

**Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization  
 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
 Friday March 7, 2025 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.strafford.org](http://www.strafford.org). If anybody is unable to access the meeting, please email [mtaylorfetter@strafford.org](mailto:mtaylorfetter@strafford.org) or call 603-994-3500 (x115).

Agenda Item	Time	Pre-Meeting Task/Notes
<b>1. Introductions</b>	5 mins	
<b>2. Community Updates</b>	5 mins	Round table discussion
<b>3. Action Items</b> a. Minutes from February 7, 2025 b. Draft 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program and 2025-2050 Metro Plan c. Review scores for Transportation Alternatives projects d. Final ranking of candidate 10-yr plan projects	60 mins	See memo and materials in packet.  TIP and Metro Plan are posted on SRPC website.
<b>4. Discussion Items</b>	5 mins	See meeting packet.
<b>5. Other Business</b> a. Promote Regional Master Plan Survey	5 mins	
<b>6. Adjourn</b>		

Reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities is 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](mailto:srpc@strafford.org).



## **RULES OF PROCEDURE**

### Strafford Regional Planning Commission Meeting Etiquette

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Be present at the scheduled start of the meeting.

Be respectful of and open to 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

## Regional Planning Commission

**DATE:** February 28, 2025

**TO:** SRPC Technical Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Colin Lentz, Principal Transportation Planner

**RE: March 7, 2025 Meeting Discussion Items & Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

**Draft 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program and 2025-2050 Metro Plan (requires a vote)**

This is for a full update to the four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that will comprise years 2025-2028. Staff presentation will focus on projects being added, removed, and updated, and overall fiscal constraint. The TIP is part of the regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan which will comprise years 2025-2028, so the TIP and Metro Plan need to be updated at the same time. Staff will present updates to the financial chapter of the Metro Plan.

**Review and vote on draft Transportation Alternatives project scores (requires a vote)**

TAC members and Commissioners have been scoring the three projects that are candidates for the Transportation Alternatives Program. SRPC staff are averaging scores and will present the results at the meeting. Scores will be used to determine a project ranking order that needs to be submitted to NHDOT by mid-April.

**Final ranking of candidate 10-year plan projects (requires a vote)**

NHDOT has been reviewing scopes and cost estimates for the four candidate 10-yr plan projects SRPC submitted in November, 2024. SRPC committees will need to consider any changes identified in NHDOT review. The total estimated cost of all four projects as submitted in November totaled \$4.2 million; below the regional allocation of \$5.8 million. TAC may need to consider project cost changes arising from NHDOT review. SRPC will need to make a decision on candidate projects for a final submission to NHDOT by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Draft Schedule of Upcoming Meetings (subject to change)**

**Monthly Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month, 9-10:30 AM, SRPC Office, Conf. Room 1A

**Quarterly Field Trips:** Thursdays, 3:45-5:30 PM, in Sept., Dec., Feb., and Jun.

Date	Location	Tentative Agenda Items
Fri. April. 4, 2025 9-10:30 AM	SRPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Unified Planning Work Program</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>



# STRAFFORD



## Metropolitan Planning Organization

### 1. Introductions

Vice Chair Michael Williams called the meeting to order at 9:03 and asked for introductions.

**In person:** John Mullen, Middleton; Matt Towne, Barrington; Gretchen Young, Rochester; Seth Creighton, Rochester

**SRPC staff in person:** Rachel Dewey, Colin Lentz,

**Guest:** Richard Reine

**Zoom:** Michael Williams, COAST; Vanessa Williams, Barrington; Lucy St. John, NHDOT; Matt Bevier, NHDES, Donna Benton, Dover; April Talon, Durham; Bruce Woodruff, Milton; Bart McDonough; Kyle Pimental, SRPC, presenting on the behalf of Farmington; Richard Krauss, Milton; Katrin Kasper, Lee; Mark Davie, SRPC; Leighe Levine,

### 2. Community Updates

M. Towne stated the next commissioner fieldtrip will take place in Barrington with discussion from the Energy Committee and Clean Energy NH. There is a warrant article proposing a minimum lot size. There has been discussion on the future impact of zoning, tax base, property lines.

G. Young stated Rochester has started the ADA transition plan. This is a way to address non accessible issues and is required for federal funding.

### 3. Action Items

#### a. Minutes from January 3, 2025



M. Towne motioned to accept the January 3, 3035 minutes as written, seconded by J. Mullen. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting unanimously in favor. Motion passed.

