

Joint meeting of the Strafford MPO Policy Committee and SRPC Commission

Friday, March 17, 2023 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.trafford.org. If anybody is unable to access the meeting, please email mtaylorfetter@trafford.org or call 603-994-3500 (x115).

| Agenda Item | Time | Pre-Meeting Task/Notes |
|--|------------|---|
| 1) Introductions | 5 minutes | |
| Convene as SRPC Commissioners | | |
| 2) Public Hearing for the draft Regional Housing Needs Assessment | 20 minutes | Link to Draft RHNA |
| 3) VOTE on the draft Regional Housing Needs Assessment | 5 minutes | Link to Draft RHNA |
| 4) Adjourn Commissioners meeting | | |
| Convene as MPO Policy Committee | | |
| 5) VOTE on the Policy Minutes from February 17, 2023 | 5 minutes | Review draft minutes in packet |
| 6) Discussion Items a) Candidate regional CMAQ projects b) Preview of draft Coordinated Transportation Plan c) Ten Year Plan projects – final decision to make | 30 minutes | Review meeting prep memo. Presentation to be made at the meeting. |
| 7) Other Business | 5 minutes | |
| 8) Citizen's Forum | 5 minutes | |
| 9) Adjourn the MPO Policy meeting | | |



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

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Committee Meeting
Combined Meeting of the Stafford EDD & Strafford MPO
Meeting Minutes
Friday, February 17, 2023
9:00 – 10:30 AM
Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Hybrid Meeting
Rochester, NH

1. Introductions

Chair Dave Landry called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM

Committee members attending in person: Bill Fisher, Farmington; Mark Richardson, Somersworth; Wayne Burton, Durham; Karen Golab, Milton; Glenn Davison, DOT; Joe Boudreau, Rochester; Don Hamann, Rochester; Peter Nelson, Newmarket; Barbara Holstein, Rochester; Katrin Kasper, Lee; Dave Landry, Dover; Chris Horton, Somersworth

Staff attending in person: Colin Lentz, Jen Czysz

Committee members attending remotely: Jessica Wilcox, DES; Sophie Robison, Dover; Charlene Anderson, Nottingham; Stephen Pesci, UNH,

Guest: Mary Woodward, Lee

Staff attending remotely: Jackson Rand, Rachel Dewey, Mark Davie,

2. Public Hearing-Draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Plan

Chair D. Landry opened the Public Hearing at 9:11 AM

C. Lentz shared a power point presentation of the plan and explained that the TIP contains all federally funded projects in process in the Strafford region of the next four years. Strafford MPO works with NHDOT and the three other MPOs to update the TIP every two years. This includes adding new projects, removing projects that have been completed, updating funding information (including public transit), and ensuring that federal funds are fiscally constrained over the four-year period. Updates to the TIP also require an update to the Strafford MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), which considers the next 20 years of transportation projects and planning. When the TIP is updated, all projects programmed in the TIP through the last year of the MTP shift forward two years and get updated financial information.

The members engaged in a discussion touching on topics including providing a data base with resources for access to grants, match, providing a summary of various sources of funding. Members suggested holding a group meeting focused on project development and the wide range of funding sources that exist for them.

Chair D. Landry closed the Public Hearing at 9:39 A.M.

3. Commissioner Round Table

D. Landry welcomed Chris Horton to the Commission. Chris has been a member of the Somersworth Planning Board PB for several years.

M Bobinsky shared that the TAP and CEMAC grants, which have been in the que for at least five years in the making, are finally moving forward and next week there are pre-construction meetings with project design teams and the DOT. The CEMAC project is an upgrade of the high street traffic signal corridor. The TAP project is for sidewalk improvement projects mostly on High Street and includes a pathway connecting the middle school to the elementary.

W. Burton reported that Durham is working hard on housing issues and has a newly formed housing commission. Legislature on voting rights issues for students will surface again and legislature has removed the ability for the school to regulate firearms on campus. The good news is that Portsmouth will not be taking land in Durham for their water project as previously reported. A new route was proposed and accepted that will not interfere with activity at Wagon Hill.

R. Kasper asked for assistance with solutions for transportation for senior citizens and other residents who are home bound. They are looking to possibly have a weekly van transport and are there are any opportunities to partner with other towns.

P. Nelson suggested looking into micro transit such as Ubbber or Lyf.t. He proposed a cost analysis. He also suggested looking into having food deliveries from the food pantry instead of having people drive there.

C. Lentz stated that anyone can call the Alliance for Community Transportation to see all of the transportation services you are eligible for.

P. Nelson asked in light of a recent hazardous spill in the lamprey river, how are we prepared for accidents involving hazardous spills. Is there an online interactive mapping system and how do we improve public access to information. We should be thinking about how to make this information streamlined; be proactive.

