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

February 7, 2014 Minutes

FINAL

Present: Ed Comeau (Brookfield), Leigh Levine (FHWA), Linda Dusenberry (NHDOT), Paul Lockwood (NHDES), David Sharples (Somersworth), Wallace Dunham (Madbury) and Chris Parker (Dover)

Staff: Cynthia Copeland (Executive Director), Marc Ambrosi (Transportation Planner), Marilyn Barton (HR Specialist/Events Coordinator) and Dan Camara (Sr. GIS/Transportation Analyst)

1. Introductions

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

2. Staff Communications

C. Copeland reminded everyone that the MPO had purchased APA webinars and the next one is February 19, 2014 from 4-5 pm at the SRPC office. She noted we also provide access to prior webinars if communities wish to show them. She noted there was a RIC meeting at 2 PM regarding the Sunningdale subdivision. C. Copeland noted it was announced by the Obama administration that Durham was named one of seven climate hubs in the country.

3.1 Draft TAC minutes of December 6, 2013

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the draft minutes of December 6, 2013. D. Sharples made a motion and P. Lockwood seconded that motion. All in favor, motion carried.

3.2 Public Participation Plan updates – Approval to the Policy Committee

M. Ambrosi stated updates were made to the Public Participation Plan with the addition of performance measures and reviewed Appendix E. He noted there were additions of visualizations and pictures. He stated goals included effectively soliciting public input and informing the public of the planning work the MPO is doing. Discussion included the forty-five day comment period used by the MPO gave more time for soliciting comments from the public. M. Ambrosi noted the MPO reaching out to fifty people annually as a good base number. There was a question how we know we are reaching groups for Title VI purposes. It was noted some of the events are self-identified such as a local food pantry even that required a certain income level, as well as doing a presentation for the Strafford Committee on Aging and the COAST survey.

After hearing no other comments, the Vice-Chairman asked for a motion for approval to recommend the Public Participation Plan updates to the Policy Committee. C. Parker made a motion and P. Lockwood seconded that motion. All in favor; motion carried.

4.1 ITS-Statewide project update and regional project discussion

D. Camara gave an update and reviewed projects and encouraged all to look though and contact him with questions and comments. The NHDOT interactive maps were reviewed and it was noted they are in process of updating their plan. D. Camara noted their plan is almost complete and we could incorporate things from that plan into ours, if needed before the process is completed. Discussion included open road tolling and using a corridor based approach.

4.2 Regional Master Plan Transportation Plan Outline

M. Ambrosi reviewed the outline and welcomed feedback and noted the MPO would be looking to set up an advisory committee. He noted this outline frames up where we are, how things look and where we're going to go with the plan in the region. He reviewed the strategic project lists and noted how transportation choices are impacted by land use decisions, such as safety, etc. C. Parker stated he thought the outline had great detail and thought the MPO staff did a great job.

4.3 FHWA Planning Review update

M. Ambrosi noted this is a review by FHWA and FTA every four years and reviewed the questionnaire received by FHWA and the MPO responses. He encouraged all to attend to have a chance to speak with FHWA and to support the MPO.

5. Project Updates

M. Ambrosi gave an update regarding the Newmarket Bridge project. He noted the initial engineering estimates were pretty low and came in twice as much. M. Ambrosi noted the MPO assisted with the pedestrian bridge study by collecting data in Newmarket. M. Ambrosi noted based on the results Dubois and King would be finalizing their report with alternative recommendations to the project.

D. Sharples gave an update to the Somersworth-Berwick Bridge project. He noted Wyman and Samson were awarded the contract and work should begin in the spring.

C. Copeland noted on January 29, 2013 there was public hearing for the Mills Scenic Byway and twenty-five people attended. It was noted Regional Planner Pimental gave a presentation on the process and plan and the plan was sent to NHDOT for review. It was noted the next meeting would be in May.

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 10:15 a.m. D. Sharples made a motion and C. Parker seconded that motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes submitted by

Marilyn Barton, PHR

Marilyn Barton, PHR
Recording Secretary

Wallace C. Dunham

Wallace Dunham
TAC Vice-Chairman