

Central NH Regional Planning Commission

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Transportation Advisory Committee

April 7, 2017

DRAFT Minutes

Bow Municipal Building, Bow, 10 Grandview Road, Bow

9:00 A.M.

Attendees	
Barbara Annis, Town of Warner	Bob Cole, Town of Loudon
Stephen Laurin, Town of Dunbarton	Rob Mack, City of Concord
Ted Mitchell, Town of Pittsfield	Richard Moore, Town of Chichester
Stan Prescott, Town of Loudon	Jim Pritchard, Town of Pittsfield
Christine Trovato, Town of Henniker	Harry Wright, Town of Bradford
Cam Prolman, SNHPC	

Commission Staff: Sam Durfee, Steve Henninger, Jennifer Mock, Michael Tardiff, Dean Williams

The meeting began at 9:07 A.M, called to order by Chair, Barbara Annis.

Introductions

All TAC members and guests present introduced themselves.

Review and Approve Minutes of the March 3, 2017 TAC Meeting

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the March 3, 2017 TAC meeting as written.

M/S/Passed Ted Mitchell/Stan Prescott

Transportation Improvement Program/Ten Year Plan

Dean Williams provided an overview and reviewed the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2019-2028 including background information about the TIP, the City of Concord - Urban Compact areas within the region, regional highways, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, unfunded Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects that did not receive funding however are still regionally important, existing Ten Year Plan (TYP) projects considered funded and TYP eligible projects. The TYP eligible projects are the projects that were scored by the subcommittee and ranked by the TAC using the Decision Lens weights as developed by the TAC at a previous meeting.

The ranking of eligible TYP projects as presented in the Draft TIP were:

1. I-89 Southbound Exit 1 on ramp improvements at Logging Hill Road
2. US Route 4 (King Street) Complete Streets Project
3. US Route 4/King Road Intersection Improvement
4. US Whitney Road Intersection Improvements
5. NH 103 (West Main Street) Complete Streets Project

Ted Mitchell (Pittsfield) questioned as to whether maps for each of the project had been provided. Dean stated that regional maps were provided in the Appendix. Mike Tardiff discussed that he had received multiple calls from the property owners located at/or around the US Whitney Road intersection project expressing support and a “push” for the project. Mike added that these individuals would most likely attend the Public Hearing at CNHRPC’s upcoming Full Commission Meeting to support their position. The Whitney Road project is additionally listed in Concord’s CIP. Barbara Annis (Warner) asked when these project would actually get completed. Dean mentioned that if they get in the TYP they would most likely be completed in the last few years (2027-2028), however there is a possibility that they can get moved forward. Steve Laurin (Dunbarton) asked if there were any plans to improve the intersection in Dunbarton at Route 77/13. Dean indicated that since the 3-way stop was put in he is not aware of any other upcoming improvements that will be made. He indicated that this intersection project could be eligible for the next TYP, or that Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding may also be available more quickly if there are major safety concerns at the intersection. Steve Henninger (CNHRPC) added that NHDOT may be able to install a warning sign indicating the traffic signal ahead or increase the size of the traffic stop signs.

Additionally, TAC members discussed and recommended that two projects currently included in NHDOT’s FY 2017-2026 Ten Year Plan should be moved forward due to the safety issues at these intersections. These projects are the US 202/NH 9/NH 127 intersection at the Hopkinton and Henniker Town line and the intersection of NH 106 and South Village Road in Loudon. Both projects have received support from the Towns and they would also like to see the projects moved forward. Steve Henninger added that the NH 103 (West Main Street) Complete Streets project in Warner could also consider applying for TAP funds during the next round. Rob Mack (Concord) questioned as to whether or not the US Whitney Road intersection improvement project should also be moved forward. Dean responded that it was unable to be moved forward because it was not yet in the TYP.

The TAC made a motion to recommend to the CNHRPC Full Commission to move forward the Draft TIP 2019-2028.