J. Czysz reported on SRPC staff updates and stated we are organizing another push in the search for a regional planner. Additionally, SRPC is looking to hire a summer intern. J. Czysz reminded the Commission that there is a meeting next Thursday 3:45PM and for Commissioners to come prepared to talk about their priorities and how SRPC can better support commissioners and better serve their communities. J. Czysz reported that C. Lentz sent out the final version of the work program for the next 2 year for transportation planning.

4. Action Items

a. Review minutes of January 20, 2023

R. Kasper motioned to approve the January 20, 2023 minutes as written. M. Bobinsky seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: J. Wilcox, S. Pesci, C. Anderson, S. Robison, B. Fisher, P. Nelson, B. Holstein, K. Kasper, M. Richardson, M. Bobinsky, J. Boudreau, W. Burton, G. Davison, D. Landry all voted in favor. K. Golab, D. Hamann and C. Horton abstained. Motion passed with all voting in favor.

b. Draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Plan

D. Hamann motioned to approve the Draft 2023-2026 Transportation Plan and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. T. Crosby seconded the motion. Seconded by T. Crosby. A Roll Call vote was taken: J. Wilcox, C. Anderson, S. Robison, B. Fisher, P. Nelson, B. Holstein, K. Kasper, M. Richardson, M. Bobinsky, J. Boudreau, W. Burton, G. Davison, D. Landry., D. Hamann and C. Horton all voted in favor K. Golab abstained. Motion passed a unanimous vote in favor. S. Pesci was not present for the motion.

5. Discussion Items

a. Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Projects

C. Lentz reported that DOT is looking to award 30M\$ for new CMAC projects through the 2025-2034 TYP process. DOT received 46 applications for new projects requesting approximately \$44M in federal funds. 22 are for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure and 24 are for non-EV projects.

There are five applications for CMAQ funding from the Strafford region: 1 from the City of Dover, 1 from the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation, and 3 from the University of New Hampshire. SRPC anticipates meeting with NHDOT to discuss a consistent approach to air quality analysis to be conducted on each project. Project scoring cannot be completed before that meeting. TAC members reviewed the CMAQ scoring criteria (from the NHDOT application) and discussed their weighting.

The group engaged in a discussion touching on topics such as funding, location of chargers, private investment, the affordability of electric vehicles and building code requirements for new construction,

C. Lentz noted that SRPC applied for a safe streets and roads for all grant to write a regional action plan for safety improvements. He asked if anyone has any safety project ideas-let us know. Can apply for implementation grants in future. The goal is to have 0 fatalities in State NH.

6. Other Business

G. Davison provided a DOT update Glenn stating that retirements are happening, Bill Cass is now commissioner of the DOT, The department is still experiencing staffing shortages.

7. Citizen's Forum

The were no citizens comments.

8. Adjourn:

M. Bobinsky motioned to adjourn seconded by D. Hamann. The meeting adjourned at 10:34 A.M. with all members voting in favor.

MPO Policy Committee and Commission Meeting
Meeting prep memo
March 17th 2023

Summary of primary Commission meeting agenda items:

Public Hearing for the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).

This is a full update to the RHNA, last completed in 2015. The RHNA is intended to inform the public of the region's housing conditions and the data enclosed is to be used by municipalities in planning a balanced housing stock. In addition to analyzing historical trends, existing conditions, and making projections of future conditions and housing needs, this assessment also identifies tools and techniques that communities can use to further balance housing based on proven successful housing solutions identified within the Northeast and across the nation.

[Link to the draft RHNA](#)

Summary of primary MPO Policy meeting agenda items:

Candidate Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement projects.

There are a total of five projects being proposed from our region: one from Dover, one from COAST, one from UNH, and two that are from both UNH and Durham. SRPC no longer needs to rank and vote on these projects, but staff will still conduct air quality improvement analyses for each to demonstrate their benefits for reducing emissions. Project applicants will be at the meeting to provide more detail on their respective projects.

Project scope summaries and supporting maps are attached to this memo below, along with project maps.

Coordinated Public Transit & Human Services Transportation Plan

Just call it the "Coordinated Plan". The Coordinated Plan concerns many forms of "community transportation" in the region. Community transportation refers to all transportation resources in a community that are available to help meet people's mobility needs. These include both public and private services, such as fixed route busses, shuttles for seniors, taxis, vans that churches or community organizations own and operate, and other services.

This plan needs to be in place for entities like COAST to access federal funds for transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities. There will be a public comment period for the plan starting in late March with a hearing at the April

Policy meeting. I'll give a **brief** introduction to the plan at the meeting. The draft plan is on the SRPC website [HERE](#).

