

Central NH Regional Planning Commission
28 Commercial Street, Suite #3
Concord, NH, 03301
Tel: (603) 226-6020
Fax: (603) 226-6023
www.cnhrpc.org



CNHRPC Full Commission Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 13, 2017
7:00pm

Attendees: Chad Pelissier, Allenstown
Bruce Crawford, Boscawen
Harry Wright, Bradford
Tyson Miller, Canterbury
Stan Brehm, Chichester
Matthew Hicks, Concord
Bob Cole, Loudon
Stanley Prescott, Loudon
Jim Pritchard, Pittsfield
Ted Mitchell, Pittsfield
Emilio Cancio-Bello, Sutton
Ken Milender, Warner
Susan Rauth, Webster
Lorrie Carey, Boscawen Resident
Alan Hardy, Boscawen Resident
Paul Matthews, Boscawen Resident
Matt McKerley, Canterbury Resident
Doug Thomson, Canterbury Resident
Eric Foster, Concord Resident
David Rauseo, Concord Resident
Laurie Rauseo, Concord Resident
Christine Trovato, Henniker Resident

CNHRPC Staff: Michael Tardiff, Executive Director
Craig Tufts, Principal Planner/GIS Planner
Dean Williams, Transportation Planner
Jennifer Mock, Office Manager
Steve Henninger, Project Planner

The meeting began at 7:04 P.M., called to order by CNHRPC Chair, Tyson Miller (Canterbury).

CNHRPC FY 2019-2028 Regional Transportation Improvement Program Public Hearing

Mike Tardiff provided an introduction to the CNHRPC FY 2019-2028 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to those present. Mr. Tardiff described the process, stating that the TIP is updated every two years by the CNHRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and CNHRPC staff

and contains a list of both regional and local transportation improvement projects for CNHRPC's planning area. The CNHRPC TIP will be submitted along with a TIP from all other eight Regional Planning Commissions (RPC) for the possible inclusion of new projects into NHDOT's Ten Year Plan. Mr. Tardiff noted that NHDOT's draft Ten Year Plan will be released in August and will undergo numerous public hearings and go before the Governor and Executive Council and Legislature before approved.

Dean Williams described the process and steps involved in drafting the regional TIP update. In December 2016, CNHRPC sent notification to all member communities, allowing each community to provide feedback on any existing projects and to propose new projects. Once all project proposals were accepted, five were considered eligible for the draft TIP: I-89 southbound Exit 1 ramp at Logging Hill Road, US 4/King Street Complete Streets project, US Route 4/King Road intersection improvements, US Route 4 and Whitney Road intersections improvements, and NH 103 (West Main Street) Complete Streets Project.

A subcommittee of the CNHRPC TAC met in February to review and apply criteria to each project. This was done using the Decision Lens software that weighted each criteria, and then each weighted criteria was applied to each project for a final ranking. The draft TIP was then drafted, including regionally significant projects that are Ten Year Plan eligible, City of Concord urban compact projects, state maintained regional highways projects, and project descriptions. Mr. Williams also noted that the TAC voted to recommend that two projects currently included in NHDOT's FY 2017-2026 Ten Year Plan be moved forward. 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.

Tyson Miller, CNHRPC Chair, opened the public hearing at 7:21 PM. Comments were as follows:

1. Jim Pritchard asked what qualities a project needs to have to qualify for inclusion in the TIP. Mr. Williams stated that projects need to be eligible for funding through the State Block Aid Grant, which require roadways to be of a certain functional class.
2. Emilio Cancio-Bello asked if Route 114 qualified. Mr. Williams stated that Route 114 does not qualify for inclusion in the TIP as it is not classified as a qualified functional class.
3. Laurie and David Rauseo introduced themselves as owners of Concord Crossing, located at 2 Whitney Road. Mrs. Rauseo stated how they were in support of the Whitney Road project and would like for the project to receive a higher ranking in the draft TIP. Mrs. Rauseo brought forward a few corrections she noted in the draft TIP she found on CNHRPC's website, but noted some of them have been corrected on the copy available at the meeting. Mrs. Rauseo presented updated traffic count data and asked that these counts be considered to increase the project ranking. She also mentioned the high volume of truck traffic present and school buses due to the abutment of two school districts at this location. She described an expansion of the tax base that would be caused by proposed intersection improvements and also that the Whitney Road Industrial Park is a state designated Economic Revitalization Zone. Mr. Williams stated that the type of traffic counts used were decided by all Regional Planning Commission so to be consisted statewide and do not consider turning volumes. Mr. Williams suggested this could be brought up and changed for the next TIP cycle. It was recommended that Mr. and Mrs. Rauseo continue building their case, such as for inclusion in Concord's Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and support the project if it is chosen to be included in the Ten Year Plan at the Ten Year Plan's public hearings. Discussion continued to occur regarding high traffic and truck volume and traffic count data. Mrs. Rauseo's prepared comments were submitted and are attached to these minutes.

