

MPO Policy Committee Meeting

Friday, August 16, 2024 9:00-10:30 AM

Hybrid Meeting (Conference Rm 1A, SRPC Office & via Zoom)

Agenda Item

1) Welcome and Introductions: 9:00 a.m.

Dave Landry, Joe Boudreau, Michael Bobinsky, Mark Richardson, Marshall Goldberg, Barbara Holstein, John Mullen, Kate Buzard, Matt Towne, Katrin Kasper, Steve Brown, Wayne Burton, Rick Healey, Chris Kinville, Michael Williams,

Staff present: Jen Czysz, Colin Lentz

Policy members participating on Zoom: Beverly Cray, Lindsey Williams, Glen Davison

2) Commissioner Roundtable

W. Burton reported on a meeting between the UNH president and Durham Town Council to discuss a town resolution regarding the war in Palestine and the treatment of protesters.

W. Burton reported that the UNH president is organizing an advisory committee to oversee the development of the West Edge development, and that Farm Day in Durham is tomorrow.

Mike B. reported that there are two significant groundbreaking events happening in Somersworth. The first is development of a modern 135-unit apartment complex downtown and (Another development in Mill district pending) in review with the Planning Board. The second event is the City has finally partnered with a company to develop a solar array at the Blackwater Road super fund site. This is a partnership with the company, the EPA and DES.

J. Boudreau reported that the groundbreaking has begun for a new elementary school to replace two existing schools.

3) Public Hearing: Update to the Public Participation Plan

At 9:23 a.m. D. Landry opened public hearing. C. Lentz stated that the draft update to the Public Participation Plan has been in public comment since July 1st. This plan establishes SRPC's goals and objectives for engaging with the public and ensuring diverse voices in the region are represented in the transportation planning process. The draft plan was distributed to the public through various media and physical copies delivered to libraries and town halls.

The public comment period closed at 9:40 a.m.

4) Action Items

a) Minutes of 7/19/2024

M. Bobinsky motioned to approve the minutes of 7/19/2024 as presented. K. Kasper seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all Policy members voting unanimously in favor.

b) Adopt Draft Public Participation Plan

M. Bobinsky motioned to approve the adoption of the Draft Public Participation Plan, following a second, a roll call vote was taken with all Policy members voting unanimously in favor.



5) Discussion Items

Preparing for MTP project scoring and 10-yr plan submission

Policy members discussed the project development process and future funding opportunities. SRPC's Metropolitan Transportation Plan comprises a pool of prospective transportation projects. The goal is to build out that pool of projects to have as many ready for funding as possible. That requires engineering support to develop scopes, cost estimates, and conceptual designs. SRPC's on-call engineering team at BETA has completed initial reviews for five Metro Plan projects. They will be providing more detailed analysis and drawings of priority alternatives for the five projects. The on-call engineering contract includes another \$50,000 for additional projects to be reviewed and developed by BETA. The next big funding opportunity coming up is the State 10-yr Plan. The five projects assessed by BETA so far are essentially ready for submission to NHDOT for initial review of candidate 10-yr plan projects in November. In February/March of 2025, SRPC committee members will have pair down that list of five projects to those that fit within the \$5.8 million.

6) Other Business

C. Lentz reported that the event A Week Without Driving will take place at the end of September.

M. Taylor Fetter asked for volunteers to join Joint Loss Management Committee. M. Towne offered to join.

7) Citizens Forum

8) Adjourn

M. Bobinsky motioned to adjourn. Following a second, a roll call vote was taken with all Policy members voting unanimously in favor.

