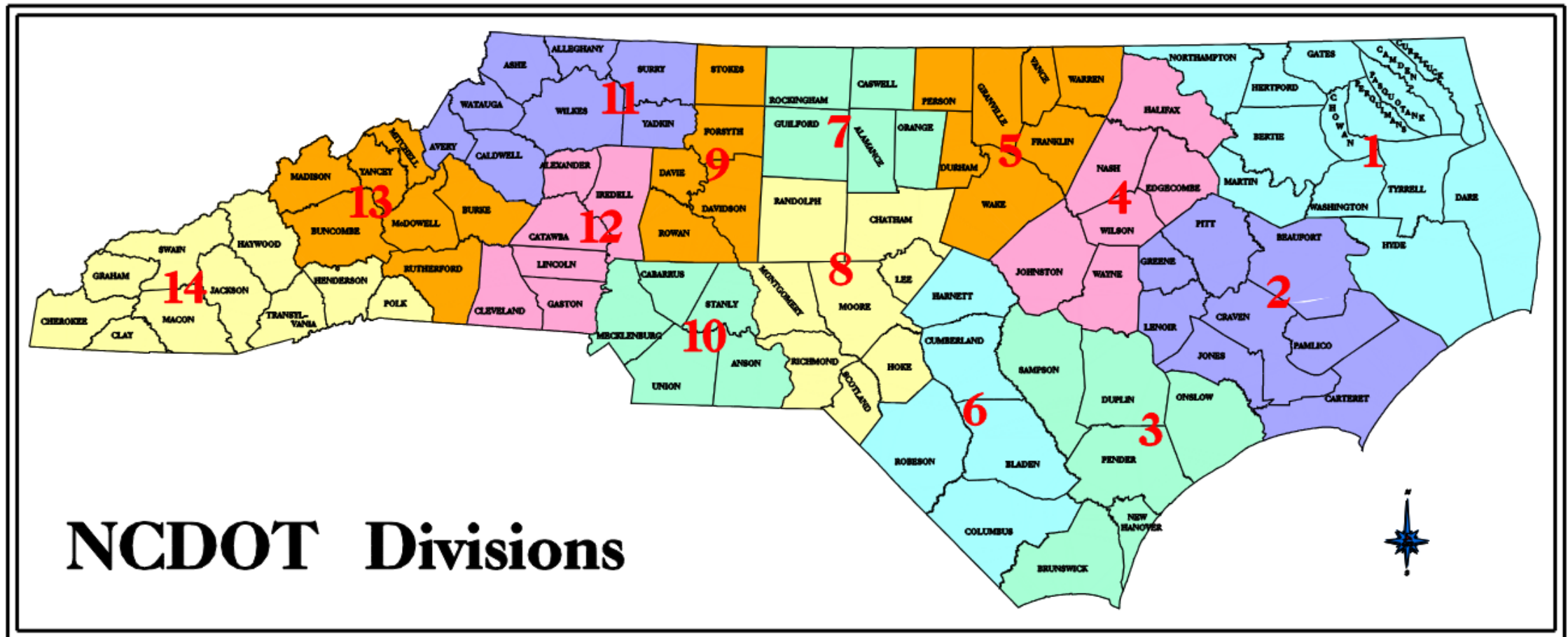
- In mid-2013, NCDOT began to update its Strategic Highway Corridors (SHC) Policy, which 10 years earlier had identified 55 highway corridors across the state deemed to be of high priority in achieving state development goals.

- [NCDOT State Transportation Improvement Plan](#)

- A 10-year State and Federal-mandated plan that identifies the construction funding for and scheduling of transportation projects throughout the state.

- [SPOT](#)

- Strategic Transportation Prioritization is the process of point assignment to projects to be submitted to NCDOT. Projects will be included in the new STI based on submitted lists for MPOs/RPOs.



North Carolina is divided into 14 regions – referred to as highway divisions – in which the N.C. Department of Transportation's Division of Highways distributes the duties of building and maintaining state-owned bridges and highways.

Chatham County is located in Division 8, District 1

Resources:

State Maintained Road Map:  
<https://www.nconemap.gov/maps/157dbc4ef33f4db4aa1ecc1a3182a375/explore>

Report a Problem to NCDOT:  
<https://www.ncdot.gov/contact/Pages/default.aspx>



### **State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP)**

The STIP is a multi-year capital improvement document that denotes the scheduling and funding of construction projects across the state over a minimum 4-year time-period as required by Federal law. North Carolina's STIP covers 10 years, with the first five years (2024-2028 in this version) referred to as the delivery STIP and the latter five years (2029-2034 in this version) as the developmental STIP.

