

Combined Meeting of the Strafford MPO and EDD
 Friday, May 20, 2022 9:00 – 10:30 AM
 Hybrid Meeting (Conference Rm 1A, SRPC Office & via Zoom)

In accordance with RSA 91:A, the Commission requires a minimum of an in-person quorum. To organize this, the Commission staff will confirm the necessary in-person attendance. It is the preference of the Commission that others participate via Zoom, however, guests may attend the meeting at the SRPC Office. All participants, both in-person and virtual, can communicate contemporaneously. View the remote access information below.

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	Pre-Meeting Task/Notes
Introductions	3 minutes	
Convene as the Strafford Economic Development District		
1) Discussion Items Presentation and discussion of draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)	15 minutes	Review draft CEDS and pre-meeting memo – bring questions and comments for discussion
Convene as the Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization		
2) Action Items [require a vote] Approve draft minutes from April 15, 2022	5 minutes	Review draft minutes prior to meeting
3) Discussion Items 2022 Data snapshot – highlights of latest changes & trends affecting the region	25 minutes	Review 2022 data snapshot and web map: Link to Snapshot Link to Web Map
4) Other Business & Updates from Staff	5 minutes	
5) Commissioner Roundtable Updates, challenges, opportunities from your community	10 minutes	What's happening in your community?
6) Citizen's Forum		
7) Adjourn		

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

Economic Development District

CEDS 2022 Public Comment Period

Link to draft CEDS: <http://strafford.org/2022/05/06/public-input-opportunity-2022-ceds/>

Background: SRPC staff have completed a draft of the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2022*. US EDA requires that the CEDS be posted for review and comment by the public for a period of at least 30 days prior to adoption. SRPC has historically preferred to adopt the CEDS in June at either our Annual Commission Meeting or the June Policy Committee meeting to coincide with the end of our annual EDA planning grant period.

Public Comment Period Overview: The purpose of a public comment period is to provide partners, stakeholders, and members of the general public the opportunity to review the initial draft of a document and submit feedback prior to adoption. This year the CEDS was released for public comment on Friday, May 6, 2022, and the public comment period will remain open until Monday, June 6, 2022. Comments may be submitted in writing, electronically, or in person at a public hearing. Notice of the public comment period and information about the public hearing (scheduled for the June 17 meeting) was provided via the SRPC website, SeacoastOnline.com, and via fliers at the Dover, Somersworth, and Rochester city halls and libraries. Copies of the *CEDS 2022* are available on the SRPC website, and as hard copies at the Dover, Somersworth, and Rochester city halls and libraries.

In prior years, feedback or questions from commissioners were solicited as part of the final adoption proceedings. This process has always made it difficult to accommodate final comments or requested changes from commissioners while still adopting the plan on time; in practice staff had to make the requested revisions after the Commission had voted to adopt the plan. This year, staff wanted to solicit input from commissioners earlier as part of the public comment period to ensure that we will be able to incorporate any changes for Commissioners' review prior to a vote on adoption.

To Submit Public Comments: Comments may be submitted in person at the May Policy Committee meeting, in writing to SRPC, or via email to James Burdin at JBurdin@strafford.org.

Staff Recommendation: SRPC staff will present an overview of the draft CEDS 2022. Commissioners may ask questions during or after the presentation. Commissioners may discuss the *CEDS 2022* further and/or provide their own comments and feedback. There is not a noticed public hearing on the May 20 agenda. If any members of the public are present the Commission may recognize them at their discretion, but a public hearing has also been noticed for the June 17 meeting prior to adoption.

Adoption Process Notes:

- Public comments will be accepted until the close of business on Monday, June 6, 2022.
- SRPC staff is maintaining a record of all public comments received. Comments by commissioners and the public at the May Policy Committee meeting will be added to this document, which will also include comments by SRPC staff about how each comment was addressed.
- The public comment document will be finalized and sent to commissioners in meeting packets for the June 17, 2022 Policy Committee meeting.
- SRPC staff will work to incorporate all content edits prior to the June 17 meeting.
- A public hearing is scheduled for the June 17, 2022 Policy Committee meeting prior to adoption.