**b. Assigning weights to criteria for ranking Transportation Alternatives projects.**

M. Davie presented on the Transportation Alternatives Program. Three communities have applied for funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP): Newmarket, Farmington, and Durham. TAP is for improvements to non-motorized transportation facilities. SRPC will play a role in scoring those projects. While New Hampshire DOT ultimately determines the final score that a potential project receives, "regional priority" as determined by the RPCs is considered for 20% of the final score, which is an increase from past scoring criteria. Regional priority can be based on criteria that are determined directly by the RPCs. Earlier this week, TAC and Policy members were sent a questionnaire to provide input on how these criteria can be weighted.

The group briefly discussed the criteria and how the TAC and full Commission suggested weighting them.

Following no discussion or revisions, J. Mullen moved to approve the TAP scoring criteria, seconded by A. Talon. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting unanimously in favor. L. St John abstained

**4. Project Presentations: Candidate Transportation Alternatives projects**

The three municipalities presented on their projects:

**Durham Complete Streets Project**

Durham Engineer April Talon provided an overview of the Durham Madbury Road Complete Streets Project: [Complete the Vision](#).

The phases of the project are:

Phase 2: Main Street to Garrison Ave.

Phase 3: Garrison Ave. to Edgewood Road

Phase 4: Edgewood Road top Route 4

A. Talon outlined the project and discussed the outreach process and the needs of the residents and how those needs are being incorporated into the project. The TAP application asks for \$5,760.00.

### **Newmarket Lamprey River Pedestrian Bridge Replacement**

Newmarket Planner Bart McDonough presented on the Newmarket project. He spoke about the history, current challenges, usage, the application and cost of the project. Newmarket is undergoing comprehensive rezoning of the village center and the rest of town and if successful anticipates increase pedestrian traffic. Newmarket is also overhauling the Town's Master Plan, has adopted policies to enhance local and regional pedestrian connections and has ongoing and planned infrastructure improvements.

### **Farmington Downtown Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility Project**

SRP Assistant Director and Circuit Rider for the Town of Farmington, Kyle Pimental, presented an overview of the project. The town has been actively trying to address the downtown revitalization which was addressed in the most recent master Plan update. There are ongoing sidewalk projects on Elm and Main Street with the assistance of BETA to provide a preliminary engineering report and cost estimates. The downtown area consists of 3 schools, the Municipal Building, COAST Bus stops, Post Office, Library and the Commercial core. These are the areas where sidewalks exist. The goal is to upgrade the existing sidewalks and to expand the sidewalk system. Pedestrian safety is vital to the downtown revitalization. The potential for success includes support from the Selectboard & Highway Department.

## **5. Discussion Items**

### **Preview: Full update to the Transportation Improvement Program coming in March**

C. Lentz stated that SRPC will soon be releasing a draft update to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that will cover years 2025-2028. The TIP comprises all transportation projects in the region that will be using federal and turnpike funding. Approval of the TIP is vital for the continued funding of current and upcoming projects, so careful review by SRPC committee members is important. SRPC anticipates posting a draft of the TIP for a 30-day public comment period on February 20th

## **6. Other Business**

M. Davie provided a brief overview on the Regional Master Plan Update- "Forward Thinking". Forward Thinking is SRPC's updated comprehensive or master plan, which will include the new Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The first half of 2025 is our outreach phase, and members can expect to be sent home with some postcards and flyers with information about the new

survey, along with some hard copies of the survey. We would greatly appreciate having these distributed to your town and city halls, libraries, senior or recreation centers, or anywhere else that makes sense.

## **7. Adjourn**

Following a motion, a second to adjourn, and a unanimous vote in favor, the meeting adjourned at 10:36AM



William Watson, Administrator  
Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance  
James O. Morton Building  
PO Box 483 | 7 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03302-0483

October 18, 2024

**RE: Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization 2027-2036 Ten Year Plan Submission**

Dear Mr. Watson:

This letter presents an overview of Strafford MPO's project solicitation process for the 2027-2036 Statewide Ten Year Plan Transportation Improvement Plan. It summarizes the results of the process and submits projects prioritized by municipalities, developed by professional engineers in collaboration with NHDOT, and reviewed by Strafford MPO Policy and Technical committee members.

