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**Strafford Policy Committee Meeting/Public Hearing
September 20, 2013
Rochester Community Center, Conf. Rm. 1A, Rochester, NH
Minutes**

FINAL

SMPO Policy Members Present: Robert Jaffin (Rochester), Kenn Ortmann (Rochester), Paul Lockwood (NHDES), William Connor (Somersworth), Brian Tapscott (Somersworth), Edmund Jansen (Rollinsford), Ed Comeau (Brookfield), Victoria Parmele (Northwood), Tom Crosby (Madbury) and Sandra Keans (Rochester)

SMPO Staff Present: Cynthia Copeland (Executive Director), Marc Ambrosi (Transportation Planner), Marilyn Barton (HR Specialist/Events Coordinator), Dan Camara (Senior GIS/Transportation Analyst), Greg Jones (Regional Planner) and Christa McGaha (Data Collections Intern)

Guest: Dick Peckham (Brookfield)

1. Introductions

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and introductions were given around the room.

2. Staff Communications

G. Jones stated introduced Data Collections Intern, Christa McGaha, to the group. M. Barton reminded those Commissioners's in attendance the next Commissioner's meeting would be on Thursday, September 26, 2013 at 7 PM at the Rochester Community Center.

3. Draft MPO Minutes of July 19, 2013

The Chairman made a motion to approve the draft MPO minutes of July 19, 2013 as presented. K. Ortmann made a motion and S. Keans seconded that motion. It was noted there was one abstention. All others were in favor and motion carried.

4.1 Exit 10 update

M. Ambrosi reviewed the handout regarding Exit 10. M. Ambrosi noted economic development; congestion related delays and safety issues along Route 108 and adjacent facilities have sparked a renewed interest in Exit 10 and Route 108 Complete Streets enhancements. He reviewed supporting evidence to show this needs to be put back on the Ten Year Plan; however funding is an issue.

A discussion ensued regarding where the Exit 10 and alternative improvements would include and to be thoughtful in situations of few funds for the needs in the area.

4.2 Ten Year Plan and Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation updates

M. Ambrosi stated the GACIT hearing, held on September 18, 2013 at the Somersworth City Hall, had a good turnout. M. Ambrosi stated there was a balanced discussion on various projects and needs in the region.

M. Ambrosi gave a presentation on the Ten Year Plan and what it is and noted NH is allotted approximately \$150 million in federal aid annually and the SRPCs region is \$53 million over the ten year period. He also reviewed how the draft project list was developed and noted the next GACIT hearing would be on September 26, 2013 at Wakefield.

4.3 Public Participation Plan update

M. Barton noted the Public Participation Plan would be going out for public review beginning September 30, 2013 through November 14, 2013. M. Barton stated there would be a public hearing on Friday, November 15, 2013 at the Policy Committee meeting.

5. Project Update (s)

M. Ambrosi stated Northcoast was awarded a TIGER grant on September 6, 2013 and will help to upgrade the rail lines. M. Ambrosi more information on the grant award could be found on the SRPC blog.

6. Other Business

K. Ortmann stated that Ed Jansen received the 2013 Heritage Award by the Rollinsford Association for Rollinsford Culture and History. K. Ortmann congratulated Mr. Jansen on this honor and his longtime commitment to the MPO.

A discussion ensued regarding the dangers on Route 4 in Rollinsford from the Dover line and how to enforce safer speeds to ensure safety on that corridor. M. Ambrosi stated he would discuss this with District 6 and the possibility of rumble strips being placed.


7. Citizen's Forum

There were no comments from the public.

8. Adjournment

The Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:15 a.m. K. Ortmann made a motion and R. Jaffin seconded that motion. All in favor and motion carried.

Minutes submitted by,


Marilyn Barton, PHR
Recording Secretary