

RPC Transportation Advisory Committee  
February 23, 2023  
9:00-11:00 AM

**RPC Offices**

**156 Water Street, Exeter, NH**

Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/X9AvHrcfy2SivYDx7>

***Virtual Participation via Zoom***

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81357139301?pwd=dzFYRStuNy9FZSs1U1hWZ0xYMVNTQT09>

***The full zoom invitation is on page 2***

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Minutes of 01/26/23 Meeting (**Attachment #1**) — **[Motion Required]** (5 minutes)
3. Prioritizing Projects for the State Ten Year Plan (**Attachment #2**) — **[Motion Required]**  
– Dave Walker (45 Minutes)
4. CMAQ project discussion/prioritization – (**Attachment #3**) – Scott Bogle (30 minutes)
5. 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program – Dave Walker (15 Minutes)
6. Project Updates – Dave/Scott (10 minutes)
7. Open discussion/Comments

**TAC MEETING SCHEDULE For 2022 (Next meeting highlighted)**

<del>January 26</del>	April 27	July 27	October 26
<del>February 23</del>	May 25	August 24	December 7***
<b>March 23</b>	June 22	September 28	

\*\*\*Off Schedule

Rockingham Planning is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: RPC Transportation Advisory Committee

Time: Jan 26, 2023 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the Fourth Thu, until Oct 26, 2023, 10 occurrence(s)

Feb 23, 2023 09:00 AM

Mar 23, 2023 09:00 AM

Apr 27, 2023 09:00 AM

May 25, 2023 09:00 AM

Jun 22, 2023 09:00 AM

Jul 27, 2023 09:00 AM

Aug 24, 2023 09:00 AM

Sep 28, 2023 09:00 AM

Oct 26, 2023 09:00 AM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZUucu6prTlpGtXcLbxfFBWqoOrbNE\\_4btbK/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGprT4tG9ecsxmGRpwcA4\\_4KOvztIhejbdlnzPnGyZ1QDTnOc1QMjxaL4zS](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZUucu6prTlpGtXcLbxfFBWqoOrbNE_4btbK/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGprT4tG9ecsxmGRpwcA4_4KOvztIhejbdlnzPnGyZ1QDTnOc1QMjxaL4zS)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81357139301?pwd=dzFYRStuNy9FZSs1U1hWZ0xYMVNTQT09>

Meeting ID: 813 5713 9301

Passcode: 422574

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 813 5713 9301

Passcode: 422574

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81357139301>

**MINUTES**  
**Rockingham Planning Commission**  
**MPO Technical Advisory Committee**  
**January 26, 2023**

**Virtual participation via Zoom**

**Recording Available Here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBoTO\\_YWc8M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBoTO_YWc8M)**

**Members Present:** T. Moore (Plaistow); B. Dion (Greenland); P. Coffin (Kingston); D. Sharples (Exeter); J. Hale (Hampton); E. Eby (Portsmouth); M. Connors (Stratham); R. Nichols (COAST); J. Wilcox (NHDES); R. DiCillo, (NHDES); B. Watson, NHDOT; L. St. John, NHDOT;

**Non-voting Members:** L. Levine (FHWA)

**Staff:** D. Walker (Transp Mgr/Assistant Director); S. Bogle (Sr. Transp Plnr); S. Tatarczuk (Regional Planner); T. Roach (Executive Director)

**1. Introductions [0:06-2:48]:** Walker welcomed those in attendance and Roll Call Attendance was taken.

**2. Minutes of 10/27/22 TAC Meeting [2:48-5:10]**

*Coffin moved to approve the Minutes of the October 27, 2022 meeting as submitted; Sharples Seconded. Roll Call Vote was taken. Dion and Moore Abstained. **SO VOTED.***

**3. 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program and 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Update – D. Walker [5:10 – 1:01:42]**

Walker presented the draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program and updated Long Range Transportation Plan project list and fiscal constraint. Walker covered background process information, new projects in the TIP, progress on existing projects, fiscal constraint, project costs, and comments received that require changes to the draft. Questions from TAC members were answered and discussed. Moore *moved to recommend adoption of the 2023-2026 TIP and updated 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan to the MPO Policy Committee, including changes discussed during the presentation; Coffin seconded.* St. John abstained. **SO VOTED.**

**4. Regional Housing Needs Assessment – S. Tatarczuk [1:01:43 – 1:40:07]**

Tatarczuk provided an overview of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment. She covered the methodology used for the study and the public outreach that was conducted. Population and

demographic projections were covered and shifts in migration patterns in the state. The limitations of the current housing stock were identified and how that impacts the housing market was illustrated. Future housing needs have been estimated and understanding how that impacts transportation and other infrastructure is critical to ensuring sustainable and equitable growth patterns. Questions from the TAC were discussed.

