

BARRINGTON
BROOKFIELD
DOVER
DURHAM
FARMINGTON
LEE
MADBURY
MIDDLETON
MILTON



NEW DURHAM
NEWMARKET
NORTHWOOD
NOTTINGHAM
ROCHESTER
ROLLINSFORD
SOMERSWORTH
STRAFFORD
WAKEFIELD

Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

DRAFT

AMENDED AND APPROVED AT JUNE 6, 2009 TAC MEETING

May 5, 2009 Minutes

Present: Dave Sharples (Somersworth), Ed Lemos (Barrington), Nick Alexander (NH DOT), Larry Brown (Milton), Victoria Parmele (Northwood), Steve Pesci (UNH), Chris Skoglund (DES-ARD), Laurel Cox (Lee), Leigh Levine (FHWA) and Melodie Esterberg (Rochester)

Proxy Votes: Wallace Dunham (Madbury) and Bruce Woodruff (Dover)

Members Not Present: Jim Campbell (Durham), Paul Parker (Farmington), Patrick Carroll (Rollinsford), Mark Stevens (Middleton), Michael Clark (New Durham), Diane Hardy (Newmarket) and Tom Dube (Wakefield)

Guest: Jeff Santacruce (Greenman-Pedersen, Inc)

Staff: Cynthia Copeland (Executive Director), Myranda McGowan (Transportation Planner), and Marilyn Barton (Administrative Assistant)

Chair D. Sharples called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. It was determined a quorum had not yet been established and Chair D. Sharples asked C. Skoglund to proceed with his presentation.

1. Introductions

Introductions were made around the table and people gave their name and what town or agency they were representing.

2. Staff Communications

M. McGowan noted on July 1, 2009, the current vice-chair, Rad Nichols, would be Chairman for the next year. M. McGowan asked if there were any volunteers to fill the role of vice-chair for

the upcoming year and noted that would be something that would need to be voted on at the June TAC meeting.

3. Draft Strafford MPO TAC April 3, 2009 Minutes

It was determined a quorum had been established. D. Sharples asked for a motion to adopt the Draft Strafford MPO TAC April 3, 2009 minutes as written. M. Barton stated she received a request from N. Alexander under Item number seven. "N. Alexander stated DES perceived that the EPA would accept the proposal" should be changed to "N. Alexander stated that DES indicated that EPA's initial response was positive", to better reflect his statement. D. Sharples asked for a motion with the amendment. L. Brown made a motion and E. Lemos seconded the motion, motion carried.

4. Transportation Projects/Regional Priorities Solicitation

M. McGowan stated she and C. Copeland had been out meeting with the communities the last couple of months getting feedback for regional and municipal priorities. She noted a lot of communities north of Rochester would love public transportation. M. McGowan handed out a table illustrating the local priorities of the communities within the region.

C. Copeland noted there was high support for funding/maintenance and public transportation by the communities.

S. Pesci asked why this was done specifically since there was already a TIP and Transportation Plan in place. M. McGowan stated that while it was true there were approved documents in place, since the MPO split, this was the first time they had gone out to the communities to see what their priorities were.

N. Alexander noted DOT specifically asked for a prioritized list of projects and although the Long-Range Plan may list projects and give years, it's not necessarily a priority. N. Alexander stated the intent was to look at the projects already out there and assign them a priority wherever they fall in Ten Year Plan or the Transportation Plan.

C. Copeland stated it was one of the most informative things done with the communities in the last couple of years and that dialogue between road agents and planning was very important for the communities.

M. McGowan handed out tables showing the results of the regional priorities for the communities and noted it had changed slightly as she had just received results from Dover and

Planning and action for sustainable development and an improved quality of life.

Milton. M. McGowan noted that the number one regional priority was public transportation and reviewed the other top priorities in the region.

V. Parmele stated it was a good opportunity for the town to get together to discuss priorities but was concerned results may be skewed, as there was not much time to discuss priorities and would like to see discussions continued.

D. Sharples thought it was a good exercise but still had questions on how it's going to be used and how it's going to be applied.

A discussion ensued with suggestions on how to improve the tables to make them easier for the reader to understand.

N. Alexander stated DOT was ready to receive these priorities on May 1, 2009 and were looking for evaluation from each RPC that is criteria based, a subjective but quantitative list of priorities. N. Alexander noted DOT won't know what the priorities are if they are not submitted.

