



**ORANGE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT**



**Orange County Staff Work Group
February 18th, 2026
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Whitted Building
300 W Tryon St. Hillsborough, NC 27278**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call Chapel Hill, Chair
2. Adjustments to the Agenda Chapel Hill, Chair
3. Public Comment Chapel Hill, Chair
4. Administrative SWG Administrator
 - a. SWG Administration SWG Administrator
 - I. January 21, 2026, minutes
Action: Recommend Approval
 - II. February 9, 2026, minutes
Action: Recommend Approval
 - b. Go Triangle Transit, Go Triangle
 - I. Regional Technology Plan
Action: Recommend Approval
 - c. Go-Triangle Tax District, Go Triangle
 - I. Orange Transit FY27 WP Status Quo
5. Project Sponsor Updates Chapel Hill, Chair
 - a. Chapel Hill
 - b. Mebane
 - c. Hillsborough
 - d. Carrboro
 - e. Go Triangle
 - f. Triangle West
 - g. Tax District
 - h. Orange County
 - i. SWG Administrator
6. Next Meeting – March 18th, 2026, Hillsborough, NC
7. Adjournment

MINUTES
ORANGE STAFF WORKING GROUP
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026

1 The Orange Staff Working Group (OSWG) met on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 10:00 am.
2 The following members and guests were in attendance:

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4	Josh Mayo (Chair, Voting Member)	Chapel Hill
5	Ashley Ownbey (Co-Chair, Voting Member)	Mebane
6	Sarah Williamson-Baker (Voting Member)	Orange County
7	Jamael Wiley (Voting Member)	Orange County
8	Caroline Dwyer (Voting Member)	Chapel Hill
9	Stephanie Trueblood (Voting Member)	Hillsborough
10	Jay Heikes (Voting Member)	GoTriangle
11	Matthew Clark (Voting Member)	Sr. Manager, GoTriangle
12	Logan DiGiacomo (Voting Member)	GoTriangle
13	Christina Moon (Voting Member)	Town of Carrboro
14	Becca Eversole (Voting Member)	Town of Carrboro
15	Madeline Galliano (Voting Member)	Triangle West TPO
16	Doug Plachcinski (Voting Member)	Triangle West TPO
17	Colleen McGue (Voting Member)	Triangle West TPO
18	Darlene Weaver	SWG Administrator
19	Brandon Carey	TDA, Administrator
20	Steven Schlossberg	TDA, Administrator
21	Jason Hardin	Senior Transportation Planner, GoTriangle
22	Kelley Smith	Paralegal, GoTriangle
23	Holly Stott	Assoc. General Counsel, GoTriangle

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26 1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** J. Mayo called the meeting to order at 10:02 and confirmed the
27 meeting was being recorded.
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29 2. **Adjustments to Agenda**
30 **Motion:** Josh Mayo made a motion to remove the October Special Meeting and
31 December meeting minutes from the agenda due to administrative corrections at the
32 request of the SWG administrative after receiving updates and adjustments.
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34 3. **Public Comments:** None received to address.
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36 4. **Administrative:**
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38 **a. SWG Administration**
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40 **i. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes**

41 Josh Mayo made a motion to remove the October Special Meeting and December
42 meeting minutes from the agenda due to administrative corrections at the request of
43 the SWG administrative after receiving updates and adjustments.

44 Seconded: ???

45 Passes: Unanimously approved
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ii. Approval of December Minutes

Josh Mayo made a motion to remove the October Special Meeting and December meeting minutes from the agenda due to administrative corrections at the request of the SWG administrative after receiving updates and adjustments.

Seconded: ???

Passes: Unanimously approved

iii. FY26 Q2 AWP Amendments

Chapel Hill requested clarification regarding the status of previously submitted Q2 amendments. Orange County staff indicated the amendments are expected to go before the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) in February. If BOCC rejects or modifies items, they will return to SWG for further action. A special meeting may be required depending on BOCC timing.

iv. FY27 AWP- Review of Administrative Corrections

The Chair clarified that the purpose of this meeting was to: Review administrative corrections. Ensure project sponsors confirm the accuracy of submissions.

Prepare for substantive funding discussions at the February 6 special meeting.

Discussion included:

- Clarification of projects included in the 2022 Transit Plan
- Identification of unfunded priorities
- Review of cost increases between FY26 projections and FY27 requests
- Discussion of performance metrics and service coordination
- Timeline concerns for the AWP schedule.
- Clarification on who benefits from each project.

