

**Transportation Advisory Committee
Rockingham Planning Commission
MINUTES**

April 23, 2020

Remote meeting via Zoom Conference Call

**Per RSA 91-A:2,III(b) the RPC TAC Chair has declared the COVID-19 Outbreak an emergency
And has waived the requirement that a quorum be physically present at the meeting**

Members Present: R. McDermott, Chairman (H. Falls); P. Coffin (Kingston); T. Austin (Stratham); T. White (NHDES); L. St. John (NHDOT); S. Pesci (UNH); T. Moore (Plaistow); D. Sieglie (Rye); M. Whitten (MTA); L. Levine (FHWA)

Guests: R. Reynold (MTA)

Staff: T. Roache (Executive Director); D. Walker (Assistant Director/Transp. Mgr); S. Bogle (Sr. Transp. Planner); C. Matthews (GIS/Transp. Analyst); A. Pettengill (Business Manager)

- 1. Chairman McDermott convened the meeting at 9 a.m. ; Introductions and Zoom etiquette were discussed.**
- 2. Minutes of January 23, 2020**

*Moore moved to approve the Minutes of January 23, 2020 as presented; Austin seconded. Roll Call vote was taken. 4 abstentions. **SO VOTED.***

- 3. 2019 tip Amendment #4 (attachment 2) – D. Walker**

Walker began by giving an overview of the NH Transportation Planning Process and the three documents in NH that form the basis of the transportation planning process: MPO Long Range Transportation Plan; State 10 Year Transportation Plan; and the MPO Transportation Improvement Program. He then explained the 3 regional and 1 statewide project changes to the 2019 TIP for a net increase of cost of \$10.6 million for TIP years 2019-2022. He noted the TIP remains fiscally constrained and air quality is still in attainment. *Austin moved that the RPC TAC endorse TIP Amendment #4 and recommend it to the MPO Policy Committee for approval; Witten seconded. Roll Call vote was taken. **SO VOTED.***

4. Congestion Management Process Update – D. Walker

Walker explained the Congestion Management Process as a regional approach for managing congestion linked to planning and environment review processes. The most recent adopted CMP was in 2010 so it's time to work on updating that document. The new one will also include ArcGIS story maps of the region. This will allow the data collected to be fed into the TIP and Ten Year Plan as well. The story maps will be a tool to keep the public and municipal officials informed about where and when and the extent of congestion. Discussion followed.

5. Bike Month Update – S. Bogle

Bogle gave some information about the Seacoast Bike/Walk to Work Month event to get more people to try bike trips to work instead of using their car. The event includes a months worth of rides, walks, workshops, challenges, events for kids and families. Due to the COVID-19 issue all the "personal events" are canceled, however a calendar of virtual events is being organized. The National bike/walk to work day has been postponed to September 22, 2020, so the Seacoast event will be held at that time as well.

6. Age Friendly Communities Grant Proposal – S. Bogle

Bogle stated that a letter of interest was submitted on January 24, 2020 to the Tufts Health Plan Foundation to develop an age friendly communities initiative. A proposal was submitted on March 31st which addresses the needs of older adults in each of 14 communities selected for Year 1. The focus in Rockingham County communities would be based on transportation, housing, social and civic activities, and nutrition and health services. The RPC will be partnering with Rockingham Nutrition/Meals on Wheels. A Steering Committee of municipal representatives and senior service agencies will be organized. Regional forums will be held, community assessment via surveys, and a resource guide will be produced. Five remaining towns and Pilot projects will be held in Year 2 of the program. Discussion followed.

7. Open discussion/Comments

Pesci stated that UNH has suspended transportation services from Wildcat Transit due to COVID-19, and the Amtrak Northeaster has also suspended service, so there are no real transit options available at this time between Mass, NH & Maine. Reynold and Witten noted that MTA is servicing "essential personnel" only and Demand Response service. Region 8 & 9 5310 Point of Service shuttles are running for Demand Response only and COAST fixed routes service is closed but Demand Response is running.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Pettengill, Recording Secretary