



MEETING NOTICE

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE PLANNING COMMISSION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 19, 2019

9:30 A.M.

Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission
438 Dubuque Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. INTRODUCTIONS
3. ACTION ON MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 2019
4. NEW BUSINESS
 - 4.1 CMAQ Applicant Presentations
Attachment
Action: Information only. Carl Eppich, AICP, Principal Trans. Planner
SNHPC, (603) 669-4664,
ceppich@snhpc.org
 - 4.2 Appointment of CMAQ Scoring Subcommittee
Attachment
Action: Appoint CMAQ Scoring Subcommittee Carl Eppich, AICP, Principal Trans. Planner
SNHPC, (603) 669-4664,
ceppich@snhpc.org
 - 4.3 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA)
Funding Solicitation
Attachment
Action: Information only. Elizabeth Strachan, Transportation Analyst
NHDES, (603) 271-8330,
Elizabeth.Strachan@des.nh.gov
5. PROJECT/SCHEDULE UPDATES
6. OLD BUSINESS
7. ADJOURNMENT



Minutes of the
SNHPC MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

August 15, 2019

9:30 A.M.

Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission
438 Dubuque Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Todd Connors – Manchester DPW
Linda Dusenberry – NHDOT
Dick Gregory – Windham
Colleen Mailloux – Londonderry
Mike Whitten – MTA
Nancy Michels – GMCC/GDLC
R.H. Snow – Candia
P.G. Tolman – Francestown
Sylvia von Aulock – SNHPC
Tim White – NHDES
Dean Williams – CNHRPC
Elizabeth Robidoux – Derry

SNHPC STAFF PRESENT

Nate Miller, Deputy Executive Director
Maddie Dilonno, Assistant Planner
Monique Duchesne, Assistant Planner
Carl Eppich, Principal Transportation Planner
Pamela Garrity, Planning Technician
Zach Swick, GIS Analyst
James Vayo, Project Manager
Linda Moore-O'Brien, Office Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT

Laurie Renke – Londonderry

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Jo Ann Duffy, Chair – Goffstown
Tom Clow – Weare
George Sioras – Derry

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jonathan Golden – Manchester Planning
Fred Roberge – ESNH
Becky Hebert – Bedford
Laurie Makarawicz – MTA/CART
Mark Suennen – New Boston
Bruce Thomas – Hooksett
Bill Herman – Auburn
Ted Kitchens – MHT Airport
Leigh Levine – FHWA
Dick Perusse – New Boston
Tim Roache – RPC

1./2. Call to Order/Introductions

Vice Chair Colleen Mailloux called the meeting of the Southern NH Planning Commission TAC to order at 9:34 AM.

3. Action on Minutes of July 18, 2019

Motion by Mr. R.H. Snow to approve July 2019 minutes, seconded by Mr. Mike Whitten, and approved unanimously. Mses. Michels and Robidoux abstain.

4.1 Overview of 2019 Road Safety Audit Solicitation

Mr. Carl Eppich introduced himself and explained that the NHDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) has approximately \$10 million in funds available each year to reduce serious injuries and fatalities on all public roads.

Typically, NHDOT looks for projects that don't use a disproportionate the funding. Projects which are expected to exceed \$1 million in cost could be encouraged to seek funding through the Ten-Year Plan process.

HSIP implementation is overseen by the HSIP Committee, comprised of NHDOT, FHWA, MPOs/RPCs, and other agencies/partners. MPO representation rotates every three years.

Mr. Eppich stated that, in general, three types of projects are eligible for HSIP funding:

- Locations identified by statewide network screening (NHDOT has historically used Safety Analyst software);
- Systemic projects that proactively address locations with conditions that correlate to certain crash types (such median crossover barriers or rumble strips); and
- Locally-identified projects justified by Road Safety Audits (RSAs). RSA applications are due December 1st each year.

The SNHPC can assist member municipalities with developing RSA applications, including identifying crash history and collecting supporting data.

Road Safety Audits are conducted only in locations where there has been a fatality or severe injury crash history. The problem must be infrastructure-related and not simply behavioral. Examples include geometry or sight distance issues.

Mr. Miller noted that actual crash reports from the police department are required for the fatal or severe injury crashes as NHDOT looks for crash patterns. SNHPC can work with municipal staff to compile crash records.

