

## Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

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# Minutes of the SNHPC METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

August 23, 2022 12:00 P.M.

Meeting held in-person at the SNHPC office (438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH). Virtual participation in the MPO meeting was also accommodated via Zoom due to COVID-19.

## MEMBERS PHYSICALLY PRESENT

WENTE THIS CALLET TRESERVE			
Paula Marzloff			
Charlie Fairman			
Bill Jean			
Albert Hall			
Andrew Hadik			
Deborah Munson			
Richard Tripp			
Gary			
Schnakenberg			
David Pierce			
Suzanne Brunelle			
Peter Capano			
Raymond Clement			
Donald Waldron			
Mark Suennen			
Peter Griffin			
Edgar Lapointe			

#### **MEMBERS VIRTUALLY PRESENT**

Bedford (Alt)	Bryan Lord
Candia	Rudy Cartier
Derry	John O'Connor
Francestown (Alt)	Alfred Eisenberg
Goffstown	Jacob LaFontaine
Londonderry (Alt)	Brian Battaglia
Londonderry	Deborah Lievens
Londonderry	Arthur Rugg
Londonderry	Lynn Wiles, Alt.
Manchester	Daniel O'Neil
Manchester	Marcus Ponce de Leon
Windham	John Hiltz
William Rose	NHDOT
Manchester Transit	Mike Whitten
Authority	
NHDES	Tim White

#### **GUESTS VIRTUALLY PRESENT**

Craig Tufts	Central NH RPC
Sarah Wrightsman	NH Housing

## **VOTING REPRESENTATIVE SEATS VACANT**

Auburn	
Bedford	
Weare	

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Auburn (Alt)	Jeffrey Porter
Bedford	Danielle Evansic
Deerfield	Frederick McGarry
Goffstown (Alt)	Jo Ann Duffy
Hooksett	Robb Curry
Weare	Naomi Bolton
Manchester-Boston Regional Airport	Theodore Kitchens

#### **STAFF PHYSICALLY PRESENT**

Sylvia von Aulock	Executive Director
Nathan Miller	Deputy Executive Director
Linda Moore-O'Brien	Office Administrator
Carl Eppich	Pr. Transportation Planner

#### STAFF VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Adam Hlasny	Sr. Transportation Planner
Zachary Swick	Senior GIS Analyst
Cameron Prolman	Regional Planner
Tammy Zamoyski	Regional Planner
Kevin Lawson	Assistant Planner

#### MEMBERS EXCUSED

D C-11	D. I. (O. I.
Deerfield	Robert Cote
Derry	Jeff Moulton
Francestown	Linda Kunhardt
Francestown (Alt)	Jennifer Vadney
Goffstown	Barbara Griffin
Hooksett	Denise Pichette Volk
New Boston	David Litwinovich
NHDOT FHWA	Leigh Levine

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Griffin called the MPO meeting to order at 12:03 PM. A quorum was present in-person.

## ACTION ON MINUTES OF JULY 26, 2022

Motion by Mr. Hall to approve the minutes of July 26, 2022, seconded by Mr. Clement. Motion carried, with Messrs. Hall, Hadik, O'Neil, Hiltz, and Mses. Brunelle and Lievens abstaining. Vote was taken by roll call.

## **OLD BUSINESS** (none)

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

### FY2025-2034 Ten-Year Plan Project Evaluation

Mr. Miller stated that SNHPC sent project solicitations to all municipalities in the region, and responses were received from five municipalities.

In the past, SNHPC has received \$8.5 million out of the statewide \$50 million statewide pool for regional project priorities. This year, due to IIJA funding increases, Mr. Miller expects the statewide pool for regional projects to increase to \$60 million with the SNHPC's share being approx. \$10.56 million. Mr. Miller noted the spending power of this funding increase may be largely offset by inflation.