**5. 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – D. Walker [1:40:07 – 1:41:12]**

Walker stated the purpose of the UPWP and that if TAC members had any thoughts on specific planning work to be included to please contact him with that information.

**6. Review of submitted CMAQ Proposals: Bogle [1:41:13-1:56:45]**

Bogle provided an overview of the ten applications received for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program within the RPC region. Staff is starting work on the air quality analyses that each of these requires. Staff requested forming a subcommittee of TAC members to evaluate the projects for regional ranking. Sharples, Coffin, and Moore volunteered to serve on the subcommittee as members from communities that have not submitted a CMAQ project proposal. Note: After the meeting an eleventh project was identified as being partially within the RPC region and that will be included in the work that staff does to quantify emissions benefits. In addition, NHDOT recommended that all EV charging projects be deferred for the time being as guidance from FHWA regarding that type of project is still forthcoming as well as concerns regarding public funds for private development.

**7. Project Updates: Walker/Bogle [1:56:45-1:58:17]**

- Walker shared intent to follow up the TAC meeting with a link to the recording, as well as some additional materials.
- Project Updates memorandum will be sent to TAC members after the meeting.

*Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:02 a.m.*

Respectfully submitted,  
David Walker, Recording Secretary

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**ATTACHMENT #2****Memorandum**

DATE: February 17, 2023  
TO: MPO Transportation Advisory Committee  
FROM: David Walker  
RE: Ten Year Plan Project Priorities

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The MPO has not yet received NHDOT's reviews of the Ten Year Plan project proposals that were recommended by the TAC at the October 2022 meeting however the deadline to submit RPC's priorities remains April 1, 2023 which requires that we address the issue at this TAC meeting and the March 8, 2023 Policy Committee. The need to make recommendations without having all of the information from NHDOT's review available is challenging, however we do have some basic feedback to work with:

- NHDOT's assessment of the submitted proposals indicates that they believe many of the project estimates are too low.
- NHDOT is now requiring a 3.7% per year inflation rate instead of 2.8% as per previous guidance.
- NHDOT is recommending not advancing the High Street project in Hampton as more study is needed before a viable solution can be identified.

Based on that information,

- Applying the increased inflation rate to the current cost estimates creates a substantial impact on the funding required for the priority proposals and pushes the Portsmouth Circle project beyond what can be funded in a single cycle. Updating the base costs from NHDOT recommendations will only exacerbate this impact for all of the projects and may push others over the total budget for this cycle.
- Looking at the projects from the perspective of which are the most beneficial for the transportation network in the region, the Portsmouth Traffic Circle project remains the top priority. Given the functional and safety issues that exist and the importance of that interchange to connecting between I-95, the Spaulding Turnpike, and the US 1 Bypass, this is a critical component of the regional traffic network and should be treated as such whether it is funded or not.
- The Blueberry Hill/NH 102 Project in Raymond remains a good candidate for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) but was not submitted in this round. This is still potentially a way to fund this project more quickly than through the Ten Year Plan. NHDOT did provide an indication that they believe this project to cost closer to \$2 million than to what the current estimate indicates.

- I agree with NHDOT’s assessment that the High Street project needs additional analysis before any possible solution can be put forward into the Ten Year Plan. While simply raising the roadway may be a possibility, it does generate some substantial right-of-way issues tying into the adjacent driveways and may create more of a hydrologic problem depending on how water moves through the area and where it might go if it is blocked by a more elevated High Street.