The discussion also included concerns about the overall funding deficit and the need to compare prior multi-year projections to current FY27 requests. Other points were the importance of reasonable project costs and delivery timelines, and the need to maintain public trust through realistic programming. For performance and metrics, it was decided to include the performance metrics in the FY27 or address the metrics during the upcoming Transit Plan Update. The group decided that the standard transit performance data (ridership, cost per hour) should inform more project discussions. For service coordination, it was discussed that there was possible limited coordination across agencies in some areas, and there was an opportunity to improve regional efficiency and reduce duplication.

Action Items:

October and December minutes removed from the agenda

Project sponsors would respond to project-specific questions by February 6.

Administrative corrections to be finalized before the February 6 meeting.

Financial Procedures Subcommittee to convene soon.

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5. Project Sponsor Updates:

- a. **Chapel Hill** – BRT federal risk review nearing completion and formal grant submission anticipated in February.
- b. **Hillsborough** – no updates
- c. **Carrboro** – Morgan Creek Greenway progressing, and minor project worksheet revisions forthcoming.
- d. **Go Triangle** – no updates
- e. **Tax District** – no updates
- f. **Triangle West** – Staffing Study RFQ to be released and contract execution contingent on funding confirmation.
- g. **Orange County** – no updates.
- h. **Staff Administrator** – no updates

6. Next Meeting: February 6th, 2026

7. Adjournment: J. Mayo thanked the group and adjourned the meeting.

Prepared by: Darlene Weaver

MINUTES
ORANGE STAFF WORKING GROUP
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

1 The Orange Staff Working Group (OSWG) met on Friday, February 6, 2026, at 10:00 am. The
2 following members and guests were in attendance:

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4 Josh Mayo (Chair, Voting Member) Chapel Hill
5 Ashley Ownbey (Co-Chair, Voting Member) Mebane
6 Jamael Wiley (Voting Member) Orange County
7 Katrina Walls (Voting Member) Orange County
8 Caroline Dwyer (Voting Member) Chapel Hill
9 Stephanie Trueblood (Voting Member) Hillsborough
10 Jay Heikes (Voting Member) GoTriangle
11 Matthew Clark (Voting Member) Sr. Manager, Strategic, GoTriangle
12 Logan DiGiacomo (Voting Member) GoTriangle
13 Christina Moon (Voting Member) Town of Carrboro
14 Becca Eversole (Voting Member) Town of Carrboro
15 Madeline Galliano (Voting Member) Triangle West TPO
16 Doug Plachcinski (Voting Member) Triangle West TPO
17 Darlene Weaver SWG Administrator
18 Brandon Carey TDA, Administrator
19 Steven Schlossberg TDA, Administrator
20 Kelley Smith Paralegal, GoTriangle
21 Jason Hardin Senior Transportation Planner, GoTriangle
22 Alvin Gonzalez Finance, GoTriangle

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24 1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** J. Mayo called the meeting to order at 10:02 and confirmed the
25 meeting was being recorded.

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27 2. **Adjustments to Agenda:** None received to address.

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29 3. **Public Comments:** None received to address.

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31 4. **Administrative:**

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33 **a. SWG Administration**

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35 **i. FY27 Schedule Change –**

36 Staff reviewed a revised schedule to accommodate delays in public release and
37 ongoing discussions. Members expressed concern that the proposed schedule was
38 aggressive, given the volume of unresolved comments and project-level questions.
39 The member said the schedule is dependent on the timely resolution of
40 administrative edits and sponsor feedback.

41 Motion: Josh Mayo made a motion to postpone until the next meeting.

42 Second: Doug Plachcinski

43 Vote: Unanimously approved

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45 **ii. FY27 AWP Sponsor Questions**

46 Multiple members raised concerns regarding outstanding administrative edits,
47 typos, and unresolved comments in the AWP draft. Discussion focused on
48 improving transparency and tracking of comments through a formal reconciliation
49 or “disposition” document. Emphasis was placed on ensuring the AWP is accurate
50 before the public document is released. The Staff Working Group Administrative
51 expressed concerns about receiving last-minute corrections, as well as input from
52 members, and how other members wanted corrections or changes to what other
53 members suggested. Questions were raised about how agenda items are
54 developed and how administrative tasks are tracked across agencies. It was
55 clarified that project sponsors are responsible for submitting requested updates,
56 with the SWG Administrator coordinating and compiling changes. Approximately
57 75–80 questions were submitted across agencies, with Orange County having the
58 largest share. Due to time constraints, the group agreed to prioritize high-impact
59 questions and focus the discussion accordingly.
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61 **iii. FY27 AWP Prioritization options**

62 Members decided if funding was available to update the Orange County Transit
63 Plan to align with recent accomplishments. Discussion included scope (update vs.
64 full rewrite), timing, and whether \$300,000 is an appropriate funding level given the
65 current fund balance. It was also determined that members could update the cost
66 per hour and add new projects during the update.

