



# Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH 03102-3546, Telephone (603) 669-4664 Fax (603) 669-4350  
www.snhpc.org

## Minutes of the SNHPC METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

December 21, 2021  
11:30 A.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

Bedford	William Duschatko
Bedford	Charlie Fairman
Bedford	Bill Jean
Chester	Andrew Hadik
Deerfield	Robert Cote
Derry	Richard Tripp
Francestown	Linda Kunhardt
Goffstown	David Pierce
Manchester	Peter Capano
Manchester	Raymond Clement
Manchester	Daniel O'Neil
Manchester	Donald Waldron
New Boston	Mark Suennen
Windham	Peter Griffin

### MEMBERS VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Bedford	Danielle Evansic
Chester	Deborah Munson
Deerfield	Frederick McGarry
Derry	Jeff Moulton
Derry	John O'Connor
Goffstown	Jacob LaFontaine
Goffstown	Barbara Griffin
Londonderry	Arthur Rugg
Londonderry	Lynn Wiles, Alt.
Weare	Tom Clow
Windham	John Hiltz
Timothy White	NHDES
Lucy St. John	NHDOT
Manchester Transit	Mike Whitten

### MEMBERS EXCUSED

Auburn	William Herman
Auburn	Paula Marzloff
Bedford (Alt)	Barbara Salvatore
Candia	Rudy Cartier
Francestown (Alt)	Jennifer Vadney
Goffstown (Alt)	Jo Ann Duffy
Londonderry	Suzanne Brunelle
Londonderry	Martin Srugis

### VOTING REPRESENTATIVE SEATS VACANT

Bedford	3 <sup>rd</sup> Seat
Hooksett	3 <sup>rd</sup> Seat

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Auburn (Alt)	Jeffrey Porter
Bedford (Alt)	Bryan Lord
Candia	Albert Hall
Francestown (Alt)	Alfred Eisenberg
Hooksett	Cutler Brown
Londonderry (Alt)	Brian Battaglia
Londonderry	Deborah Lievens
Manchester	Marcus Ponce de Leon, Alt.
Weare	Naomi Bolton
NHDOT FHWA	Leigh Levine

### STAFF PHYSICALLY PRESENT

Sylvia von Aulock	Executive Director
Nathan Miller	Deputy Executive Director
Linda Moore-O'Brien	Office Administrator

### STAFF VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Adam Hlasny	Sr. Transportation Planner
Cam Prolman	Regional Planner
Zachary Swick	Senior GIS Analyst
Carl Eppich	Pr. Transportation Planner
Tammy Zamoyski	Regional Planner
James Vayo	Project Manager
Monique Duchesne	Assistant Planner

### PRESENTERS & PUBLIC VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Erich Zimmermann	NARC
Sara Siskavich	NRPC

### GUEST VIRTUALLY PRESENT

George Sioras	Derry
---------------	-------

New Boston	David Litwinovich
Manchester-Boston Regional Airport	Theodore Kitchens

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Griffin called the MPO meeting to order at 11:32 AM. A quorum was present in-person.

Motion by Mr. Pierce to allow participation by virtual attendees. Motion seconded by Mr. Fairman and carried unanimously.

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Chair Griffin asked for a moment of silence to remember our friend and colleague Harold “Bo” Strong from New Boston who recently passed away.

### **ACTION ON MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 23, 2021**

Motion by Mr. O’Neil to approve the minutes for November 23, 2021, seconded by Mr. Hadik. Motion carried unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS** (none)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Overview of IIJA from National Association of Regional Councils (NARC)**

Ms. von Aulock introduced Erich Zimmermann of NARC. He is a Manchester native who has given presentations to SNHPC about national transportation policy matters in the past.

Mr. Zimmermann reviewed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which increases funding for existing transportation programs and contains many new funding opportunities for regions and local governments.

Mr. Zimmermann explained this is also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law or BIL. This is a reauthorization of the FAST Act and provides five years of surface transportation funding certainty.

