

MINUTES

Metropolitan Planning Organization RPC

Wednesday, April 11, 2018
Epping Town Hall, Epping NH

Members Present: P. Coffin, G. Coppelman (Kingston); A. Brubaker, R. McDermott (Hampton Falls); M. McAndrew (New Castle); R. Nichols (COAST); S. Gerrato (Greenland); F. McMahon, B. Kravitz (Hampton); C. McCarthy, G. Gott (Raymond); G. English (Exeter); A. Davis, S. Hastings (Hampstead); D. Hebert, C. Cross (Newington); R. Clark, M. Turell (Atkinson); J. Foley (Epping); R. Becksted, P. Britz (Portsmouth); L. Cushman (Stratham); T. Moore (Plaistow); J. Doggett (Newton); P. Wilson (North Hampton); E. Strachan (NHDES); G. Davison (NH DOT)

Others Present: S. Kravitz, (Hampton); C. Belanger (Epping); D. Currier (Concord); L. Wilson (North Hampton); P. Munroe (NH Site Evaluation Committee); M. Vallone (Epping)

Staff Present: T. Roache (Executive Director); D. Walker (Transportation Program Mgr); S. Bogle (Sr. Transportation Planner); A. Pettengill (Business Manager)

1. **Chairman Wilson convened the meeting at 7 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the MPO Policy Committee meeting.** He thanked the Town of Epping for hosting. Introductions were made by everyone in attendance.

2. **MPO Minutes of January 10, 2018**

*Coppelman moved to approve the Minute of January 10, 2018 as presented; Doggett seconded. **SO VOTED.** (4 abstentions)*

3. **Public Hearing: Amendment #4 to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program – Dave Walker, RPC**

Chairman Wilson opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m. Walker referred to Attachment 2 and the list of proposed changes to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) within the Rockingham Planning Commission region. He noted there are 25 total proposed project changes. A 30 day comment period concluded on April 10th. No public comments were received. Walker continued by reviewing specific changes, removals, additions and funding amount changes, as well as some adjustments to project scope and

timing. He stated that the Technical Advisory Committee also reviewed these amendments at their meeting on February 22, 2018, and recommended them for approval by the Policy Committee. *McDermott moved to approve the project changes identified in Amendment #4 of the TIP; Hastings seconded. **SO VOTED.***

*****Public Hearing Closed at 7:15 p.m.*****

4. Route 101 Energy Corridor: Granite Bridge Pipeline – Understanding NH Site Evaluation Committee Process - Pamela Munroe, Site Evaluation Committee

Roache introduced Pamela Munroe and informed everyone in attendance that Pam is here to discuss the site evaluation process and not the actual pipeline itself. Munroe stated that in 2015 a position was created as Administrator for the NH Site Evaluation Committee with the job of assisting the public, committee members and legislators on all matters relating to the Committee. She was the person that filled that position. She reviewed the purpose of the Site Evaluation Committee and its membership. She also reviewed the timeline of the application process for an energy facility proposal and the adjudicative process. She discussed the opportunities for public participation and the role of municipalities and regional planning commissions. There was a brief question and answer period following her presentation.

5. Public Participation Plan Update – Scott Bogle, RPC

Bogle referred to Attachment 3 and explained that the MPO is responsible under federal transportation planning rules for conducting a locally developed public participation process. To date the MPO has included its Public Participation Plan as a chapter of the MPO Prospectus, however it was suggested at the last MPO Planning Review that the Public Participation Plan be separated into a stand-alone document. In addition, this update has incorporated numerous substantive changes to MPO boundaries, requirements for TAC & Policy Committee membership under the FAST Act and inclusion of outreach strategies. He reviewed the changes as listed in Attachment 3. *Doggett moved to adopt the update to the Public Participation Plan as presented; Coppelman seconded. Additions to the motion were discussed and it was decided the current motion would stand; the Motion was Called. **SO VOTED***

6. MPO Memorandum of Understanding Update – Dave Walker, RPC

Walker explained the MOU is a cooperative written agreement among the participants of the MPO process and is a required element of the metropolitan planning "3Cs" process. It should establish and define the roles and responsibilities of each participant in the process. It was decided in order to ease confusion with overlaps between urbanized areas and MPOs and RPCs that a Master MOU between all 4 MPOs and the NHDOT be prepared, with sub

agreements for the shared portions of the urbanized areas and public transit agencies. He also noted that key changes include the provision for coordination of setting performance targets and related data sharing for Transit performance measures, and the provisions for development of safety related performance targets under Performance Measures Sub Agreements. The changes to the document are listed in Attachment 4. *McDermott moved to authorize the Executive Director of the RPC to enter into MOUs with State and regional planning partners to ensure compliance with federal regulations; Brubaker seconded. **SO VOTED.** One abstention.* Discussion followed regarding MPOs and urbanized areas.

7. Other Business

- A. Nominations for the Hayden and Quinlan award: Roache noted that the RPC is accepting nominations for the Hayden and Quinlan awards. Coppelman explained that the Quinlan award is given in honor of Dan Quinlan and for exceptional regional planning and cooperation efforts; and the Hayden award is given in honor of Jim Hayden for exceptional natural resource activities. Roached noted that nominations should be sent to him and the Nominating Committee will review all submissions when they meet at the end of the month.
- B. Bike/Walk to work day update: Bogle explained the Annual Bike/Walk to work day to promote smart commuting and create incentives for alternative commutes. The third Friday in May is the Business Challenge culminating in specific locations with free breakfast for participants.
- C. Project Updates: see handout
- D. Other: Nichols stated that COAST and the RPCs met and discussed the MOU and census changes that affect the urbanized areas. He noted it would be valuable to have the census bureau come talk again and would appreciate the MPO providing assistance securing that.

Wilson noted that the Nominating Committee has vacancies to fill so if anyone is interested they should see him.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Pettengill
Recording Secretary