67 Actions Items:

- 68 1. Identify and document projects for removal, alternate funding, or amendment in
69 the future.
 - 70 ▪ Chapel Hill- Remove Data Monitoring/Reporting, transfer funds from the
71 existing project, and proceed with an amendment.
 - 72 ▪ Hillsborough- Remove the Ridgeway Greenway and consider revisiting it
73 in the future.
 - 74 ▪ GoTriangle - Route 800, remove request for extra funding.
 - 75 ▪ Carrboro: Provide a list of removal or alternative funding or another FY
 - 76 ▪ Orange County – Adjust the cost per hour based on revenue numbers.
- 77 2. TDA will provide update Status Quo report to help the members at the February
78 18th meeting.
- 79 3. Review the revised project list after reviewing the Status Quo from TDA and
80 prepare to discuss project tradeoffs/ compromises.
- 81 4. Staff Working Administrative would pause on updating the FY27 AWP until after
82 the members decided on what projects to include in the FY27 AWP.
- 83 5. Postponement of approving the FY27 Annual Work Program Schedule and
84 clarifying the date adjustments until after the next meeting on February 18th.

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86 5. **Next Meeting:** February 18th, 2026

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88 6. **Adjournment:** J. Mayo thanked the group and adjourned the meeting.
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Prepared by: Darlene Weaver