M/S/Passed Christine Trovato/Ted Mitchell

The TAC made a motion to recommend to the CNHRPC Full Commission to move forward the US 202/NH 9/NH 127 at the Hopkinton/Henniker town line intersection project and the NH 106 and South Village Road intersection project in Loudon currently included in NHDOT’s FY 2017-2026 Ten Year Plan.

M/S/Passed Bob Cole/Christine Trovato

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)

Mike Tardiff provided an update on CMAQ. He indicated that there should be an upcoming request for Letters of Intent for projects that improve air quality throughout the state. These could include transit oriented projects including replacing buses, extending transit to rural areas or potential bicycle and pedestrian projects that show vehicles on the road would be reduced and air quality would be improved. Letters of Intent requests should be out later spring 2017 and proposals due late summer/early fall 2017. CNHRPC staff is available to assist Towns with proposals.

CNHRPC Special Projects

- **Concord – Franklin Transit Feasibility Study**

Michael Tardiff discussed the Concord-Franklin Transit Feasibility study. Concord Area Transit has received funding through NHDOT and has been working with RLS Associates to update the CAT Transit Study, completed in 2010. This update could potentially include bus schedule and route updates. At the same time, RLS Associates is evaluating the extension of service from Penacook, through Boscaawen into Franklin with hopes to build a solid sustainability case for a potential CMAQ application.

Regional Updates/Other Business

- **CommuteSmart Central NH**

Mike Tardiff provided the CommuteSmart Central NH update mentioning that the staff has been gearing up for some upcoming events during the week of May 15-19 to raise awareness for smart commuting. Staff has also been working together with other planning commissions in the state. CNHRPC is building the base for another application that was submitted for available Salem to Manchester funding. CNHRPC would act as the lead agency for rideshare and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) activities including reaching out to employers in the region and increase the use of the Trip Logger that was developed for CommuteSmart NH.

- **Mid State Regional Coordinating Council**

Dean Williams provided the Mid State Regional Coordinating Council (Mid State RCC) update stating that rides in December and January were higher than rides in November in February compared to other months in the current calendar year. These changes in rides could have been weather related. Approximately 400+/- rides are being provided per month and ridership has stabilized. Currently riders are limited to two rides per week and rides are prioritized according to needs. The funding for the current fiscal year is not expected to be fully expended. The match for the rides being provided is still a major concern for the program. The Mid State RCC has applied for Community Reinvestment funds through local banks and will also be reaching out to private organizations in the near future. Letters will also be sent out looking for customer donations and to Towns looking for assistance with the match currently required as well as in future years. Ted Mitchell requested a spreadsheet looking for an update showing how many rides are being provided in each town. Dean added that he would send out this information to TAC members. He also added that they are actively looking for drivers and

customers. Dean provided a brief update on the Taxi Voucher Pilot Program with the Merrimack County Department of Corrections noting that there have been approximately 30 rides provided in the current year. In order to be eligible for taxi voucher rides they must be 60 years or older or have a disability.

- Other Business

- Steve Henninger mentioned that the construction of the new roundabout located at Exit 16, of I-93 is expected to begin shortly.
- Mike Tardiff added on Monday there is an upcoming meeting with NHDOT, Hopkinton and Henniker Boards of Selectmen and NH House representatives regarding the US 202/NH 9/NH 127 at the Hopkinton/Henniker town line intersection.
- Mike Tardiff stated he has an upcoming meeting with the Epsom Board of Selectmen and Bill Cass from NHDOT to discuss the old Epsom Rest Area located on Route 4 and future uses for the area.
- Harry Wright (Bradford) indicated that in Bradford there were two warrants meant to inquire about the public support for converting the current traffic lights located at Route 114 & 103 and Route 103 and Main Street to roundabouts. Both warrants were denied.

Next Meeting Date

The next TAC meeting was scheduled for June 2, 2017 at 9:00 A.M., at the Bow Town Hall.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 A.M.