

Central NH Regional Planning Commission

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Transportation Advisory Committee

Bow Town Office Meeting Room C 10 Grandview Rd

December 6, 2024

Meeting Notes

9:00 A.M.

Attendees

Betsy Bosiak, Town of Epsom (chair)	Larry Haynes, Bow (virtual)
Karri Makinen, Town of Bow	David Tilton, SNHPC (virtual)
Eugene McCarthy, City of Concord	Cindy Yanski, Concord (virtual)
Alec Bass, Town of Concord	Jack Wade, NHDES (virtual)
Emilio Concio-Bello, Town of Sutton	Mac Bevier, NHDES (virtual)
Betsy Bosiak, Town of Epsom	Neal Cass, Town of Hopkinton (virtual)
Carolyn Cronin, Town of Pembroke	Glenn Davison, NHDOT (virtual)
Karen Hill, City of Concord	Bill Watson, NHDOT (virtual)
Tim Blagden, Town of Warner	Nicholas Altonaga, NCC (virtual)
Delia Makhetha, WSP	Barbara Marty, Warner (virtual)
Jason Ayotte, NHDOT	Phil Brogan, Warner (virtual)
Lucy St John, NHDOT	Glenn Trefethen, LRPC (virtual)
	Daniel Heath, Bedford (virtual)

Commission Staff: Mike Tardiff, Craig Tufts, Stephen Henniger, Vincent Pagano (virtual), Riley Stafford (virtual)

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting began at 8:56 AM, called to order by Chair, Betsy Bosiak.

A review of in-person attendance revealed that a quorum was not met. All present TAC meeting participants and guests, both in person and virtually, provided a greeting and brief introduction.

2. Review and Approve the October 6, 2024 TAC Meeting Minutes.

The October meeting minutes could not be officially approved, as a quorum was not met.

3. NHDOT Bow-Concord: Creating Connections Project Presentation and Discussion

Delia Makhetha of WSP began the I-93 Bow-Concord project presentation. Delia noted a revamped website and a rebranding effort intended to facilitate better community involvement. Materials focused on enhancing roadway safety, minimizing congestion, and boosting mobility. The new website aims to be accessible and straightforward for the public, offering resources and project information. The team outlined the project's intended benefits, which include improved roadway safety, decreased congestion, and better facilities for biking and walking. They also shared plans for traffic design and workshops set for early 2025. The discussion wrapped up with details about the website's features, such as support for multiple languages and an option to subscribe for project updates.

The presentation was handed over to Jason Ayotte, who elaborated on the advancements and challenges of a significant infrastructure project focused on highway system planning and design. This project has been in development for several years, achieving important milestones like the preliminary design from 2014 to 2019 and incorporating public feedback. It aims to improve six red-listed bridges, with the 93-bridge maintenance being the top priority. The team also examined the pandemic's impact on the project and the requirement for a new traffic evaluation. Jason also discussed updated traffic growth projections for the area and the necessity for a broader assessment of future demand.

The team discussed some of the recent modifications to the project to include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, changes to Exit 2 in Bow to facilitate development.

Improvements for Exit 14 and 15 were outlined. Exit 15 is a proposed clover stack, which has been supported in previous meetings. The new configuration eliminates “weaves” at the interchanges. A notable change at Exit 14 is to eliminate left turns from Loudon Road onto the Northbound on ramp. This eliminates a traffic signal where there are several in a short stretch. Pros and cons of the approach and were discussed. Mr. Ayotte also discussed the route options for the Merrimack River Greenway Trail through the project area.

NHDOT has also committed to moving a rail line to facilitate the Storrs Street extension, which is a City project.

At Exit 13, the plan involves widening the ramp and creating a two-lane right turn onto Manchester Street to enhance traffic flow and minimize backups on I-93. This includes proposed stoplight at the end of the northbound off-ramp, with plans to coordinate it with other traffic signals. DOT also committed to adding left turn lanes onto Old Turnpike road to handle the increase in traffic flow.

The I-93 Bow-Concord team is getting ready for open house meetings to present revised designs and alternatives. The team is actively assessing different lane configurations and potential capacity upgrades. Mr. Ayotte provided a brief overview of some of the new traffic modeling data available to the project team.

Construction funding is anticipated between 2029 and 2038, with no funding expected in the next four years.

4. NHDOT Ten Year Plan Update and TAP Interstate Project Progress

Craig provided a brief review and update on the TAP application round for bike pedestrian projects. Letters of Interest are due today. Craig anticipates letters from Bradford, Concord, Hopkinton, Sutton, and Warner. Letters of interest are required in order to apply for funding. Applications will be available soon. Craig said he will be available to assist towns with their applications.

Craig also provided an update on the 10-Year Plan Update progress. CNHRPC submitted for NHDOT review the Henniker Street project (Hillsborough), Glass Street (Pembroke), and Bradford West Main Street sidewalks.

5. Next Meeting

The next TAC meeting was scheduled for Friday, February 7, 2025.

6. Other Business/Next Steps

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM by chair, Betsy Bosiak.