If the HSIP Committee approves the application, a Road Safety Audit will be conducted by consultant in coordination with NHDOT staff, municipal staff, abutters, and RPC/MPO staff. The RSA report will identify the cost/benefit ratio of each improvement alternative.

Mr. Snow requested a copy of Road Safety Audit conducted in Candia.

Mr. Eppich noted that SNHPC will be reaching out to each municipality to see if they need assistance with RSA application development. Ms. von Aulock said that the SNHPC typically contacts the police departments, but if there is another contact SNHPC should reach out to, please let us know.

Ms. Mailloux confirmed that RSAs can be done on any public road. Ms. von Aulock noted that although December seems a long way off, it takes time to get the crash reports and the municipal signatures. Ms. Garrity added that field work is often needed, so the earlier the better.

Mr. Snow confirmed there is no cost to municipalities for this.

Ms. von Aulock encouraged all communities to participate- two years ago there were nine applications, but last year there were only two.

4.2 State Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan Update

Ms. Maddie DiIonno stated that NHDOT and Alta Planning have drafted New Hampshire's first State Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan. NHDOT formed a project advisory committee made up of RPCs and others. She explained that goals include connectivity, stress reduction, formation of a state policy, equitable funding and increased safety. Alta Planning and NHDOT are seeking public input. Ms. DiIonno showed the website and demonstrated the interactive map.

Public meetings will be taking place statewide. One will be held at the Manchester Library on September 24th from 6:00 – 7:45 pm.

Mr. Snow commented that this is a significant project and encouraged TAC members to participate in the public meeting.

4.3 Update on NHDOT Statewide Strategic Transit Assessment

Mr. Miller provided an overview of a study done by consultant Steadman Hill about inner-city transit and the associated gaps.

Demographics play a part in transit gaps, considering income, age, disability, population density, number of cars per household, etc. There was analysis of local and regional areas.

Mr. Miller said the study shows that the SNHPC region (as part of the "Central Corridor" is well served by intercity bus transportation. However, areas to the north and west are not as well-served.

Possible service solutions, commuter routes and costs were explored in the study. Routes examined include Portsmouth to Manchester, Salem/Windham/Londonderry to Manchester, and Salem/Nashua/Milford. He noted that no fare structure was identified.

Mr. Whitten noted that the \$75/hour operating cost used in the study is much higher than a rate that MTA would offer. Mr. Whitten noted that MTA is not always welcome in communities. If the state would reduce/eliminate the "docking fee" at state facilities, that would help a lot. Mr. Miller reported this was requested of the Public-Private Partnership Commission, so they are aware of this concern. Mr. Whitten said there is now a more collaborative relationship with Nashua and Concord, which is nice.

Mr. Miller reviewed the survey that was taken as part of the study. There were 141 responses from the SNHPC area. Findings include need for basic mobility/access to employment and support for public transportation; the Portsmouth to Manchester route ranks #1 in the survey results.

There was discussion about transit technology. GIS assistance may be provided by RPCs. It was noted that has already MTA implemented some of the identified technologies, and there will be more in October. CART will be merging with MTA.

Mr. Miller referred to the website nhtransitstudy.com.

There was a brief discussion about employers that need workers on evenings or weekends. It was noted that basic mobility is the top priority and service frequency matters.

5. **Project/Schedule Updates**

The project and schedule updates were made available.

6. **Other Business**

Mr. Miller stated that the draft 2021-2030 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan was just released yesterday. He noticed the scope of the Route 114 Corridor Study is not correctly listed- he will remind NHDOT. Three related meetings are scheduled in the SNHPC region: 9/12 in Londonderry; 10/17 in Bedford; and 10/23 in Manchester.

Ms. von Aulock mentioned the NHDOT will be conducting a survey during the Ten-Year Plan hearings to gauge the public's transportation investment priorities. She also noted that the SNHPC Annual Meeting will take place on September 6th at the Derryfield restaurant in Manchester.

Ms. Dusenberry stated that CMAQ Applications are due on September 6th.

7. **Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Todd Connors to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Elizabeth Robidoux and carried unanimously. The meeting stood adjourned at 11:00 am.

Next meeting: September 19, 2019

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Southern NH Planning Commission for August 15, 2019.

Sylvia von Aulock
Executive Director

Minutes Approved:

REPORT

TO: Technical Advisory Committee
Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

FROM: Carl Eppich, AICP, Principal Transportation Planner, SNHPC,
(603) 669-4664, ceppich@snhpc.org

DATE: September 19, 2019

RE: CMAQ Applicant Presentations

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Information only, with question and comment opportunity on pending applications.