The plan is long as usual. For quick review I recommend focusing on the following sections:

- The demographics executive summary on page 13 and maps starting on page 18
- Check out the wide range of community transportation services starting on page 35
- The findings and recommendations starting on page 74

CMAQ Projects

Dover Project Scope

The proposed project would be the first phase to design and implement the recommendations provided in the 2016 Route 108 – South Corridor Study, and would consist of improvements along Route 108 from Mast Road to Daley Drive.

Improvements to the intersections of Route 108 / Alumni Drive and Route 108 / Daley Drive will be evaluated to mitigate congestion during peak times and improve roadway safety. The traffic signal at the Route 108 / Mast Road intersection will be improved by replacing existing loop detectors with the installation of a camera system. The intersection of NH108 and Alumni Drive will be updated with a roundabout configuration.

Elements of Complete Street will be evaluated in the roadway design, such as improvements to pedestrian facilities, bicycle accommodations, and bus stops. The recommendations of the 2016 Route 108 – South Corridor Study aim to achieve the City's goals for the corridor of improved access, connectivity, and safety for vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists; the proposed project is the first phase of implementing these goals.

[Google Map Link of general location](#)

COAST project scope

COAST will collaborate with the Strafford and Rockingham Planning Commissions to reinvigorate the CommuteSMART Seacoast Transportation Management Association (TMA) with a new full time Director and budget for programming and outreach. The project is proposed for a five-year initial period.

UNH/Durham EV charging project scope

UNH proposes installation of up to four public EV charge sites on UNH campus/downtown Durham public properties. We envision these as dual-quad port Level 2/2+ destination chargers.

UNH/Durham NH155 roundabout project scope

Convert the intersection of NH155A, Main St, and Mast Rd to a roundabout.

[Google Map Link](#)

UNH Bus replacement project scope

Replace four model year 2008 35-foot biodiesel transit buses. Two replacement buses will be fueled by compressed natural gas serviced by existing fueling stations at UNH. The other two buses will be fully electric and charged through the local UNH power grid. UNH's electricity comes from an on-campus co-generation plant that burns waste landfill gases from the Turnkey landfill in Rochester.