Mr. Miller noted that the 15 project evaluation criteria apply to all RPCs. However, each region weights the criteria differently based on the unique needs of their region. The SNHPC adopted weightings for the criteria in June.

Mr. Miller reported that engineering review is required for all projects proposed for the Ten-Year Plan. SNHPC recently conducted a Qualifications-based Selection (QBS) process for an on-call engineering firm to assist with project scoping and cost estimating. VHB has been selected as the on-call engineering firm.

Mr. Miller briefly reviewed the proposals received in alphabetical order by municipality.

- Bedford NH Route 101 Safety Improvements from Wallace Road to the Amherst Town Line
- Bedford- Construction of a Multi-use Path Adjacent to NH Route 101 from Wallace Road to the Amherst Town Line
- Deerfield- Convert Intersection of NH Route 107/Candia Road/Church Street to a Roundabout
- Londonderry- Submitted four projects for consideration. The top two projects will be evaluated (as resources allow).
  - o Increase capacity on NH Route 28 from Symmes Dr/Vista Ridge Dr to the intersection of NH Route 128
  - Construction of Phase 7 of the Londonderry Rail Trail from NH Route 28 to the Derry Town Line

- Manchester- I-93 Exit 8 Interchange (Wellington Rd.) Adaptive Signal Control, Capacity and Bike Lane Improvements
- Windham- Improvements to the Windham Greenway from Meetinghouse/Old Mill Road to the Westerly ROW of Interstate 93

Mr. Miller stated two communities had additional local intersection safety concerns. SNHPC staff will work with the communities to consider these intersections in the next Road Safety Audit (RSA) application round. These intersections are:

- Deerfield NH 43 (Stage Road)/NH 107 Intersection
- Derry NH 28/Lawrence Road/South Range Road Intersection

In response to a question from Mr. Waldron, Mr. Miller said the cost for VHB to scope a project varies. For this cycle, Mr. Miller anticipates that the projects in Deerfield, Manchester and Windham are fairly straightforward, while the projects in Bedford and Londonderry may require more effort by the consultant. The contract with VHB is for \$90,000 over two years, although it includes other tasks such as technical assistance with regional travel demand modeling.

Coordinated Public Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan

Mr. Hlasny explained that via the Region 8 Coordinating Council (RCC), Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 funds are used to provide transportation to elderly and disabled persons. The Coordinated Public Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan helps to guide the services provided by that funding. There will be a draft of the plan on the SNHPC website next week.

The Region 8 RCC comprises the Manchester/Derry/Salem region and is jointly staffed by SNHPC and Rockingham Planning Commission.

Mr. Hlasny noted that the last Coordinated Plan update was in 2016. Since then, a lot has happened, including the COVID pandemic, a severe driver shortage, MTA/CART merger, and the establishment of a statewide network of mobility managers.

Mr. Hlasny reported that the process to update the plan included a survey. Rockingham Planning Commission staff took the lead in surveying 12 providers, who identified obstacles to service provision among other transportation trends affecting the region.

Mr. Eppich provided an overview of the plan's findings and recommendations. Mr. O'Neil asked Mr. Hlasny about volunteer drivers to help people access jobs, especially homeless. Mr. O'Neil pointed out that Home Depot of Hooksett had a program to pick up and bring people to work after drug screening. This made a big difference.

Mr. Eppich said they are working with larger employers and transit providers in areas where there are a lot of workers.

Mr. Waldron suggested exploring Concord Coach/Boston Express to Salem. Mr. Whitten noted that MTA intends to establish this service within the next year. Mr. Whitten added that MTA vehicles run from Manchester to Nashua and Concord.

## **Other Business**

Mr. White reminded everyone that the NHDES Clean Diesel program is open until 9/9/22.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Hall to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Capano. Chair Griffin declared the MPO meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM.

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the August 23, 2022 meeting Metropolitan Planning Organization of the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission.

Sylvia von Aulock, Executive Director

Linda Moore-O'Brien, Office Administrator