

MINUTES
Rockingham Planning Commission
MPO Technical Advisory Committee
June 24, 2021

Stratham Town Office
Bunker Hill Ave, Stratham NH

Members Present: R. McDermott, Chairman (H. Falls); P. Coffin (Kingston); R. Nichols (COAST); M. Conners (Stratham); D. Sharples (Exeter); K. Latchaw (Newington); M. Scrutton (Greenland); M. Stowell (PDA); J. Walker (Portsmouth); P. Maloney-phone (FHWA non-voting)

Guest: S. Ravikumer (Seabrook)

Staff: D. Walker (Transp Mgr/Assistant Director); S. Bogle (Sr. Transp Plnr); C. Matthews (GIS/Transp Analyst); A. Pettengill (Business Manager)

- 1. Chairman McDermott convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and introductions were made.**
- 2. Minutes of March 25, 2021**

*Coffin moved to approve the Minutes of March 25, 2021 as presented; Sharples seconded. **SO VOTED.***

- 3. 2021 TIP Amendment #1 – Dave Walker**

Dave Walker gave an overview of the TIP Amendment process. He referred to a list in Attachment 2 showing the proposed changes in Amendment #1. It represents a large monetary change of \$29.9 million being added to the TIP. He continued to review individual project changes/revisions and scope changes. Dave Walker stated that fiscal constraint is being maintained and air quality conformity analysis is not necessary since the standard has been revoked for the time being. Maloney asked if the funding is being denoted by category and Walker replied in the affirmative. Coffin asked about Stimulus Recovery funds and how those affect the projects, if at all. Walker stated those types of funds don't get included in the TIP.

*Sharples moved that the MPO TAC recommend the Policy Committee approve TIP Amendment #1; Nichols seconded. **SO VOTED.***

- 4. MPO Transit Safety Performance Targets – S. Bogle**

Bogle explained FTA's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) which requires compliance for transit agencies and requires transit operators to develop safety plan and

implement Safety Management Systems. The targets deal with four areas of transit safety: fatalities, injuries, safety events, and system reliability. Both COAST and MTA are required to prepare agency targets for each of the safety measures. Some historical performance data was missing from one agency to set a baseline and develop the trend analysis, but that has been incorporated since. Discussion followed on system reliability and COVID, and demand response figures, and why this process became mandated in the first place. *Coffin moved that the MPO TAC recommend the Policy Committee approve the regional targets; Sharples seconded. SO VOTED.*

5. Seacoast Transportation Corridors Vulnerability Assessment (STCVA)– Dave Walker

Dave reviewed the goals of the STCVA project: assess impacts of sea level rise on traffic volume, roads and site of impact on roads, prepare a priority short list for more analysis, and improve the transportation planning decision making for the future. The RPC is working with NHDOT, Coastal Zone Program, UNH, and coastal municipalities to implement this project. Dave Walker reviewed the planning outcomes: understand the risks to critical transportation links along the coast, and to improve the data collection techniques. He explained how a Model from data collected will identify impacted roadways from sea level rise at different levels. That data can then be used to decide how to handle closing of roads and changes needed to the travel patterns. Sites impacted at each water level and the criteria to determine criticality of the situations include: distance to emergency services, alternate routes available, social vulnerability, distance to community facilities, and average land value per acre affected. Discussion followed.

6. Age Friendly Communities Grant – S. Bogle

Bogle stated that the RPC was chosen to receive funding to do an Age Friendly Communities project in cooperation with Rockingham Nutrition Meals on Wheels program. The idea for Age Friendly Communities was developed by AARP and describes communities that enable people to live and thrive at every age. Southwest & Strafford Planning Commissions and the City of Portsmouth have worked on this before. Bogle reviewed the eight dimensions from the AARP model: Buildings & outdoor spaces, transportation, housing, social participation & interaction, work, communications, health & nutrition. A Steering Committee will be started and regional forums will be held. There will be a community assessment piece and then pilot projects in year two. He stated that next step is to do outreach to communities to formalize a Steering Committee. Discussion followed.

7. CommuteSmart Challenge Update – S. Bogle

Bogle stated that the Seacoast Business to Business challenge happened in May. This is an effort to get companies to compete to see which one can commute the most vehicle miles through carpool or vanpool to work. The RPC and SRPC are in charge of implementing the challenge now and it will be integrated with the statewide Commute Smart NH and combined with the Seacoast Challenge.

8. Project Updates – Dave Walker/S. Bogle

Dave Walker distributed a Projects Update memo. Discussion followed on several projects.

Meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Pettengill, Recording Secretary