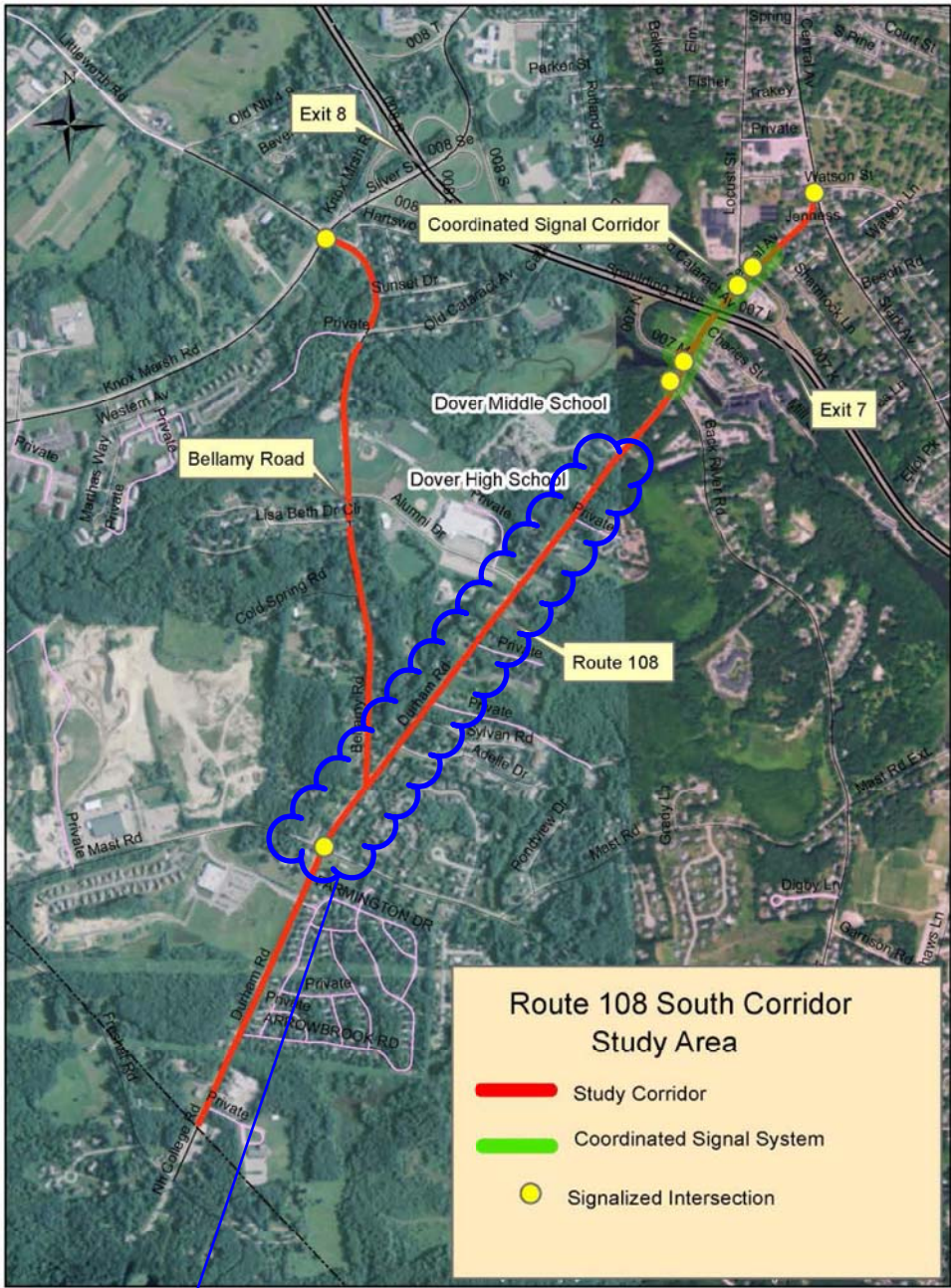


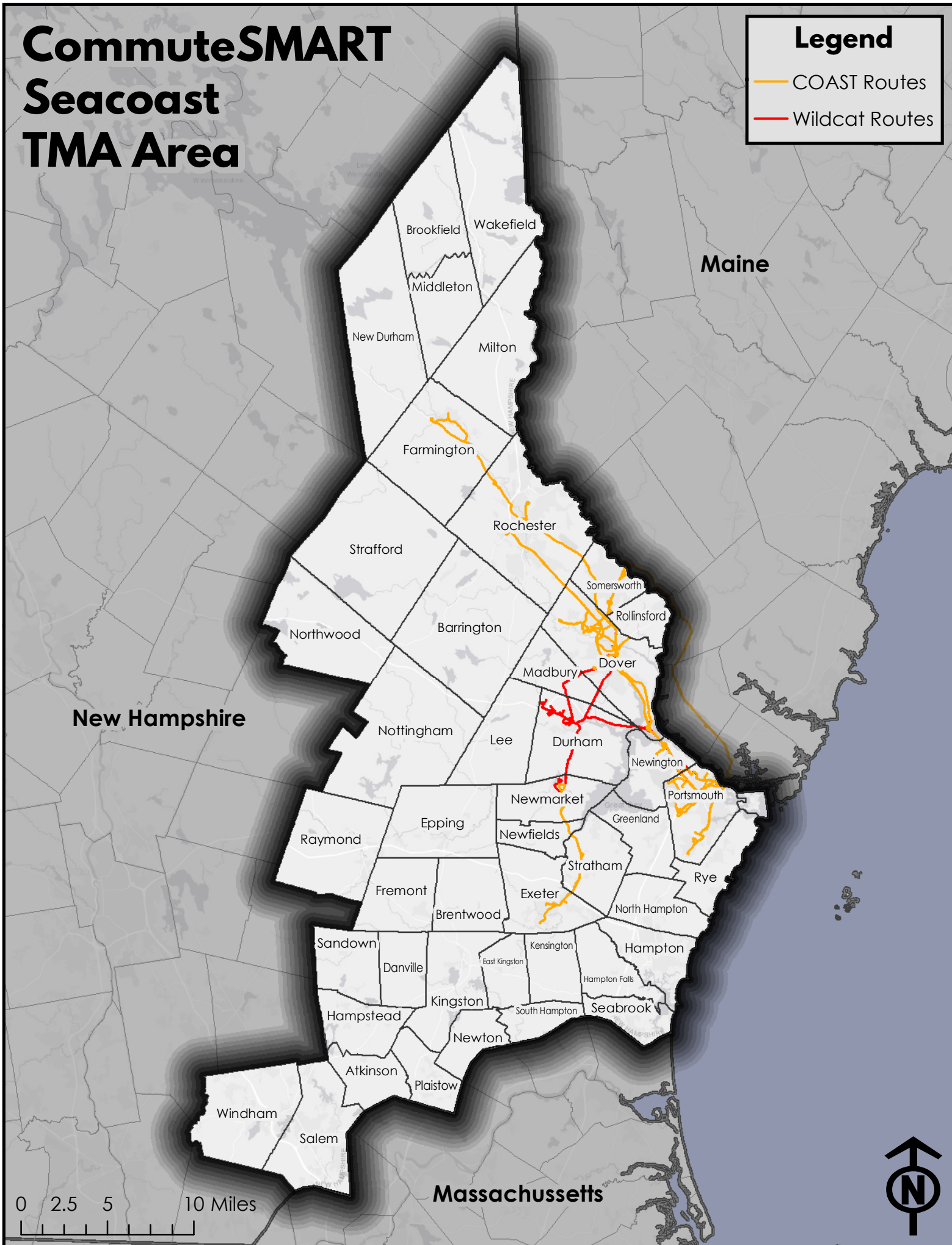
Figure 1: Study Area

Phase 1: Proposed Project Limits

CommuterSMART Seacoast TMA Area

Legend

- COAST Routes
- Wildcat Routes

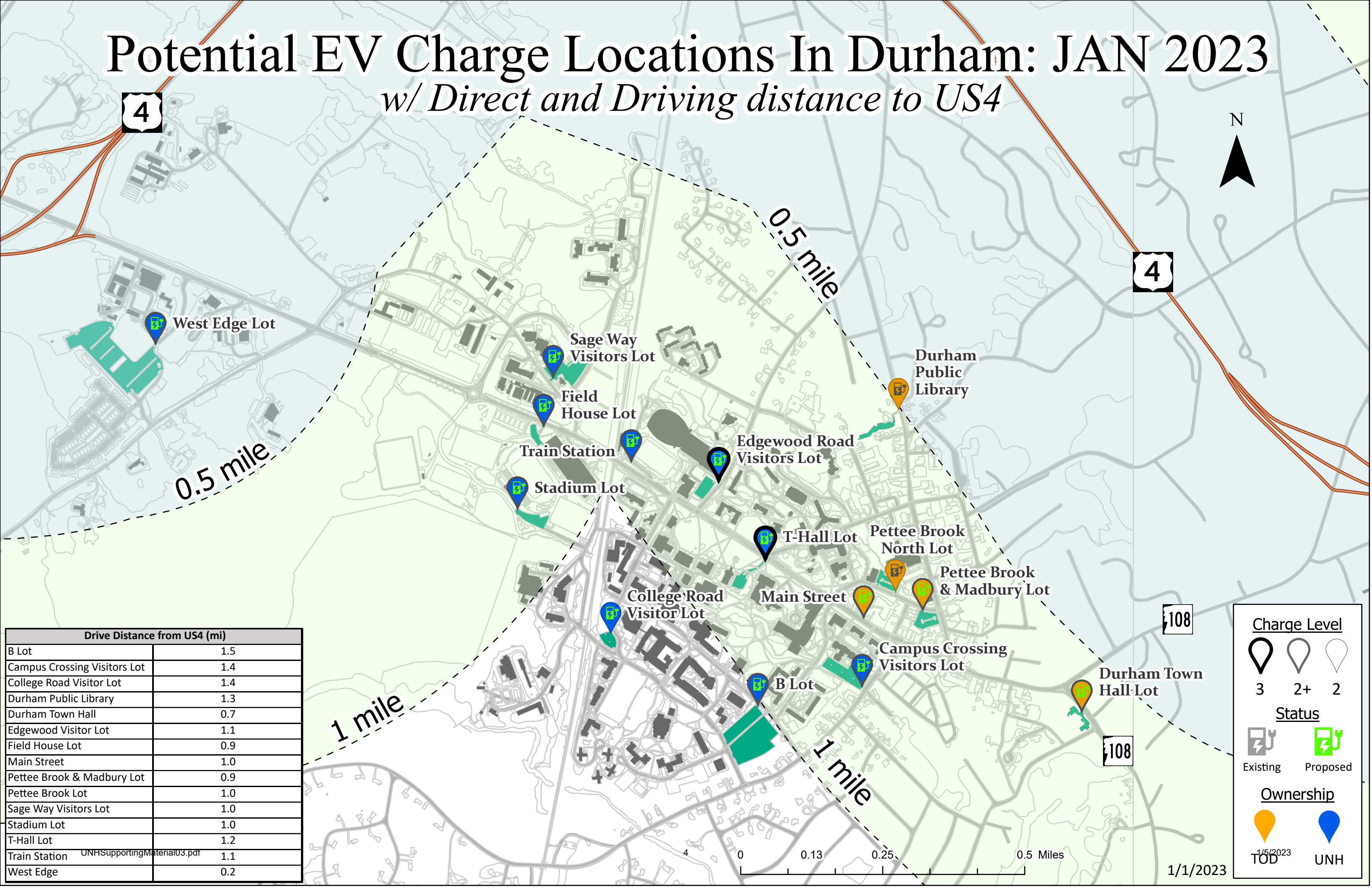


0 2.5 5 10 Miles



Potential EV Charge Locations In Durham: JAN 2023

w/ Direct and Driving distance to US4



| Drive Distance from US4 (mi) | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| B Lot | 1.5 |
| Campus Crossing Visitors Lot | 1.4 |
| College Road Visitor Lot | 1.4 |
| Durham Public Library | 1.3 |
| Durham Town Hall | 0.7 |
| Edgewood Visitor Lot | 1.1 |
| Field House Lot | 0.9 |
| Main Street | 1.0 |
| Pettee Brook & Madbury Lot | 0.9 |
| Pettee Brook Lot | 1.0 |
| Sage Way Visitors Lot | 1.0 |
| Stadium Lot | 1.0 |
| T-Hall Lot | 1.2 |
| Train Station | 1.1 |
| West Edge | 0.2 |

