

RPC TAC MEETING

Minutes

January 26, 2017
RPC Conference Room

Members Present: Art Ditto, Chair, Rye; Richard McDermott, Hampton Falls; Robert Clark, Atkinson; Tim Moore, Plaistow; Steve Gerrato, Greenland; Ken Christiansen, Brentwood; Juliet Walker, Portsmouth; Richard Hartung, Hampstead; Christina Sapp and Ernest Creveling, Raymond; Chris Cross, Newington; Dave Sharples, Exeter; Maria Stowell, PDA; and Elizabeth Strachan. NHDES.

Others Present: Don Woodward, Exeter Rail Station Committee and Lynn Cherry, Strafford Regional Planning Commission.

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

Meeting Opened at 9:01 a.m.

1. Introductions

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

2. Minutes of November 30, 2016, TAC Meeting

Motion: **McDermott** made a motion to approve the minutes of November 30, 2016, as written. **Clark** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with one abstention.**

3. SHRP2 (Strategic Highway Research Program) Performance Based Planning Grant Progress

D. Walker gave a brief explanation of the program and introduced Lynn Cherry of Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC), who is the program manager.

Cherry stated the SRPC applied for and received an award from FHWA, so that the four MPO's and NHDOT can work together to accomplish the goals of the program. She stated there are 7 FHWA National Performance Goals. Five of the targets have been passed, they are: 1) Safety; 2) Infrastructure Condition; 3) Congestion Reduction; 4) System Reliability; 5) Freight Movement & Economic Vitality; 6) Environmental Sustainability; and 5) Reduced Project Delivery Delays. The 2 remaining targets are: 1) Transit Assessment Management Plan; and 2) Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan, which need to be completed by February 2018. She gave a description of the targets and the project objectives.

She explained the makeup of the stakeholder group. The workgroup will complete a yearly update of Performance Measures and targets. An end of project colloquium is set for June 7, 2017, at NHMA in Concord and all are welcome to attend. Discussion ensued concerning data collection, types of emissions, safety and facilities, etc.

4. Draft 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

D. Walker reviewed the draft budget, which describes the efforts the MPO and RPC staff will undertake during the 2018-2019 fiscal year. He reviewed the emphasis areas and changes in the work staff will complete.

D Walker stated that 75% of the work tasks will be ongoing and asked members to contact him if there are any specific work they would like staff to undertake. Discussion ensued.

He continued that TAC will have another opportunity to review the document at their March meeting. The document will then be approved at the April Commission/MPO meeting. From there it goes to NH DOT and then Governor & Council for final approval before July 1.

5. Transportation Alternatives Update

Bogle stated one project from the region was chosen to be funded, the Exeter sidewalks along Spring Street. Originally no projects from our region was selected, then DOT decided all regions should have at least one project funded. DOT's scoring criteria was different and reviewed their process with members.

Staff has asked DOT why their scoring criteria seems to change with every round, but no reply has been given. Staff also asked DOT for their criteria so that both scoring and the prioritization of projects could be uniform. Discussion ensued.

6. Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program Funding

Bogle stated there has not been CMAQ funding since 2010. NH DOT is not looking for a formal letter of interest, but is asking prospective applicants to notify them informally of their intent to apply.

The coming round will have an emphasis on vehicle replacements for public transit agencies. Project funded in previous rounds include: traffic signal coordination, other traffic flow improvements, diesel engine retrofits, transportation demand management, ridesharing initiatives, bike/ped projects and new transit service pilot projects.

He continued that staff believes project ranking criteria will be largely the same as the last round. Staff will forward the funding notice when published. **Bogle** stated the agencies interested in applying for funding should begin project development now. Staff will be available to assist communities in proposal development.

7. Transportation Project Solicitation Update

D. Walker stated the solicitation letters were sent out in December and letters of interest are due March 3rd. Projects will be ranked by the approved criteria by staff. Member scan find the process on the RPC website.

8. Project Updates

A handout was distributed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne M. Rines
Recording Secretary