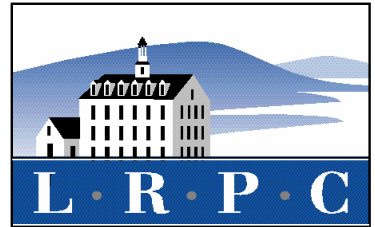


LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

103 Main Street, Suite #3
Meredith, NH 03253
tel (603) 279-8171
fax (603) 279-0200
www.lakesrpc.org



DRAFT Minutes of August 3, 2011 LRPC Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Cook Memorial Library Tamworth, NH

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Brad Harriman, Ossipee (Vice Chairman)
Sheldon Morgan, Gilford - Chairman
John Gotjen, Tamworth
David Ford, Wolfeboro
Herb Farnham, Moultonborough
David Kerr, Barnstead
Steve Favorite, Bristol
John Edgar, Meredith

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael IZARD, LRPC
David Jeffers, LRPC
Ginny Schnieder, Director of Transportation,
Community Action Program Belknap-
Merrimack (CAP-BM)
Dean Eastman, NH DOT Bureau of Planning
and Community Assistance

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM. He thanked Tamworth for hosting the meeting.

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the June 1, 2011 meeting as written.

M/S/Passed Gotjen/Edgar

2. Regional Updates

- M. IZARD encouraged members complete a Scenic Byways survey which would show support for the program. The link to the survey had been e-mailed to all TAC members.
- He then distributed an article about the intersection of NH Route 171 and NH Route 28 which referred to a particularly high crash rate. Those familiar with the intersection confirmed that there are problems with the lines of sight and sign placement. M. IZARD reminded members that intersections can be petitioned to the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) by communities.
- A table comparing traffic volume data from the past ten years of Laconia Motorcycle Week and Weekend was distributed. M. IZARD noted traffic volumes this year on Sunday of Motorcycle Week-end rivaled the high volume counts of 2006 at certain locations and that there seem to be changes in traffic patterns. Several members commented that there is steady traffic north to Moultonborough and Conway and the fact that while the event is centered in Laconia, it truly has a regional impact.

- Federal Highways in NH has moved into new offices this week, a brochure was distributed.
- M. Iazard explained that some progress has been made on the PWS Solutions Road Surface Management System (RSMS) software. While the software has much potential, there are still limitations that need to be addressed. Patrick Santoso of University of New Hampshire Technology Transfer Center (UNH T²) has been helpful and is working to resolve software issues; there are encouraging signs of progress. The benefits and limitations of the programs and the system were discussed, especially regarding the experiences of Wolfeboro and Meredith; Wolfeboro found the software quite frustrating. M. Iazard described LRPC's past and current work on RSMS using PWS Solutions software. The new software adds a GIS mapping component and the potential for management of other assets such as signage and culverts, once the issues with the core program can be resolved.
- G. Schneider gave an update on public transportation efforts in Belknap and Merrimack Counties. The next Winnepesaukee Transit System (WTS) Advisory Committee meeting will be on August 12 from 10:00–11:30AM at the Tilton Town Hall with a focus on sources of match funding to support WTS, a communications plan, and rescheduling of a route to serve the Wal-Mart in Gilford (due to known demand). LRPC has been working to get data on potential riders from Lakes Region Community College and CAP-BM may request assistance from LRPC to get data from Laconia Hospital. CAP-BM has been doing staff training through a Mobility Manager who is working on travel training for new immigrants to the area. Several connections and partnerships are being developed to assist individuals who need rides in the area.
- Mid-State RCC received \$117,000 to enhance the volunteer driver programs in the region. The Mid State RCC has now provided several opportunities for volunteer driver programs to share and interact. The concept is to coordinate work and not duplicate work. Standards have been drafted for such programs to meet if they wish to receive reimbursement. During the past year the Mid State RCC developed a Guide to Transportation Providers. M. Iazard described the recently funded project to use GIS to analyze overlaps and gaps in service throughout the region. There was discussion about dispatching software and the need for compatibility with software that the state is purchasing.
- LRPC has developed an outline for the TAC Guidebook but it needs to be edited. This is more than a guidebook for new members but should be able to serve as a resource for all of the programs with which the TAC works and be an outreach tool. Development of this guidebook is built into the new UPWP contract. Another carry-over item in the UPWP is the Bicycle-Pedestrian plan scheduled for completion by December 31, 2011.
- D. Eastman gave an update on the GACIT meeting and the Ten-Year Plan. At the state level much of the state funding for matching federal dollars will come through toll booths. At the federal level there are two versions: a \$150 million (Senate version) and a \$100 million (House version). The Senate version would be level funded while the House version represents a substantial reduction in funding. It is likely that projects that have been 'programmed' will get pushed out further on the calendar. Betterment funds

for maintenance are being reduced from \$22.5 million to \$7.5 million due to the reduction in the vehicle registration fee. As a result, in the next biennium, there will be reduced plowing, mowing, and guardrails among other things. There is the possibility that a portion of the funding for other programs (TE, CMAQ, SRtS, HSIP, etc.) will be used to pay for maintenance. There was a discussion of budget balancing and state and local maintenance responsibilities; this included some clarification about the development of a district-wide plowing policy. The GACIT hearings have not yet been posted. NH DOT is working on their recommendations. TAC members are encouraged to attend GACIT meetings. The schedule of these meetings should be available soon.

3. Discussion Ten Year Plan Project NH Routes 16/25 Intersection

LRPC was recently contacted by NH DOT regarding supporting documentation for this project. M. Izard led a discussion regarding the level of detail and local input and the TAC's responsibility to keep the information and status of community support up to date. It was suggested that the potential Ten Year Plan projects be discussed periodically at TAC meetings. Communities need to continue to advocate for their projects. Attendance and involvement in the GACIT hearings was again encouraged. There was also discussion about the need for updating projects as conditions and circumstances change.

D. Kerr noted that environmental permitting is beginning for a project at the Peacham and White Oak Roads intersection in Barnstead; concern was expressed that this has a different code than the Ten-Year Plan project. D. Eastman addressed this, pointing out some of the steps involved.

4. Review Federal Aid Roads Map

M. Izard displayed the State Aid Urban roads map (2009) and members discussed the various segments identified. These are eligible for the Surface Transportation Program (STP) Urban funding. This will be discussed at the next meeting with N. Mayville of NH DOT's Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance.

5. Other Business

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM at the Humiston Building in Meredith.

6. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

M/S/Passed Favorite/Farhnum