Charge Level

3 2+ 2

Status

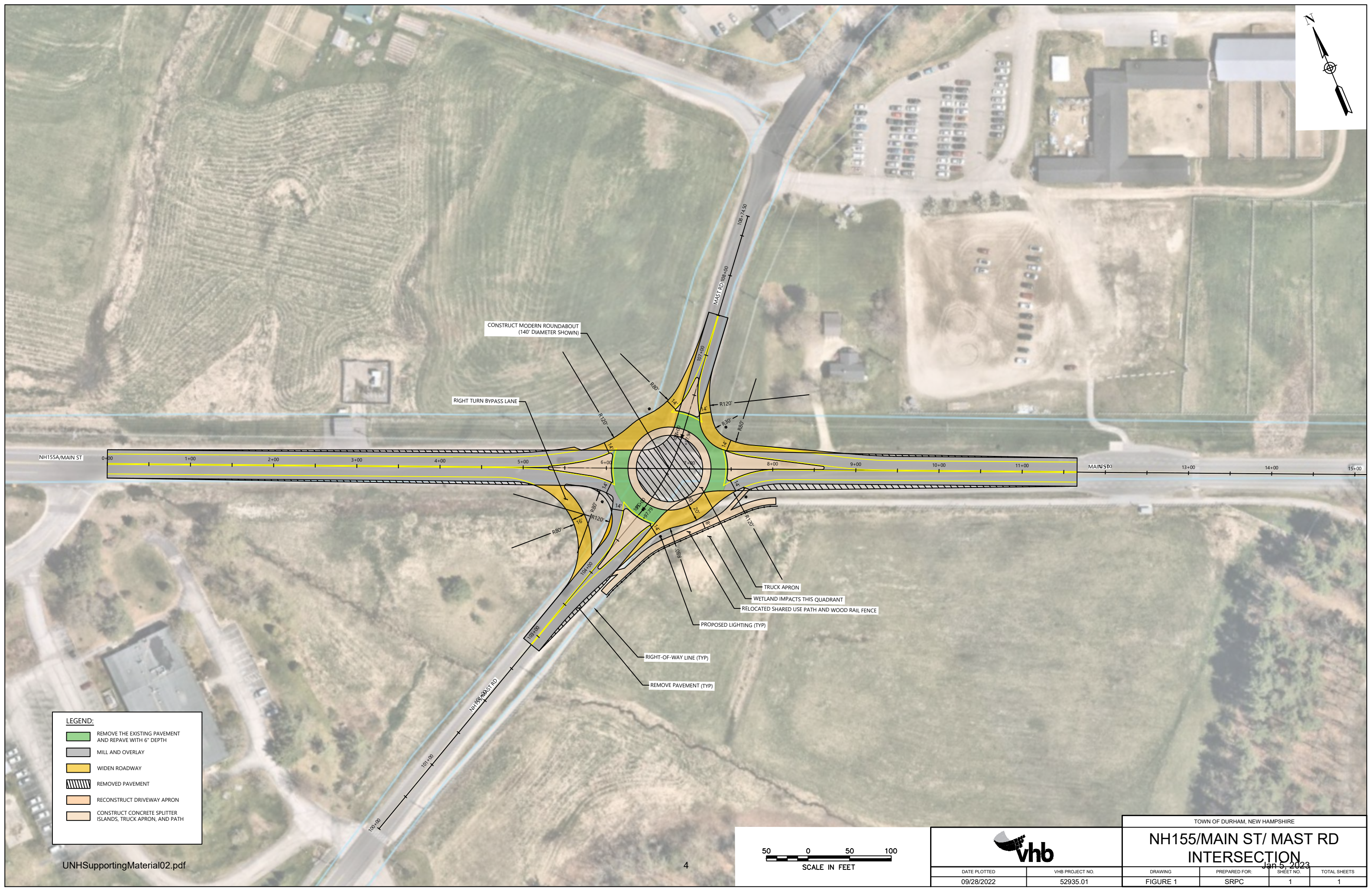
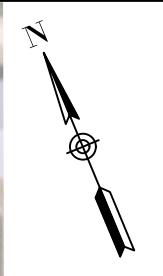
Existing Proposed