	Draft Rank	Project	Est. Base Cost	Est. Inflated Cost (Revised)	Change in cost due to inflation rate increase
Submit for DOT Review	1	Portsmouth Traffic Circle (US1 Bypass)	\$6,193,550	\$9,797,604	+\$1,407,604
	2	NH 102 at Blueberry Hill in Raymond	\$561,226	\$887,806	+\$127,806
	3	Ashworth Avenue (NH 1A) in Hampton	\$3,808,694	\$6,024,990	+\$864,990
	4	Portsmouth Avenue (NH 108) in Stratham	\$1,802,859	\$2,851,951	+\$411,951
	5	High Street (NH 27) in Hampton	\$2,473,976	\$3,913,594	+\$563,594
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$14,840,305</b>	<b>\$23,475,945</b>	
The projects below were submitted to NHDOT for information only and are not priorities for the Ten Year Plan at this time					
	6	Maplewood Avenue Culvert in Portsmouth	\$12,200,576	\$19,300,146	+\$2,780,146
	7	Stratham Circle (NH 108/NH 33)	\$8,879,962	\$14,047,251	+\$2,047,251
	8	US 1 in Hampton	\$65,729,814	\$103,978,286	+\$14,948,286
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$86,810,352</b>	<b>\$137,325,683</b>	
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$101,650,657</b>	<b>\$160,801,628</b>	

**Recommended Action:**

Staff does not have a recommended action at this time and is awaiting additional information from NHDOT. Based what information is available regarding NHDOT’s review of the proposals, the High Street project is not a good candidate for the Ten Year Plan at this time which leaves four potential projects to discuss. TAC will need to make a recommendation to the MPO Policy Committee as to the approach to use, even if specific projects are not recommended. If NHDOT final recommendations are received prior to the TAC meeting, Staff will assess and bring a recommendation to the meeting. In the interim, TAC members should consider the various options, including potentially using multiple cycles of funding to address important regional transportation problems.

Additionally, there needs to be discussion of implementing a mechanism for the State to fund these larger projects on the state system with something other than the Regional Share. Too many of the truly impactful regional and inter-regional scale projects are simply too large to implement efficiently with only using the RPCs regional share of funding.

## MEMORANDUM

TO: RPC MPO Technical Advisory Committee  
FROM: Scott Bogle  
RE: CMAQ application review and prioritization  
DATE: February 17, 2023

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Ten full proposals for federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality improvement program (CMAQ) funding were received for projects in the MPO region and discussed with the TAC at their January meeting. These include five proposals from two RPC member communities, one from COAST, and four from private entities. In aggregate these proposals request \$5,700,360 in federal funding and have a total project cost of \$7,125,450.

Staff are working on project evaluation and development of Air Quality Analyses for each project. The subcommittee formed to work with staff on project review and prioritization will meet Tuesday 2/21.

Six of the ten project proposals in the RPC region, and 22 of the 46 proposals submitted statewide, would fund development of new electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. FHWA just this week published new guidance on EV infrastructure, and questions remain on how CMAQ funds may be used to fund private projects, how fees can be handled at facilities constructed with federal funding, permitting processes, etc.

As of 2/15 NHDOT is proposing to defer action on the 22 EV infrastructure projects and fund all 24 of the non-EV projects without need for prioritization at the MPO/RPC level, provided that the scope is eligible, the funding is reasonable and each can demonstrate positive air quality benefits. The Department has also offered reassurance that the EV projects will not be set aside indefinitely but revisited within six months once they have clarity from FHWA on various questions.

### Projects moving forward currently:

- COAST CommuteSMART TMA Revitalization
- NHDOT Traffic Bureau Multi-Corridor Signal Coordination (including US1 in Seabrook)
- Portsmouth Market Street Multi-Use Path
- Portsmouth US1 Bypass/Coakley Avenue Intersection Reconfiguration
- Stratham NH108 Signal Coordination

EV Charging Infrastructure projects on temporary hold

- Portsmouth Level 3 Charging Stations
- Stratham Level 2 Charging Stations
- Revision Energy Level 3 Charging Stations at Portsmouth Market Basket
- Nouria Energy Level 3 Charging Station in Exeter
- Nouria Energy Level 3 Charging Stations in Salem
- New Sunset Realty Level 3 Charging Stations in Raymond

Attached are summary sheets and associated project maps for the five non-EV projects listed above – four projects previously shared with the TAC and Policy Committee plus a fifth traffic signal coordination project developed by the NHDOT Traffic Bureau that includes corridors in Londonderry, Windham and Seabrook. RPC and SNHPC will jointly evaluate this project. Currently these summary sheets do not include air quality analysis results or staff and subcommittee ratings for the other evaluation criteria. These will be added next Tuesday once the subcommittee meets, and sent to the TAC in advance of our Thursday 2/23 meeting.