North Carolina's STIP is typically updated every two years (but no later than every four years) and developed in concert with federal and state revenue forecasts, North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT's) Strategic Prioritization process, preconstruction, and project development timetables, and in adherence with federal and state laws. North Carolina state law requires Board of Transportation (BOT) action to approve the STIP.

### **Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP)**

This CTP is a multimodal Long Range Transportation Plan, which identifies transportation improvement needs in the planning area and develops long-term solutions for the next 25 to 30 years. The Chatham County CTP was developed through a joint effort between the County, municipalities within the County, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), and the Central Pines Rural Planning Organization (CPRPO). The study emphasized the integration of transportation planning with all the patterns of land development, population growth, traffic trends, economic conditions, and prospects.





## Transportation Planning

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Government agencies work collaboratively on long-range plans and regional plans.

Most collaboration and connecting of county, municipal, and similar government agencies are through participation in Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and/or Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs).

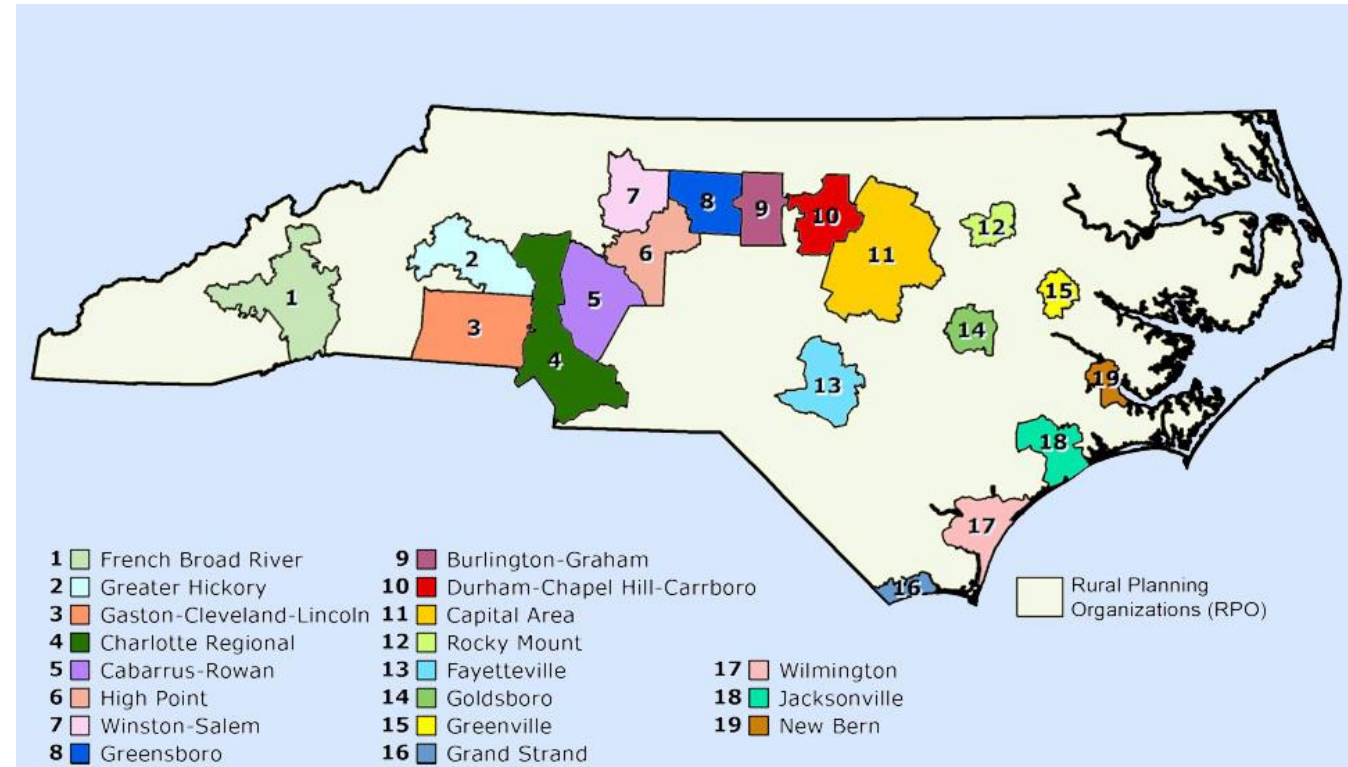
Chatham County is a part of 2 MPOs and 1 RPO.



