

MINUTES
Rockingham Planning Commission
Metropolitan Planning Organization
July 10, 2019

Hampstead Town Office, Hampstead NH

Commissioners/MPO Reps Present: B. Kravitz, Chairman (Hampton); M. Turell (Atkinson); S. Hastings, A. Davis (Hampstead); P. Wilson (North Hampton); L. Cushman (Stratham); M. McAndrew (New Castle); J. Doggett (Newton); R. Nichols (C&J); G. Coppelman, P. Coffin (Kingston);

Guests: L. Wilson (North Hampton); S. Kravitz (Hampton)

Staff: T. Roache (Executive Director); D. Walker (Assistant Director); S. Bogle (Sr. Transportation Planner); A. Pettengill (Business Manager)

- 1. Call to Order: Kravitz convened the MPO meeting at 7:10 p.m.**
- 2. MPO Minutes April 10, 2019**

Nichols noted that he represented C&J and not COAST as erroneously listed in the attendance. *Coppelman moved to approve Minutes of April 10, 2019 with correction; Doggett seconded. SO VOTED. (2 abstentions)*

- 3. Public Hearing - Amendment #1 2019 Transportation Improvement Program – D. Walker**

Kravitz opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Walker reviewed Amendment #1 and the four statewide programs and one statewide project that were amended. He also reviewed how to read the TIP Revision Report. He noted there is no reason to worry about Air Quality Conformity since the MPO has been in attainment since 2013 and will rely on the previous analyses. He also noted that Fiscal Constraint is maintained. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has reviewed the amendments and recommended approval by the Policy Committee. *Coppelman moved to approve the TIP Amendment #1; Doggett seconded. SO VOTED.*

Kravitz closed the Public Hearing at 7:20 p.m.

- 4. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update - D. Walker**

Walker explained that June 14th was the deadline for submittal of letters of interest for the 2019 funding round for federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) program administered by NH Dept of Transportation. This is a regional approach to manage congestion through planning

and environmental review processes. He referred to a list of Letters of Interest as part of Attachment 3. Twelve letters of interest were received from four MPO towns and five other agency projects. RPC and DOT staff will work together on analysis of each project's air quality benefits. Walker noted that the RPC is updating the CMP at this time because FHWA put us in Corrective Action since our CMP is 10 years old. He stated that we now have purchased some travel time data to address the federally required performance measures. Discussion followed.

5. Project Updates

- a. Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program (CMAQ) Update: Bogle explained that CMAQ is a federally funded program where 80% of the funds are used to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality. The next round has begun and the MPO received 12 letters of interest. There will be project selection criteria established for reviewing the projects. Full applications are due to NHDOT by September 6th and the RPC's ranking of the projects is due November 1st.
- b. 2021-2030 Ten Year Plan Update: Walker noted that NHDOT held the hearing and presented the Plan which includes a focus on pavement preservation and reduction of red list bridges; completing I93 and Exit 4A. He also noted that July 31st is the first GACIT meeting in Kingston at the Library at 2 p.m.; August 14th is the first hearing for the Draft 10 Year Plan. Discussion followed regarding the lack of multi-modal transit in the region and how to get that in the TIP and prioritize transit projects in general. Walker also stated that the Corridor Study Program plan is coming soon. This is a document that looks at priorities for FY 21 in transportation corridors around the region.
- c. Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress Input: Bogle explained that the RPC applied for and received \$100k in grant funds to incorporate Bike Traffic Stress (4 basic stress levels riders experience in the region) into MPO Performance Based Planning in an effort to get more robust multi-modal projects into the Long Range Plan. The project involves data collection and refining of a model to gain a performance measure which can then be used in project identification and prioritization. Timeline is as follows: network analysis-July; package results-August; performance measures implementation -Aug & Sep; report development -Aug & Sep; peer sharing-Oct & Nov. The public will be asked to look at maps and input their experience on stressful biking areas or locations.

6. Public Comment – None

7. **Kravitz thanked Alan Davis for his hospitality and the Town of Hampstead for hosting. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted
Annette Pettengill, Recording Secretary