



Transportation

To: Durham Board of County Commissioners
From: Brandi Minor, Staff Working Group Administrator
Subject: Durham Transit FY 2025 Q4 Work Program Budget Amendment
Date: May 12, 2025

Background and Purpose

The Durham Staff Working Group (“SWG”) recommended releasing for public comment the following amendments to the FY 2025 Durham Transit Work Program (“Work Program”) at the meeting held on March 19, 2025. A summary of the amendments is as follows:

1. **Low-Income Fare Pass (TAP – Transit Assistance Program)** – GoTriangle is requesting to increase the project budget by \$146,000. The net impact on the budget is an increase of \$118,000, as they are also proposing a \$14,000 decrease each in the budgets of the Youth GoPass and Fare Collection Improvements projects. The TAP program was received enthusiastically by riders and over 12,000 individuals have benefited from the program on GoTriangle or GoRaleigh since July 2024. The TAP benefit accounts for about 40% of GoTriangle’s ridership. This level of adoption is in line with 2023 rider survey data which found that 51% of GoTriangle riders reported their income at or below \$35,000. Due to the robust adoption of the TAP program, GoTriangle is seeking increased funding for the program in all three counties based on TAP ridership across each county.
2. **Paratransit Expansion** – GoTriangle is requesting to increase the project budget by \$40,000 to cover year-to-date and anticipated usage of paratransit services. The growth in Paratransit utilization is consistent with the increase on Sunday and Saturday ridership on fixed route services - more than double what GoTriangle saw in FY19, when the budget for paratransit expansion services was last adjusted.
3. **Direct Investment in Mobility Equity (DIME) Grant** – This amendment was rescinded by the City of Durham after its release for public comment.

Public Engagement

The public comment period (March 20, 2025 – April 10, 2025) was advertised on Durham County’s Staff Working Group website and social media outlets. We received one public comment from Bike Durham in support of the Q4 amendments. As these amendments are technical in nature, the SWG did not anticipate receiving many comments during the engagement period.

SWG Recommendation

On April 14, 2025, the SWG voted unanimously to recommend approval of these amendments by the Durham County Board of Commissioners (“BOCC”) and the GoTriangle Board of Trustees. GoTriangle’s Audit and Finance Committee is expected to review and consider these amendments at their meeting on May 7, 2025, followed by the anticipated approval by the GoTriangle Board of Trustees at their meeting on May 28, 2025.

Financial Impact

The proposed amendments, if approved by the BOCC and GoTriangle Board of Trustees, will increase the FY 2025 Durham Transit Work Program by \$158,000. The Work Program consists of Transit Plan funds that are incorporated into the GoTriangle budget and are separate from the Durham County budget. No County funds are needed for these amendments and all funding will be reimbursed by GoTriangle via the Durham Transit Plan.

Agency	Project Title	FY 25 Original Funding Allocation	FY 25 Requested Funding Allocation	FY 25 Funding Impact
GoTriangle	Low Income Fare Pass (TAP - Transit Assistance Program)	\$ 78,697	\$ 224,697	\$ 146,000
	Youth GoPass	\$ 27,212	\$ 13,212	\$ (14,000)
	Fare Collection Improvements	\$ 24,900	\$ 10,900	\$ (14,000)
GoTriangle	Paratransit Expansion	\$ 43,812	\$ 83,812	\$ 40,000
Total Operating Budget Impact				\$ 158,000

Action Requested

The SWG requests the Board of County Commissioners to approve the Durham Transit FY 2025 Q4 Work Program Amendment.