**MPOs/RPOs**

# MPOs

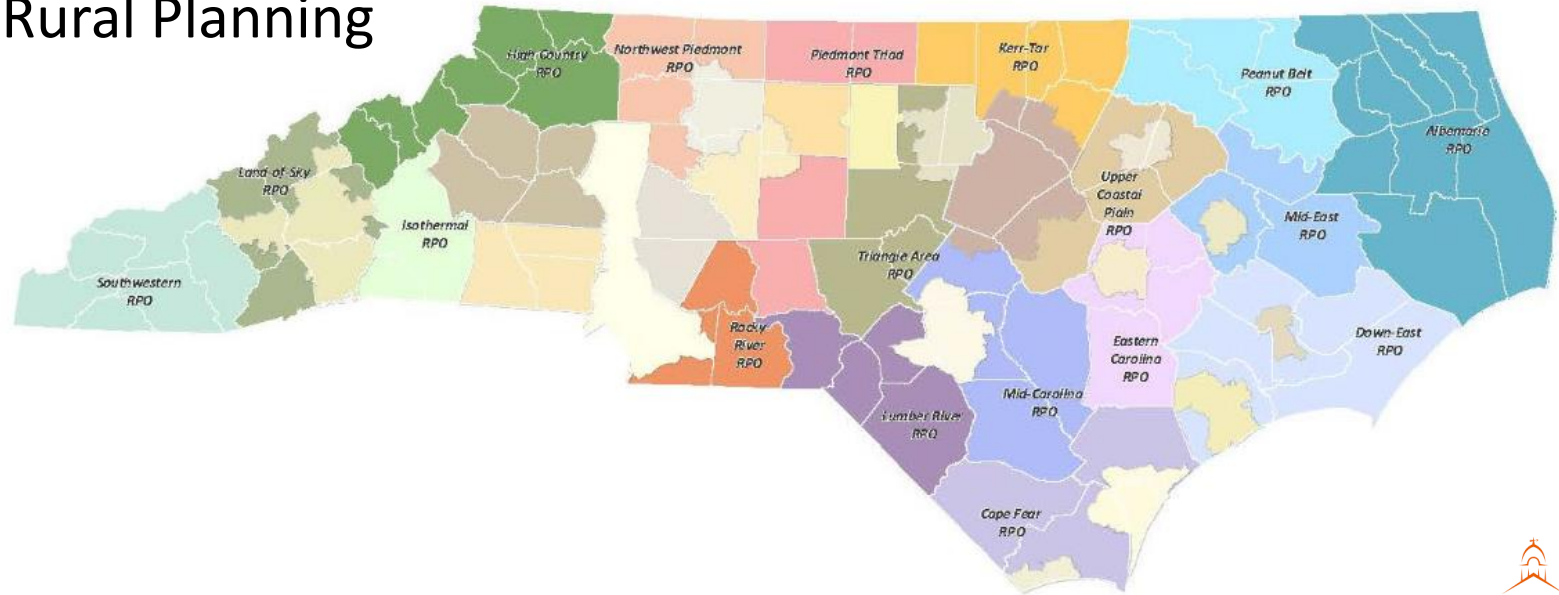
According to The Federal Aid Highway Act of 1962, areas considered by the Federal Census to be urban in nature with a population of at least 50,000 must have a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive (“3C”) transportation planning process. To receive funding from the federal government in the state of North Carolina, this process is carried out by Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO). Members from each of the MPOs make up the North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NCAMPO). Currently, there are 19 MPOs in North Carolina.





# RPOs

In 2000, the State of North Carolina recognized the need for more coordinated transportation planning in rural North Carolina areas not within an MPO by enacting Chapter 136, Article 17, Section 136-210-213 of the General Statutes. This provided for the development of Rural Planning Organizations (RPO). There are 18 Rural Planning Organizations in the State.



