



# Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

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www.snhpc.org

## Minutes of the METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE PLANNING COMMISSION

March 23, 2021

11:30 A.M.

Meeting Held via Zoom due to COVID-19

### MEMBERS VIRTUALLY PRESENT

William Herman	Auburn
Charles Fairman, Alt.	Bedford
Barbara Salvatore, Alt.	Bedford
Bill Jean, Alt.	Bedford
Richard Snow	Candia
Andrew Hadik	Chester
Deb Munson	Chester
Robert Cote	Deerfield
Richard Tripp	Derry
Patrick Behen	Francestown
Linda Kunhardt	Francestown
David Pierce, Treasurer	Goffstown
Jo Ann Duffy, Alt.	Goffstown
Barbara J. Griffin	Goffstown
Cutler Brown	Hooksett
Brian Battaglia	Londonderry
Deb Lievens	Londonderry
Arthur Rugg	Londonderry
Suzanne Brunelle	Londonderry
Peter Capano	Manchester
Raymond Clement	Manchester
Mark Suennen, Secretary	New Boston
Tom Clow	Weare
Peter Griffin, Vice Chair	Windham
John Hiltz	Windham
Dean Williams	Central RPA
Tim White	NHDES

### MEMBERS EXCUSED

Jeff Moulton, Chair	Derry
John O'Connor	Derry
Alfred Eisenberg, Alt.	Francestown
Jennifer Vadney	Francestown
David Litwinovich	New Boston
Tim Murphy	SW RPC

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Paula Marzloff	Auburn
Jeffrey Porter, Alt.	Auburn
David Danielson	Bedford
William Duschatko	Bedford
Bryan Lord, Alt.	Bedford
Frederick McGarry	Deerfield
Henry C. Boyle	Goffstown
Richard G. Marshall	Hooksett
Martin Srugis	Londonderry
Kevin McCue, Alt.	Manchester
Dan O'Neil	Manchester
Leigh Levine	Fed. Hwy Admin
Tim Roache	Rockingham Plan. Cmsn
Mike Whitten	MTA
William Rose	NHDOT

### STAFF VIRTUALLY PRESENT

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

### STAFF PHYSICALLY PRESENT

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

### MEMBERS PHYSICALLY PRESENT

Al Hall, III	Candia
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### GUESTS VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Zoe Miller	Greater Portland Council of Governments
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## **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Griffin called the MPO meeting to order at 11:35 A.M. and read the required statement regarding electronic meetings due to the State of Emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Roll call was taken in conjunction with the minutes.

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

Motion by Mr. Rugg to approve the minutes for February 23, 2021, seconded by Mr. Clement. Vote was taken by roll call. Motion carried, with Messrs. Cote, Behen, Hiltz, Hall and Ms. Brunelle abstaining.

## **OLD BUSINESS** (none)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Regional Funding Allocation for FY 2023-2032 Ten-Year Plan**

Mr. Miller summarized the recommendations by the SNHPC Technical Advisory Committee. The final decision about the use of the region's allocation is due to NHDOT at the end of March.

The seven regional projects under consideration in this Ten-Year Plan update are:

- Manchester - I-293/Second Street Engineering Study
- Bedford - U.S. Route 3 Widening from Hawthorne Dr. to Manchester Airport Access Rd. (Existing TYP Project)
- Londonderry - Safety and Operational Improvements at the Intersection of NH 28/NH 128 (Existing TYP Project)
- Derry - Expansion of Derry Rail Trail from Madden Road to the Londonderry Town Line
- Manchester - I-93 Exit 8 Interchange Improvements
- Manchester - Intersection Improvements at Hooksett Road/Campbell Street and Campbell Street/Hamel Drive
- Deerfield - Convert Intersection of NH Route 107/Candia Road/Church Street to a Roundabout

The SNHPC allocation is \$8.554M, but Mr. Miller pointed out that is not in today's dollars. Between inflation (2.8%) and NHDOT indirect costs (10%), the present value of this amount is substantially lower.

Mr. Miller reviewed the proposed regional funding allocation of \$8,553,635 as follows:

- Add \$5,448,478 of supplemental funding to existing Ten-Year Plan Project #41593 (Safety and Operational Improvements at the Intersection of NH 28/NH 128 in Londonderry); and
- Add \$3,105,157 of supplemental funding to existing Ten-Year Plan Project #40664 (U.S. Route 3 Widening from Hawthorne Dr. to Manchester Airport Access Rd. in Bedford).

He noted the SNHPC Technical Advisory Committee unanimously endorsed this proposed allocation.

In response to a question from Ms. Munson regarding the storage units built in Londonderry, Mr. Miller explained that while the Rte. 128/28 intersection project was an engineering concept, it was not in the final design. VHB vetted the new design. Ms. Munson suggested future coordination with the Town's Planning Department may avoid costly re-designs in the future.

Motion by Mr. Hall to adopt the proposed regional funding allocation for the FY 2023-2032 Ten-Year Plan.

Motion seconded by Ms. Kunhardt.

Motion carried, with Mr. Tripp abstaining.

Responding to a question from Mr. Capano about the fate of the other projects, Mr. Miller stated that there are opportunities to advance these projects through other, program-specific project solicitations and/or future Ten-Year Plan update processes as follows.

Community	Scope	Next Steps
Deerfield	Convert Intersection of NH Route 107/Candia Road/Church Street to a Roundabout	The SNHPC will coordinate with the Town and on-call engineering firm to further refine the project concept and detail potential historic resource and ROW impacts. The project will be revisited in the next TYP update.
Derry	Expansion of Derry Rail Trail from Madden Road to the Londonderry Town Line	The Town of Derry is pursuing Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding for this project in the NHDOT's current solicitation.
Manchester	I-293/Second Street Engineering Study	The SNHPC will work with the City of Manchester to consider pursuing funding in the pending NHDOT Corridor Study Program solicitation for the Second Street component. The I-293 component will be revisited in the next TYP update.
Manchester	I-93 Exit 8 Interchange Improvements	The SNHPC will work with the City of Manchester to consider pursuing CMAQ funding for the adaptive signal control component of the project in the next solicitation. The intersection capacity improvements will be revisited in the next TYP update.
Manchester	Intersection Improvements at Hooksett Road/Campbell Street and Campbell Street/Hamel Drive	The SNHPC will work with the City of Manchester to consider pursuing CMAQ funding for the Hooksett Road/Campbell Street intersection in the next solicitation. The proposed Campbell Street/Bicentennial Drive improvements will be revisited in the next TYP update.

### **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)**

Mr. Vayo stated the NHDOT has identified four activities as eligible for TAP funding in this round:

1. Construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized forms of transportation.
2. Construction, planning, and design of infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for non-drivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities to access daily needs.
3. Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other non-motorized transportation users.
4. Eligible Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program infrastructure activities under §1404 of SAFETEA-LU.

TAP Letters of Interest were received from six SNHPC communities (Bedford, Derry, Goffstown, Manchester, New Boston, and Windham). He explained that the demand for the funding far exceeds the availability of money. The state may award as few as five or six TAP projects, which would equate to less than one project per regional planning commission.

Mr. Vayo briefly reviewed each of the Letters of Intent submitted to NHDOT. Letters described projects which ranged from sidewalk installation and improvement to rail trail extension/improvements to a grade-separated trail crossing. Mr. Vayo noted that not all communities submitting Letters of Intent may decide to submit full TAP applications.

Vayo stated that four TAC members had volunteered to serve on the TAP Evaluation Subcommittee and that the TAC had discussed the criteria weighting and recommended a slight change from the MPO approved weightings from TAP Funding in Round 3.

Mr. Tripp inquired about how the level of stress criteria worked. Mr. Vayo noted that NHDOT uses a scale of A to E to determine how user-friendly any given road or trail facility is and that the scale correlates to the skill level of the user. He noted that a scale level of A reflects a road or trail that allows a user with the skills of a child and no experience, while the opposite end of the scale represents a road in which is entirely unwelcoming to bicycle or pedestrian traffic regardless of skill. This information is used as a point of analysis by NHDOT and SNHPC is measuring how accessible a facility will be for users.

Motion by Mr. Hall to confirm the regional weightings of TAP scoring criteria as recommended by the SNHPC TAC.

Motion seconded by Mr. Tripp.

Motion carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**


Ms. von Aulock announced that SNHPC will be sending out a 5-minute Land Use Survey soon, and to be on the lookout for it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Mr. Capano to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Herman. Vice Chair Griffin declared the MPO meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. following a roll call vote.*

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the March 23, 2021 meeting Metropolitan Planning Organization of the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission.

  
Sylvia von Aulock, Executive Director

  
Linda Moore-O'Brien, Office Administrator