



# Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

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

www.snhpc.org

**SNHPC**

## Minutes of the SNHPC METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

August 24, 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

Auburn	Paula Marzloff
Bedford	William Duschatko
Bedford	Bill Jean
Candia	Albert Hall
Chester	Andrew Hadik
Deerfield	Robert Cote
Derry	Jeff Moulton
Derry	Richard Tripp
Goffstown	David Pierce
Londonderry (Alt)	Suzanne Brunelle
Manchester	Peter Capano
New Boston	Mark Suennen
Windham	Peter Griffin

### MEMBERS VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Bedford (Alt)	Bryan Lord
Bedford (Alt)	Barbara Salvatore
Chester	Deborah Munson
Derry	John O'Connor
Francestown (Alt)	Alfred Eisenberg
Londonderry	Brian Battaglia
Londonderry	Deborah Lievens
Londonderry	Arthur Rugg
Londonderry	Martin Srugis
Windham	John Hiltz
CNHRPC	Dean Williams

### MEMBERS EXCUSED

Auburn	William Herman
Auburn (Alt)	Jeffrey Porter
Deerfield	Frederick McGarry
Francestown	Linda Kunhardt
Francestown (Alt)	Jennifer Vadney
Goffstown (Alt)	Jo Ann Duffy
Goffstown	Barbara Griffin
New Boston	David Litwinovich
Weare	Tom Clow
Manchester Transit	Laurie Makarawicz
Strafford RPC	Jen Czysz
NHDOT FHWA	Leigh Levine

### VOTING REPRESENTATIVE SEATS VACANT

Bedford	3 <sup>rd</sup> Seat
Candia	2 <sup>nd</sup> Seat
Goffstown	3 <sup>rd</sup> Seat
Hooksett	3 <sup>rd</sup> Seat
Manchester	4 <sup>th</sup> Seat

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Bedford	Charlie Fairman
Hooksett	Cutler Brown
Manchester	Raymond Clement
Manchester	Daniel O'Neil
Weare	Naomi Bolton
NH DOT	William Rose

### 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
James Vayo	Project Manager
Carl Eppich	Pr. Transportation Planner

### PRESENTERS & PUBLIC VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Michael Dugas	NHDOT
Lucy St. John	NHDOT
Tim White	NH DES
Tammy Zamoyski	QC Bike Collective

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Moulton called the MPO meeting to order at 11:30 AM. A quorum was present in-person.

Chair Moulton called for a moment of silence for former Commissioner Prescott “Guy” Tolman of Franconia. It was noted Mr. Tolman was very dedicated and enjoyed his time as part of SNHPC.

### **VOTE TO ALLOW VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION**

*Motion by Mr. Hall to allow virtual participation of the public and MPO members beyond those constituting the in-person quorum. Motion seconded by Mr. Capano. Vote was taken by roll call. Motion carried.*

### **ACTION ON MINUTES OF July 27, 2021**

*Motion by Mr. Hall to approve the minutes for July 27, 2021, seconded by Mr. Griffin. Vote was taken by roll call. Motion carried with Messrs. Cote, Srugis, and Suennen abstaining.*

### **OLD BUSINESS** (None)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Update on the FY 2023-2032 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan**

Lucy St. John from NHDOT provided an overview of the statewide Ten-Year Plan development process, reviewing issues affecting highways, transit, airports and railroads in NH.

Ms. St. John began by saying the Governor’s Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) kickoff meeting was held on July 16<sup>th</sup>. She emphasized there is a lot of uncertainty about federal funding, but the possibility that funding to New Hampshire may increase as a result of the pending infrastructure bill currently being debated in Congress.

Ms. St. John noted that due to COVID, there has been a reduction in toll and gas tax revenue. However, funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) has helped to offset some of the revenue losses.

Ms. St. John mentioned State Aid Bridge program and the statewide bridge inspection process, noting that there are currently 113 bridges on the “Red List”.

Ms. St. John referred to the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) for non-motorized transportation projects.

