

Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Friday April 7, 2023 from 9:00am - 10:30am

Location: Conference Rm 1A, SRPC Office (Remote access via Zoom)

In accordance with RSA 91:A, the Commission requires a minimum of an in-person quorum. To organize this, the Commission staff will confirm the necessary in-person attendance. It is the preference of the Commission that others participate via Zoom, however, guests may attend the meeting at the SRPC Office. All participants, both in-person and virtual, can communicate contemporaneously. View the remote access information below.

Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83483049101?pwd=RW9oK2xQRzJDbkdoYTVzVzZGNDNhZz09>

Meeting ID: 834 8304 9101

Telephone-only Access: +1 646 558 8656

These instructions have also been provided at www.trafford.org. If anybody is unable to access the

Agenda Item	Time	Pre-Meeting Task/Notes
1) Introductions	5 mins	
2) Community Updates	15 Mins	Round table discussion
3) Action Items a) Minutes from February 3, 2023 b) Regional Coordinated Transit Plan c) Which candidate Ten Year Plan projects are funded through the regional allocation	30 mins	a) Review draft minutes in packet b) Review draft coordinated plan on the SRPC website HERE . c) See info about voting on projects in attached memo
4) Other Business	5 mins	
5) Citizen's Forum		
6) Adjourn		

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a detailed description of the accommodation you will need along with your contact info. Please make your request as early as possible; allowing at least 5 days advance notice. Last minute requests will be accepted but may be impossible to fill. Please call (603) 994-3500 or email srpc@strafford.org.



RULES OF PROCEDURE

*Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization, and
Strafford Economic Development District*

Meeting Etiquette

Be present at the scheduled start of the meeting.

Be respectful of the views of others.

Ensure that only one person talks at a time. Raising your hand to be recognized by the chair or facilitator is good practice.

Do not interrupt others or start talking before someone finishes.

Do not engage in cross talk.

Avoid individual discussions in small groups during the meeting. When one person speaks, others should listen.

Active participation is encouraged from all members.

When speaking, participants should adhere to topics of discussion directly related to agenda items.

When speaking, individuals should be brief and concise when speaking.

The Strafford Regional Planning Commission & Metropolitan Planning Organization holds both public meetings and public hearings.

For public meetings, guests are welcome to observe, but should follow proper meeting etiquette allowing the meeting to proceed uninterrupted. Members of the public who wish to be involved and heard should use venues such as Citizen Forum, Public Hearings, Public Comment Periods, outreach events, seminars, workshops, listening sessions, etc.



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.

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.

Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting prep memo
April 7th 2023

Summary of primary agenda items:

Coordinated Public Transit & Human Services Transportation Plan

Just call it the “Coordinated Plan”. The Coordinated Plan concerns many forms of “community transportation” in the region. Community transportation refers to all transportation resources in a community that are available to help meet people’s mobility needs. These include both public and private services, such as fixed route buss, shuttles for seniors, taxies, vans that churches or community organizations own and operate, and other services.

This plan needs to be in place for entities like COAST to access federal funds for transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities. There will be a public comment period for the plan starting in late March with a hearing at the April Policy meeting. I’ll give a **brief** introduction to the plan at the meeting. The draft plan is on the SRPC website [HERE](#).

The plan is long as usual. For quick review I recommend focusing on the following sections:

- The demographics executive summary on page 13 and maps starting on page 18
- Check out the wide range of community transportation services starting on page 35
- The findings and recommendations starting on page 74

Information for Final Ranking of Candidate Ten Year Plan Projects Strafford Regional Planning Commission March 27, 2023

Hello TAC and Policy Committee members. It's time for the final phase of our process for ranking projects that are candidates for inclusion in the state Ten Year Plan.

We have some new TAC and Policy members and it's been a while since we all looked at this, so to catch us up:

- A total of seven projects were submitted by municipalities to be considered for inclusion in the Ten Year Plan. Those projects were ranked according to criteria used by all RPCs and NHDOT.
- The projects were assessed by VHB to generate preliminary designs and cost estimates.
- With SRPC
- NHDOT reviewed designs and estimates.

