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**Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearing
Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission**

**FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program and
FY 2019-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update**

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC), as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the southern New Hampshire region, announces a public comment period on the draft FY 2019-2022 SNHPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and FY 2019-2040 SNHPC Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update.

A thirty (30) day public comment period for the TIP and Plan Update begins on January 25, 2019 and runs through February 25, 2019. During this period, the TIP and Plan Update will be available for public review on the SNHPC website (www.snhpc.org) and at the SNHPC offices on regular business days, Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

Following the 30-day public comment period, and pursuant to the SNHPC Public Involvement Process, a public hearing to review comments, solicit final public feedback, and consider adoption of the TIP and Plan Update has been scheduled for **February 26, 2019 at 11:30 AM** at the SNHPC office, at 438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH.

Agencies receiving Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds are required to comply with certain public participation requirements, including those specified with respect to Urbanized Area Formula Grants made pursuant to FTA Section 5307. For transit providers operating in the SNHPC Region, the SNHPC process for public review, participation and comment on the TIP and Plan serves as the public participation process regarding the program of projects for such providers. These providers include, but may not be limited to, the Manchester Transit Authority (MTA) and the Greater Derry-Salem Cooperative Alliance for Regional Transportation (CART).

On July 20, 2013, all of New Hampshire became unclassifiable/attainment for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). On April 6, 2015, the 1997 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS was revoked for all purposes, including transportation conformity, thus alleviating the Boston-Manchester-Portsmouth (SE) NH area from having to demonstrate the conformity of transportation plans. However, due to a decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (South Coast Air Quality Management District v. EPA), as of February 16, 2019, transportation conformity for the 1997 ozone NAAQS will again apply in the Boston-Manchester-Portsmouth (SE) NH "Orphan Area." Therefore, the SNHPC will be required to demonstrate conformity for the 1997 ozone NAAQS for any plans approved after February 16, 2019.

On March 10, 2014, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved a maintenance plan, known as a “limited maintenance plan,” to address Carbon Monoxide (CO) for the City of Manchester. Because of the approved limited maintenance plan, the SNHPC no longer completes a regional emissions analysis for carbon monoxide pursuant to 40 CFR 93.109(e) “Areas with limited maintenance plans.” However, all other transportation conformity requirements under 40 CFR 93.109(b) continue to apply, including project-level conformity determinations based on carbon monoxide hot spot analyses under 40 CFR 93.116. The TIP and Plan Update meet all applicable requirements under the conformity rule.

Comments on the TIP and Plan Update should be submitted in writing to the SNHPC during the comment period, or at the public hearing. Comments on the TIP and Plan Update will be considered for incorporation into the final documents, as directed by the SNHPC Policy Committee following the public hearing. Comments on the TIP and Plan Update should be submitted to Nathan Miller, AICP, Deputy Executive Director by regular mail at 438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH or by e-mail at nmiller@snhpc.org.

Individuals requiring assistance or special arrangements to attend the public hearing should contact Linda Moore-O’Brien, SNHPC Office Administrator, at (603) 669-4664.

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