The full applications and supporting materials for each project are posted on the RPC website at: <http://www.therpc.org/transportation/cmaq>

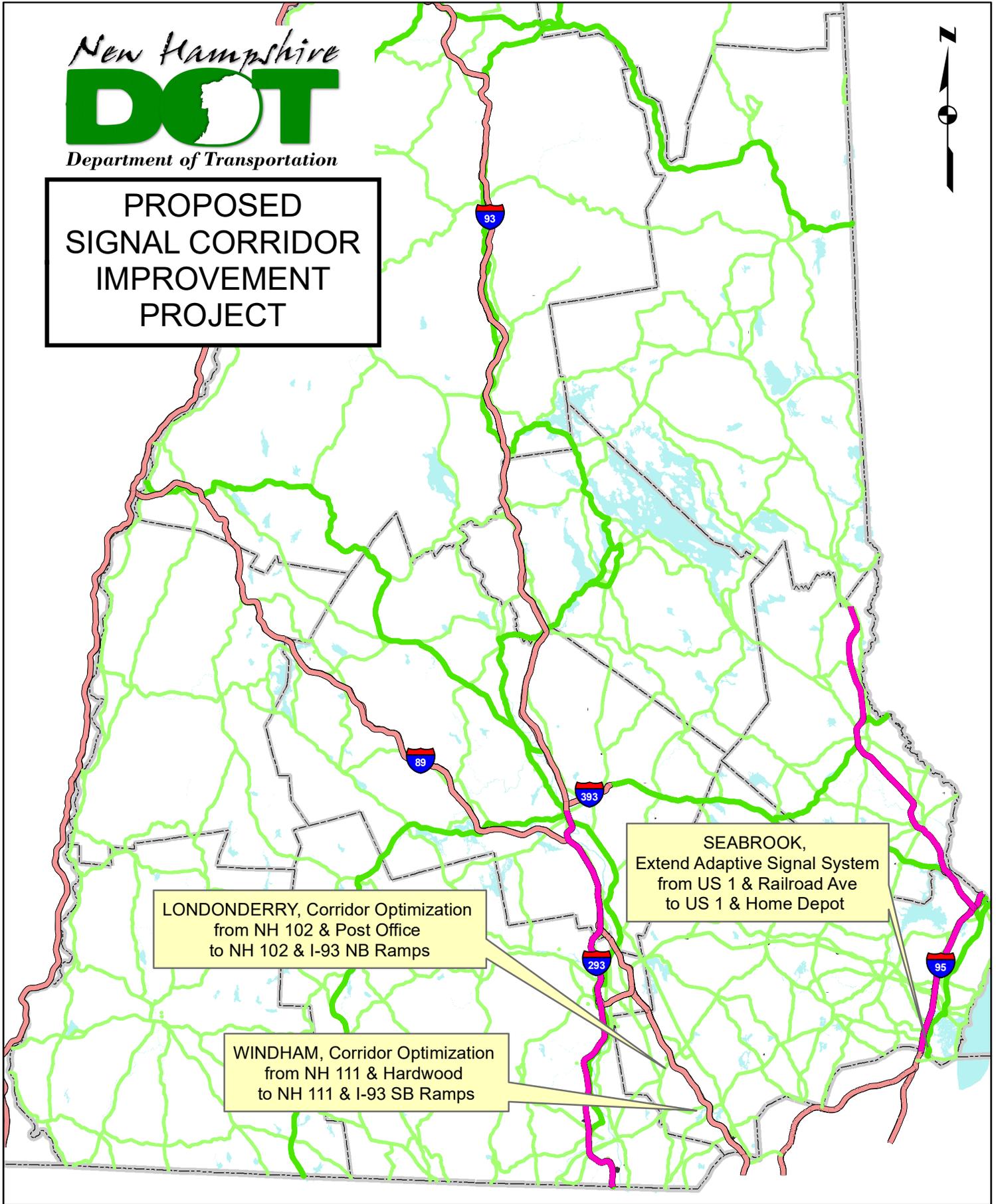
***Recommended Action*** – *That the TAC review the CMAQ project summaries and supporting materials, discuss and prioritize, and approve a list to recommend for approval by the MPO Policy Committee.*

