

**DRAFT  
RPC TAC MEETING**

**Minutes**

July 23, 2015

RPC Conference Room

**Members Present:** Art Ditto, Chair, Rye; Richard McDermott, Hampton Falls; Robert Clark, Atkinson; Joan Whitney, Kensington; Steve Gerrato, Greenland; Ken Christiansen, Brentwood; Juliet Walker, Portsmouth; Richard Hartung, Hampstead; Glenn Coppelman, Kingston; Chris Jacobs, Hampton; Lincoln Daley, Stratham; Steve Pesci, UNH; Don Woodward, Exeter Rail Station Committee; Brian DeGuizis, COAST; Chris Skoglund, NH DES; and Leigh Levine, FHWA.

**Staff Present:** Dave Walker, Scott Bogle and Roxanne Rines, RPC.

**Meeting Opened at 9:01 a.m.**

**1. Introductions**

Attendees introduced themselves and stated what municipality they were from or the agency they represented.

**2. Minutes of June 25, 2015, TAC Meeting**

**Motion:** **McDermott** made a motion to approve the minutes of June 25, 2015, as written. **Woodward** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with 3 abstentions.**

**3. 2015-2018 TIP/STIP Amendment #1**

**D Walker** reviewed the project changes included in amendment #1. The public comment period will end Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, and the Policy Committee will meet on Wednesday, July 29, to formally adopt the amendment; no public comment has been received thus far.

Discussion ensued about projects removed from the list: the Plaistow rail station was removed because the vote at Town Meeting was not approved; Plaistow-Kingston (the northern end), is being removed because the engineering and right-of-way work is being delayed until 2019-2022, the project remains in the 10-Year Plan for construction in 2024.

**Coppelman** gave D Walker a letter from the Kingston TAC Representative expressing her displeasure with the continuing delaying of this project. The Town of Kingston feels that promises made to them have not been kept; the concern is that if the project is pulled from the document, it will be forgotten about. **D Walker** stated it is a valid concern and DOT is struggling to maintain

fiscal constraint because of shrinking resources. Discussion ensued. **D Walker** stated the MPO continues to maintain its position that the project is important and needs to be completed. He continued that the project is being removed from the TIP/STIP because it is outside the scope of the 10-year plan.

**D Walker** reviewed projects that are having funding reduced because of fiscal constraint. Discussion ensued about fiscal constraint and why funds are shifted to new projects.

He reviewed projects that are being added to the plan. **Pesci** questioned the use of CMAQ funds, because it has been several years, since the state has held a CMAQ funding round. Discussion ensued about the use of CMAQ funds. **Pesci** gave further explanation about a Wildcat Transit project to replace some busses and the Universities refueling station.

There was discussion about adding more funding into the maintenance of roads and less into new projects. **Clark** stated he would like the above to be added as a recommendation of the approval language. Discussion ensued about how funding is distributed.

**D Walker** reviewed the projects that are being delayed because funding is being pushed out of the TIP. Discussion ensued.

**D Walker** reviewed the projects that are receiving additional funding and the reasons. Discussion ensued about the attainment status of the region and state. He concluded with the projects that are changing funding sources. DOT states that fiscal constraint is maintained. Staff recommends that the TAC committee send amendment #1 to the Policy Committee for their approval.

Transit agencies need the amendment approved before the end of the federal fiscal year because the funds will not be available once the federal fiscal year ends. **Pesci** stated if the amendment is not approved immediately, the federal funds will lapse. Wildcat Transit would like both the RPC and SRPC to approve Amendment #1.

**Motion:** **J. Walker** made a motion that the TAC Committee recommend approval of TIP Amendment #1 to the Policy Committee for their approval, with the following comments: 1) the Hampton Branch funding be considered for reprogramming; 2) more funding be added to the maintenance of roadways and less toward the funding of new projects; 3) intercity bus replacement funding come from FTA Section 5307 and not CMAQ funds (which is needed to help transit agencies); and 4) the Plaistow-Kingston project #10044E not be removed from the TIP/STIP document. **Woodward** seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about the potential consequences of not approving an amendment.  
**Motion carried.**

#### 4. NH MPOs UPWP Agreements

**Walker** gave an update and stated an agreement with Wildcat Transit is being completed. The Policy Committee will see the agreements at their next meeting for approval.

## **5. Long Range Transportation Plan Update**

**D Walker** gave a powerpoint presentation explaining how staff is continuing to make updates to the Long Range Transportation Plan and how the Regional Master Plan will fit into the transportation plan. Discussion ensued. The plan will continue to be discussed at future TAC and Policy meetings and the plan should be ready for adoption at the October 2016 MPO meeting.

## **6. Project Updates**

**D Walker** gave an overview of the first draft of the ten year plan projects list. A handout was distributed with other project updates and discussion ensued.

Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne M. Rines  
Recording Secretary