4. Eric Foster introduced himself as a business owner on Whitney Road. Mr. Foster asked about the natural flow of the traffic in this area. There was discussion of whether a roundabout would be more appropriate than the proposed intersection. Mr. Williams stated that traffic counts only consider annual average daily traffic and car classification and does not consider spacing of vehicles. A design choice would be considered during the design phase of the project and is not considered during the TIP process.
5. Stan Brehm introduced himself from the Town of Chichester. He stated that a left turning lane was added from Route 4 onto King Road and now Route 4 is currently being repaved. Mr. Brehm stated that NHDOT has spoken in the Town of Chichester and stated they will not be doing other improvements to this stretch. Mr. Williams stated that current paving would not keep this project from being included into the Ten Year Plan and would have been included during the last TIP cycle however NHDOT wished to review the project prior to it before being included. Mr. Brehm also stated his concern for the Route 28 intersection. Mr. Williams stated that this intersection is already in the Ten Year Plan. He explained that projects begin at the bottom and typically move their way up to be completed in about ten years. He suggested supporting this project at the Ten Year Plan's public hearings or work with the CNHRPC TAC to recommend the project be moved up in the Ten Year Plan.
6. Susan Rauth introduced herself as a member of the Webster Planning Board. She asked if the State Maintained Regional Highways projects were part of the Ten Year Plan. Mr. Williams stated they were not as they are not eligible for funding due to their functional classification. He stated they were included in the TIP to raise awareness and highlight the project.
7. Jim Pritchard asked what funding source is used for projects in the City of Concord Urban Compact area. Mr. Williams stated the funding for these projects would be from the City of Concord. Many of these projects are classified such that would make them eligible for federal funding, however federal funds cannot be used in urban compact areas. Mr. Williams also stated only Ten Year Plan eligible projects are being submitted from the TIP.
8. Laurie Rauseo clarified that the Whitney Road project is eligible for inclusion in the Ten Year Plan as even though it is located in Concord it is not in the urban compact area. Mrs. Rauseo also asked if CNHRPC was planning any role in the Volkswagen emission settlement the state is receiving. Mr. Williams stated that the settlement is being administrated through NHDES and provided a brief description of uses for funds. Mr. Williams stated that CNHRPC would be able to help any community apply for funds to be used in their community.
9. Jim Pritchard asked about funding for state maintained regional highways listed in the TIP. Mr. Williams stated that these projects are in the TIP to raise awareness for other funding sources.
10. Matt Hicks stated that the City of Concord viewed the Whitney Road project as a high priority. Mr. Williams noted that projects ranked 2-4 are highly competitive statewide and that CNHRPC has the least amount of projects in their TIP compared to other Regional Planning Commissions.
11. Emilio Cancio-Bello asked when or how classification of roads change. Mr. Williams stated that roads become reclassified after each census, with the last reclassification done in 2012.
12. Paul Matthews asked what was included in the scope of work of the Boscawen Complete Streets project and was curious if the project includes reconstruction of the road. Mr. Williams stated he was unsure and that this process is meant to get the project in line for ten years down the road. Mr. Matthews stated that he felt the cost provided in the plan was not enough to cover reconstruction of the road.
13. Lorrie Carey stated that she was in support of the Boscawen Complete Streets project and stated how unsafe she felt King Street is for pedestrians.

Tyson Miller closed the public hearing at 8:08 PM. On a motion from Emilio Cancio-Bello and a second from Stan Prescott, the CNHRPC FY 2019-2028 Regional Transportation Improvement Program was approved unanimously.

Introductions

No introductions were made.

Minutes of the June 6, 2016 Full Commission Meeting

On a motion from Emilio Cancio-Bello and a second from Ken Milender, the minutes from June 6, 2016 were approved unanimously.

Report of the Chair

Tyson Miller stated that there was no report to give.

Report of the Executive Director/Staff Reports

Mike Tardiff provided the report of Executive Director, stating that projects are moving forward with the President's "skinny budget." Mr. Tardiff stated that CNHRPC submitted an application for the next brownfields grant round. He also stated that MS4 work is continuing in Allentown and we hope to soon receive funding to begin working on the Turkey River Restoration Plan.

CNHRPC Title VI Policy – Consideration of Adoption

Dean Williams presented the CNHRPC Title VI Policy, stating that the policy related to civil rights and meets the requirements of the nondiscrimination act. Mr. Williams stated that this policy is required in order for CNHRPC to be eligible for certain funding. On a motion from Emilio Cancio-Bello and a second from Matthew Hicks, the CNHRPC Title VI Policy was approved unanimously.

CNHRPC Title VI Language Assistance Plan – Consideration of Adoption

Dean Williams presented the CNHRPC Title VI Language Assistance Plan, that outlines guidelines on language assistance if anyone should request it. Steve Henninger added that CNHRPC will be adding a google translate button to the CNHRPC website. Bruce Crawford asked if any funds were available for the time spent putting the Title VI policy and plan together. Mr. Williams stated that some administrative funds were available. On a motion from Emilio Cancio-Bello and a second from Harry Wright, the CNHRPC Title VI Language Assistance Plan was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Michael Tardiff provided the Treasurer's report and reviewed the Profit and Loss statement for CNHRPC. CNHRPC was in a positive financial position for the month and will be catching up for the end of the fiscal year.

Other Business

Matt Hicks thanked Dean Williams for his presentation of the Regional Transportation Improvement Program.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM on a motion from Ted Mitchell and a second from Stan Prescott. The motion was approved unanimously.