

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

1. Introductions

Vice Chair Michael Williams called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

Members attending in person: Michael Williams, COAST, Wayne Lehman, Lee, Michelle Mears, Somersworth, Marshall Goldberg, Brookfield, Jillian Semprini, Dover, Gretchen Young, Dover, Shanna Saunders, Rochester,

Staff attending in person: Colin Lentz, Mark Davie

Members attending virtually: Lucy St. John, NHDOT, Steve Pesci, UNH, Lindsey Butler, Newmarket, Vanessa Price, Barrington, Beverly Cray, UNH, Leah Levine, FHWA, Katrin Kasper, Lee

Staff attending virtually: Jen Czysz, Rachel Dewey, Jackson Rand, Megan Taylor-Fetter

Due to the lack of an in-person quorum, the meeting was held as informational only and all action items were tabled.

2. Community Updates

There were no community updates.

3. Action Items

a. Minutes from February 5, 2023

Tabled

b. Endorse candidate projects for CMAQ funding

C. Lentz gave a brief overview of the scoring process. He stated 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.

Dover, COAST, and UNH presented their proposed Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality improvement (CMAQ) projects.

Jill Semprini gave an overview of the proposed Dover project for improvements along route NH108 between Mass Road and Daily Drive. She explained that this is a critical corridor in the Dover Master Plan; a link between Dover and Durham. It also Provides access to the middle and high schools.

Steve Pesci provided an overview of the 108/Alumni Drive project at UNH. He explained that UNH is replacing four 2008 biodiesel buses with an ultimate goal is to be a leader in O emission transportation. S. Pesci stated that roundabouts and all electric tolling in highways have significant air quality benefits.

S. Pesci stated the preference for the NH 155A/Main/Mast Road intersection improvement project is to install a roundabout, but they will look at all possibilities. An evaluation was conducted by VHB which helped with budget as well as project design.

S. Pesci provided a summary of the proposed locations for EV Charging stations. S. Pesci stated that DOT is holding back on EV applications while communities are looking at NEVI and other funding. He stated that all stations would be publicly accessible.

M. Williams stated that COAST is proposing to reinvigorate the Seacoast Transportation Management Area Seacoast Commute Smart project. COAST is proposing to hire a staff person funded for 5 years with the hope of making the position permanent.

Rad Nichols joined the meeting and stated that COAST board has supported match funding and have plans for other match partners.

4. Discussion Items

a. Draft Coordinated Transit Plan

C. Lentz gave an overview of the draft Coordinated Plan for public transportation services and stated the plan is focused on increasing publicly accessible transportation services in the Strafford and Rockingham regions. The goal of the plan is to expand transportation services and increase the coordination between the service providers. A public comment period will open up followed by a public hearing in April.

5. Other Business

R. Dicillo stated that the State Clean Diesel program still open and encouraged people to reach out to him with any questions.

6. Citizens Forum

There were no citizens present.

7. Adjourn

The meeting ended at 10:15 A.M.