**Project Solicitation Process Summary**

1. Project solicitation began in early 2023. Candidate Ten Year Plan projects are selected from the Strafford MPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Metro Plan). Municipal staff and representatives prioritized local projects in the Strafford MPO Metro Plan and local plans.
2. SRPC hired BETA for on-call engineering services to review and develop Metro Plan projects prioritized by municipalities. This included field reviews of candidate projects with municipal staff.
3. In February 2024, members of the MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) set regional weights for the standardized project ranking criteria used by all RPCs. The criteria were used to develop an initial ranking of candidate projects prior to submitting them to VHB for design and cost estimates.
4. BETA provided project designs and estimates for final review and voting on the initial list of projects to be submitted to NHDOT (projects that fit within SRPC's regional allocation, plus two contingency projects).



## **Approved Ten Year Plan projects**

All projects in the SRPC region, in the approved Ten Year Plan remain priorities for their respective municipalities. Two projects are being considered for modification or advancement:

- Madbury 41596 (Planning study for safety improvements at NH155/Madbury Rd)

The Ten Year Plan includes funding in 2028 for a safety study at the intersection of NH155, Madbury Rd, and Town Hall Rd. BETA has reviewed the project site and developed alternatives and cost estimates for safety improvements. This was done in direct coordination with town staff and officials. BETA will be developing a refined alternative, cost estimate, and conceptual design for an alternative prioritized by the municipality. Members of the SRPC Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Committee request that Madbury 41596 be converted from a planning study only project, to a full intersection improvement project. This is based on the engineering work from BETA that is already complete. We ask for consideration to add the additional phases of the project to be as closely done to 2028 as reasonable, and not be added to the end of the Draft 2026-2037 Ten Year Plan.

- Farmington 43550 (sidewalks on Main St and Elm St)

The Ten Year Plan includes funding for two new sidewalk segments in Farmington, along Main St and Elm St with preliminary engineering in 2026. BETA conducted a field review of potential sidewalk segments on Main, Elm, and other local streets. They developed preliminary cost estimates and will be developing conceptual designs and refined cost estimates for Farmington to use in planning and prioritization of future sidewalk segments. Note that BETA's cost estimates SRPC and NHDOT staff discussed the current project scope and possible alternatives for cost-effective expansion of the local sidewalk network. Members of the SRPC Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Committee request that the scope of project 43550 in Farmington be broadened to consider alternatives for sidewalk network expansion within the downtown in the vicinity of Elm and Main St.

**On October 4, 2024, the MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met to review candidate Ten Year Plan projects. Following a recommendation by the TAC, the Policy Committee approved the following list of projects for initial review by NHDOT on October 18, 2024. Detailed documents for individual projects are included with this letter.**

<b>Candidate Ten Year Plan Projects from SRPC</b>		
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Scope Summary</b>
Farmington	Main St and Elm St	Sidewalk expansion
Madbury	Route 9 and Old Stage Rd	Safety improvements
Madbury	NH155 and Madbury Rd	Safety improvements
Middleton	NH153 and Kings Hwy	Safety improvements

For each project above, the following materials are included with this letter:

- Completed project application form
- Project reports with cost estimates, maps, and supporting data from BETA
- Cost summary table for all projects

Notes:

- All project estimates were developed by SRPC's on-call engineer BETA. Projects costs were estimated in 2024 dollars and inflated to 2036 dollars.
- All project costs were developed assuming they would be LPA projects. Future LPA status and federal aid eligibility will need to be confirmed as part of the review process.

Sincerely,

Colin Lentz



CC: Strafford MPO Technical Advisory Committee  
Strafford MPO Policy Committee

**Strafford RPC - Cost detail for initial submission to the Ten Year Plan for NHDOT review  
November 2024**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Location/Road</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>2024 Total Cost</b>	<b>2036 Inflated Cost</b>	<b>2036 SRPC Inflated DOT 80% Share</b>	<b>Total Allocation Cost</b>
Farmington	Two separate sidewalk sections (Main St, and Elm St)	Sidewalk expansion or upgrade	\$ 1,110,000	\$ 1,460,000	\$ 1,168,000	\$ 1,168,000
Madbury A	NH9 and French Cross Rd Intersection	Intersection safety improvements	\$ 199,000	\$ 277,000	\$ 221,600	\$ 221,600
Madbury B	NH155/Madbury Rd/Town Hall Rd intersection	Intersection realignment & safety improvements	\$ 2,420,000	\$ 3,370,000	\$ 2,696,000	\$ 2,696,000
Middleton	NH153 & Wakefield Rd intersection	Intersection safety improvements	\$ 140,000	\$ 195,000	\$ 156,000	\$ 156,000
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>\$ 3,869,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,302,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,241,600</b>	<b>\$ 4,241,600</b>

**Total DRAFT cost \$ 4,241,600**  
**Regional Allocation \$5,846,797**