Orange Transit

FY27 Work Program Status Quo

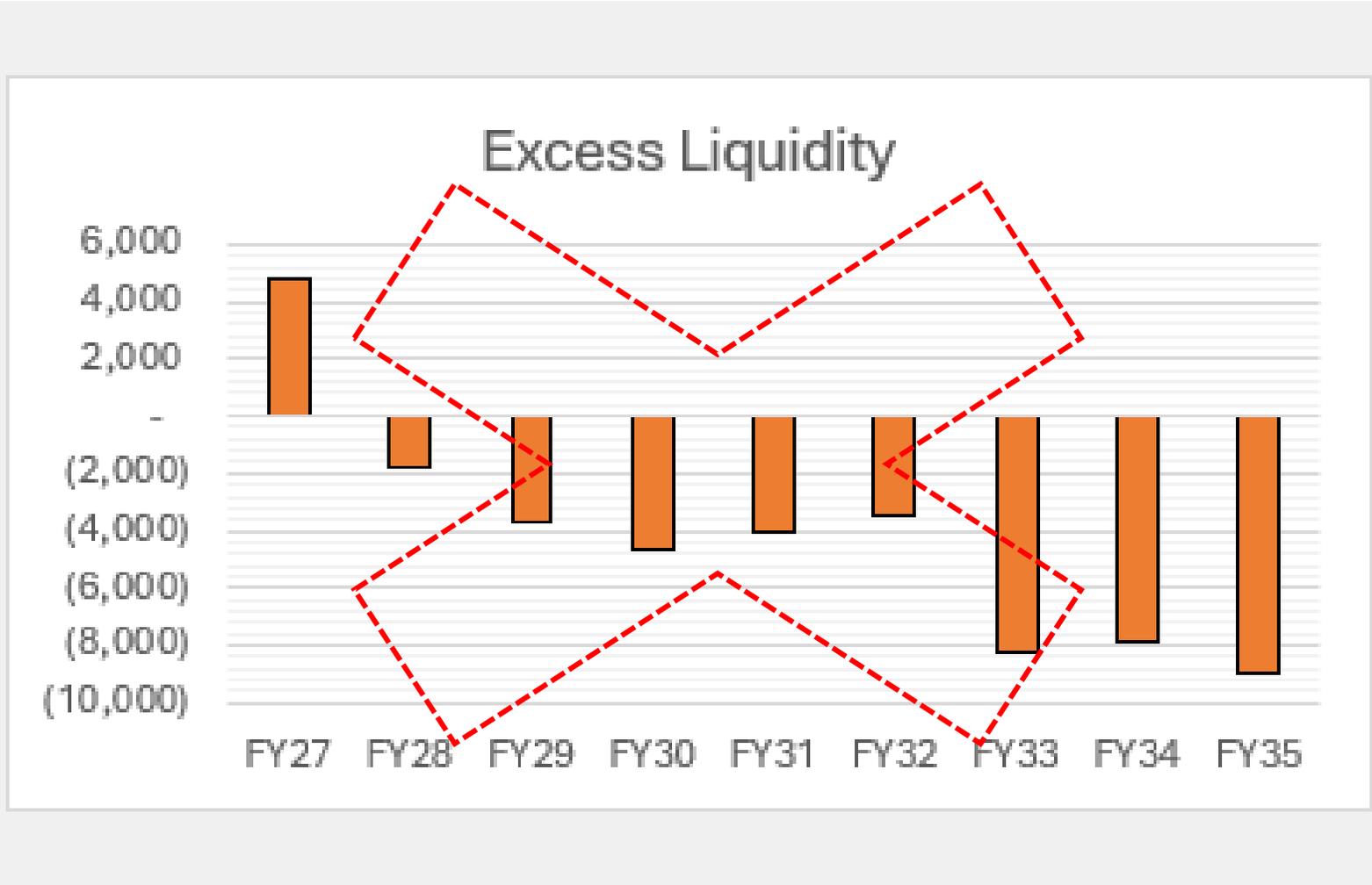


Orange Transit Work Program Model Outcome

- *Three Key Financial Metrics are needed to have a viable Model:*
 - EBIDTA Debt Service Coverage (Debt Ratio) of 1.25
 - Gross Debt Service Coverage of 3.00
 - Capital Liquidity (Excess Liquidity): \$1

Current FY27 Work Program

**Does not meet financial
policy and guidelines**



Based on project sheet submission (Dec 2025)

Adjustments included in the Status Quo

February 6th Special Meeting - Status Quo

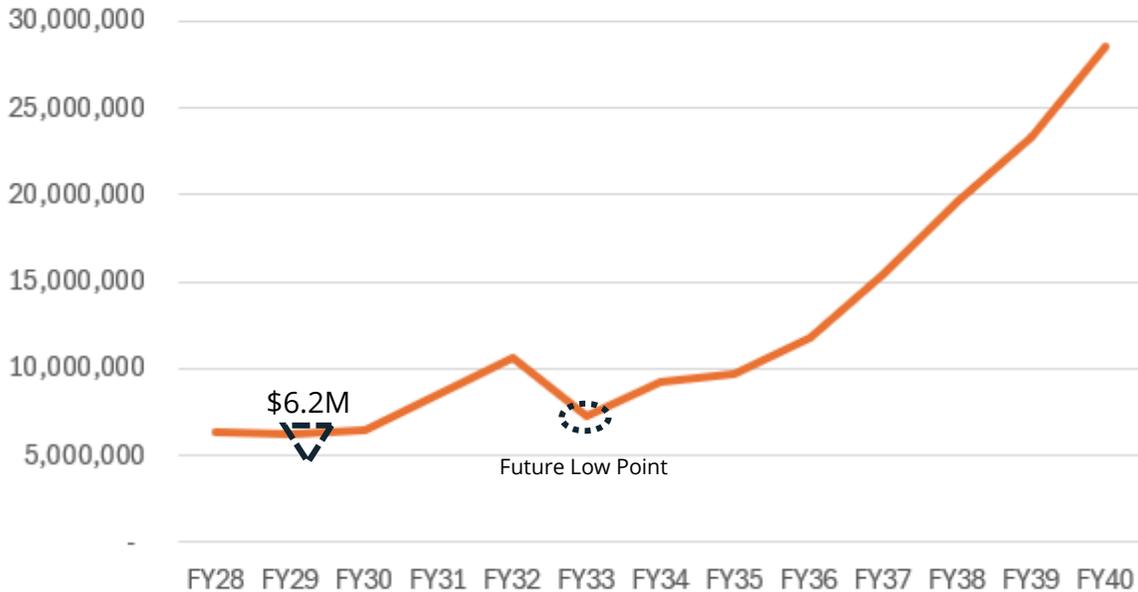
- Remove the Town of Hillsborough Ridgeway Greenway
- Move Bus Acquisition from GoT from FY27 to FY28
- I.C.E.S projects to account for lower \$7 Registration
- FY25 Actual Revenues and Operating Expenses
- Future Year Revenues
- Added Interest Income

