

MPO Commission and Policy Committee Meeting

Friday, May 16, 2025 9:00-10:30 AM

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

In accordance with RSA 91:A, the Commission requires an in-person quorum. So long as an in-person quorum, Commissioners may participate virtually. Guests may attend the meeting virtually or at the SRPC Office. All participants, both in-person and virtual, can communicate contemporaneously.

Meeting URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85802372877>

Meeting ID: 858 0237 2877

Telephone-only Access: +1 646 558 8656

These instructions have also been provided at www.strafford.org. If anybody is unable to access the meeting, please email mtaylorfetter@strafford.org or call 603-994-3500 (x115).

Agenda Item	Time	Notes
1) Welcome and Introductions	9:00-9:10	N/A
2) Commissioner Roundtable	9:10-9:20	
3) Action Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Review and approval of the March 21, 2025 and April 18, 2025 meeting minutes. b. Approve FY2026-2027 Transportation Unified Planning Work Program 	9:20-9:35	Minutes enclosed in packet. Draft UPWP: LINK
4) Plan Presentations and Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Annual Update b. SRPC Transportation Safety Action Plan 	9:35-10:15	Draft CEDS: LINK Draft Safety Plan: LINK
5) Discussion Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Appointment of a Regional Plan Subcommittee 	10:15-10:20	Refer to the meeting memo.
6) Other Business	10:20-10:25	
7) Citizens Forum	10:25-10:30	
8) Adjourn	10:30	

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a detailed description of the accommodation you will need along with your contact info. Please make your request as



early as possible; allowing at least 5 days advance notice. Last minute requests will be accepted but may be impossible to fill. Please call (603) 994-3500 or email srpc@strafford.org.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

*Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization, and
Strafford Economic Development District*

Meeting Etiquette

Be present at the scheduled start of the meeting.

Be respectful of the views of others.

Ensure that only one person talks at a time. Raising your hand to be recognized by the chair or facilitator is good practice.

Do not interrupt others or start talking before someone finishes.

Do not engage in cross talk.

Avoid individual discussions in small groups during the meeting. When one person speaks, others should listen.

Active participation is encouraged from all members.

When speaking, participants should adhere to topics of discussion directly related to agenda items.

When speaking, individuals should be brief and concise when speaking.

The Strafford Regional Planning Commission & Metropolitan Planning Organization holds both public meetings and public hearings.

For public meetings, guests are welcome to observe, but should follow proper meeting etiquette allowing the meeting to proceed uninterrupted. Members of the public who wish to be involved and heard should use venues such as Citizen Forum, Public Hearings, Public Comment Periods, outreach events, seminars, workshops, listening sessions, etc.



STRAFFORD

Regional Planning Commission

DATE: May 9, 2025

TO: SRPC Commissioners

FROM: Jen Czysz, Executive Director
Colin Lentz, Principal Transportation Planner
Michael Polizzotti, Sr. Economic Development Planner

RE: May 16, Meeting Discussion Items & Upcoming Meeting Schedule

2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program

The Unified Planning Work Program is a two-year contract developed with the NH Dept. of Transportation. It comprises all of SRPC's transportation work and represents a major portion of SRPC's overall budget. This work stems from SRPC's federal designation as a Metropolitan Planning Organization. SRPC's primary responsibilities include public outreach, holding regular public meetings to discuss regional planning, and maintenance of plans like the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program.

Access the draft UPWP her:

https://strafford.org/uploads/documents/governance/upwp_2026_2027.pdf

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Annual Update

May 9th, marks the start of the 30-day public comment period for the latest Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Update. The CEDS contains an analysis of the region's economy and identifies goals, strategies, and priority projects for implementation. This is the final update for the current strategy, which was published in 2021 and encompasses the years of 2021 to 2025. This annual update includes overviews of nine thematic areas identified as priorities for economic development in the region, and discussions of SRPC actions to promote economic development in the region.

Access the public comment draft here:

https://www.strafford.org/uploads/documents/plans/edd/ceds_%202025.pdf

Please submit any comments or questions to Michael Polizzotti, Senior Economic Development Planner, by email: mpolizzotti@strafford.org

SRPC Transportation Safety Action Plan

We invite all to provide comments on SRPC's draft Regional Safety Action Plan. This plan proposes a comprehensive set of strategies and actions for reducing the number of crashes that kill and injure people. I will also enable all municipalities in the region to apply for funding to accomplish those actions. SRPC's commissioners will be holding a public hearing for the draft at their meeting at 9:00am on June 20th.

