

Strafford MPO Policy Committee Meeting

Friday, May 19, 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 mins	
2) Commissioner Roundtable Updates, from your community	15 mins	
3) Public Hearing – 2023-2026 TIP Amendment 1	10 mins	Included in packet
4) Action Items a) Minutes from April 21, 2023 b) Approve amendment 1 to the 23-26 TIP	5 mins	See meeting prep memo
5) Discussion Items a) Presentation of draft CEDS	15 mins	LINK to draft CEDS
6) Other Business	5 mins	
7) Citizen's Forum		
8) 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@trafford.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.



**Meeting Prep Memo
Strafford MPO Policy Committee
May 19, 2023**

Primary Agenda Items

Amendment 1 to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Amendment 1 includes proposed changes to three projects in the Strafford region. See the proposed changes with financial information included below.

- Somersworth (43840) – change in overall project timing
- Lee (41322) – additional funding for right-of-way
- Rochester (43552) – merging of two concurrent projects on NH11

The TAC reviewed the draft amendment at their May meeting and recommended it for approval by the Policy committee.

Draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Link to draft CEDS: chrome-extension://efaidnbnmnibpcajpcgclefindmkaj/https://www.strafford.org/uploads/documents/plans/edd/ceds_2023_publiccommentdraft.pdf

Background: SRPC staff have completed a draft of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2023. 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. See below for an overview of the public comment 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 Wednesday, May 10, 2023, and the public comment period will remain open until Monday, June 12, 2023. Comments may be submitted in writing, electronically, or in person at the public hearing (scheduled for the June 16 meeting). Notice of the public comment period was provided via the SRPC website and in the Foster's Daily Democrat on Monday, May 8, 2023. Copies of the CEDS 2023 are available on the SRPC website, and as hard copies at the SRPC office and at the Dover, Somersworth, and Rochester city halls and libraries.

To Submit Public Comments: Comments may be submitted at the May Policy Committee meeting (Commissioners), at the June 16 public hearing (general public), in writing to SRPC, or via email to Angela Cleveland at acleveland@strafford.org.

Staff Recommendation: SRPC staff will present an overview of the draft CEDS 2023 at the May 19, 2023 Policy Meeting. Commissioners are encouraged to ask questions during or after the presentation. Commissioners may discuss the CEDS 2023 further and/or provide their own comments and feedback. There is not a noticed public hearing on the May 19 agenda. If any members of the public are present the Commission may recognize them at their discretion, but a public hearing will be held for the June 16 meeting prior to adoption.

Adoption Process Notes:

- Public comments will be accepted until the close of business on Monday, June 12, 2023.
- SRPC staff is maintaining a record of all public comments received. Comments by commissioners and the public will be added to a public comment 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 16, 2023 Policy Committee meeting.
- SRPC staff will work to incorporate all content edits prior to the June 16 meeting.
- A public hearing is scheduled for the June 16, 2023 Policy Committee meeting prior to adoption.

STRAFFORD

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Committee Meeting
Combined Meeting of the Stafford EDD & Strafford MPO
Meeting Minutes
Friday, April 21, 2023
9:00 – 10:30 AM
Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Rochester, NH

1. Introductions

Members present: D. Landry, Dover; B. Fisher, Farmington, D. Hamann, Rochester; Michael Williams, COAST; W. Burton, Durham; Peter Nelson, Newmarket; Barbara Holstein, Rochester; D. Landry, Dover; Katrin Kasper, Lee; Matt townie, Barrington; Chris Horton, Somersworth; Mark Richardson, Somersworth.

Staff Present: Colin Lentz, Jen Czysz, Mark Davie

Members attending on Zoom: Joe Boudreay, Rochester; Steve Diamond, Barrington; Mary Woodward, Lee; Jessica Wilcox, NHDES; Glen Davison, NHDOT; Charlene Andersen, Nottingham.

Staff attending on Zoom: Rachel Dewey, Megan Taylor-Fetter

2. Commissioner Roundtable

M. Towne stated that the TIFF was defeated by voters in the Town of Barrington. There has been a lot of discussion to try for next year.

C. Horton stated that the Somersworth Planning Board approved a plan proposed by Sports Hub to erect new infrastructure and for site improvements to existing infrastructure. They are waiting for several permits to be approved including driveway permit. C. Lentz stated that SRPC can lend support with additional traffic count analysis.

W. Burton stated that the DOT has come up with a good plan to install a rotary at the intersection of Route 4 and Madbury Road. W. Burton reported that the Town of Epping has been dumping untreated run-off water into Lamprey River which could seriously endanger the water supply for Durham. The Federal agencies are involved but Epping is not doing anything to stop it. Senator Maggie Hassan is assisting the town in finding funding for a short-term restoration project to strengthen shorelines along great bay.

3. Public Hearing-2023 Coordinated Transportation Plan

D. Landry opened the Public Hearing. C. Lentz presented highlights of the Coordinated Plan and stated 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 bus 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.