This scenario includes MYOP/CIP projects adopted as part of the FY26 Program

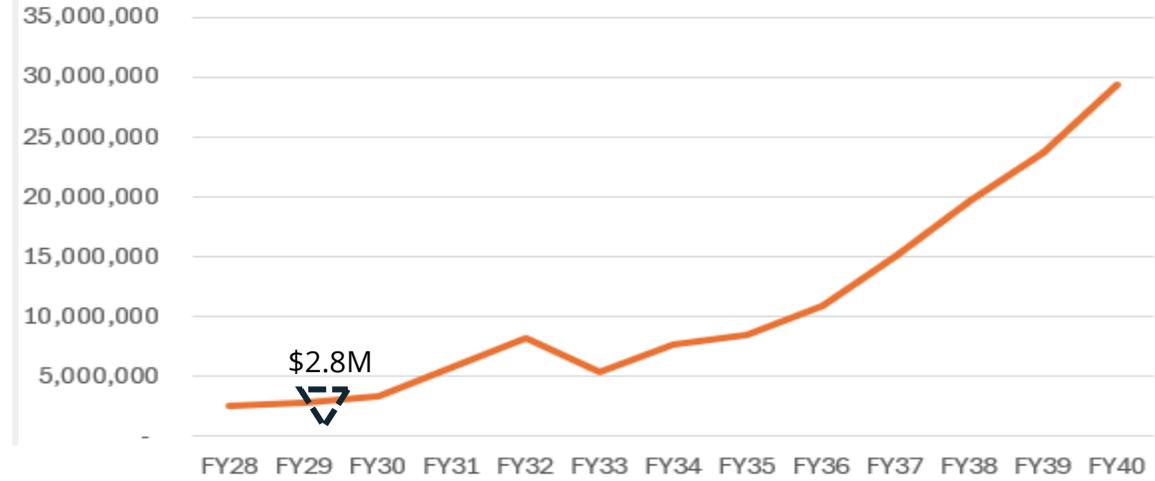
Excess Liquidity

FY27 Status Quo Scenario

Excess Liquidity



Excess Liquidity



FY26 Adopted Orange Transit Program

Main Impacts

Ridgeway Greenway: \$2M in savings

Prior years Investment Income: \$2.1M in Revenue

Lower FY27 & FY28 Local Revenue Projections: \$0.7M

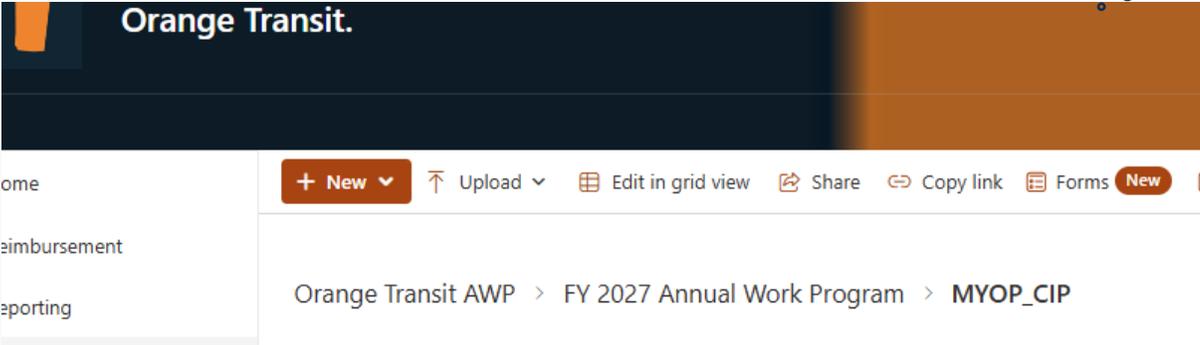
Low Point (FY29)

\$6.2M

Adding additional operating/capital projects
Impact: Reserve policy must be recalculated

Key Take Away

MYOP / CIP



Orange Transit.

ome

reimbursement

reporting

+ New Upload Edit in grid view Share Copy link Forms New

Orange Transit AWP > FY 2027 Annual Work Program > MYOP_CIP



Thank you