View the draft plan here: <https://strafford.org/projects/safe-streets-for-all/>

Submit any comments or questions to Colin Lentz, Principal Transportation Planner, by email: clentz@strafford.org

STRAFFORD REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

150 Wakefield Street, Suite 12, Rochester, NH 03867

Barrington | Brookfield | Dover | Durham | Farmington | Lee | Madbury | Middleton | Milton | New Durham
Newmarket | Northwood | Nottingham | Rochester | Rollinsford | Somersworth | Strafford | Wakefield



Appointment of a Regional Plan Subcommittee

As we ramp up work on the Regional Plan, a subcommittee of commissioners would be beneficial to the process. The subcommittee is envisioned to be a source of input, a sounding board, and a conduit to our communities. Per our bylaws the chair can form subcommittees. We are looking for interested individuals. At the meeting we can discuss what the roles, responsibilities and time commitment might be. This is a nascent idea at this point.

Draft Schedule of Upcoming Meetings (subject to change)

Monthly Meetings: 3rd Friday of the month, 9-10:30 AM, SRPC Office, Conf. Room 1A

Quarterly Field Trips: Thursdays, 3:45-5:30 PM, in Sept., Dec., Feb., and Jun.

Date	Location	Program	Tentative Agenda Items
Friday June 20, 2025, 9-10:30 AM	SRPC	RPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SRPC Annual Business items• Public hearing to adopt the CEDS• Public hearing to adopt the Safety Action Plan
Thursday June 26, 2025, 11 AM-2 PM	Browne Center, UNH	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual Meeting Luncheon• Guest speaker NH Fiscal Policy Institute

MPO Commission and Policy Committee Meeting

Friday, March 21, 2025 9:00-10:30 AM

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

1) Welcome and Introductions

Chair Katrin Kasper called the meeting to order and asked for introductions: Chris Kinville, Brookfield; Michael Williams, COAST; Joe Boudreau, Rochester; Mark Richardson, Somersworth; Teresa Bascom, Nottingham; Michael Bobinsky, Somersworth; Steve Pesci, UNH; Katrin Kasper, Lee; Rick Healy, Rochester; Glen Davison, NHDOT; Karen Golab, Milton; Matt Towne, Barrington; Kate Buzzard, Middleton; Paul Rasmussen, Durham; Mike Lehrman, Durham; Kevin Sullivan, Rochester.

Guest: Glen Griswold, Nottingham

Staff: Jen Czysz, Colin Lentz, Rachel Dewey, Michael Polizzotti

Zoom: Jack Wade, NHDES; Barbara Holstein, Rochester; Lindsey Williams, Dover

2) Commissioner Roundtable

M. Bobinsky stated that the City of Somersworth planning board had a pre-construction meeting with the developer of the 2.16-megawatt solar array at the Blackwater superfund site. The contractor has a long-term lease. The project was on hold, but they are in a position now where they can start. It is anticipated that in the coming years it could expand.

3) Action Item

Review and approval of the January 17, 2025 MPO and February 21, 2025, MPO meeting minutes

M. Bobinsky motioned to approve the January 17 and the February 21 minutes. Following a second, a roll call vote was taken: K. Kasper, C. Kinville, M. Willimas, J. Boudreau, M. Richardson, Teresa Bascom, M. Bobinsky, S. Pesci, R. Healy, G. Davison, M. Towne, K. Buzard, M. Lehrman, K. Sullivan, all voted in favor. K. Golab, B. Holstein, P. Rasmussen, L. Williams. J. Wade abstained. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

Updates to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2025-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

C. Lentz gave an overview of the Transportation Improvement Plan. He stated that SRPC is updating the 4-year TIP to cover years 2025-2028. The TIP includes all federally funded projects in the region and is being coordinated with NHDOT and the other three MPOs. All of our TIPs need to match the Statewide TIP. SRPC concurrently updates its long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Metro Plan) because the projects are initially developed in the Metro Plan and eventually make their way into the TIP. Both documents must be fiscally constrained. Both have updated fiscal constraint information based on a consistent approach across the four MPOs.



A formal vote by TAC on March 7 was not possible without an in person quorum, but there was consensus among TAC members to recommend that Commissioners approve the draft TIP and Metro Plan.