There was no discussion, D. Landry closed the Public Hearing.

4. Action Items

a. Minutes from March 17, 2023

D. Hamann motioned to accept the Minutes from March 17, 2023 seconded by B. Fisher. A roll call vote was taken: B. Fisher, D. Hamann, P. Nelson, W. Burton, M. Williams, W. Lehman, K. Golab, K. Kasper, B. Holstein, M. Towne, C. Horton, M. Richardson, D. Landy, J. Boudreau, S. Diamond, J. Wilcox, G. Davison, C. Andersen, all voted in favor. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

b. Approve the draft 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program

C. Lentz explained the UPWP is a comprehensive program of all transportation-related tasks to be completed over the next two years. Strafford MPO is in the process of preparing the next UPWP with NHDOT which will cover state fiscal years 2024 and 2025 (beginning July 1st of calendar year 2023). Staff will be meeting with NHDOT in the next few weeks to discuss draft updates and will provide a summary of the updates and major projects anticipated for that two-year period.

The group discussed funding percentages.

D. Hamann motioned to approve the Draft 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program seconded by C. Horton. A roll call vote was taken: B. Fisher, D. Hamann, P. Nelson, W. Burton, M. Williams, W. Lehman, K. Golab, K. Kasper, B. Holstein, M. Towne, C. Horton, M. Richardson, D. Landy, J. Boudreau, S. Diamond, J. Wilcox, G. Davison, C. Andersen, all voted in favor. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

c. Approve the draft 2023 Coordinated Transportation Plan

D. Hamann motioned to approve the 2023 Coordinated Transportation Plan seconded by M. Williams. A roll call vote was taken: B. Fisher, D. Hamann, P. Nelson, W. Burton, M. Williams, W. Lehman, K. Golab, K. Kasper, B. Holstein, M. Towne, C. Horton, M. Richardson, D. Landy, J. Boudreau, S. Diamond, J. Wilcox, G. Davison, C. Andersen, all voted in favor. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

d. Final Ten-Year Plan Project ranking

C. Lentz stated that it is time to make a final decision on the candidate Ten Year Plan projects. The TAC recommended that the Policy committee approve Scenario 2, which

would fund Somersworth's Main St Complete Streets and Lee's improvements to the intersection of NH155/George Bennett/Lee Hook Rd. This remains the top scoring scenario.

Discussion ensued on the decision process used to move forward with the selected projects.

K. Kasper, motioned to approve TAC's recommendation seconded by M. Towne. A roll call vote was taken: B. Fisher, D. Hamann, P. Nelson, W. Burton, M. Williams, W. Lehman, K. Golab, K. Kasper, B. Holstein, M. Towne, C. Horton, M. Richardson, D. Landy, J. Boudreau, S. Diamond, J. Wilcox, G. Davison, C. Andersen, all voted in favor. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

5. UNH Seniors – Climate Data Presentation

The Seniors were not available to present. J. Czysz stated that these four UNH students have been working with staff member Autumn Scott who was invited by UNH to submit a project to the UNH sustainability program for capstone students. They chose to work on a review of the existing climate change chapter of the SRPC Regional Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2015. Identifying elements where data is out of date and new information is available. Still a couple more weeks to submit their final paper.

The group asked if the students could present a future meeting.

6. Other Business

Further discussion ensued on the issue of the Town of Epping dumping contaminated water into the Lamprey River. W. Burton read a letter from the acting DES enforcement officer to the Town of Epping.

M. Davie and R. Dewey shared that the new and improved snapshot will be going online today and it includes new data in several sections and new Community Profiles. It will soon include an excel workbook for custom analysis.

J. Czysz stated she is excited to announce that SRPC has hired two planners, Lisa Murphy and Angela Cleveland.

W. Burton suggested SRPC have more interaction with town administrators and suggested having them do a presentation on what they see as challenges and what they need help with.

7. Citizens Forum

There were no citizens present.

8. Adjourn

M. Towne motioned to adjourn seconded by C. Horton. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD & PUBLIC HEARING

Regarding Amendments to the: 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program with corresponding updates to the 2023-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

The Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC), functioning as the federally mandated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Strafford Region, is holding a comment period and public hearing for the proposed Amendment #1 to the adopted *2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program* (TIP). The TIP is a prioritized list of federal and state funded regional transportation projects programmed for the next four years. The amendment is necessary to account for project changes and to maintain consistency with the *2023-2026 State Transportation Improvement Program* (STIP). SRPC is conducting this process in accordance with the Strafford MPO's public involvement procedures and federal and state regulations.

Amendment #1 impacts projects listed in the *2023-2026 TIP* which is part of the *2023-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan* (MTP) for the region. Full amendments to the TIP require a 10-day public comment period, a public hearing, and approval by the Strafford MPO Policy Committee. A 10-day public comment period for this amendment will begin on **Monday, May 8, 2023**, and will end at the close of business on **Thursday, May 18, 2023**. **A public hearing will be held by the SRPC Policy Committee meeting at 9:00 am on Friday, May 19, 2023**. The public is encouraged to submit comments before the end of the business day (5:00 pm) **Thursday, May 18, 2023**, or at the public hearing at the Strafford MPO Policy Committee meeting at **9:00 am on Friday, May 19, 2023**.

