

MINUTES
Rockingham Planning Commission
Transportation Advisory Committee
January 28, 2021

Virtual Meeting via Zoom & Public Input

Per RSA 91-A:2, III(b) the RPC Chair has declared the COVID 19 Outbreak an emergency and has waived the requirement that a quorum be physically present at the meeting

Members Present: R. McDermott, Chairman (Hampton Falls); D. Seigle (Rye); T. Moore (Plaistow); L. St John (NHDOT); C. Jacobs (Hampton); P. Coffin (Kingston); J. Walker (Portsmouth); R. Nichols (COAST); D. Sharples (Exeter); S. Pesci (UNH); T. White (NHDES); K. Latchaw (Newington); M. Connors (Stratham); M. Scruton (Greenland); A. Colier (Newton); L. Levine (FHWA-non voting)

Staff: D. Walker (Assistant Director/Trans. Mgr); S. Bogle (Sr. Transportation Planner); C. Matthews (GIS/Trans Analyst); A. Pettengill (Business Mgr)

1. Chairman McDermott convened the meeting at 9:05 a.m., Introductions and Zoom etiquette were discussed.

2. Minutes of September 24, 2020

*Coffin moved to approve the Minutes of September 24, 2020 as presented; Moore seconded. Roll Call Vote was taken. 4 Abstentions. **SO VOTED.***

3. Annual Highway Safety Improvement Program Performance Targets (Attachment #2) – Dave Walker

Walker explained the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) and the five major areas of federally required targets for safety improvements: Number of Fatalities; Rate of Fatalities; Number of Serious Injuries; Rate of Serious Injuries; Number on Non-motorized Fatalities & non motorized Serious Injuries. He explained that NH also tracks Motorcycle Fatalities but this is not required by the Federal Highway Administration. Discussion followed on what the targets mean and the five year rolling average on the number of fatalities. Walker further reviewed the 2021 State of NH Targets as seen in Attachment 2. *Jacobs moved to approve the HSIP Targets as presented and recommend adoption by the RPC MPO; Coffin seconded. Roll Call vote was taken. 3 abstentions. **SO VOTED.***

4. East Coast Greenway Update including Trailhead Access Analysis (Attachment #3) – Scott Bogle

Bogle explained the East Coast Greenway Access Analysis and gave an update on Phase I Hampton – Portsmouth: moving ahead, preliminary engineering work is starting. He explained that it will be up to the municipalities to identify locations and funding for trailhead access improvements. Discussion followed regarding trailhead elements and management & maintenance considerations, as well as other trail connections possible in the future.

5. FY 22-23 UPWP (Attachment #4) – Dave Walker

Walker stated the UPWP guides the work that the MPO undertakes over a 2 year period and he reviewed the functions and funding. He reviewed the planning priority areas for the proposed UPWP and the tasks involved with each planning task. He noted that the UPWP will need to be approved by the MPO in early April and then goes to the NHDOT hopefully to be an approved contract for the RPC to begin work on July 1st.

6. Project Updates: DOT Transportation Alternative Program is open for submittal of a letter of interest and then a pre-application workshop and full proposals to follow in the Spring. Funds are available for bicycle and pedestrian improvements with a \$400k minimum project size and 80/20 match. The RPC can certainly assist towns with that process.

7. Open Discussion: Walker noted the upcoming meetings are listed at the bottom of the Agenda. Seiglie thanked Bogle for his letter for Rye.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Pettengill, Recording Secretary