

DRAFT

RPC MPO Policy

Minutes

Hampton Falls Town Hall
October 12, 2016

Members Present: Glenn Coppelman, Past Chair and Peter Coffin, Kingston; Ann Carnaby, Hampton; Francis Chase and Jason Janvrin, Seabrook; Leo Gagnon and Lucy Cushman, Stratham; Katherine Woolhouse and Don Clement, Exeter; Richard McDermott, Hampton Falls; Joan Whitney and Peter Merrill, Kensington; Robert Clark, Atkinson; Chris Cross, Newington; Stephen Gerrato, Greenland; Jim Doggett and Mary Allen, Newton; Michael Mc Andrew, New Castle; Joe Foley, Epping; Tim White, NH DES; and Glenn Davison, NH DOT.

Others Present: Charlyn Brown, Lori Ruest and Todd Santora Hampton Falls; and Dave Sharples, Exeter.

Staff Present: Cliff Sinnott, Dave Walker, Scott Bogle and Roxanne Rines.

7:05 p.m. Policy Meeting Opened

1. Introductions and Welcome

Attendees introduced themselves and stated what municipality they were from or the agency they represented.

Coppelman thanked McDermott and others for the food and drink. He introduced a new Commissioner from Stratham, Leo Gagnon. He read an email from Phil Wilson explaining his absence.

Todd Santora, Hampton Falls Planning Board Chair, gave a town overview and updates.

Coppelman added the zoning changes the town is undertaking.

2. RPC Business: Adoption of Bylaw Amendment re: Legislative Policy Committee

Sinnott stated the change will make the Legislative Policy Committee a standing committee and reviewed what that entails. Copies of the Legislative Forum agenda is located on the table in the back of the room.

Motion: **Chase** made a motion to adopt the Bylaw Amendment. **Doggett** seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

3. Minutes from July 13, 2016, RPC/Policy Committee

Woolhouse made a correction on page 2, #5; Exiting should be Existing. Glenn Davison was not at the meeting.

Motion: **McDermott** made a motion to approve the minutes of July 13, 2016, with corrections. **Doggett** seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

4. Transportation Alternative Program (TAP): MPO Ranking of Projects from the Region

- Project Summaries, Scoring Criteria and TAC rankings/Discussion and Policy Committee Ranking

Bogle gave a powerpoint presentation. The seven projects received from the region, were from the following communities: Exeter, Hampton, New Castle, Plaistow, Portsmouth, Salem and Stratham totaling \$5,776,667. **Bogle** gave an overview of the projects submitted.

There were 46 projects statewide that were submitted totaling \$5.4 million. Each region will receive approximately \$600,000. He reviewed the statewide ranking system from last round and explained two changes: 1) the criterion for multi-modal connections was eliminated; and 2) the Socioeconomic Benefits criterion was restructured.

Bogle reviewed the TAP Statewide Project Evaluation Criteria. The TAC members ranked the projects in the following order: Plaistow, Hampton, Exeter, Portsmouth, New Castle, Salem and Stratham. Comments received from the TAC were the Salem project should be ranked lower, because they had a large development in the area and the Town didn't include funds for sidewalks as a condition of approval; Portsmouth's Representative was concerned with how their project was scored concerning the points given for inclusion of the project in local/regional plans.

Bogle stated TAC members directed staff to adjust the rankings based on the discussion for changes and forward the new ranking to the Policy Committee. Incorporating the changes resulted in a three-way tie for first place between Plaistow, Hampton and Exeter. After speaking with NH DOT, they requested that the projects be ranked in order and not a tie.

Discussion ensued about towns that have received previous funding, percentage of federal funding, projects that will improve safety issues, public/local/regional support, percentage of usage and changing how the points are distributed. The Policy Committee's options are to maintain the tie or adjust the final rankings.

Motion: **Doggett** made a motion to change the tie by listing the first 3 projects in the order of Hampton, Plaistow, Exeter and keep the rest of the listing as is. **Carnaby** seconded the motion. **Motion denied, yes-5; no-13.**

Motion: **Chase** made a motion to adopt staff's original ranking and submit the list to NHDOT. **Clark** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with yes-15; no-2 and 2 abstentions.**

Clement asked that staff include TAC's ranking with the adopted ranking. **Bogle** stated staff will add that information in the cover letter to DOT.

5. Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) for 2017-2020

- Review of Content; Project Scope/Schedule Changes; Fiscal Constraint/Public Comment and Adoption Process

Walker gave a powerpoint presentation, explaining the TIP process and what is included in the plan. Staff will be asking the committee to adopt the TIP at their December meeting. He reviewed the projects and funding needs included in the document. The following work will be completed in the next month: ensuring the TIP is financially constrained; making sure projects are listed accurately; updates to the project listing; TAC's recommendation; complete a 30-day public comment period; and to conduct a public hearing and adoption at the December 14, 2016, Policy Committee meeting. Discussion ensued.

Walker stated the project list prioritization will be conducted in 2017; how the funding will be spent; and to make sure the TIP and LRP plans have the same information in them. **Davison** stated the plan is fiscally constrained. Discussion ensued about members knowing where the funding is being spent and the future of the General Sullivan bridge. **Cross** thanked staff for all of their work.

6. Release of New NHOEP/NH RPC Population Projections 2020-2040

Walker gave a powerpoint presentation explaining the methodologies used to predict the projections and gave an overview of the outcomes. Discussion ensued about migration (both in and out of the state), the new accessory dwelling unit law, changes in aging, how each region compares to the others in the state and the next steps.

7. Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Bogle reviewed the Needs Assessment Element, which includes: congestion; bridges; safety; planning studies; freight; transit; bicycle/pedestrian; and transportation demand management. Discussion ensued.

Additional comments should be submitted to staff by October 19th for inclusion in the update.

8. COMMISSIONER/MPO MEMBER ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

This item will be moved to a future Commission meeting due to time constraints.

9. Project Status/Updates/Informational Items

- Municipal Road Safety Audit Applications – **Walker** stated municipalities need to contact DOT before December 1, if they would like an audit completed.
- Complete Streets “pop-up” demonstrations in the region – **Bogle** stated the Town of Exeter will conduct a demonstration later in October with more towns following.

- NPPRM on MPO Coordination/Consolidation – **Sinnott** stated the comment period was extended until the end of October.

Coppelman thanked the town of Hampton Falls for their hospitality.

10. Other Business

None.

11. Public Comment

None.

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne M. Rines
Recording Secretary