

Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
Friday, September 2, 2022
9:00 – 10:30 AM
Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Rochester, NH

1. Introductions

Chair Bruce Woodman called the meeting to order at 9:05

Members present: Bruce Woodruff, Milton, Vanessa Price, Barrington; Rad Nichols, COAST; Michael Bezanson, Rochester; Marshall Goldberg, Brookfield; Katrin Kasper, Lee; Bart McDonough, Newmarket; Michell Mears, Somersworth,

Staff members present: Colin Lentz, Jen Czysz

Members attending remotely: Andrea Cass, UVLSRP; Leigh Levine, FHA; Lucy St. John, DOT; Steve Pesci, UNH; Dino Scala, Wakefield; Tim White, DES, Laurie Ridenour-Patterson, DOT; Steve Pesci, UNH

Staff Remote: Jackson Rand, Mark Davie, Megan Taylor-Fetter

2. Action Items

a. Minutes from August 5, 2022

M. Mears motioned to accept the August 5, 2022, minutes as written seconded by M. Goldberg. There was no discussion. A Roll Call Vote was taken: M Mears, V. Price, K. Kasper, B. Woodruff, B. McDonough, M. Goldberg, T. White all voting in favor, R. Nichols, M. Bezanson, L. St. John, D, Scala, abstaining. Motion passed with all votes in favor.

b. Officer Elections

C. Lentz stated that Bruce Woodruff and Michael Williams volunteered to continue in their respective roles as Chair and Vice Chair. As there were no other nominations, S. Pesci motioned to accept the nominations as presented seconded by B. McDonough, Discussion: B. Woodruff stated that this will be his 4th or 5th time serving as chair dating back to the 1990's. A roll call vote was taken: V. Price, M. Mears, K. Kasper, R. Nichols, M. Bezanson, M. Goldberg, T. White, L. St. John, S. Pesci voting in favor. B. Woodruff abstaining. Motion passed with all votes in favor.

c. Ten Year Plan criteria weighting

C. Lentz explained that the Policy reviewed the TYP criteria at their August meeting. They subsequently requested more time for those who hadn't submitted weightings. Since then, several additional submissions have been received. The new scores bumped

up the natural hazard resilience category and equity environmental justice also received a little boost. Safety and the state of repair stayed the same. This feels like a balanced set of weights.

There was a brief discussion with members agreeing that they were pleased to see safety and the state of repair as the top 2.

S. Pesci motioned to recommend the Criteria Weightings as adjusted to the MPO Policy Committee at their September meeting, seconded by K. Kasper. A roll call vote was taken: M. Mears, V. Price, K. Kasper, R. Nichols, M. Bezanson, M. Goldberg, T. White, S. Pesci voting in favor. L. St. John abstain. Motion passed with all votes in favor.

3. Discussion Items

a. First round of Ten Year Plan Project scoring

C. Lentz explained that SRPC needs to send a ranking list of projects to NHDOT by November 11, 2022. This is the first round of scoring to get a prioritized list to DOT for engineering review. Simultaneously, VHB will be doing some additional data collection, design, and cost estimates. The final decision on projects is due by March 31, 2023, so we have the next few months to discuss the projects and scoring process.

C. Lentz reviewed the seven projects to be considered in this round:

- Somersworth: Main Street Complete Streets
- Somersworth: West High Maple Sunset Drive Intersection
- Newmarket: NHG155 & NH108 Intersection
- Lee: NH155 Shared Use Path
- Lee: NH155/George Bennett/Lee Hook Road Intersection
- Durham: Durham Point Road
- Durham: NH155/Main Street Intersection

Members provided feedback on the projects and commented on projects specific to their communities.

C. Lentz explained that SRPC will email TAC and Policy members a link to a scoring survey which must be filled out by September 23, 2022. This is critical because October is the last opportunity for TAC and Policy to vote on this initial project ranking before our November 11th deadline.

4. Other Business & Community Updates

B. McDonough stated that Newmarket will be launching small pilot projects to gain a better understanding, to see what people's reactions are, and to collect data for what New Market can do to improve conditions for pedestrians.

S. Pesci reported that UNH and the Town of Durham will be putting out the new bike share system called CatTracks. It will be an app-based program open to the public and UNH. The program will start out in pilot mode this fall, and then go full force in the spring.

R. Nichols reported that COAST is a recipient of a 7.7 million dollar Bus Facilities Grant. This will go towards a new facility in Dover. COAST is working with Shaheen for additional funding. COAST is launching a new app which will track buses in real time. COAST is offering free rides to the state election polls. COAST will return to limited Saturday service. Staffing is better but continues to be a major issue.

B. Woodruff reported for Milton - Milton 3 ponds Protection Association is raising money by selling hats on their website. B. Woodruff stated he will not be able to attend the October 7 meeting. C. Lentz stated that M. Williams will also be unavailable for that meeting. Another member can run the meeting in their place.

J. Czysz reported that SRPC is working with Milton 3 Ponds Association on a grant application for watershed plan to look at sources of pollution to be eligible for funding.

5. Citizen's Forum

There were no citizens present

6. Adjourn

At 10:23 a.m. R. Nichols motioned to adjourn seconded B. McDonough. All in favor, meeting adjourned.