Mr. Zimmermann noted that new discretionary grants as well as new formula funding and new pilot programs are included in IIJA. He mentioned there are new eligibilities within the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program as well as increasing emphasis on safe and accessible transportation options.

Mr. Zimmermann discussed a new federal funding program focusing on carbon reduction. Additionally, there is a new Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program, which will focus on infrastructure resiliency in the context of climate change. As part of this program, MPOs will be encouraged to develop resiliency plans.

Mr. Zimmermann advised that competitive grant programs will include rural surface transportation, bridge investment, electric vehicle charging stations, safe streets/roads projects, railroad crossing safety programs, and large-scale active transportation projects. Discretionary congestion relief grants may be available for municipalities with high population density. Most of the pilot programs are MPO eligible. These include reconnecting communities, transportation access, wild land crossing safety.

Mr. Zimmermann cautioned there are no new revenue sources for these programs. As a result, the future Highway Trust Fund “cliff” may be worse. He mentioned a mileage-based user fee study has been included in the legislation.

Mr. Zimmermann’s advice is to identify the best program fit for your region, ask for help if you need it, and notify your federal delegation if you plan to participate / apply for one of the programs. The FHWA and FTA websites for the IIJA are now live, but noted they do not have much information available yet. A full analysis of the bill is available on NARC.org.

Mr. Zimmermann was thanked for his presentation.

### **SNHPC FY2021 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #3**

Mr. Miller explained this is a preview of the project changes that will be included in TIP Amendment #3. The public comment period will start on January 10<sup>th</sup>, and the MPO will be asked to consider adoption of this amendment at the January 25<sup>th</sup> MPO meeting.

He reviewed the impacted projects located within the SNHPC region.

- Funding increase for the Hooksett Rte. 3 / NH Rte. 28 widening project.
- Funding increase for the Londonderry NH28/128 intersection improvement project.
- Delays due to fiscal constraint for a series of locally-managed projects. Notwithstanding these delays, NHDOT has committed to working with the affected communities to advance projects that are ready to move to the construction phase earlier than anticipated. These projects include:
  - Londonderry multi-use path on Harvey Rd., Webster Rd., and Grenier Field Rd.
  - Manchester signal improvements on Granite St. and South Willow St.
  - Manchester improvements at South Willow St./Weston Rd.
  - Manchester roundabout at River/Bicentennial Dr.
- Addition of the recently-funded Manchester RAISE grant project.
- Funding increase for PE phase work on the FE Everett Turnpike expansion project.
- Funding increase for the statewide Culvert Replacement/Rehabilitation and Drainage Repair (CRDR) program.
- Funding increase for the Boston Urbanized Area Section 5307 transit program due to the inclusion of COVID relief funds.
- Funding increase for the Municipal-owned Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement (MOBRR) program.

He noted there are also some minor (scope only) changes such as traffic signal evaluation (remove reference to a specific number of signals) and complex bridge inspections.

Mr. Miller stated that the TIP Amendment #3 document will be included in next month's packet.

In response to a question from Mr. Griffin regarding the final cost Exit 4A, Mr. Miller stated he would research this question and report back.

Mr. O'Neil mentioned local management of projects, and Mr. Miller noted that NHDOT regularly coordinates timeline and estimate adjustments for locally-managed projects based on project readiness.

Ms. St. John commented that the Ten-Year Plan has not yet been formally submitted to the Governor, but it is expected to be submitted shortly.

Ms. von Aulock read a note of appreciation from Fuss and O'Neil to Mr. Miller for his work on the RAISE grant. She commented that Messrs. Miller and Vayo provided assistance to the City of Manchester to help develop this project.

### **Other Business**


Happy Holidays!

### **ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion by Mr. Capano to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Clement. Chair Griffin declared the MPO meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.***

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the December 21, 2021 meeting Metropolitan Planning Organization of the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission.

  
Sylvia von Aulock, Executive Director

  
Linda Moore-O'Brien, Office Administrator