# MPO/RPO Structure

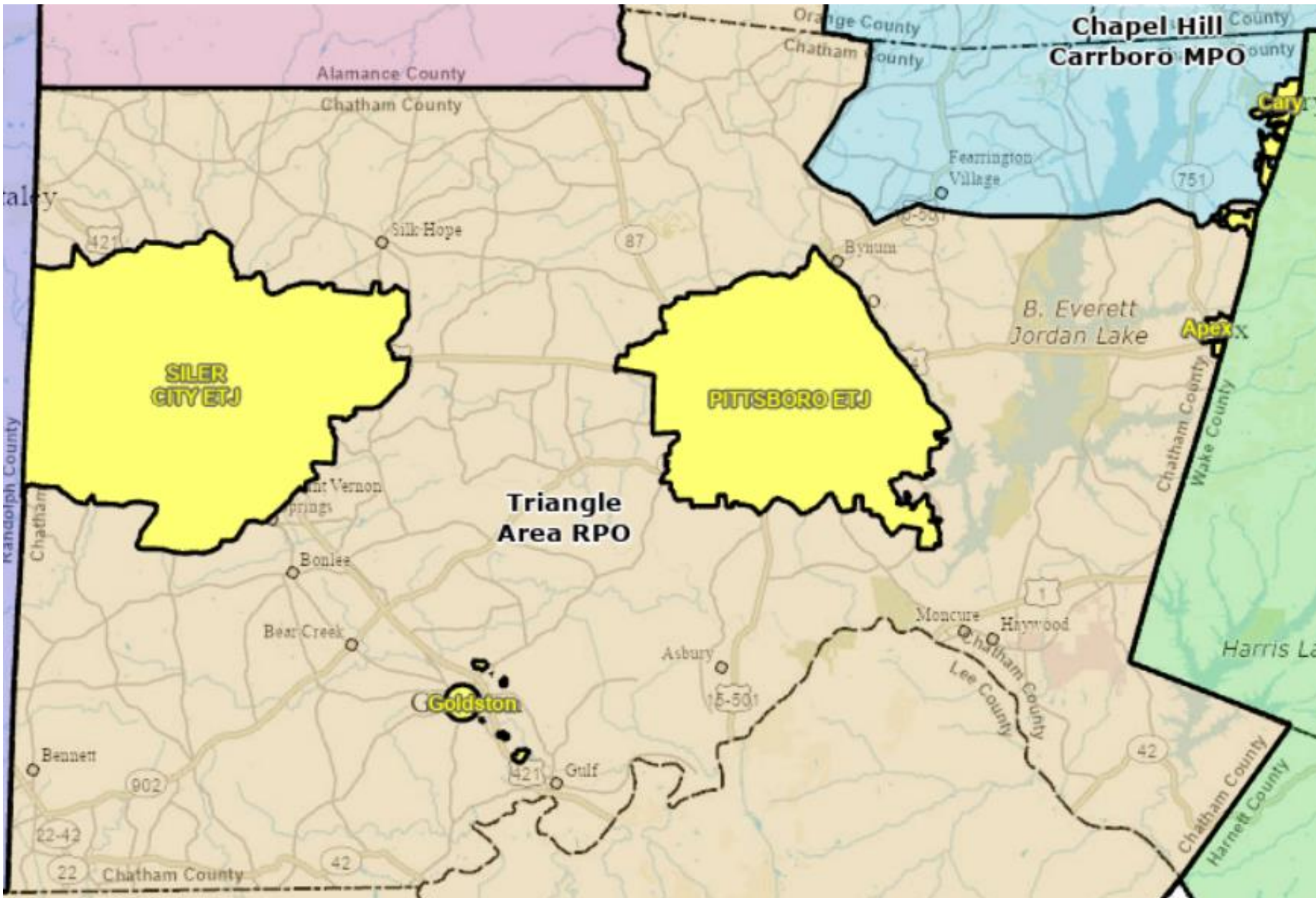
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- While the structure of MPOs/RPOs and the name of the committees may vary, these planning organizations consist of a few main components:
  - **A Technical Committee** = Comprised of staff from member and stakeholder agencies. The technical committee provides technical recommendations to the Executive Board.
  - **An Executive Board** = Decision-making body of the MPO/RPO. It is comprised of elected officials from member governments, as well as stakeholders from other agencies.
  - **Professional Staff** = Full-time Employees of the MPO/RPO

# Chatham County MPO/RPO Map

This map shows the ETJs and MPO/RPO planning areas in Chatham County.

CAMPO is not included in this map as Chatham County is newly joined member and the boundary changes were within the past year. See the next slide for CAMPO's planning area in Chatham County.