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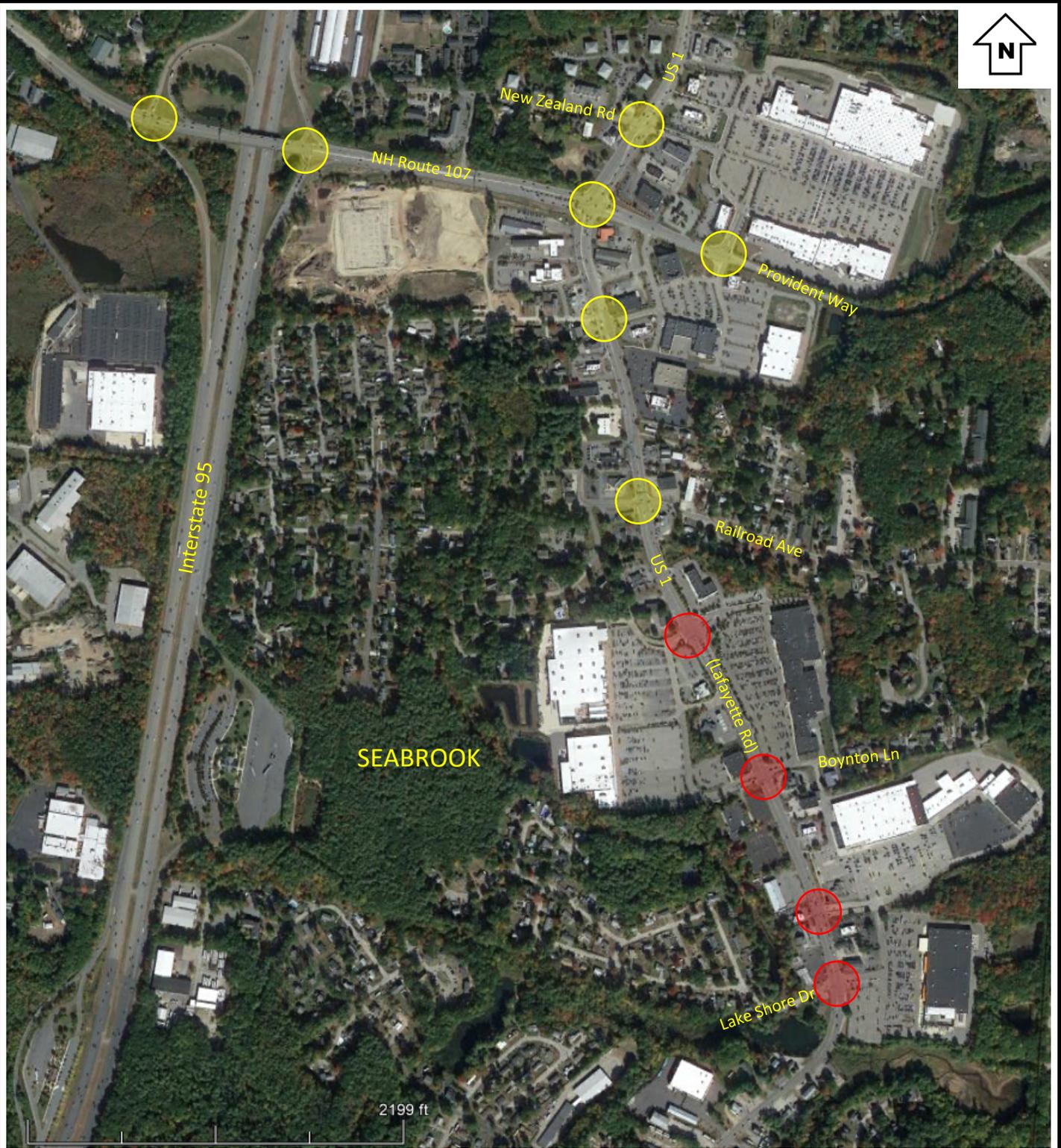
**PROPOSED  
 SIGNAL CORRIDOR  
 IMPROVEMENT  
 PROJECT**



LONDONDERRY, Corridor Optimization  
 from NH 102 & Post Office  
 to NH 102 & I-93 NB Ramps

WINDHAM, Corridor Optimization  
 from NH 111 & Hardwood  
 to NH 111 & I-93 SB Ramps

SEABROOK,  
 Extend Adaptive Signal System  
 from US 1 & Railroad Ave  
 to US 1 & Home Depot



