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

September 6, 2013 Minutes

FINAL

Present: Jon Hotchkiss (Middleton), Ed Comeau (Brookfield), Leigh Levine (FHWA), Doug DePorter (NHDOT-Dist. 6), Glenn Davison (NHDOT), Paul Lockwood (NHDES), Steve Pesci (UNH), Rad Nichols (COAST), Brian Deguzis (COAST), Marcia Gasses (Barrington) and Diane Hardy (Newmarket)

Staff: Marc Ambrosi (Transportation Planner), Marilyn Barton (HR Specialist/Events Coordinator) and Greg Jones (Regional Planner), Dan Camara (Sr. Transportation Analyst) and Christa McGaha (Data Collection Intern)

Guests: Tom Willis (Somersworth) and Christine Soutter (Somersworth)

1. Introductions

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

2. Staff Communications

G. Jones introduced SRPC Data Collection intern, Christa McGaha, to the group and she gave a brief overview of her background and noted she would be assisting with traffic counts and culvert assessments.

3.1 Draft TAC minutes of August 2, 2013

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the draft TAC minutes of August 2, 2013. R. Nichols made a motion. S. Pesci noted in the section of attendees, he is listed as representing COAST and should be UNH. M. Barton stated she would change that. P. Lockwood seconded the motion with the change as noted. All in favor, motion carried.

4.1 Exit 10 update

M. Ambrosi reviewed the handout and noted Exit 10 and Route 108 improvements were top priorities in the region. 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. A discussion ensued regarding existing growing businesses as well new businesses along the Route 108 Corridor make a strong case for Exit 10. There was also discussion as to where Exit 10 would be located. M. Ambrosi showed a map where the proposed Exit 10 would be—an access road from the Spaulding Turnpike to Route 108. He stated the planned route would be Interstate Drive.

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

M. Ambrosi noted starting in the month of September, NHDOT will begin a series of public hearings regarding updates to the Ten Year Plan and GACIT. M. Ambrosi stated the meetings in this area will take place on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in Somersworth and on Thursday, September 26, 2013 at 10 a.m. in Wakefield. M. Ambrosi encouraged all to attend so they can be heard by the state what the priorities are for the region. M. Ambrosi reviewed the projects on the list within the region.

4.3 Public Participation Plan update

M. Barton noted originally the Public Participation Plan was supposed to be out for public comment period during this time; however updates were still being worked on and would go out for public comment period on September 30 through November 14, 2013. She noted there would be a public hearing on Friday, November 15, 2013 at the Policy Committee meeting.

5. Project Updates

M. Ambrosi stated Northcoast was awarded a TIGER grant and would help to upgrade the rail lines. He noted there would be a ceremony that morning in Rochester, which he would be attending.

D. Hardy noted Newmarket received proposals from five consultants regarding a road widening project to the Newfields line.

R. Nichols noted the Transportation Management Association for the seacoast area is being restarted. R. Nichols noted the COAST Board of Directors voted to approve proposed fare increases and select service changes. R. Nichols noted the service changes would be limited to the Dover-FasTrans Routes 33 and 34-35 and fare increases are limited to Dover FasTrans Route 33 and the Portsmouth Trolley Routes 40 and 41. R. Nichols stated this was to offset the strained municipal budgets and increased operating costs. R. Nichols stated the months of July and August were the best in COAST history.

S. Pesci stated the real time transit is on and working great. He noted all routes have real time and there were 1.2 m riders last year.

M. Gasses noted the intersection improvements on Greenhill Road and Route 125 is up and running, which included traffic lights for safety purposes due to growth along that corridor.

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 10:05 a.m. D. Hardy made a motion and R. Nichols seconded that motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes submitted by,

Handwritten signature of Marilyn Barton, PHR in cursive script.

Marilyn Barton, PHR
Recording Secretary