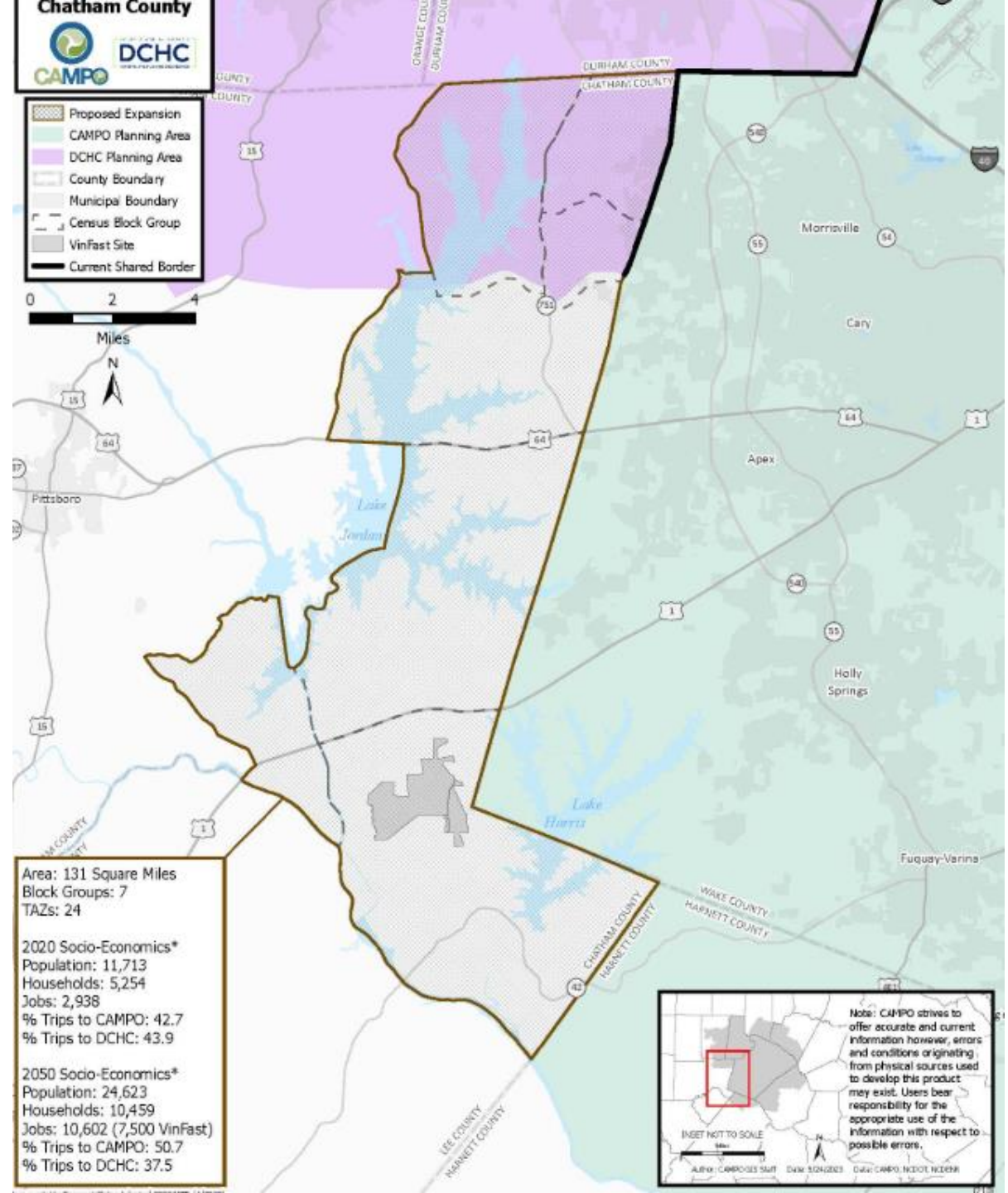






NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

- Newest addition, in MOU signing process.
  - CAMPO coming to present in July
- Active Projects/Studies:
  - [Western Wake Blueprint for Safety Technical Advisory Team](#)
  - [Triangle Bikeway Project 2024 Update](#)
  - [Wake Bus Rapid Transit: Western and Southern Rapid Bus Extensions Study](#)





## Active Projects/Studies:

- [Congestion Management Process Sub-Committee](#)
- [Wildlife Crossing Core Technical Team](#)
- Communications Framework and Visual Branding Stakeholder Focus Group
- [Safe Streets 4 All Review Committee](#)  
(consultant selection)
- [Coordinated Transportation Plan Update](#) (workshops & public comment)