Ownership

TOD UNH

0 0.13 0.25 0.5 Miles

1/1/2023



CONSTRUCT MODERN ROUNDABOUT
(140' DIAMETER SHOWN)

RIGHT TURN BYPASS LANE

TRUCK APRON

WETLAND IMPACTS THIS QUADRANT

RELOCATED SHARED USE PATH AND WOOD RAIL FENCE

PROPOSED LIGHTING (TYP)

RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE (TYP)

REMOVE PAVEMENT (TYP)

LEGEND:

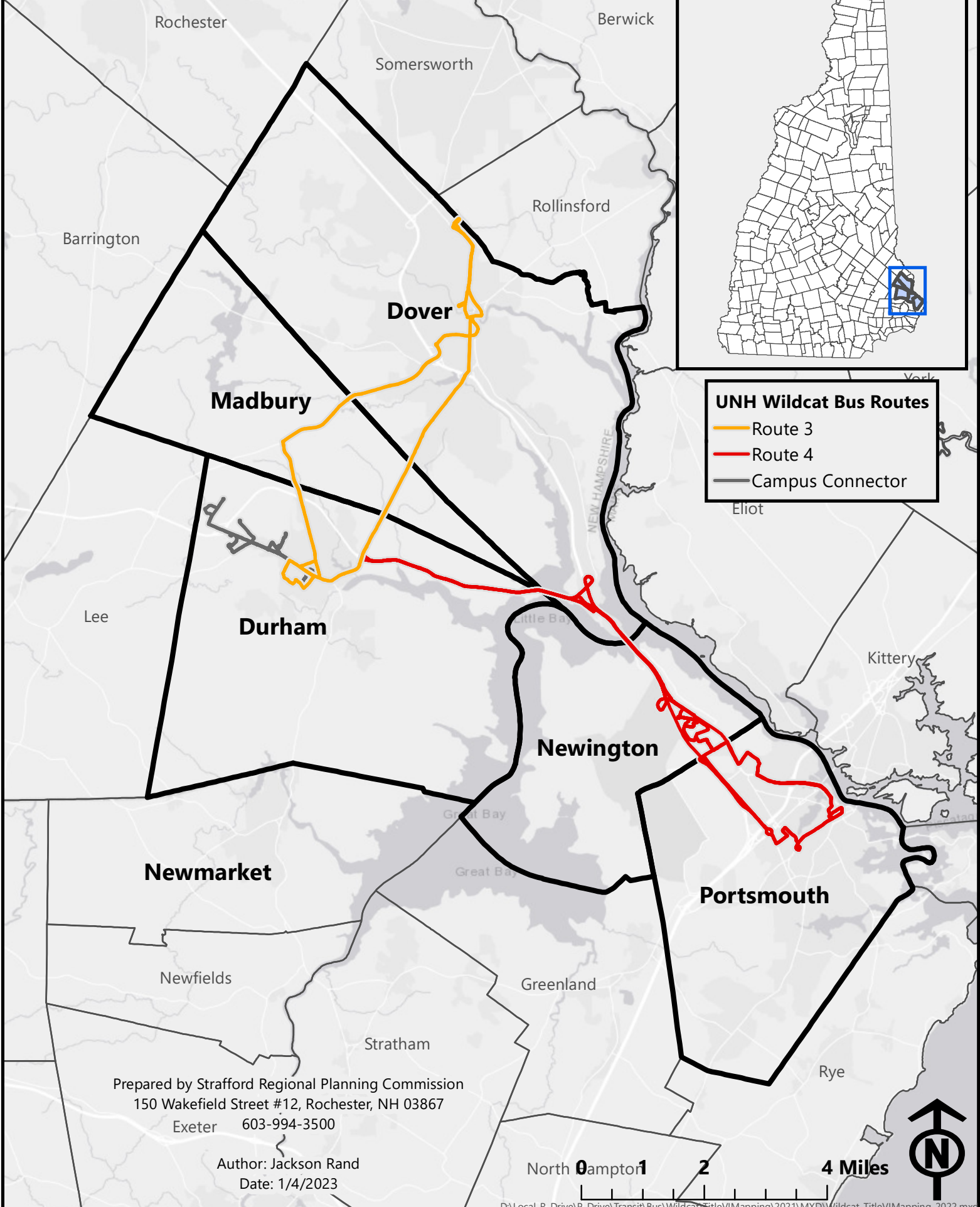
| | |
|--|--|
| | REMOVE THE EXISTING PAVEMENT AND REPAVE WITH 6" DEPTH |
| | MILL AND OVERLAY |
| | WIDEN ROADWAY |
| | REMOVED PAVEMENT |
| | RECONSTRUCT DRIVEWAY APRON |
| | CONSTRUCT CONCRETE SPLITTER ISLANDS, TRUCK APRON, AND PATH |



| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------|---------------|-----------|--------------|
| TOWN OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE | | | | | |
| NH155/MAIN ST/ MAST RD INTERSECTION | | | | | |
| Jan 5, 2023 | | | | | |
| DATE PLOTTED | VHB PROJECT NO. | DRAWING | PREPARED FOR: | SHEET NO. | TOTAL SHEETS |
| 09/28/2022 | 52935.01 | FIGURE 1 | SRPC | 1 | 1 |