**LEGEND**

Signalized Intersections



Part of Existing Adaptive System



Proposed Addition to Adaptive System

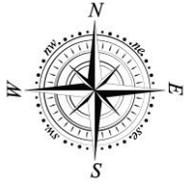
Image Source: Google Earth

**SEABROOK US 1 CORRIDOR  
CMAQ Application  
Londonderry/Windham/Seabrook Signal Corridor  
Improvement Project**

			NHDOT Bureau of Traffic
			Scale: none
Base	1/5/23	LJB	Ref. Dwg.:
Rev.	Date	By	Sketch: Figure 4

<b>Rockingham MPO 2023 CMAQ Project Summary and Evaluation Sheet</b>			
<b>Evaluation (See Criteria Sheet)</b>		Project Location: Stratham	Project ID: 22-41CMAQ
Criterion	Staff Score	Your Score	Project Title: Portsmouth Avenue/NH108 Signal Synchronization
Project Readiness: Support Letter (5 pts)	5		Applicant: Town of Stratham
Project Readiness: LPA Certified Staff (5 pts)	5		Brief Project Description:
Project Readiness: Plan Listing (5 pts)	2		Install adaptive signal technology and coordinate timing at four signalized intersections within 0.5 mile on Portsmouth Avenue/NH108 in Stratham, plus a 5 <sup>th</sup> signal at Bunker Hill Avenue programmed in the Ten Year Plan:
Financial Readiness: Funds Ready (5 pts)	0		Signal locations include intersections of NH108 with:
Financial Readiness: Funds w/in 6 Mos. (5 pts)	5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NH101</li> <li>• Stratham Heights Road</li> <li>• Shaws &amp; Staples Plaza driveways</li> <li>• Market Basket &amp; Kings Highway Plaza driveways</li> <li>• Bunker Hill Avenue (in TYP for construction in 2027)</li> </ul>
Financial Readiness: Audit (5 pts)	5		Total Project Cost: \$300,000
Stewardship & Sustainability (25 pts)	20		Source of Match: Town of Stratham
Air Quality Benefits (35 pts)	35	0	Federal Share: \$240,000 (80%)
Regional Priority (10 pts)	6	0	Non-Federal Share: \$60,000 (20%)
Cost/Benefit Ratio \$24/kg/day NOx reduction \$4/kg/day CO reduction \$104/kg/day VOC reduction \$302/kg/day PM <sub>2.5</sub> reduction			Air Quality Impacts: 9.425 kg/day CO; 0.109 kg/day PM <sub>2.5</sub> ; 1.374 kg/day NOx; 0.318 kg/day VOC in 2025
Staff ranking based on criteria			Public Input, Plan Support & Other Notes:
			Identified in Stratham Gateway Vision (2018) and Stratham Master Plan (2019). Both Stratham Planning Board and Stratham Select Board specifically voted to support the project in 2022.
		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> (83 pts)</b>	

# RT. 108 CORRIDOR MAP







Proposed elimination of signal at Coakley Road/Cottage Street and Route 1 Bypass. Construct median to prohibit left turns.

Existing multi-use path

City to construct connector roadway between Coakley Road and Borthwick Avenue

City to construct multi-use path to connect with existing multi-use path and provide pedestrian connection across the Route 1 Bypass for Coakley Road pedestrians.

Existing multi-use path

Future Rail Trail to Hampton



<b>Rockingham MPO 2023 CMAQ Project Summary and Evaluation Sheet</b>		
<b>Evaluation (See Criteria Sheet)</b>		
Criterion	Staff Score	Your Score
Project Readiness: Support Letter (5 pts)	5	
Project Readiness: LPA Certified Staff (5 pts)	5	
Project Readiness: Plan Listing (5 pts)	3	
Financial Readiness: Funds Ready (5 pts)	0	
Financial Readiness: Funds w/in 6 Mos. (5 pts)	5	
Financial Readiness: Audit (5 pts)	5	
Stewardship & Sustainability (25 pts)	15	
Air Quality Benefits (35 pts)	25	0
Regional Priority (10 pts)	10	0
Cost/Benefit Ratio \$797/kg/day NOx reduction \$38/kg/day CO reduction \$1258/kg/day VOC reduction \$12274/kg/day PM <sub>2.5</sub> reduction Staff ranking based on criteria  <b>4<sup>th</sup> (73 pts)</b>		
Project Location: Greater Seacoast		Project ID: 22-34CMAQ
Project Title: CommuteSMART Seacoast Revitalization		
Applicant: Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST)		
Brief Project Description:		
<p>Reestablish a full time Director and outreach budget for the CommuteSMART Seacoast Transportation Management Association (TMA) that works with Seacoast employers to promote and expand commuter options and reduce traffic congestion. Budget reflects five years of program funding at \$140,000 per year. Director would be hired by and house at COAST. CommuteSMART Seacoast won national recognition for participation levels in its annual commuter challenges. In aggregate over the six-year pilot project these challenges engaged over 5,000 individual commuters logging close to 60,000 sustainable trips with over 1,446,163 sustainable miles, and 634 tons of CO2 saved.</p> <p>Project is being developed in coordination with RPC and SRPC, which have administered the TMA on a part time basis since the end of pilot grant funding.</p>		
Total Project Cost: \$700,000		
Source of Match: COAST, City of Portsmouth, City of Dover		
Federal Share: \$4560,000 (80%)		
Non-Federal Share: \$140,000 (20%)		
Air Quality Impacts: 8.126 kg/day CO; 0.025 kg/day PM25; 0.385 kg/day NOx; 0.244 kg/day VOC in 2025		
Public Input, Plan Support & Other Notes:		
Identified in RPC and SRPC Long Range Transportation Plans, and Coordinated Public Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan for the Southeast NH RCC (2023).		
Letters of support from City of Portsmouth, City of Dover, Town of Exeter, Portsmouth Chamber, Dover Chamber and Pease Development Authority (PDA).		



