

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  
Rochester Community Center, Conf. Rm. 1A  
Rochester, NH**

**February 1, 2013 Minutes**

**FINAL**

**Present:** Jon Hotchkiss (Middleton), Wallace Dunham (Madbury), Nick Alexander (NHDOT), Leigh Levine (FHWA), Ed Comeau (Brookfield), Marcia Gasses (Barrington), Rad Nichols (COAST), Dave Sharples (Somersworth) and Diane Hardy (Newmarket)

**Staff:** Cynthia Copeland (Executive Director), Marilyn Barton (HR Specialist/Events Coordinator), Marc Ambrosi (Transportation Planner) and Tammy Butt (Finance Manager)

**1. Introductions**

Chairman Hotchkiss opened the meeting at 9 a.m. and introductions were given around the room.

**2. Staff Communications**

M. Barton noted Wayne Prindle, SRPC's new Planning Intern, would begin working with the Commission on February 4, 2013. She noted he graduated from the University of NY-Syracuse and that he had his JD from Vermont Law School. M. Barton stated he would be assisting M. Ambrosi with transportation related projects. C. Copeland stated per state law no recording prior to or after the meeting is allowed.

**3.1 Approval of Draft Strafford MPO TAC January 4, 2013 Minutes**

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the draft Strafford MPO TAC minutes of January 4, 2013. D. Sharples made a motion and R. Nichols seconded that motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**3.2 Ten Year Plan Project Prioritization Scoring Criteria**

M. Ambrosi reviewed the project evaluation criteria, explaining the criteria and descriptions. He explained when scoring projects, the committee will assess projects using the criteria on the handout. He discussed the software being used at the State to score these projects, Decision Lens.

A discussion ensued how subjective the scoring was. It was noted the good thing is we're all using the same criteria and scoring system and not all is subjective; however we are moving in that direction. It was noted Decision Lens is collaborative decision making software and helps an organization or agency make a

decision more open and transparent and easier to understand. N. Alexander said the license is for three years and will be used for this round and the next one. R. Nichols stated he has not seen enough criteria descriptions to feel comfortable with this yet. It was decided to do a demonstration/presentation at the next meeting. C. Copeland stated that Bill Watson stated under the categories of State of Good Repair and Extend Service Life, bridges, interstates, bus services and buses would have their own considerations and components. C. Copeland encouraged everyone to look at the site. It was noted the public could use it and understand it and transparency is the best part. R. Nichols stated he thought it was a great direction to go in; however he did not comfortable yet with the information provided and would like examples before doing this.

The motion to send this to TAC members to score projects was tabled from the agenda as the group was not prepared at this time to do so. All those in attendance agreed and M. Ambrosi stated this would be on the upcoming March 2013 meeting, as the deadline is April 30, 2013.

#### **4.1 Draft FY 2014-2015 Unified Planning Work Program**

M. Ambrosi reviewed the draft scope of work we'll be working on the next two years. He went over the handout, explaining the changes and additions/deletions to the program.

#### **4.2 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #1**

M. Ambrosi reviewed the existing and proposed projects on the handout. M. Ambrosi stated this would be going out for public comment period beginning in mid-February and would be presented to TAC at their March 1, 2013 meeting for recommendation to the Policy Committee for their approval at their March 15, 2013 meeting.

#### **5. Project Updates**

M. Ambrosi gave an update regarding the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. M. Ambrosi noted this needs to be completed by the end of the year and would be going out for public comment in the coming year to the TAC and Policy Committees.

D. Hardy stated the Newmarket Advisory Committee regarding the Newmarket Pedestrian Bridge project. D. Hardy noted the cost came in much higher than anticipated even after scaling back the project and was seeking additional funding from NHDOT. N. Alexander decisions are made on project by project basis and to contact the project manager for assistance with this. C. Copeland noted D. Hardy shared the new design with her and thought it was a reasonable solution.

D. Sharples stated the Somersworth Transportation Enhancement (T/E) project received a notice to proceed from NHDOT to go to engineer study and have hired Hoyle, Tanner & Associates. D. Sharples stated this is regarding the sewer and drainage improvements and total reconstruction from curb to curb of the areas from West High Street to the Berwick Bridge. D. Sharples stated the City is very excited to start the project. D. Sharples noted there will also be a public hearing in February regarding the T/E grant for downtown improvements.

R. Nichols noted one of COAST's goals is to have only one preventable collision every 100,000 miles, which is generally thirty days. R. Nichols noted COAST went sixty days without a preventable collision and were very proud of that. R. Nichols stated COAST's ADA program has had a growth of fifty percent a year. He noted revenues are relied on from the state or federal government. However they are asking for a twenty

eight percent increase this year and this will have a burden on the local communities. He also noted he would be happy to do an ADA program presentation for the committee. R. Nichols gave an update regarding Seacoast Commuter Options and that they were still waiting for grant approval. There was a discussion regarding the North Bus and R. Nichols noted there were ridership gains and it is a valuable service and doesn't see it going away.

M. Gasses noted Barrington heard from FEMA regarding culvert and extensions projects would qualify. M. Gasses stated the Regional Impact information regarding Green Hill Road and the gravel pit that flows onto Routes 125 and 202 is available on the Barrington website and is linked to the agenda.

**6. Other Business**

There was no other business.

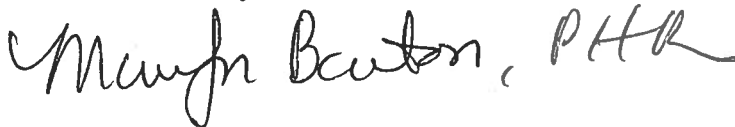
**7. Citizen's Forum**

There were no comments received.


**8. Adjournment**

C. Copeland noted to those in attendance that there is no expectation of privacy prior to or after the meeting, as there is audio and video equipment that may be on during those times. The Chairman asked for an adjournment of the meeting at 10:40 a.m. D. Sharples made a motion and D. Hardy seconded that motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes submitted by,



Marilyn Barton, PHR  
Recording Secretary



Jonathan B. Hotchkiss  
Jon B. Hotchkiss  
TAC Chairman