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**Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Rochester Community Center, Conf. Rm. 1A
Rochester, NH**

August 2, 2013 Minutes

FINAL

Present: Jon Hotchkiss (Middleton), Paul Lockwood (NHDES), Mary Ellen Humphrey (Rochester), Ed Comeau (Brookfield), Glenn Davison (NH DOT), Dave Sharples (Somersworth), Linda Dusenberry (NH DOT), Marcia Gasses (Barrington), Diane Hardy (Newmarket), Rad Nichols (COAST) and Stephen Pesci (UNH)

Staff: Marc Ambrosi (Transportation Planner), Marilyn Barton (HR Specialist/Events Coordinator) and Greg Jones (Regional Planner)

1. Introductions

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

2. Staff Communications

G. Jones noted the hiring of two new interns, Samantha DePlanche and Eric Hill and stated they were assisting with work on culverts and traffic counts during the summer.

3.1 Draft TAC minutes of June 7, 2013

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the draft TAC minutes of June 7, 2013. D. Sharples made a motion and P. Lockwood seconded that motion.

It was noted there were two corrections to be made: On top of page two, first paragraph it read: "It was noted it was not the project was not being delayed... and should read more grammatically correct. Under 4.2, the last sentence read: "M. Ambrosi noted there was discussed within the document." The word discussed should be changed to discussion. It was also noted there were two abstentions. With all others in favor, motion carried with corrections as noted.

4. Discussion Item(s)

4.1 An update of Federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality guidelines from Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century

M. Ambrosi noted there had not been a CMAQ round since 2009. M. Ambrosi explained the CMAQ program is aimed at funding transportation projects that reduce traffic congestion and enhance air quality.

He noted the most common projects types in NH are ones that remove vehicles from roadways or make improvements that reduce the amount of time vehicles are stopped in traffic. M. Ambrosi stated there were not a lot of changes to the rules for using this funding and were fairly minor ones. M. Ambrosi noted under MAP-21, general eligibility rules remain the same. M. Ambrosi gave an overview about the program and its effects on the Strafford Region:

- The FY 2013 allocation for NH is \$10,351,161
- CMAQ funding is 80/20 match, meaning 80% is federal funding and 20% is made up by local, state or private matching dollars
- Up to 50% of CMAQ funding can flexed, meaning can be moved to support other funding programs
- The Strafford Region is now an Air Quality Maintenance Area, as we have been under our emissions budget
- The biggest change: The CMAQ program now allows five years of funding, previously it was three years. However, years four and five must be broken out of year three

M. Ambrosi noted the intent of this change to the CMAQ funding rules is to allow for projects that are started with funding from the CMAQ program to transition more slowly to being locally supported.

M. Ambrosi stated he met with NHDOT on July 26, 2013 and noted they are considering 3 million a year in CMAQ funding for bus/fleet replacement and upgrades. M. Ambrosi stated we do have a lot of needs in the region and noted UNH sent a letter with listing of project to NHDOT. M. Ambrosi stated our region has a history of successful CMAQ projects.

M. Ambrosi opened the discussion to comments and questions from the group.

4.2 NH Department of Transportation Project Viewer Presentation by Glenn Davison of NHDOT

G. Davison gave an informative Presentation on the Transportation Project Viewer. He explained it allows the public to access a variety of GIS layers related to natural resources, etc. He noted the project viewer operates on the ESRI Web GIS and is available to the public through NHDOT's project website. It provides information on: Historic and current NHDOT transportation projects; project manager contact information for current projects; links to design plans and other project information.

It was noted SRPC recently acquired ESRI Web GIS software and will be working over the next few months to create similar tools that make regional data easy to access and view on our website.

4.3 Synchro Micro Simulation Overview

M. Ambrosi noted he and D. Camara had recently attended training for the use of this software and will now have the ability to get the most out of it for the benefit of municipalities in the Strafford region. He reviewed the things this software will allow us to do: Create visualizations to communicate transportation concepts to the public; assist communities with optimization of traffic signal timings; assist communities with traffic signal phasing; assist communities with signal coordination and with identifying signals that should not be included in coordination; assist with evaluation of alternative intersection designs.

M. Ambrosi gave a demonstration of an intersection in Somersworth to show how the software can assist communities with projects by simulating various traffic issues. He noted this was helpful for small scale transportation networks.

5. Project Updates

M. Ambrosi stated the Ten Year Plan process will be starting soon and NH DOT will be meeting with all the communities in the next few months. He noted he attended a GACIT meeting last week and noted the rough draft of the NHDOT project listing is done and hoped to have that in a month. M. Ambrosi stated SRPC will do a presentation at NHDOT to discuss priorities in the region and noted we are looking for project examples of regional priorities.

S. Pesci stated UNH would be rolling out real time transit services in the next two weeks. He noted this would allow people to know where the busses are in real time. S. Pesci stated UNH has four CMAQ projects to be pushed out and noted forty percent of the transit system is now using CNG.

6. Other Business

There was no other business

7. Citizen's Forum

There were no comments from the public.

8. Adjournment

The Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. D. Hardy made a motion and M. E. Humphrey seconded that motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes submitted by,



Marilyn Barton, PHR
Recording Secretary