

Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee
Friday, February 3, 2023
9:00 – 10:30 AM
Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Rochester, NH

1. Introductions

At 9:05 A.M. Chair Bruce Woodruff called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

Members attending in person: Katrin Kasper, Lee; Bruce Woodruff, Milton; Linsey Butler, Newmarket, Michael Williams, COAST; Marshall Goldberg, Brookfield; April Talon, Durham; Vanessa Price, Barrington; Donna Benton, Dover

Staff attending in person: Colin Lentz, Jennifer Czysz, Mark Davie

Members attending virtually: Shanna Saunders, Rochester; Ken Dickie, Farmington; Kim Rummo, NHDOT, Leigh Levine, FHWA; William Watson, NHDOT; Steve Pesci, UNH; Michelle Mears, Somersworth

Staff attending virtually: Rachel Dewey, Jackson Rand,

2. Community Updates

Colin reported that K. Kasper spoke with a representative from Eversource and was told that installing underground lines underground if Eversource is notified about a project.

D. Benton reported for Dover and stated that the 108 project has been postponed notification ½ million dollars for complete streets project.

M. Williams reported there is a positive trend towards returning to normal operations at COAST.

B. Woodruff reported that Milton is meeting with the engineer for the Goslin Silver project to begin plans for street improvements.

3. Action Items

a. Minutes from January 6, 2023

Motion: M. Williams motioned to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2023 minutes as written seconded by K. Kasper. A roll call vote was taken: B. Woodruff, K. Kasper, L. Butler, M. Williams, M. Goldberg, A. Talon, V. Price, D. Benton, S. Saunders, K. Dickie, K.

Rummo, L. Levine, W. Watson, S. Pesci, M. Mears, all voting in favor. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

b. Draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program

C. Lentz presented on the draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program updates. Major points of change include the project list, funding amounts, and performance measures. The update to the TIP also updates the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and its overall fiscal constraint. The draft TIP is in a public comment period and a hearing is scheduled for February 17th at the MPO Policy Committee meeting.

New Projects-

- Barrington sidewalk,
- Spaulding exit 10
- Economic development in Dov/Som/Roch, Farmington sidewalks,
- Milton sidewalks,
- Rochester NH Route 11 widening, sidewalks, and Nashoba signal.

Projects completed-

1. NH108 & 104-interchange signalization in Durham
2. Lowell Street safety projects improvements in Rochester
3. Newington -Dover Little Bay Bridges

The group discussed funding and how project cost estimates are compared with final costs taking into consideration inflation.

Motion: M. Williams motioned to approve the Draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program with public comments from Dover and COAST A. Talon seconded the motion. Discussion: W. Watson asked for an amendment to the motion to include allowing for future public comments. A roll call vote was taken: K. Kasper, B. Woodruff, L. Butler, M. Williams, M. Goldberg, A. Talon, V. Price, D. Benton, S. Saunders, K. Dickie, L. Levine, W. Watson, S. Pesci, M. Mears all voted in favor. K. Rummo abstained. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

4. Discussion Items

a. CMAQ project scoring process

C. Lentz explained that there are five applications for Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program (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. However, TAC members should review the scoring criteria and discuss their weighting.

The criteria and point system that NHDOT will use to rank projects are:

Project Readiness	Max 15 points
Financial Readiness	Max 15 points
Stewardship	Max 25 points
Air Quality Benefits	Max 35 points
RPC Priority*	Max 10 points

TAC members discussed the ranking process. There are 10 points that need to be distributed within the ranking process. Discussed was the link between air quality and congestion mitigation and that one does not always impact the other.; the need to consider the benefits of congestion reduction from proposed projects - even if it did not demonstrate a large air quality benefit.

Motion: M. Williams motioned for the criteria points be arranged as follows:

Project Readiness: Max 15 points
Financial Readiness: Max 15 points
Stewardship: Max 25 points
Air Quality Benefits: Max 35 points
Congestion reduction: Max 10 points

? seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: K. Kasper, B. Woodruff, L. Butler, M. Williams, M. Goldberg, A. Talon, V. Price, D. Benton, S. Saunders, K. Dickie, L. Levine, W. Watson, S. Pesci, M. Mears all voted in favor. K. Rummo abstained. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

5. Other Business

K. Kasper informed members that if they know about a local project happening along electric utility lines, it may be possible to underground those utilities at the same time so contact Eversource/your utility provider ASAP.

6. Citizens Forum There were no citizens present.

7. Adjourn-

At 10:11 AM, M. Williams motioned to adjourn seconded by K. Kasper. A roll call vote was taken: B. Woodruff, K. Kasper, L. Butler, M. Williams, M. Goldberg, A. Talon, V. Price, D. Benton, S. Saunders, K. Dickie, K. Rummo, L. Levine, W. Watson, S. Pesci, M. Mears, all voting in favor. Meeting adjourned with a unanimous vote in favor.