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**Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
150 Wakefield Street, Suite 12, Conference Rm. 1A
Rochester, NH 03867**

**Friday September 4, 2015
9:00 AM-11:00 AM**

FINAL MEETING NOTES

Members Present: Martin Laferte (Farmington), Leigh Levine (FHWA), Victoria Parmele (Northwood), Seth Creighton (Rochester), Dave Sharples (Somersworth), Larry Brown (Milton), Paul Lockwood (NHDES-ARD)

Staff Present: Chris Scheiner (GIS & Technical Analyst), Sarah McGraw (Regional Planner), Colin Lentz (Regional Transportation Planner), Cynthia Copeland (Executive Director)

- 1. Staff Communications:** None
- 2. Action Item (s)**

3.1 Nomination of Officers

C. Copeland stated that since a quorum is not present, there would not be nominations of officers at the meeting. C. Copeland relayed the message that Jon Hotchkiss and Wally Dunham would be willing to serve as Chair and Vice Chair respectively, but that Wally noted he was busy with other activities and wouldn't mind stepping down. C. Copeland asked the committee if anyone was interested in a position as an officer. No nominations were offered; SRPC will let Jon and Wally know that their position renewals were supported by the committee members. D. Sharples then noted that he would be willing to serve as Vice Chair if Wally did not wish to renew his position. This information will be shared with Wally.

- 3. Discussion Item (s)**

4.1 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Presentation

C. Lentz spoke about the development of the Strafford Metropolitan Organization's 2015- 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Metro Plan). C. Lentz noted topics in the Metro Plan will include traffic patterns, congestion, complete streets, infrastructure, traffic safety, and the financial plan. Road maintenance and expansion, and resiliency were other important plan topics. The Governor's Advisory Council on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) is currently holding public meetings discussing infrastructure, including transportation projects in the Strafford Region. During the project solicitation

continuing as SRPC is working with NHDOT on streamlining systems between the stated regional databases.

4.3 Performance Based Planning

N. Leuchanka reported that the SMPO has been awarded a \$300,000 implementation assistance award from the Federal Highways Strategic Highways Research Program Number 2. The award is for the interagency project that N. Leuchanka has been working on. The goal of the project is to come up with a common framework for performance-based planning in New Hampshire. The award will be used to improve partner and stakeholder collaboration utilizing tools provided by the award. The award timeline is 18 months and will be shared with Rockingham Planning Commission, Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission and Nashua Regional Planning Commission. Supporters of the award include Bill Watson at NHDOT, Paul Lockwood at NHDES and the three MPOs who are participating in the project.

N. Leuchanka is participating in the Tri-State Transit Conference in Meredith, NH on September 9 as a panelist speaking on performance-based planning.

N. Leuchanka gave an abbreviated version of her presentation for the conference, explaining the interagency project and some preliminary results from a survey conducted over the past winter of transportation stakeholders. Performance-based planning is relevant because of the new transportation legislation, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21). The new rule will take effect and need to be applied in coming years.

4. Project Update(s)

C. Copeland reported that the GACIT hearings have started and the first one will take place on September 17, 2015 at 6:00 pm with Councilor Colin Van Ostern. C. Copeland noted that the location may change because of a conflict with room availability.

C. Copeland responded to a question from an earlier meeting about the Equity Bonus Program mentioned in project listings. C. Copeland explained that the Equity Bonus Program was part of older federal transportation legislation, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFTEA-LU). This program ensured that there was a minimum monetary return to states. C. Copeland noted that the changes in project listings asked about at the earlier meeting were due to the fact that the Equity Bonus Program did not carry forward into MAP-21. However, there are remaining funds in the program that are being used for projects.