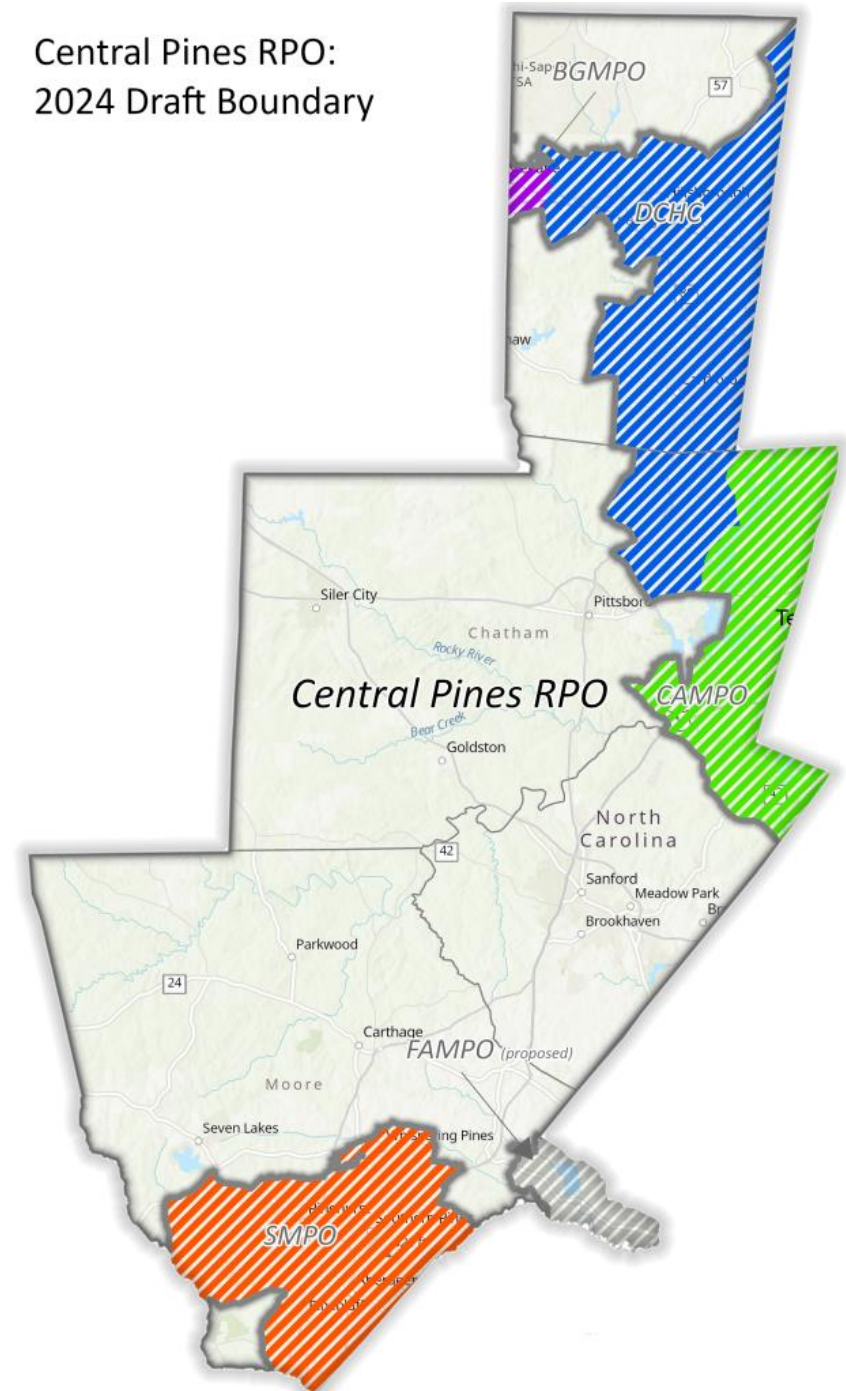




## Active Projects/Studies:

- [SPOT 7.0](#)
- EV Charging Stations Funded

Central Pines RPO:  
2024 Draft Boundary





# FAST 2.0

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- A regional Freeway, Arterial, Street, and Tactical (FAST) transit study is being conducted as a follow-up initiative to the original FAST study conducted in 2020-2021
  - Wake County
  - Durham County
  - Orange County
  - Johnston County
- Objectives include:
  - Make freeways and boulevards “transit ready”
  - Identify and accelerate regional Bus Rapid Transit and FAST transit corridors that link RDU airport to Research Triangle Park and downtown Raleigh
  - Advance Systematic Management of Adaptable Roadways through Technology (SMART) freeways
- NCDOT’s Integrated Mobility Division is managing the FAST study
- WSP is the lead study consultant



# Thank you!

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