

Strafford MPO Policy Committee Meeting Friday, August 18, 2023 9:00 – 10:30 AM

1. Introductions: 9:12

At 9:18 A.M., Vice Chair Peter Nelson called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

Members present: William Fisher, Farmington; Don Hamann, Rochester; Tom Crosby, Madbury; Peter Nelson, Newmarket; Barbara Holstein, Rochester; Katrin Kasper, Lee; Joe Boudreau, Rochester; Mark Richardson, Somersworth; Michael Bobinsky, Somersworth; Glen Davison, DOT

Members attending on Zoom: Jessica Wilcox, NHDES; Vanessa Partington, NHDES,

Staff present: Jen Czysz, Colin Lentz, Rachel Dewey

SRPC staff attending on Zoom: Angela Cleveland and Mark Davie

By Phone: Mary Woodward, Lee

2. Commissioner Roundtable

D Hamman reported that much progress has been made on the Strafford Square roundabout project and everything is on schedule,

P. Nelson stated that there was a break in a sewer line that runs under Lamprey River which caused a great deal of concern and required intensive repair work and Newmarket has fixed the problem. Sadly, this has not been the best year for the Lamprey River.

M. Bobinsky stated that, North on High Street, Somersworth had substantially finished the TAP project for sidewalk and pathway safety improvements. The CMAC project is just starting for traffic signal coordination improvements and upgrades of 6 intersections. Ultimately the synchronization of the traffic lights will be substantially improved. There is a Complete Streets meeting on September 1 with the engineers, DOT and Staff.

The potential developer pulled out of his proposal to purchase the National Guard facility. The town is regrouping to decide on the next steps.

M. Richardson stated that the improvements to the Forest Glade cemetery along a section of Maple Street is a noticeable improvement and has drawn significant feedback and support.

3. Action Items

a) Minutes from May 19, 2023



M. Bobinsky motioned to accept the May 19 minutes as written seconded by K. Kasper. A roll call vote was taken: W. Fisher, D. Hamann, T. Crosby, P Nelson, B. Holstein, K. Kasper, J. Boudreau, M. Richardson, M. Bobinsky, G. Davison J. Wilcox, M. Woodward Motion passed with all in favor.

b) Performance Targets: Pavements, Bridge, and Travel Time Reliability

C. Lentz and M. Davie gave an overview on the performance targets and explained that SRPC is federally required to set performance targets in coordination with NHDOT. Some of those performance areas are pavement and bridge conditions, and travel time reliability.

In all target areas, staff are recommending that SRPC support the state targets rather than set specific regional targets. The primary justification is that SRPC does not directly influence pavement or bridge maintenance.

The new targets will be included in a draft System Performance Report that will be published once the pavement and bridge targets are approved.

Discussion ensued about comprehensive data on pavement and bridge conditions, and how to keep more bridges and miles of highway in good shape. Also discussed was concern that the targets do not address local infrastructure within the communities.

M. Bobinsky motioned to accept the Performance Targets as presented seconded by D. Hamann. A roll call vote was taken: W. Fisher, D. Hamann, T. Crosby, P Nelson, B. Holstein, K. Kasper, J. Boudreau, M. Richardson, M. Bobinsky, G. Davison J. Wilcox, M. Woodward. Motion passed with all in favor

4. Discussion Items

a) New Electric Vehicle Charging Toolkit

A. Cleveland presented on an online electric vehicle toolkit developed by SRPC staff to help municipalities navigate the world of Electric Vehicle charging and which has been designed for municipalities thinking about and planning for EV charging stations. The guide is in a storymap format for easy reading and focusing on topic areas of interest. There is an ever increasing need for EV charging stations largely due to increased tourism with electric vehicles.

The toolkit will be updated as new legislation, guidance, regional case studies, and technological information come to light. Members discussed the status of VW mitigation funds and their contribution to EV charging infrastructure.

5. Other Business

The group participated in a practice test exercise that will be presented at the September 21 Commission meeting for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The test was performed to determine what methods, including an online survey tool, worked best for participants. The consensus was that most members were comfortable with using the technology.



6. Citizen's Forum

There were no citizens present

7. Adjourn

D. Hamann motioned to adjourn seconded by T. Crosby. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