### What is commuteSMARTseacoast?

CommuteSMARTseacoast is a Transportation Management Association (TMA) that promotes smart commuting options like carpooling, vanpooling, taking the bus, bicycling, walking, and teleworking. Our mission is to support a livable and economically vibrant greater Seacoast community.

COAST  
42 Summer Dr.  
Dover, NH 03820

arugg@commuteSMARTseacoast.org  
603-743-5777 x. 109 (office phone)  
603-953-3176 (cell)



[commuteSMARTseacoast.org](http://commuteSMARTseacoast.org)

### 2016 Participating Companies and Awards:

Amadeus

**BOWST** - Most Trips (small company)  
Calypso Communications  
City of Portsmouth  
City of Rochester  
COAST

**Heinemann** - Most Improved Team;  
Most Social Media Buzz

**Hubspot** - Most Trips (large company);  
Most Team Spirit

**IAPP** - Best Team 2016,  
Most New Smart Commuters  
IPSUMM

**Loftware** - Most Trips (medium company)  
Lonza

**LTC Partners** - Most Trips (major company)  
National Passport Center  
NH Dept. Environmental Services  
Oak Point Associates  
Papa Wheelies  
PAX World

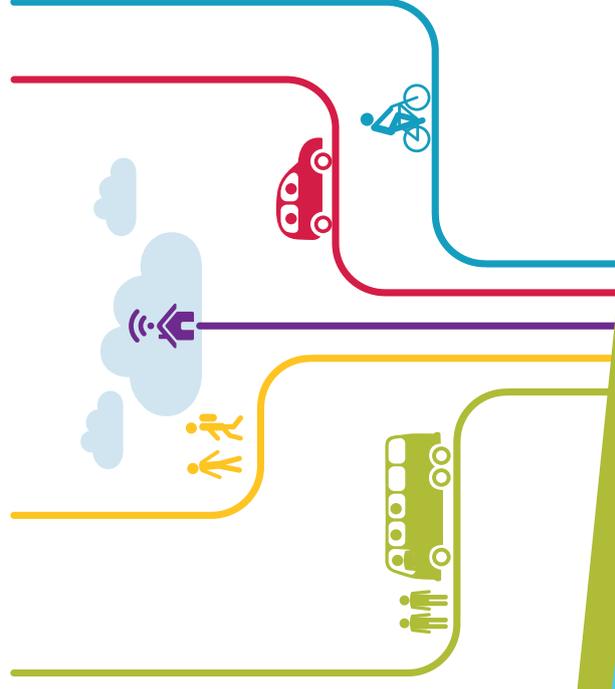
Pease Development Authority  
Rockingham Planning Commission  
Stafford Regional Planning

**Sun Life Financial** - Most New Smart Commuters (large company)  
**Timberland** - Most New Smart Commuters (major company)  
TMS Architects  
Vital Design

MAY

commuteSMART  
B2BCHALLENGE

2017



Does your company have what it takes to win?

May 1<sup>ST</sup> - 31<sup>ST</sup> 2017







Market Basket  
supermarket

Proposed 10' wide multi-use path

Existing 10' wide  
multi-use path

