



**Nashua Regional Planning Commission
Region 7 - Regional Coordination Council**

Agenda

Meeting Date: August 25th, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

HYBRID MEETING!

The Greater Nashua (Region 7) Regional Coordination Council will meet on **Thursday, August 25th, at 10:00AM** at the **NRPC Office, 30 Temple Street, Suite 310, Nashua, NH.**

Participants may also attend the meeting via Zoom, but a majority of Council members need to be physically present to establish a quorum. Those attending the meeting via Zoom are entitled to vote on any action item but Zoom attendees do not count towards a quorum.

Please let me know if you will attend in person or remotely.

Zoom Meeting Link:

Virtual or Telephone Attendance

<https://nashuarpc.zoom.us/j/83786983619?pwd=NSs4WHJGd09PTnJxWnR2OVd>

[GL0IFdz09](#)

Call-in #: 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 837 8698 3619

Passcode: 071096

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions and Community Updates
3. Review July 2022 meeting minutes (Attachment 1)
4. Regional transportation provider updates
 - NTS, SVTC, Caregivers NH
5. SCC Update
6. Regional Mobility Manager Update
7. Regional Volunteer Driver Program study
8. Other transportation issues or concerns
9. Adjourn

**BUILDING MANAGEMENT REQUESTS THAT VISITORS NOW PARK IN THE UPPER LOT
(see attached)**



NASHUA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION





**DRAFT Meeting Minutes
7/28/2022**

Attendees:

In Person:

- Carol Brooks, SVTC
- Betsy Gamrat, Gate City Bike Co-op
- Janet Langdell, SVTC
- Kerry Miller, Nashua Transit System
- Pat Murphy, Town of Merrimack Welfare
- Joanne Perez, City of Nashua Welfare
- James Wilkie, CareGivers

Remote:

- Sara Ceaser, United Way of Greater Nashua
- Camille Correa, Nashua Transit System
- Rosemary Ford, St. Joseph Hospital
- Kristin Kostecki, Meals on Wheels
- John Savage, Nashua Transit System
- Nick Schelberg, Nashua Transit System

NRPC Staff:

- Matt Waitkins,
- Donna Marceau

Residents:

- Marianne Burnham, Nashua resident
- Darrien Glasser, Nashua resident (remote)
- George Hoyt, Milford resident (remote)
- Lorraine Lessard, Merrimack resident (Senior Citizens Club) (remote)
- Janet Woodard, Nashua resident

1. CALL TO ORDER

Janet Langdell opened the meeting at 10:00am.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND COMMUNITY UPDATES

Introductions were done with in-person and remote participants.

3. REVIEW MAY 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Langdell asked for any corrections to May 2022 minutes. Langdell provided one change:

- page 2, line 3, remove “drivers” after “volunteer”

The May 2022 minutes were approved by consensus.

Langdell reviewed the history and purpose of the RCC and SCC.

4. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER UPDATES

NTS

Kerry Miller gave the update:

- NTS has continued outreach to include teaching people how to use the bus.
- Lorraine Lessard discussed the transportation issues the senior citizens in Merrimack have. She will connect with Miller to discuss further.

SVTC

Langdell gave the update:

- Last year had a 20% increase over previous fiscal year, at about 2,600 rides.
- Have done several outreach events.

CAREGIVERS

James Wilkie gave the update:

- He stated they have expanded into the Wolfeboro/Alton area.
- CareGivers is looking to increase their presence in Nashua and Merrimack.
- The demand for deliveries is up, not just rides. He clarified they are not an on-demand service.
- The program does not reimburse for gas so that can be a hinderance for volunteers.

Matt Waitkins read George Hoyt’s chat comment. John Savage commented that NTS did explore the possibility of exploring transit in Milford pre-covid. He stated that he could connect with Hoyt with that information. Langdell stated that Hoyt should contact Lincoln Daley from the Town of Milford.

5. SCC UPDATE

Langdell provided general updates about the SCC. She discussed the Volunteer Driver Program Network’s initiative.

6. REGIONAL MOBILITY MANAGER UPDATE

Donna Marceau gave the update:

- Marceau discussed the communications she has had with local transportation providers.
- She talked about the outreach she has done since starting in her position, which included reaching out to the local Chambers of Commerce.
- She discussed the survey of municipalities she conducted. She has received 7 responses out of 13 surveys sent.
- She discussed the survey she sent to major healthcare systems in the area. She received responses from 3 out of 11.
- She asked for the group to let her know of events in the region that she can attend.
- Sara Ceaser stated that it is important for transportation organizations to keep their information up to date with 211. She requested a flier with regional transportation options. Langdell stated it is in process.

Kristin Kosteki inquired about the Blue Bus. Langdell discussed current Covid protocols. She stated they do have the room for more capacity, and they do not have a waiting list. Scheduling gives priority to medical appointments over other types. Blue Bus utilization is back to pre-covid numbers, but number of passengers is still lower. Demographics are younger than pre-covid. Ridership in Merrimack and Hudson are up. Langdell stated the biggest need in the region is in Litchfield and Lyndeborough.

Regarding a question about expanding NTS in the region. Correa stated there has been information gathering done in the past and it may need to be revisited to see if the data is still viable. She suggested possibly meeting to discuss historical data – she will discuss with NRPC about the best way to move forward. Langdell pointed out that in our region, NTS is a department of the City of Nashua as opposed to other regions who have regional transit authorities.

7. REGIONAL VOLUNTEER DRIVER PROGRAM STUDY

Langdell explained the Volunteer Driver Feasibility Study that NRPC is undertaking. Waitkins stated that there is 2-year funding for the study and it is in the 2nd year. Theoretically it should be completed by next June, but the goal is by the end of the calendar year. Surveys were done of the existing programs and currently the different models are being reviewed to determine which would be best for the region. Langdell would like to make sure to look at what it would take for an existing 501c3 to start a program.

8. OTHER TRANSPORTATION ISSUES OR CONCERNS

None

9. ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

From Zoom chat:

00:47:59 Lorraine Lessard: 603-429=1502- Lorraine Lessard

00:52:06 George Hoyt: Hi there, what would it take to have a regular bus stop for the Nashua transit system in Milford? I'm with an organization that is organizing about 40 people in Milford to work on local issues such as affordable housing and education, etc. I'm speaking as a Milford resident, not with my employer, I just wanted to get a budgetary number the Town of Milford would have to commit so I could discuss further in Milford with my peeps. Thanks, George

00:58:47 NRPC Conference Room: hang on George!

01:01:42 George Hoyt: Ok thanks so much.

01:20:15 Rosemary Ford, she/her: Catherine McNamara cmcnamara1@covh.org

01:20:21 Rosemary Ford, she/her: Care Coordination at SJH

NEXT MEETING:

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022, AT 10AM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY KRISTIN WARDNER, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT