

# Consolidated Manchester [R8]/ Derry-Salem [R9] Regional Coordination Council

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Via Zoom (Scott Bogle, Host)

## MEETING MINUTES

### ATTENDEES:

Fred Roberge, Chair – Easterseals NH  
Laurie Makarawicz – CART  
Debra Perou – RNMOV  
George Sioras – Derry  
Mike Whitten – MTA  
James Wilkie – CareGivers Inc.

Ryan Noronha – Catholic Charities  
Scott Bogle – RPC  
Nate Miller – SNHPC  
Carl Eppich – SNHPC  
Sylvia von Aulock – SNHPC  
Adam Hlasny – SNHPC

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Fred Roberge called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

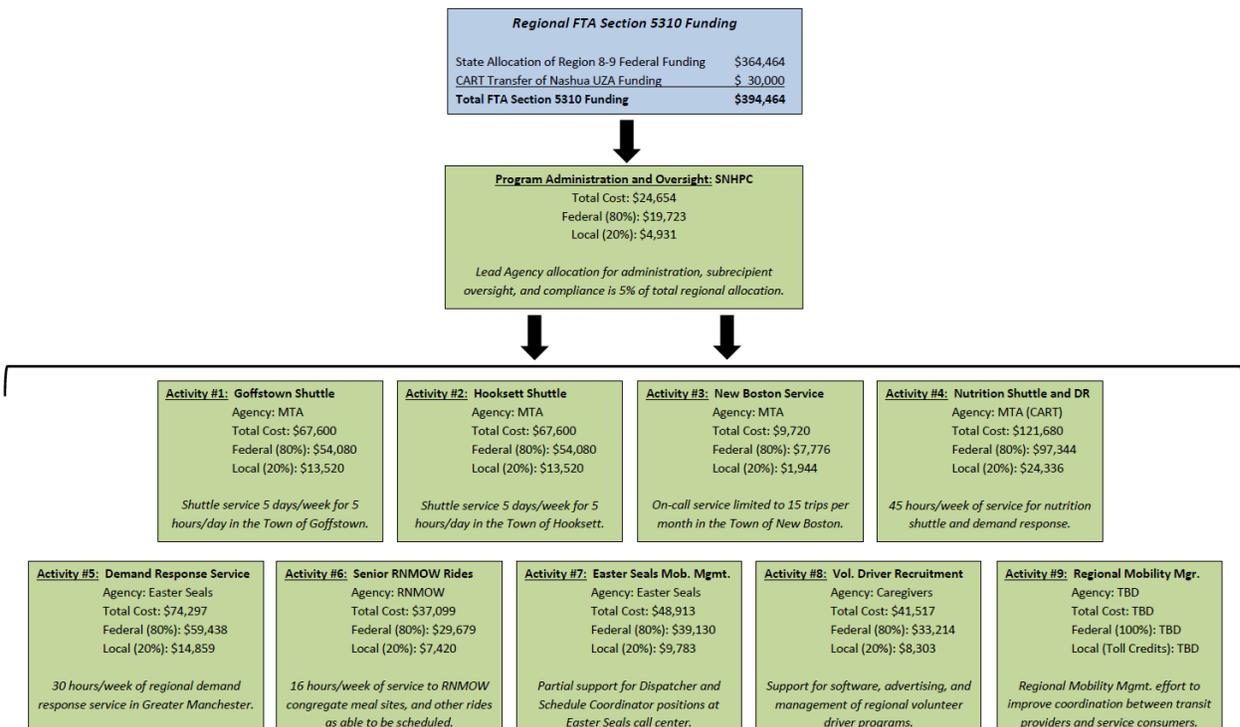
### 2. Action on Minutes of February 10, 2021

*Motion by George to approve February 10 minutes, seconded by Mike and approved unanimously.*

### 3. Proposed FY 2022-23 FTA Section 5310 Activities

Nate gave a final summary of the proposed program of activities, noting that the state allocation per year is \$364,464 federal plus a \$30,000 CART transfer of Nashua UZA funding for a total of \$394,464 per year for the joint region.

## Region 8-9 RCC Activity Summary (Per Year for FY 2022-2023)



He added that Rockingham Nutrition Meals on Wheels has updated their hourly rate to \$44.59 per hour, and service hours in Activity #6 have been increased to 16 per week.

Activity #9 (Regional Mobility Management) is currently blank, as the RCC does not know how much funding will be allocated to support this effort. NHDOT's guidance was to submit the program of projects based on existing funding allocation with the understanding there will be some level of supplemental funding coming from NHDOT at a 100% federal share (matched by toll credits) to support Regional Mobility Management. This supplemental funding is not eligible for any other use than Regional Mobility Management. NHDOT and the SCC will work out the amount of funding in early March.

Deb suggested that, going forward, RCC 5310 subrecipients provide the number of unduplicated riders in addition to overall number of rides provided as an additional metric to gauge the effectiveness of each activity. It was viewed as a topic worthy of more discussion at a future meeting.

James noted that after his meeting with Catholic Charities' CEO, that there was significant interest in expanding CareGivers' volunteer driver program into Plaistow as part of the FY 2022-2023 Section 5310 activity. He added that expanding the program's reach will not be something that happens overnight, and that Ryan Noronha will likely be spearheading the project. Those present expressed encouragement that this will be a worthwhile project, and Mike added that Plaistow is looking into reengaging with CART. Fred said that it will be important to coordinate service provision in that community between CART, RNMOV, and CareGivers to ensure it is as efficient as possible.

*Motion by George to adopt the FY 2022-23 FTA 5310 activities as presented, seconded by Laurie and approved unanimously.*

#### 4. Regional Mobility Management Discussion

Fred introduced the topic by referencing materials distributed recently by Steve Workman on behalf of the SCC Mobility Management Subcommittee. \$550,000 will be available annually, of which \$120,000 has been set aside for a statewide mobility manager. The remaining \$430,000 will be distributed to the regions by a method yet to be determined. Three scenarios were discussed, and the pros and cons of each considered.

While it was generally agreed that \$430,000 is not enough to hire mobility managers in each region, the influx of any funding should be viewed as a positive, and it can give regions the opportunity to further coordinate with each other to make the best and most efficient use of the funds.

There was some discussion of the Region 8-9 mobility manager being housed within an existing agency in the region; however, Nate and Mike said that finding someone with a skillset that includes grant writing, outreach, and transit knowledge will be difficult enough, let alone someone willing to only work 20 hours per week. Another route could be to put out an RFQ for a consultant. This consultant could possibly work with multiple regions to cobble together full-time hours.

Mike suggested considering a partnership with a medical facility (i.e. Parkland or Dartmouth-Hitchcock) or university, as this could be something a graduate student might be able to handle

with assistance from a faculty advisor. Scott suggested Catholic Charities or Southern NH Services as other potential partners.

In response to a comment about the overall shortage of funds, Mike added that if the Greater Manchester RCC coordinated with that of Nashua, a full-time mobility manager could likely be procured.

In the interest of time, the discussion will be continued at the next RCC meeting.

**5. Other Business**

Scott noted that he is working with Carl and Adam to develop draft survey instruments for the 2021 Coordinated Transportation Plan update. These, along with an updated database of agencies, will be shared with the RCC by email and be up for further discussion at the next meeting.

**6. Next Meeting**

Given the number of time-sensitive discussion items, it was decided to hold the next meeting in one month's time rather than the usual two. Adam will send out a Doodle poll to schedule the next meeting on a Tuesday in late March.

Motion by George to adjourn, seconded by Nate.

Meeting stood adjourned at 3:36 PM.