M. Williams made a motion to approve the TIP and Metro Plan Drafts. Following a second by R. Healy, a roll call vote was taken: K. Kasper, C. Kinville, M. Willimas, J. Boudreau, M. Richardson, Teresa Bascom, M. Bobinsky, S. Pesci, R. Healy, G. Davison, M. Towne, K. Buzard, M. Lehrman, K. Sullivan, K. Golab, B. Holstein, and P. Rasmussen, and L. Williams, all voted in favor. J. Wade abstained. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

Review of TAC and Commissioner scoring results for candidate Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects

Mark Davie provided an overview of the scoring criteria results. Durham, Newmarket, and Farmington have applied for funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program. RPCs are responsible for ranking the projects from their regions, and that ranking is incorporated into NHDOT's final statewide scoring. At the February TAC meeting, we reviewed the criteria and weightings; then TAC and Commissioners scored the projects based on those criteria. The results are:

Municipality	Project Summary	Score (out of 50)
Durham	Madbury Rd complete streets improvements	40.6
Farmington	Downtown sidewalks and pedestrian safety improvements	40
Newmarket	Replace critical downtown pedestrian bridge over the Lamprey River	35.6

The current round of funding offered through NHDOT grants a greater weight to the regional planning commission's ranking of projects in their evaluation of submittals than they have in years past.

These scores are not the final determination. NHDOT's scoring rubric assigns points to each project depending on its regional rank. A formal vote by the TAC was not possible without a quorum, but there was consensus among TAC members to recommend that Commissioners approve the TAP project scores.

S. Pesci motioned to approve the Transportation Alternatives Project Scoring. Following a second by M. Bobinsky, a roll call vote was taken: K. Kasper, C. Kinville, M. Willimas, J. Boudreau, M. Richardson, Teresa Bascom, M. Bobinsky, S. Pesci, R. Healy, G. Davison, M. Towne, K. Buzard, M. Lehrman, K. Sullivan, all voted in favor. K. Golab, B. Holstein, P. Rasmussen, and L. Williams. J. Wade abstained. J. Wade abstained. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

Other funding will soon be available for recreational trails grants. SRPC will advertise when it becomes available.

Commissioners were encouraged to talk with C. Lentz on any potential projects their municipalities are considering.



Final selection of candidate 10-yr Plan projects

C. Lentz stated that last November, SRPC submitted four projects to NHDOT for possible inclusion in the upcoming draft state 10-year plan (2027-2036). The total estimated cost in 2036 (year-of-expenditure) of all projects was \$5,302,000, which was under our regional allocation of \$5,846,797. Following that submission, NHDOT has been reviewing candidate projects from all nine RPCs. Their review resulted in higher cost estimates for all projects. A total revised 2036 cost for all projects is \$9,397,650 which is well over our regional allocation. Farmington has opted to remove their candidate 10-yr plan project from consideration which does not affect Farmington's proposed TAP project, or a sidewalk project currently funded in the TIP. With the removal of the Farmington project, that brings the total impact to \$5,856,498 (\$9,701 over the regional allocation). NHDOT said that is an acceptable margin of error for this process.

A formal vote by the TAC was not possible without a quorum, but there was consensus among TAC members to recommend that Commissioners approve the following projects for a final submission to the draft 10-yr plan:

Municipality	Location/Road	Scope	Total 10-yr Plan Funding Request
Madbury A	NH9 and French Cross Rd Intersection	Intersection safety improvements	\$1,622,023
Madbury B	NH155/Madbury Rd/Town Hall Rd intersection	Intersection realignment & safety improvements	\$3,860,396
Middleton	NH153 & Wakefield Rd intersection	Intersection safety improvements	\$374,079
Total	\$5,856,498		

S. Pesci motioned to approve the proposed projects for a final submission to the draft 10-year plan. Following a second by M. Towne, a roll call vote was taken: K. Kasper, C. Kinville, M. Willimas, J. Boudreau, M. Richardson, Teresa Bascom, M. Bobinsky, S. Pesci, R. Healy, G. Davison, M. Towne, K. Buzard, M. Lehrman, K. Sullivan, all voted in favor. K. Golab, B. Holstein, P. Rasmussen, and J. Wade abstained. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

3) Other Business

J. Czysz announced that SRPC staff is hosting a workshop on April 11 to discuss the Regional Master Plan update. The workshop will be a good opportunity to talk about the long-range transportation plan. The April 18 Commission meeting will be held at the Rochester Childcare Center, 9:00 -10:30am

Czysz stated that the Executive Committee needs volunteers to serve as alternates on the Executive Committee.



4) Citizens Forum

There were no citizen comments.

5) Adjourn

Following a motion and a second, the committee members voted unanimously to adjourn.