Now we have a final decision to make. All projects together cost a total of \$13,915,447 but SRPC has a regional allocation of only \$5,846,797. *What combination of projects ("scenarios") should be funded under the regional allocation?*

****This decision must be made at the April TAC and Policy meetings.****

The table below includes the range of possible scenarios for funding. The projects are listed in the order they were ranked in the previous step described above. Note that "Scenario 1" is significantly over budget on the allocation. This was included for discussion purposes as those two projects were the number one and two ranked projects. To fund both projects will require concessions to reduce the scope of one or both projects so the combined cost matches the regional allocation.

Please fill out the survey linked below as soon as possible so committees can review results and vote.

Project ranking survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WRMRPB6>

A large packet of detailed project information, including scopes, designs, and cost estimates from VHB are included on the SRPC website at the link below. The PDF includes bookmarks for easier navigation.

Project design and cost information:

<https://strafford.org/uploads/documents/plans/mpo/finalityprojectrankinginfo20230327.pdf>

Analysis of possible funding scenarios for candidate Ten Year Plan projects.

Town	YoE Cost	Project Location and Description
SOM A	\$ 4,437,708	Main St Complete Streets
NKT	\$ 2,006,994	NH152/NH108/Gerry Ave - traffic flow and safety improvements
LEE A	\$ 1,241,835	NH155/George Bennett/Lee Hook Rd (option 1) - Eliminate the West Mill Pond Road Connection
LEE B	\$ 1,400,579	Shared Use Path along NH 155 - connecting elementary school to town hall
SOM B	\$ 900,584	West High St/Maple St/Sunset Dr (option 1) - Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Crossing Improvements
DUR	\$ 3,927,747	NH155A/Main St/Mast Rd - Convert to roundabout with slip lanes

NOTE: Year of expenditure (YoE) costs are from recent NHDOT project reviews.
 Costs shown here are for impacts to the regional allocation and do not include estimated local match.

Town	YoE Cost	Scenario 1*	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4	Scenario 5	Scenario 6	Scenario 7	Scenario 8	Scenario 9
SOM A	\$ 4,437,708	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund					
NKT	\$ 2,006,994	Fund				Fund	Fund			
LEE A	\$ 1,241,835		Fund			Fund		Fund		
LEE B	\$ 1,400,579			Fund		Fund			Fund	
SOM B	\$ 900,584				Fund	Fund				Fund
DUR	\$ 3,927,747						Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund
Total	\$ 13,915,447	\$ 6,444,702	\$ 5,679,543	\$ 5,838,287	\$ 5,338,292	\$ 5,549,992	\$ 5,934,741	\$ 5,169,582	\$ 5,328,326	\$ 4,828,331
Remainder	\$ (8,068,650)	\$ (597,905)	\$ 167,254	\$ 8,510	\$ 508,505	\$ 296,805	\$ (87,944)	\$ 677,215	\$ 518,471	\$ 1,018,466

* see note in memo - will require concessions

\$ 5,846,797 Regional Allocation

Strafford RPC - Cost detail for initial submission to the Ten Year Plan for NHDOT review
November 8, 2022

Municipality	Project Score	Location/Road	Scope	2022 SRPC Total	2022 NHDOT Cost Estimate	YoE NHDOT Total Cost	Local Match Estimate	Total Allocation Cost
Somersworth A*	5.5	Main St	Complete Streets improvements	\$ 4,030,000	\$ 4,150,000	\$ 5,750,293	\$ 1,109,427	\$ 4,437,708
Newmarket A	4.9	NH152/NH108/Gerry Ave	Safety Improvements	\$ 769,000	\$ 1,310,000	\$ 2,006,994	NA	\$ 2,006,994
Lee A1	4.6	NH155/George Bennett/Lee Hook Rd (option 1)	Eliminate the West Mill Pond Road Connection	\$ 214,000	\$ 955,000	\$ 1,241,835	NA	\$ 1,241,835
Lee B	4.4	NH155	Shared Use Path along NH 155	\$ 579,000	\$ 1,275,000	\$ 1,750,724	\$ 350,144	\$ 1,400,579
Somersworth B1	4.3	West High St/Maple St/Sunset Dr (option 1)	Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Crossing	\$ 567,000	\$ 827,000	\$ 1,125,730	\$ 225,146	\$ 900,584
Durham A	3.7	NH155/Main St	Roundabout with slip lanes	\$ 1,422,000	\$ 2,550,000	\$ 3,927,747	NA	\$ 3,927,747
							Total Allocation Impact	\$13,915,447
							Regional Allocation	\$5,846,797

* City did not use same method as others for inflation