

**Central NH Regional Planning Commission**

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**Transportation Advisory Committee**

**May 4, 2018**

**DRAFT Minutes**

Bow Municipal Building, Bow, 10 Grandview Road, Bow

9:00 A.M.

<b>Attendees</b>	
Tim Blagden, Town of Warner	Lucy St. John, NHDOT
Rob Mack, City of Concord	Matt Taylor, Town of Bow
Tracy McAllister, NHDOT	Barbara Annis, Town of Warner
Chris Trovato, Town of Henniker	Richard Moore, Town of Chichester
Harry Wright, Town of Bradford	Tim White, NHDES
Betsy Bosiak, Town of Epsom	Jessica Wilcox, NH DES

**Commission Staff:** Mike Tardiff, Katie Nelson, Dean Williams

The meeting began at 9:08 AM, called to order by Barbara Annis.

**Introductions**

All TAC members and guests present introduced themselves.

**Review and Approve Minutes of the February 2, 2018 TAC Meeting**

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the February 2, 2018 TAC meeting as written.

*M/S/Passed Unanimously Chris Trovato/Rob Mack*

**The Future of Electric Vehicle Charging in NH Towns**

Jessica Wilcox, Granite State Clean Cities Coordinator and NHDES Grants Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation on electric vehicles in NH and discussed in depth information and data related to charging electric vehicles, including charging types, infrastructure, potential use of electric vehicles by municipalities, school districts, and work places, and examples of electric charging stations in NH. She then opened the presentation for questions. The following points were made:

- It was noted that the costs of charging an electric vehicle depends on the charging system and Jessica will provide additional resources to Dean for a follow-up email.
- On average a gas vehicle costs the user more money than an electric vehicle per mile, however, an e-gallon app is available that can provide this information based on gas prices and miles per gallon/charge.
- Public utilities are a large stakeholder in the industry.
- Municipalities interested should start by developing and adopting policies that support electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging such as including electrical infrastructure to potential charging locations.
- A previous grant opportunity for municipal funding has closed, however, there is potential for funding in the future with the VW settlement money.
- There are many studies available with the impact of electric vehicles on the grid, but it should be noted there are many variables to consider about how electricity is generated.
- Data is available that can show how many solar panels are needed to support a charging station.
- Many communities incorporate the charging costs into the parking rate for the lot as an incentive.
- A discussion occurred on the amount of time it takes to charge a vehicle. One TAC member stated they envision a removable battery that can be swapped for a fee (vs. paying to charge up a vehicle you pay for a fully charged battery).
- It was also noted that the weight of an electric vehicle should be considered and how that would affect wear and tear on the roadway.
- Additional resources will be sent to the TAC in a follow-up email.

Tim White of NHDES gave a brief update on the VW Settlement process, stating that the draft mitigation plan for the NH settlement was released to the public one month ago. Currently various public hearings are being held for the draft plan around the state so to take public comment. It is estimated that approximately 4,000 municipal and state owned diesel vehicles statewide may be eligible for replacement or upgrades. A series of questions were asked with the following points:

- NHDES assistance will be available to help municipalities develop applications for funding. It was noted that in an effort to keep administrative costs to a minimum, larger projects that may be a combination of multiple towns will be encouraged. This may require assistance and coordination by the RPCs.
- Draft scoring criteria is included in the draft plan but it is anticipated that additional criteria will be developed. This is part of the input currently being gathered through the public hearings.
- The timeline for the remaining of the process includes the comment period and finalizing the plan.

#### **NHDOT Ten-Year Plan Update**

Lucy St. John provided those present with an update on the Ten Year Plan stating that the Plan is still working its way through the process at the State House. Mrs. St. John also mentioned that NHDOT is currently underway on creating a statewide Freight Plan, indicating that the department was working with the Regional Planning Commissions on the project. She offered to come to the next TAC meeting and give a presentation on the plan.

## **Regional Updates/Other Business**

- Regional Transportation Plan Update: Dean Williams provided an update on the Regional Transportation Plan indicating that the Plan will be a corridor based plan and provided an example of one of the corridors. He stated that specific projects for these corridors will be included in the Plan which will feed new projects to be included in future versions of the Ten Year Plan.
- Mid State Regional Coordinating Council/Coordinated Plan Update: Mr. Williams stated that the update of the Mid State Regional Coordinating Council Coordinated Plan is in its first phase- the needs assessment. There is a public survey that closes on June 30<sup>th</sup> to collect input. He also indicated that a new Mobility Manager has been hired who will help assist in the public input process. The second phase of the Plan update was then described, indicating that it will focus on existing services.
- Traffic Data Collection Program: Mr. Williams stated that count location request letters had been sent out to all CNHRPC communities. It was noted that speed and classification data can also be collected in addition to traffic volume. After a question was asked regarding traffic counts during local events/festivals, Mr. Williams noted that CNHRPC keeps track of local events, such as NASCAR weekend and Fall Foliage Festival, so that the data collected isn't impacted by higher volumes than normal. The data is also checked for quality assurance after it is collected.
- CommuteSmart New Hampshire: Katie Nelson provided an update to the group regarding CommuteSmart New Hampshire, summarizing the upcoming Commuter Challenge and the start of the monthly CommuteSmart New Hampshire Newsletter. Mr. Tardiff mentioned potential funding that would be distributed to agencies statewide for CommuteSmart NH involvement, noting that these funds will appear before Governor and Council in July for approval.

## **Next Meeting Date**

The next TAC meeting was scheduled for June 1, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. at the Bow Town Hall.

## **Any Other Business**

Tim Blagden noted that the deadline for Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD Grant), formerly known as the TIGER grant, applications are due July 19<sup>th</sup>. He also noted that bicycle and pedestrian counts will be done in various locations during the week of May 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. Matt Taylor noted the Town of Bow's concern for the preferred alternative for Exit 1 on I-89 as part of the Bow-Concord Project. He also noted that the town is planning to schedule a meeting with NHDOT to discuss the concern further.

## **Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 A.M.

*M/S/Passed Betsy Bosiak /Chris Trovato*