Proposed strategies for the Ten-Year Plan include accelerating existing projects where possible. Additionally, some Turnpike system projects including the Manchester Exit 6/7 reconstruction as well as the Bow-Concord project will be delayed due to reduced toll revenues.

The next GACIT meeting will be held on 9/1/21. That meeting will include the following:

- Presentation of draft TYP outcomes;

- Review logistics and content of fall presentation (GACIT Hearings); and
- Review online involvement survey.

Ms. St. John referred those present to the NHDOT website for more information.

In response to a question from Mr. Griffin regarding a delay in the Exit 4A project, Mr. Bill Watson said he anticipates construction should take place in the first 2-3 years of the Ten-Year Plan. Mr. Moulton commented that the project will be broken into three parts. Mr. Watson clarified three contracts over three years.

Mr. O'Connor later stated that SB116 regarding the Exit 4A project has been retained in committee. He recommended a website for additional information: [www.I93exit4a.com](http://www.I93exit4a.com).

Ms. St. John was thanked for her presentation.

### **State Highway Safety Performance Targets**

Mike Dugas, NHDOT State Highway Safety Engineer, provided an overview of NH's recently adopted safety performance targets and the process used to develop the targets.

Mr. Dugas explained that setting and reporting on targets is a federal requirement and informs the use of Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding for infrastructure safety improvements.

Mr. Dugas commented that some states are more aspirational or aggressive in setting targets than NH. NH strives to set realistic targets. Targets include the number and rate of fatalities, the number and rate of serious injuries, and the number of non-motorized fatal and serious injuries.

Mr. Dugas noted that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) evaluates how the state performed, including if the targets were achieved or if significant progress was made toward a target. At least 4 of the 5 targets need to be met to achieve significant progress. If targets are not met, NH loses flexibility with HSIP funds and must develop an implementation plan to improve safety performance.

Mr. Dugas mentioned data sources, which have been updated with 2020 information. These include DMV Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS), Vehicle Miles Traveled, and DMV injury reports.

Mr. Dugas reviewed the target setting methodology, which looks at a five-year rolling average. If a trend is rising, that is unacceptable. If it is falling too steeply, that is seen as unsustainable. The targets can be adjusted up or down if there are significant changes or factors expected to affect driver behavior in the state.

Mr. Dugas advised that statewide target setting is coordinated with MPOs/RPCs (through the Partnering for Performance work group), FHWA, NHTSA, NHDOS, HSIP Committee, and the NHDOT Commissioner's Office.

Mr. Dugas discussed the 2022 targets for fatalities, serious injuries, and non-motorized fatalities and injuries, with the latter going down. In response to a question from Mr. Duschatko, Mr. Dugas clarified that a death is considered within 30 days of the accident.

Mr. Duschatko followed up with an inquiry about funding for more EMT training. Mr. Dugas stated that federal rules mandate that Highway Safety Improvement Program funds are strictly for infrastructure, but EMS is a partner in the process.

Ms. Zamoyski asked if we know why there is a downward trend for bike/ped fatalities and injuries, and Mr. Dugas said they are trying to understand why, but are not sure at this point because it could be a combination of many factors.

In response to a question from Ms. von Aulock about fog lines and other lane identifiers, Mr. Dugas said 70% of fatalities involve lane departures. There is a new material and method for durable pavement markings. It is expensive, but effective even when wet. This is being tested on local highways now and will be helpful for drivers of all ages.

Mr. Dugas was thanked for his presentation.

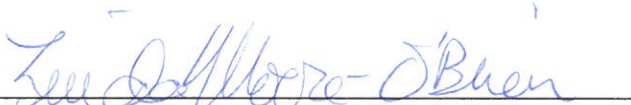
#### **ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion by Mr. Griffin to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hadik. Chair Moulton 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 August 24, 2021 meeting Metropolitan Planning Organization of the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission.



Sylvia von Aulock, Executive Director



Linda Moore-O'Brien, Office Administrator