The public hearing can be attended in-person or electronically. Attend in-person at the address below, and electronically by dialing (646) 558-8656 and use conference ID: 858 0237 2877, or participate online at **Meeting ID: 858 0237 2877**

Online Access: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85802372877>

Copies of the proposed amendment will be available for review at the Dover, Rochester, and Somersworth public libraries and city halls, as well as the Strafford Regional Planning Commission office and website. Copies can be sent to interested parties upon request. Information about joining the meeting is at the Strafford Regional Planning Commission website (strafford.org). If anybody has a problem accessing the meeting, please call (603) 994-3500 x102 or e-mail clentz@strafford.org

Copies can be sent to interested parties upon request. Comments can be sent via mail, email, and fax to:

Colin Lentz
Strafford Regional Planning Commission
150 Wakefield Street, Suite 12
Rochester, NH 03867

Phone: (603) 994-3500 (ext. 102)
Fax: (603) 994-3504
email: clentz@strafford.org
Website: www.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



As of July 20, 2013 all of New Hampshire is unclassifiable/attainment for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (the 2008 ozone standard); the 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (the 1997 ozone standard) is revoked for transportation conformity purposes in the Boston-Manchester-Portsmouth (SE), NH area.

**Strafford MPO
2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #1**

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2023 - 2026 SRPC Transportation Improvement Program 2023-2026 Amendment 1

3/21/2023

Please refer to the 2023 - 2026 TIP document and project listing for detailed COAST transit funding information. NHDOT groups federal funding for statewide public transit in large programs (e.g. FTA 5307); MPOs and RPCs track funding for individual transit providers and projects. Strafford MPO is currently updating its project database and will be incorporating individual project funding for final publication of the 2023 - 2026 TIP.

SOMERSWORTH 40646

Towns: SOMERSWORTH
 Road: NH 9 (High Street), Blackwater Rd, Indigo Hill Rd
 Scope: Intersection safety improvements; NH Route 9, Blackwater Road, Indigo Hill Road
 Acronyms:

Approved Funding

Phase	Fiscal Year	Federal	State	Other	Total	
PE	2023	\$278,992		\$0	\$69,748	\$348,740
PE	2024	\$95,601		\$0	\$23,900	\$119,502
ROW	2024	\$115,476		\$0	\$28,869	\$144,345
CON	2026	\$2,311,230		\$0	\$577,808	\$2,889,038

Proposed Funding

Phase	Fiscal Year	Federal	State	Other	Total	
PE	2024	\$278,992		\$0	\$69,748	\$348,740
PE	2025	\$95,601		\$0	\$23,900	\$119,502
ROW	2025	\$115,476		\$0	\$28,869	\$144,345

Change Notes

NHDOT Description of Changes
 Shifting project phases ahead one year to coordinate with intersection safety project at Blackwater and Indigo Hill Rd
 SRPC Notes

Funding Sources

FHWA
 STBG-50 to 200K
OTHER
 Towns

LEE 41322

Towns: LEE
Road: NH Route 125
Scope: Bridge Replacement of culvert carrying NH 125 over Little River Br No 073/084
Acronyms:

Approved Funding

Phase	Fiscal Year	Federal	State	Other	Total
PE	2023	\$330,000		\$0	\$330,000
CON	2024	\$1,650,000		\$0	\$1,650,000

Proposed Funding

Phase	Fiscal Year	Federal	State	Other	Total
PE	2023	\$330,000		\$0	\$330,000
ROW	2023	\$27,500		\$0	\$27,500
CON	2024	\$1,650,000		\$0	\$1,650,000

Change Notes

NHDOT Description of Changes
Added right of way funding in 2023
SRPC Notes

Funding Sources

FHWA

STBG-Non Urban Areas Under 5K
National Highway Performance
BRGBIL

NHDOT

Toll Credit

ROCHESTER 43552

Towns: ROCHESTER
Road: NH 11
Scope: Widen 2,100' of NH 11 to 4 lane configuration.
Acronyms:

Approved Funding

Phase	Fiscal Year	Federal	State	Other	Total
PE	2023	\$203,200		\$0	\$50,800

Proposed Funding

Phase	Fiscal Year	Federal	State	Other	Total
PE	2023	\$203,200		\$0	\$50,800
PE	2025	\$131,584		\$0	\$32,896
ROW	2024	\$64,000		\$0	\$16,000
CON	2025	\$2,718,032		\$0	\$679,508

Change Notes

NHDOT Description of Changes
Rochester project 43840 is being merged with this project to coordinate work along NH11 corridor.
Project 43840 will be removed from the TIP

SRPC Notes

Funding Sources

FHWA

STBG-50 to 200K

OTHER

Towns