Wildcat Transit Service Area



Prepared by Strafford Regional Planning Commission
150 Wakefield Street #12, Rochester, NH 03867
Exeter 603-994-3500

Author: Jackson Rand
Date: 1/4/2023

Ten Year Plan Projects

Strafford MPO still needs to vote on the final list of candidate projects to be submitted to NHDOT for inclusion in the draft Ten Year Plan. The statutory deadline for this is April 1st. We anticipate feedback from NHDOT on their review of our candidate projects soon. That feedback will determine our final vote on the projects. As it stands, we have a regional allocation of \$5,846,797 and the total cost for all projects is \$6,968,310. NHDOT could have a different cost assessment that could change the total cost. Whatever the case, the MPO has only \$5,846,797 to fund new projects, so some projects (or individual components of projects) may need to be cut to get to a list that fits within the regional allocation.

NOTE that the Durham Point Rd project was found to be ineligible for this Ten Year Plan process because it is a local road which is not federal aid eligible. It is eligible for several other funding sources that are upcoming.

Strafford RPC - Cost detail for initial submission to the Ten Year Plan for NHDOT review
November 8, 2022

| Municipality | Project Score | Location/Road | Scope | 2022 Engineering Cost | 2032 Inflated Engineering | 2022 ROW Cost | 2032 Inflated ROW | 2022 Construction Cost | 2032 Inflated CON | 2022 Total | 2032 Inflated | 2032 Inflated DOT 80% Share |
|---|---------------|---|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Somersworth A* | 5.5 | Main St | Complete Streets improvements | NA | | NA | | NA | | \$4,030,000 | \$4,030,000 | \$3,224,000 |
| Newmarket A | 4.9 | NH152/NH108/Gerry Ave | Safety Improvements | \$100,000 | \$131,805 | \$10,000 | \$13,180 | \$659,000 | \$868,593 | \$769,000 | \$1,013,579 | \$810,863 |
| Lee A1 | 4.6 | NH155/George Bennett/Lee Hook Rd (option 1) | Eliminate the West Mill Pond Road Connection | \$60,000 | \$79,083 | \$0 | \$0 | \$154,000 | \$202,979 | \$214,000 | \$282,062 | \$225,650 |
| Lee B | 4.4 | NH155 | Shared Use Path along NH 155 | \$90,000 | \$118,624 | \$10,000 | \$13,180 | \$479,000 | \$631,345 | \$579,000 | \$763,150 | \$610,520 |
| Somersworth B1 | 4.3 | West High St/Maple St/Sunset Dr (option 1) | Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Crossing | \$80,000 | \$105,444 | \$10,000 | \$13,180 | \$477,000 | \$628,709 | \$567,000 | \$747,333 | \$597,866 |
| Projects above this line fit within the regional allocation | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ----- Projects below this line are additional projects for NHDOT peer review | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Durham A | 3.7 | NH155/Main St | Roundabout with slip lanes | \$180,000 | \$237,249 | \$30,000 | \$39,541 | \$1,212,000 | \$1,597,474 | \$1,422,000 | \$1,874,264 | \$1,499,411 |
| Durham B** | 3.2 | Durham Point Rd | Road Improvements | \$200,000 | \$263,610 | \$10,000 | \$13,180 | \$2,787,000 | \$3,673,399 | \$2,997,000 | \$3,950,189 | \$3,160,151 |

Inflated 80% cost of top ranked projects \$5,468,899
Regional Allocation \$5,846,797
Total inflated 80% cost of all projects \$6,968,310

* City did not use same method as others for inflation

** The Durham Point Rd project is on a local road that is not federal aid eligible and therefore not eligible for the TYP through this process

| These were alternatives for projects that were considered but not included in the submittal | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|---|------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| LEE A2 | 4.6 | NH155/George Bennett/Lee Hook Rd (option 2) | Single Lane Roundabout | \$180,000 | \$105,444 | \$20,000 | \$26,361 | \$909,000 | \$1,198,105 | \$1,109,000 | \$1,461,715 | \$1,169,372 |
| SOM B2 | 4.3 | West High St/Maple St/Sunset Dr (option 2) | Single Lane Roundabout | \$180,000 | \$237,249 | \$10,000 | \$13,180 | \$996,000 | \$1,312,776 | \$1,186,000 | \$1,563,205 | \$1,250,564 |