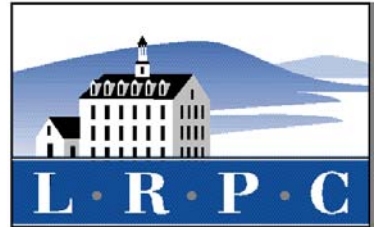


LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

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MINUTES of May 6, 2009 Transportation TAC Meeting Humiston Building, Meredith, NH

MEMBERS PRESENT

Voting

Sheldon Morgan, Gilford (Chairman)
Herb Farnham, Moultonborough
Rick Ball, Belmont
David Kerr, Barnstead
Steve Favorite, Bristol
Dave Bowles, Tamworth
Jeff Haines, Center Harbor
Center Sanders, Tilton

OTHERS PRESENT

Dick Waitt, Gilford
Kathleen Brockett, NH DES
William Rose, NH DOT
Michael Iazard, LRPC
Adam Hlasny, LRPC

1 Call to Order and Introductions

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves. There were no comments from the public.

2 Regional Updates

A. Hlasny gave a very brief status update of Safe Routes to Schools. M. Iazard gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on the NH 28 Corridor Study Field Review that took place on April 27-28. This presentation consisted of a sample intersection that was evaluated by a field review team on that date, with a description, issues, potential solutions, and some photographs. D. Kerr, who also participated in the field review, added some thoughts about hazards in the corridor. The color of street signs was discussed; D. Kerr said that green signs are very difficult to see with a foliage backdrop. M. Iazard introduced the 2009 traffic counting season, and a list of this year's counts was distributed. In addition to the 139 DOT

counts to be done, there has also been a special request from the town of Freedom for four counts over July 4 weekend, as well as four counts in mid-August.

3 Draft Transportation Improvement Plan 2009

M. Izard described the update process for the 2009 TIP. He mentioned that new information from municipalities has been included; while letters of support are currently in the appendix, other supporting data will be forwarded to DOT separately due to its overall heft. The Alton-Gilford bypass idea was discussed, and the general consensus was that it is probably no longer a feasible option. Several TAC members mentioned that conducting the field visit made them much more aware of what was on the ground, and also helped with understanding the language of what improvements must be made at each location. A motion was made to accept the document as written to be presented to the Commission on May 11.

M/S/Passed Kerr/Ball

4 TIP Scoring Process Review

M. Izard presented several comments regarding the TIP scoring process. One was the related to "Lifeline Corridors." He suggested that for the next round in 2011 that staff insert these numbers instead of leaving them open for committee interpretation. The TAC agreed again that the field visit was worthwhile, and should definitely be included as part of future TIP updates. M. Izard said that a checklist or set of pre-established criteria to evaluate an intersection/project might also be helpful in the next update. It would also be helpful to have like information from all projects, such as accident and traffic data that could be compiled by the municipality. In the absence of this, LRPC could conduct some research and supplement missing information to ensure an equitable comparison between projects. TAC members saw up-to-date traffic counts as having importance, as well as turning movement counts at key intersections. William Rose stated that DOT could assist in the funding for conducting manual turning movement counts through the UPWP. He also added that DOT has tried to leave enough latitude for each region to rank and evaluate projects.

5 Other Business

Kathleen Brockett of NH DES spoke about the New Hampshire Climate Action Plan and its short- and long-term goals. She stressed that improving the efficiency of existing building stock is of utmost importance, followed by improving efficiency in the transportation sector. She mentioned that the week of May 11 is Green Commute Week, and encouraged all TAC members to walk/bike to work, or at least carpool or combine trips. There was a discussion about engine idling. K. Brockett clarified the rules on idling- above 32 degrees there is a five-minute limit, from 32 degrees to -10 degrees there is a 15-minute limit, and below -10 there is no limit. R. Waitt asked about the possibility of issuing tickets to those in violation of these rules. K. Brockett responded that people aren't ready to take that on, and the difficulties of enforcement would make the initiative impossible. D. Kerr asked about how town service vehicles such as police can cut down on idling. There is an experimental method of running a cruiser for 15 minutes, then letting it rest for one hour, which has been tried with success by the Department of Safety in State Trooper vehicles.

6 Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to accept the minutes of 4/1 as written and was approved unanimously.

M/S/Passed Haines/Favorite

7 Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 5, at 2:00 PM at the Sanbornton Meeting House. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

M/S/Passed Ball/Haines