Policy Committee Meeting
Combined Meeting of the Stafford EDD & Strafford MPO
Meeting Minutes
Friday, April 15, 2022
9:00 – 11:00 AM
Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Hybrid Meeting
Rochester, NH

1. Introductions

Chair David Landry called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Committee members present: Bill Fisher, Farmington; Peter Nelson, Newmarket; Dawn Genes, Lee; Barbara Holstein, Rochester; Donald Hamann, Rochester, Mike Bobinsky, Somersworth; Rick Michaud, Somersworth; Rad Nichols. COAST; David Landry, Dover;

Committee Members participating remotely: Joe Boudreau, Rochester; Tim White, DES, Steve Diamond, Barrington. Bill Watson, DOT

Staff members present: Jen Czysz,

Staff attending remotely: Megan Taylor-Fetter, Rachel Dewey, Nancy OConnor, Jackson Rand, Natalie Moles, Colin Lentz, Kyle Pimental, Stephen Geis, James Burdin

2. Action Items

a. Preliminary Review of CEDS Project List

James Burdin presented a review of the CEDS draft project list for discussion. He explained that this presentation is the first of three before the final adoption. SRPC staff have been soliciting projects from municipalities to compile into the project list for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). and asked for preliminary vote of approval from the committee.

After discussion

R. Nichols MOTIONED for Preliminary Approval of the CEDS Project List as presented, SECOND by D. Hamann. A roll call Vote was taken: B. Fisher, P. Nelson, B. Holstein, D.

Hamann, M. Bobinsky. R. Nichols, D. Landry . S. Diamond, J. Boudreau. T. White IN FAVOR. D. Genes ABSTAIN. None OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED with a majority of members voting in favor.

D. Landy announced the sad news that Commissioner Victoria Parmele passed away this week. He passed a sympathy card around for members to sign and asked members not present if they would like to include a message with the card to send it to staff member Megan.

3. Action Items

a. Approve Draft Minutes from March 18, 2022

B. Fisher MOVED to approve the Draft minutes from March, 2022. B. Holstein **SECOND**. Discussion: Members pointed out errors regarding attendance. A vote was taken to approve the minutes as amended: B. Fisher, D. Genes, R. Nichols M. Bobinsky, D. Landry, S. Diamond, T. White, J. Boudreau IN FAVOR. P. Nelson, R. Michaud and D. Hamann, B. Watson ABSTAIN, None OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED With a majority of members voting in the affirmative.

4. Discussion items

a. Should MPO Staff Provide Testimony on State Legislation in Development?

C. Lentz presented on state bills that have made it out of the legislative body where they originated and have transferred to either the House or Senate where they are currently in discussion and development, He explained that this is the final phase of the legislative session and asked if members if they would MPO staff to provide specific testimony on any pending legislation.

S. Diamond. In reference to SB344 recommended to advocate for adjustments to RSA 91-a or in the least, for recognition that the language is flexible enough to account for certain individual circumstances where people cannot attend meetings in person..

Discussion ensued with concerns about other bills that need attention particularly bills related to housing needs.

Members discussed the detriment HB 1432 would have on commuter rail in the region and state. The consensus was to advocate for the benefits and value of commuter rail

Discussion also ensued on -hearing next week. Advocate for the need and benefits of commuter rail in the region and state.

D. Hamann MOTIONED to authorize a draft letter that advocates the need and benefits of rail service, to be reviewed and signed off by the Chair. **SECOND** by M. Bobinsky A roll call Vote was taken: B. Fisher, P. Nelson, B. Holstein, D. Genes, D. Hamann, M.

Bobinsky. R. Nichols, D. Landry . S. Diamond, J. Boudreau. T. White all IN FAVOR. None OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED with all in favor.

C. Lentz added that there is value in planning ahead for the next legislative cycle to talk about other than transportation bills, come up with updated policy stances that staff can speak to.

5. Other Business & Update from Staff

Colin Lentz reminder the Commission that staff is compiling a list of potential EV charging sites with federal dollars coming available this fall.

J. Czys reported that the Regional Planning Commissioner had a call with DOT looking to ensure NH is ready and is as competitive as possible for discretionary grant programs.

6. Commissioner Roundtable

Don Hamann reported the Rochester Planning Board approved an EV charging Station on Route 11

Mike Bobinsky reported that the homeless shelters have are now closed for the season. Homelessness continues to be an issue that Somersworth and surrounding communities are dealing with.

B. fisher reported that plans are moving along for the 333 acres of land donated for recreation trails in Farmington.

Steve Diamond informed the Board that due to failure of the electronic application system to process his request for re-appointment to the Barrington Planning Board, he was not appointed and no longer serves on that Board.

Joe Boudreau gave a plug for the Resiliency Sub-Committee and stated there is another Roundtable coming up May 19 at 10:00 a.m.

7. Citizens Forum

There were no citizens attending

Adjournment

M. Bobinsky MOTIONED to adjourn SECONDED by D. Hamann. A roll call Vote was taken: B. Fisher, P. Nelson, B. Holstein, D. Genes, D. Hamann, M. Bobinsky. R. Nichols, D. Landry . S. Diamond, J. Boudreau. T. White all IN FAVOR. None OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED with all in favor.