SUMMARY

Over the course of the summer, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) held a competitive selection round for projects under the federally-funded Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) program. The overall purpose of CMAQ is to improve air quality by reducing the amount of vehicular emissions. The amount of funding available statewide for this round of CMAQ is \$13,500,000 (Federal) with applicants contributing a minimum of 20% match.

The due date for CMAQ program applications for the 2019 funding round was September 6, 2019. There are two local applications from the SNHPC region and one statewide application from NHDOT with potential benefits in the SNHPC region.

Recently, the NHDOT revised the statewide scoring framework for the CMAQ program to place a 10% weighting on regional project priorities. Accordingly, all nine regional planning commissions (including the SNHPC) have agreed to prioritize the CMAQ projects within their respective regions.

To assist the TAC in developing recommended CMAQ project priorities, the SNHPC has arranged for each applicant in the region to provide a brief presentation about their project at the September 19, 2019 TAC meeting. The applicant presentations will include:

- **City of Manchester** - Intersection Improvements at South Willow Street/Weston Road.
- **Derryfield School** – Construction of a Roundabout Intersection at River Road, Bicentennial Drive, and the Derryfield School Access (Double D Drive) in Manchester.
- **New Hampshire Department of Transportation** – Implementation of Flashing Yellow Arrow (FYA) Left-Turn Signal Lights, Including Selected Intersections in the SNHPC Region.

SNHPC staff will distribute additional information about these projects (including full application materials) to TAC members as it becomes available.

REPORT

TO: Technical Advisory Committee
Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

FROM: Carl Eppich, AICP, Principal Transportation Planner, SNHPC,
(603) 669-4664, ceppich@snhpc.org

DATE: September 19, 2019

RE: Appointment of CMAQ Scoring Subcommittee

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Appoint a CMAQ Scoring Subcommittee of 3-5 (disinterested) members to review regional CMAQ applications and develop a scoring recommendation to the full TAC in October.

SUMMARY

Recently, the NHDOT has revised the statewide scoring framework for the CMAQ program to place a 10% weighting on regional project priorities. Accordingly, all nine regional planning commissions (including the SNHPC) have agreed to prioritize the CMAQ projects within their respective regions.

As part of this process, the CMAQ Scoring Subcommittee will review and evaluate the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) applications in the SNHPC region:

- **City of Manchester** - Intersection Improvements at South Willow Street/Weston Road.
- **Derryfield School** – Construction of a Roundabout Intersection at River Road, Bicentennial Drive, and the Derryfield School Access (Double D Drive) in Manchester.
- **New Hampshire Department of Transportation** – Implementation of Flashing Yellow Arrow (FYA) Left-Turn Signal Lights, Including Selected Intersections in the SNHPC Region.

We anticipate that the CMAQ Scoring Subcommittee will complete its work during one meeting in late September or early October. The CMAQ Scoring Subcommittee's recommendations will then be reviewed and considered by the full TAC at their October 17, 2019 meeting.

The CMAQ scoring criteria to be used to evaluate regional applications are as follows:

- Project Readiness and Support;
- Financial Readiness and Support;
- Stewardship/Sustainability; and
- Air Quality Benefits.

The evaluation of air quality benefits at the regional level will focus primarily on Carbon Monoxide (CO) reductions given the City of Manchester's status as a limited maintenance area for Carbon Monoxide.

REPORT

TO: Technical Advisory Committee
Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

FROM: Elizabeth Strachan, Transportation Analyst, NHDES, (603) 271-8330,
Elizabeth.Strachan@des.nh.gov

DATE: September 19, 2019

RE: Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Funding Solicitation

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Information only.

SUMMARY

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) will be announcing a funding solicitation in October 2019 for approximately \$700,000 through the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) program. The DERA program provides partial funding for local/state governments and businesses to reduce emissions through idle reduction technologies, exhaust controls, or replacement of older on- or off-road diesel engines/vehicles/equipment with newer engines/vehicles/equipment.

At the September 19, 2019 TAC meeting, NHDES Transportation Analyst Elizabeth Strachan will be presenting information on the program and conducting a question and answer session.

Additional information as well as an application is available on the NHDES website: <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/tsb/tps/msp/diesel-vehicles/dera.htm>.

Any questions can be directed to Elizabeth Strachan at Elizabeth.strachan@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-8330.