

 **NRPC APPROVED MINUTES**  
**NRPC TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**08/11/10**

**Members Present:**

John Cashell, Town of Hudson  
Jean Marie Kennamer (A) - City of Nashua  
Bill Parker - Town of Milford

Jeff Gowan, Town of Pelham  
Jeff Babel - Town of Hollis

**Staff Present**

Tim Roache, Assistant Director  
Matt Waitkins, NRPC  
Steve Wagner, Regional Planner

Julie Chizmas, Transportation Planner  
Karen M. Baker, Administrative Assistant

**Others Present**

Mark Dixon, FHWA  
Leigh Levine, FHWA  
William Rose, NHDOT  
Gary Webster, Town of Hudson

Chris Skoglund, NHDES  
Eric Abrams, NHDES  
Roger Houston, City of Nashua

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Tim Roache opened the meeting at 12:10 with introductions

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 14TH 2010 MEETING**

Roache referred to the minutes of July 14, 2010 included in the agenda packet as Attachment 1 and asked for a motion to approve. Gowan moved to approve the July 14th, 2010 minutes with a second from Kennamer. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Roache and Chizmas provided a Point Presentation to the group summarizing the purpose of the Congestion Management Process. Chizmas explained that the Congestion Management Process (CMP) is a planning and project programming tool that aids in the effective management of the transportation system through development and implementation of operational and travel demand management strategies. Listed below are some of the important elements:

What is a CMP?

- A set of actions designed to manage the operation of the transportation system

How was it developed?

- Cooperative effort with RPC and SNHPC with shared portions of the Boston TMA, using similar goals, objectives, definitions

What are the objectives of the CMP?

- A robust data collection process
- Coordinated data collection
- Comprehensive analysis, monitoring and reporting
- Implementation of congestion mitigation recommendations

What is the Geographic Coverage Area?

- Corridors in TMA (Pelham and Hudson)

How do you define Congestion?

- Identify the 7 root causes (bottlenecks, traffic incidents, work zones, weather, traffic control devices, special events, fluctuations in normal traffic)
- Determine a specific location
- Identify segment of roadways and/or intersections

What are the steps to the process?

- Define congestion and identify corridors
- Collect and analyze data
- Develop Corridor Performance regional CMP Performance Summary report
- Recommend and implement mitigation measures through the TIP/Ten Year Plan/LRTP Process

How will this process be maintained?

- Through a Performance Monitoring Plan to include annual volume and classification counts and travel time studies

What are the deadlines to complete this?

- FHWA requiring CMP by October, 2010
- TTAC accept draft CMP - August 11th, 2010
- Stakeholder meeting – Late August/Early September
- TTAC recommend approval of CMP - September 8th, 2010
- Commission approve CMP - September 15th, 2010
- Begin implementation in the shared TMA areas (Hudson and Pelham)
- Expansion of scope and process as appropriate or necessary

Cashell wanted to know if there was a meeting date set with Hudson. Roache said not yet, but DOT, TTAC, Hudson and Pelham would be invited. Levine wanted to know what the deadline for comments was. Roache said beginning of September.

#### **PLAN UPDATES - LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP), TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP), AND AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS**

Roache informed the group of the draft updates that NRPC had completed on the LRTP, TIP and Air Quality Conformity Analysis.

#### **LRTP**

Roache explained that this was a minor update with not much change to the text. Changes were primarily with fiscal constraint, updating the project list, and project recommendations. Roache provided an onscreen view of the LRTP outer year's project list and reviewed it with the group, also pointing out that the list was sent to the affected communities for comments and/or changes. Milford had commented and this would be addressed in the next version update. There were some questions from Levine on projects listed and their effect on air quality which Roache addressed. He added that when it goes out for public comment, it would be available in the larger Libraries, at the NRPC office and electronically on the NRPC website.

#### **TIP**

Chizmas reviewed the project list included in the TIP indicating that there were no significant projects added to the Ten Year Plan and that the list was pretty much the same list of projects as in the previous TIP. She pointed out that the projects were now separated out by category and the project financials numbers had either been changed or updated, adding that the Broad Street Parkway numbers had just changed on Monday. Other changes were in the Fiscal Constraint summary on page 5. Roache informed the group that he was still waiting on air quality information from DOT, who was waiting for the numbers

from a couple of the other MPOs, and that the public comment period would open once he had this information.

### **Air Quality Conformity Analysis**

Chizmas reviewed the Air Quality Conformity Analysis with the group, specifically the exempt and non-exempt project lists. She pointed out that there were 2 projects that were not technically in the NRPC region but would impact traffic in our region. Listed below are the projects which Chizmas informed the group of that had been moved from the non-exempt list to exempt list.

- Hollis Four Corners
- Merrimack Intersections Improvements
- NH 130
- Broad Street Project
- East Hollis Street Project
- 101 Improvements (safety) currently in the TIP

Roache said the 30 day public comment period would open before the end of the week and eventually he would be requesting motion from TTAC to recommend to the full Commission for approval.

Skoglund referred to page 2 of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis questioning the interpellations for 2035 and whether the model was run for all analyses years (2011 & 2017). Chizmas said it was run for all the years. Skoglund felt this should be clarified. Roache added that the numbers would be submitted to NHDOT and NHDES with the hopes of staying below the budget. He concluded that NRPC was working on consistency from year to year for the LRTP, TIP, and Air Quality Analysis. Levine suggested that a summary cover sheet with the changes be included with the documents. Roache said that would be done.

### **STAFF AND PROJECT UPDATES**

Roache asked the group if they had anything to share.

Parker informed the group that the construction phase of a Milford project was moved to spring.

Gowan said the new Fire Station would be on the ballot again and that they were in negotiations regarding the roundabout with the BOS.

Roache informed the group of the (non-voting) CMAQ meeting being held Thursday (August 12) regarding the process of scoring and ranking the projects at the state level. He added that all 9 MPO's would have representation and that the DOT defined regional and state scores would be factored in with an end result to be that the top scoring projects be the top projects in the region and be funded. Roache said that communities in the end need to know how that process is going to run.

Skoglund said that DES would be at the CMAQ meeting and would do a presentation on CMAQ projects and the air quality benefits.

Cashell questioned the scoring on CMAQ projects and elaborated on the intersection and congestion problems with Hudson project.

Houston motioned to adjourn with a second from Babel. The meeting adjourned at **1:05pm**.