

Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
Friday, January 6, 2023
9:00 – 10:30 AM
Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Rochester, NH

1. Introductions

Chair Bruce Woodruff called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

Members attending: Katrin Kasper, Lee; Bruce Woodruff, Milton; Michael Williams, COAST; Lindsay Butler, Newmarket; Beverly Cray, UNH; Michelle Mears, Somersworth; Vanessa Price, Barrington.

Staff attending virtually: Jen Czysz, Rachel Dewey

Members attending virtually: Steve Pesci, UNH; William Watson, DOT; Donna Benton, Dover;

2. Action Items

a. Minutes from October 7, 2022

M. Williams motioned to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by K. Kasper.

Discussion: Page 6 of the minutes should reflect that the NH155/Mast Road description is actually for Durham Point Road not FAE. The members voted unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

b. Performance Target Setting

-Highway Safety

-Transit Safety and Assets

C. Lentz presented on the Performance Target Setting. He explained that Strafford MPO is required to set quantitative targets for several performance measures. Targets for three performance areas will be updated and included as part of the updated 4-year Transportation Improvement Program: highway safety, public transit safety, and public transit asset conditions.

There are five highway safety targets for all public highways in the region:

1. Number of Fatalities
2. Rate of Fatalities
3. Number of Serious Injuries
4. Rate of Serious Injuries
5. Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Non-motorized Serious Injuries

There are seven targets related to passenger safety on federally funded public transit vehicles:

1. Number of Fatalities

2. Rate of Fatalities
3. Number of Injuries
4. Rate of Injuries
5. Number of Safety Events
6. Rate of Safety Events
7. System Reliability

There are three target categories related to federally funded public transit assets:

1. Rolling stock (revenue-generating vehicles that transport fare-paying customers)
2. Equipment (non-revenue vehicles that support transit operations)
3. Facilities (buildings and parking lots)

M. Williams motioned to recommend that the Policy committee approve the targets as proposed seconded by K. Kasper. Discussion:

- C. Lentz will follow up the Federal Transit Administration to get clarity and guidance on the transit asset targets. C. Lentz will correct headings in the table transit safety.

A vote was taken with all members voting unanimously. Motion passed.

3. Discussion Items

a. 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program

C. Lentz explained that the TIP contains all federally funded projects in-process in the Strafford region of the next four years. Strafford MPO works with NHDOT and the three other MPOs to update the TIP every two years. This includes adding new projects, removing projects that have been completed, updating funding information (including public transit), and ensuring that federal funds are fiscally constrained over the four-year period. Updates to the TIP also require an update to the Strafford MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), which considers the next 20 years of transportation projects and planning. When the TIP is updated, all projects programmed in the TIP through the last year of the MTP shift forward two years and get updated financial information.

b. 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program Development

C. Lentz explained that 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. Staff will provide a summary of the updates and major projects anticipated for that two-year period.

4. Other Business & Community Updates

J. Czysz reported NHMA has just launched a new bill tracking website. There is a transportation topic with daily and weekly updates.

M. Williams reported COAST has had to reduce service due to lack of drivers but has seen a turnaround in the last couple of months as new drivers have been hired. On January 14 COAST will be increasing its service levels on several routes.

D. Benton reported that Dover will be holding a public input session on the downtown pedestrian and vehicular traffic plan January 23 at 6:00 PM.

5. Citizens Forum

There were no citizens present.

6. Adjournment

At 10:15 A.M., M. Williams motioned to adjourn seconded by M. Williams. All in favor, meeting adjourned.