



MINUTES
NRPC TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
10/15/08
APPROVED

Members Present:

- Louise Woodworth, Nashua Transit System
- Kristi Gillette, Nashua Transit System
- Steve Laurin, Town of Merrimack
- Bill Parker, Town of Milford
- Mark Sousa, Nashua Transit System
- Joe Mendola, City of Nashua Division of Public Works
- Bruce Berry, Town of Amherst
- Nick Alexander, NH DOT
- Leigh Levine, FHWA
- Chris Skoglund, NHDES
- Lucy St. John, City of Nashua

Others Present:

- Tim Roache, NRPC Principal Transportation Planner
- Matt Waitkins, NRPC Transportation Planner
- Steve Wagner, NRPC Regional Planner
- Karen M. Baker, NRPC Administrative Assistant

MEETING OPENED AND REVIEW OF MINUTES

Tim Roache opened the meeting at 12:04. He started with introductions and moved onto approval of the minutes from the August 20th TTAC meeting. Mark Sousa moved to approve the minutes seconded by Bill Parker. All were in favor and the minutes were approved as submitted.

DRAFT 2009-2012 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP), MINOR UPDATE TO 2009-2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP), AND THE DRAFT 2009-2035 AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS

Tim Roache who did a short presentation describing all three documents and reviewed the comments and response to comments (see *"Drafts TIP, LRTP, & Air Quality"* memo and *"Summary of Comments"* document included in the agenda packet for detailed information) received during the 30 public comment period which ended on September 16th. Most of the comments received were repeats (i.e., northern crossing of the Merrimack River, connecting to turnpike and not Route 3, and the downtown rail station in Nashua). He added that the Environmental Justice chapter was dated in the LRTP. He informed the group of the advertised Public Hearing to be held at the NRPC Commission meeting that evening.

Tim explained how he came up with his formula for fiscal constraint in Chapter 11 of the LRTP and his reliance on NH DOT's fiscal constraint as being correct when coming up with his formula. There was also some discussion of inflation and year of expenditure dollars. He informed the group that the project lists in the LRTP, TIP, and Air Quality document were consistent with NH DOT's.

Tim explained the air quality conformity process and informed the group that the towns not included in the non-attainment area are Milford, Wilton, Lyndeborough and Mont Vernon.

Asking for approval for all three documents from the NRPC Commission would be the final step which would happen after all public comments were heard and addressed.



Mark Sousa commented that the number for the Nashua Transit project for bus equipment were listed as 160,000 but should be 165,000 and that the year should be listed as 2009, not as 2011. Tim said he would make the correction and did not think the error would impact fiscal constraint. Mark said the purchase would be made before the end of the fiscal year and should reflect in the documents. Steve Dookran asked if we were disappointed with the public comments. Tim said he was surprised to get them since we never had before.

Tim was informed by a member that there was a resolution to the Aldermen in City of Nashua to remove any opportunity to extend Henry Burke Highway for a north bridge crossing out of the Master Plan. Tim said that that North Bridge project is not specific to Henry Burke in our documents.

Leigh Levine had concerns with the Hudson 3A to 111 project with a 2013 year for construction and asked if it was consistent with the Ten Year Plan. Tim said that it was not in the Ten Year Plan, but listed in NRPC's LRTP. He added that if DOT gets involved with the project, it could be pushed to 2020, but in NRPC's model, it was not expected to use any Federal or State money. Leigh said he would take some more time to review the documents and let Tim know if he any other comments.

Tim asked for a motion to approve the TIP, LRTP, and the Air Quality Conformity Analysis to the Commission. Steve Dookran moved with Mark Sousa seconding the motion with changes. All were in favor and the motion passed.

UPDATE ON THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL ROUND 2 FUNDING

Matt reviewed the Safe Routes to School Round 2 process and progress to date. The highlights are listed below:

- Point of program is to get kids grades K-8 to walk and bike to school. Currently, most don't due to safety issues.
- Program addresses the safety issues and concerns of the parents.
- Funded through SAFETEA-LU and administered through NH DOT.
- 100% reimbursable.
- Schools can apply for up to 100,000 on an infrastructure project and \$5,000 on a non-infrastructure project.
- Round 2 began on March 17th and applications were due on May 12th.
- There were 5 applications from the Nashua Region (4 schools in Nashua and Brookline) that were submitted and received funding.
- Sidewalks, speed radar signs, and travel plans were amongst the safety related items that the funding will be used for.

For more detailed information see the "*Safe Routes to School Round 2 Funding Results*" handout.

Matt concluded by informing the group that Round 3 would be coming up either late fall or early next year and he would inform everyone once announced. He encouraged communities to participate in the program and suggested that members of the TTAC talk to the schools and have them start putting their applications together.

The meeting adjourned at **12:55pm**.