



# Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

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www.snhpc.org

## Minutes of the SNHPC METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

March 22, 2022

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
Candia	Albert Hall
Chester	Deborah Munson
Deerfield	Robert Cote
Derry	Jeff Moulton
Derry	Richard Tripp
Goffstown	David Pierce
Londonderry	Martin Srugis
Manchester	Peter Capano
Manchester	Raymond Clement
New Boston	Mark Suennen
Windham	Peter Griffin
Windham	Edgar Lapointe
FHWA	Leigh Levine

### MEMBERS VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Auburn	William Herman
Bedford	Danielle Evansic
Chester	Andrew Hadik
Deerfield	Frederick McGarry
Derry	John O'Connor
Francestown (Alt)	Alfred Eisenberg
Francestown	Linda Kunhardt
Goffstown (Alt)	Jo Ann Duffy
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, Alt.
Manchester	Donald Waldron
Windham	John Hiltz
Ricky DiCillo	NHDES
Jessica Wilcox	NHDES
William Rose	NHDOT
Manchester Transit	Mike Whitten

### VOTING REPRESENTATIVE SEATS VACANT

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

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Auburn (Alt)	Jeffrey Porter
Auburn	Paula Marzloff
Bedford (Alt)	Bryan Lord
Hooksett	Nicholas Williams
New Boston	David Litwinovich
Weare	Tom Clow

### STAFF PHYSICALLY PRESENT

Sylvia von Aulock	Executive Director
Nathan Miller	Deputy Executive Director
Linda Moore-O'Brien	Office Administrator
James Vayo	Project Manager
Zachary Swick	Senior GIS Analyst

### STAFF VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Adam Hlasny	Sr. Transportation Planner
Cam Prolman	Regional Planner
Carl Eppich	Pr. Transportation Planner
Tammy Zamoyski	Regional Planner

### GUEST VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Craig Tufts	Central NH RPC
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### MEMBERS EXCUSED

Bedford	Bill Jean
Bedford (Alt)	Barbara Salvatore
Candia	Rudy Cartier
Francestown (Alt)	Jennifer Vadney
Goffstown	Barbara Griffin
Londonderry	Suzanne Brunelle
Weare	Naomi Bolton
Manchester-Boston Regional Airport	Theodore Kitchens

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **ACTION ON MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2022**

Motion by Mr. Capano to approve the minutes for January 25, 2022, seconded by Mr. Hall. Motion carried, with Messrs. Hadik, Tripp, Srugis, Wiles, O'Neil, Lapointe and Ms. Duffy abstaining.

## **OLD BUSINESS** (none)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act**

Mr. Eppich introduced Leigh Levine of Federal Highway Administration, who reviewed the Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

Mr. Levine stated that the recently passed IIJA provides over \$1.2 trillion for infrastructure nationwide over the next five years. He reviewed the many aspects of transportation and infrastructure that the law covers, including the Bridge Program, National Electric Vehicle (EV) Vehicle Funding Program, Safe Streets and Roads for All Program, Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Program, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), Transportation Alternatives (TA), and transit funding.

It is expected that approximately 2 million jobs per year will be created. Mr. Levine stated that guidance is pending on many of these programs. He also noted an effort to make funding available to a range of recipients.

In response to a question from Chair Griffin regarding rail, Mr. Levine stated although there is no obligation of discretionary funds, there are some formula funds available that could potentially be used for freight related purposes.

Chair Griffin also inquired about maintaining what we build, and Mr. Levine referred to a 5-year window, and stated there is 28% more funding in the IIJA than the FAST Act, some of which is for preservation.

Mr. Moulton asked if DOT is looking at the marketplace for people to do the planned work. Mr. Rose said yes, they have consulted with ACEC.

Mr. Duschatko followed up, commenting that it is difficult to find people to do what is planned. Mr. Rose stated that NHDOT carefully considers projects over a ten-year horizon and is working closely with the consulting community to help execute the programs.

Mr. Suennen asked if the congestion relief fund includes part-time shoulder use. He noted that in NH there is more recreation congestion than am/pm congestion. Mr. Levine answered that as rules come out, they will inform SNHPC and others.

In response to a question from Mr. Capano regarding one program per urban MPO, Mr. Miller explained that SNHPC coordinates planning for the Manchester Urbanized Area (which is under 200,000 in population) and a portion of the Nashua Urbanized Area. Some SNHPC municipalities are in the Nashua Urbanized Area (which is over 200,000), and the SNHPC coordinates closely with the Nashua RPC, which covers the other portion of the Nashua Urbanized Area.

A discussion followed about Urbanized Areas (UZAs) and how they are determined (by population density, commuting patterns, and other factors). This summer, the results from the 2020 U.S. Census may re-shape some urbanized areas. Mr. Tripp noted Derry is a member of SNHPC, but portions of the town are in the Nashua Urbanized Area.

Responding to a question from Chair Griffin regarding competition with the Boston UZA for funds, Mr. Levine said some parts of NH are in the Boston UZA, so those locations could be competing for those funds.

Mr. Ponce de Leon asked about a target deadline, and Mr. Levine replied they are waiting for full apportionment of federal funds. More information is forthcoming.

Mr. Ponce de Leon also inquired about equitable distribution of funds, and Mr. Levine said some programs are specifically geared toward equity considerations.

In answering a question from Mr. Clement regarding how the electrical grid will hold up to increased demand, Mr. Levine said grid limitations are being considered.

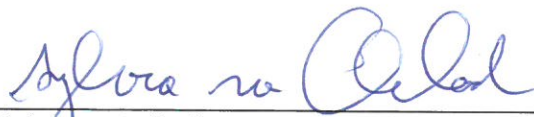
Mr. Levine was thanked for his presentation. He provided some IIJA New Hampshire-specific fact sheet printouts.

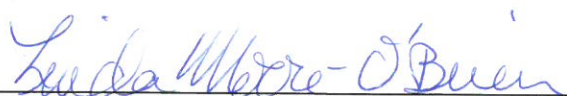
**Other Business** (none)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion by Mr. Hall to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Duschatko. Chair Griffin declared the MPO meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM.***

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting Metropolitan Planning Organization of the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission.

  
Sylvia von Aulock, Executive Director

  
Linda Moore-O'Brien, Office Administrator