L. Brown asked if this was a document that could have revisions after submission-a draft of priorities with amendments?

N. Alexander stated submissions received much past May might make it difficult to change the list of priorities.

C. Copeland stated it was pretty clear what the trends were in this region.

D. Sharples asked about wording on the motion. L. Brown stated perhaps the following could be used: "The Strafford Regional Planning Commission Regional/Municipal Priorities dated 5-1-09 to be forwarded to the Policy Committee on 5-8-09, subject to technical corrections to be forwarded to NHDOT as approved" L. Brown also stated he would like to include UNH projects for inclusion. S. Pesci stated that was not necessary, as a memo had been sent previously with their list of projects. D. Sharples asked for a motion, L. Brown made a motion and E. Lemos seconded that motion. It was noted four were in favor (Lee, Milton, Northwood, Madbury), two opposed (Somersworth, Rochester, Barrington) and three abstentions (NHDOT, UNH and DES-ARD); motion failed.

D. Sharples made a motion that stated the following: The TAC committee would forward the document on to the Policy Committee without recommendation either way with the expectation that once the finalized version was sent to TAC, they would supply comment to the MPO at that time. L. Brown seconded that motion. S. Pesci asked that the following be added to the motion:

Planning and action for sustainable development and an improved quality of life.

Collapse some of the Rochester projects on the table and have air quality ratings included. All in favor, motion carried. It was noted there was one abstention-C. Skoglund of NHDES-ARD.

5. NH Climate Action Plan Presentation

C. Skoglund gave a Power Point presentation of the New Hampshire Climate Action Plan. C. Skoglund gave an overview of the Plan and noted it was released on March 25, 2009. C. Skoglund stated through an executive order by Governor Lynch, a Climate Change Policy Task Force, was established in December 2007, which consisted of 29 members.

C. Skoglund noted six public listening sessions, 275 participants and 100 public comments helped shaped the plan. C. Skoglund went on to discuss the focus of the plan, strategies and recommendations. C. Skoglund stated the entire plan was available for download on the DES website and would forward information to SRPC to be available to the TAC Committee. C. Skoglund opened the presentation for discussion.

E. Lemos asked about educating the public on this. C. Skoglund stated this was something that DES was working on and noted DES has been invited to more communities to discuss this. C. Skoglund stated the Plan was being sold as an economic plan and that they were trying to use stimulus funds to move the plan forward.

V. Parmele stated there were communities that don't really understand and those communities need to be educated.

L. Levine asked if there was an RPC representative on the task force? C. Skoglund stated Cliff Sinnott contributed to the development of the Plan on a working group and now is a member of the eighteen member Energy and Climate Collaborative.

6. Project Updates

D. Sharples stated the bids for the grant for the B&M Railroad by Station 319 came back. D. Sharples noted Mills Construction's bid came in at \$65,000 less and would start construction in two weeks and should be completed by fall.

S. Pesci noted regarding the stimulus funding, given through FTA funding, they are ninety-five percent sure is coming through-\$1.7 million. S. Pesci noted \$1.6 million would be for transit vehicles and \$100,000 for transit equipment upgrades at their maintenance facilities. S. Pesci stated they would be placing an order for four full-sized buses in sixty days.

Planning and action for sustainable development and an improved quality of life.

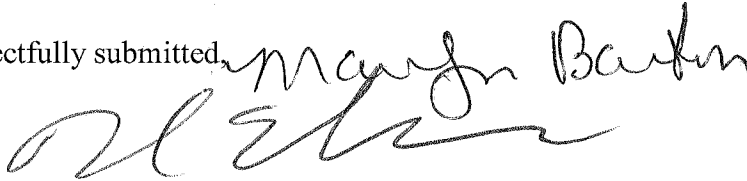
C. Skoglund stated on March 12, 2009, Governor Lynch submitted the revised eight-hour ozone non-attainment boundary to the EPA. C. Skoglund stated municipalities within the new region would be eligible for CMAQ funds. C. Skoglund noted for the SRPC area, it would expand to include ten additional towns in Strafford and Rockingham Counties, but would not include Carroll County. C. Skoglund stated they expect to hear from the EPA shortly if they have concerns, otherwise they have until November 2009, with public comment to follow.

S. Pesci asked with the next CMAQ round out this summer, will the new communities be able to apply for funds? N. Alexander noted the EPA has until late fall before they start the public comment period and DOT would have already rated applications and would be at the Statewide Committee by that time. N. Alexander stated the main issue is a fine line of reasonable expectations than to change course halfway through the CMAQ process.

7. Adjournment

D. Sharples made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 a.m. L. Brown seconded the motion and M. Esterberg seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Marilyn Barton
Recording Secretary

Dave Sharples
Strafford MPO Technical Advisory Committee Chair

Planning and action for sustainable development and an improved quality of life.

