

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

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To: Lakes Region Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

From: Michael IZard, Principal Planner

Date: June 18, 2014

TAC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Humiston Building First Floor Conference Room, Meredith, NH

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Sheldon Morgan (Chair), Gilford
Brad Harriman (Vice-Chair), Ossipee
Jeff Haines, Center Harbor
Lloyd Wood, Tuftonboro
David Kerr, Barnstead
Bruce Woodruff, Moultonborough
Shanna Saunders, Laconia
John Gotjen, Tamworth
Tink Taylor, Holderness
Steve Favorite, Bristol
John Edgar, Meredith
Rick Ball, Belmont
Glenn Smith, Northfield

OTHERS PRESENT

Daniel Callister, LRPC Assistant Planner
Michael IZard, LRPC Principal Planner
Jeff Hayes, LRPC Executive Director
Warren Hutchins, Laconia / LRPC
Gretchen Gandini, WOW Trail
Dick Lewis, Franklin
Joe Denning, Bristol
John Rogers, Gilford
Bill Rollins, NHDOT District 3
Allan Beetle, WOW Trail
Suzanne Smith, State Representative, Hebron
Liz Lapham, Meredith Pathways Committee
Tom Jameson, NHDOT

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 2:03 PM. Introductions were made followed by a motion to approve the draft minutes of the March 5, 2014 TAC meeting as written.

M/S/Passed – Taylor/Favorite

Public Comment

John Rogers of Gilford informed the TAC of the Bicycle Exchange program he is putting together. The program is intended to provide transportation options to those who are disadvantaged. Any assistance with planning for this program would be appreciated.

Regional Updates

Data Collection Program

LRPC is preparing the 2014 traffic counting season, which will include conducting roughly 150 traffic counts for NHDOT in various communities throughout the region. Additionally, municipalities can request traffic counting services on a first come first served basis including: traffic volume, speed, and classification counts, intersection turning movement counts, and trail users counts.

LRPC can provide a limited number of Road Surface Management Systems (RSMS) inventories each year, where the roads are evaluated based on condition criteria. The results are useful for prioritizing, estimating costs, and scheduling road

improvement projects. LRPC is currently committed to a RSMS inventory in the town of Bristol. Communities interested in this service are encouraged to contact LRPC.

Statewide Asset Data Exchange System (SADES)

SADES is an effort managed by UNH Technology Transfer (UNH T²) in cooperation with NHDES and NHDOT to create a comprehensive statewide inventory of certain assets (crosswalks, intersections, culverts, etc.) with culverts being the likely beginning point. The regional planning commissions will be conducting the data collection. Specific attributes to be collected during the inventory are still being determined, but will include the collection of environmental data as well as asset condition data. NHDOT would like the RPCs to plan time for SADES in their FY16-FY17 work program.

Lakes Region Plan – Transportation Chapter

The latest revision of the draft Transportation Chapter was presented to the Lakes Region Plan Advisory Committee (LRPAC) this past Wednesday. M. Izard thanked those who provided comments on the draft over the last several months. By the end of June all draft chapters of the plan will be completed. There will be a public comment period in the fall and in December the plan will be presented to the commission for formal adoption.

Scenic Byways – Sign Regulations

M. Izard met with NHDOT Traffic Bureau regarding sign regulations along the scenic byway. Local permits are needed for signage on non-Federal Aid Primary portions of a scenic byway and off-premise signage on Federal Aid Primary portions of a scenic byway require a state permit. The Scenic Byway Working Group will be meeting April 17. Representatives from the Bureau of Traffic have been invited to the meeting to help answer questions.

Transportation Public Involvement Plan

The Transportation Public Involvement Plan was adopted by the commission in January. It outlines how LRPC involves the public through notification and documentation of meetings and planning efforts in accordance with state statutes and LRPC policies. Efforts include holding meetings in handicap-accessible locations, publishing meeting notices, meeting attendance records and minutes on the LRPC website, all of which is consistent with minimum public participation requirements. The document includes a bulleted list of considerations for how LRPC could further public participation. As outlined in the rules of procedure, the TAC should consider extending invitations for non-voting members to select groups or organizations that would benefit to participate in TAC activities.

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) - *Presentation by Tom Jameson, Project Manager, NHDOT Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance.*

Under federal legislation Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) replaces funding for Transportation Enhancement, Recreational Trails, Safe Routes to School, Scenic Byways, and other discretionary programs. Half of TAP funding is allocated based on population, and the other half can be spent anywhere in the state. The funds will be distributed through a competitive selection process using Decision Lens software. NHDOT will work with the TAP Advisory Committee including the regional planning commissions to develop the selection process. NHDOT recommends treating TAP as programmatic in the STIP/TIP. TAP projects requests should be more than \$200,000 and less than \$800,000. The funding ratio will be 80 percent maximum federal share, and 20 percent minimum local share. To keep projects moving forward, project milestones will be set. The state has determined that in general, projects with a non-infrastructure focus will be ineligible for TAP funding. An application will be developed based on the state Advisory Committee's criteria. All Local Public Agency (LPA) sponsors who submit a letter of interest and attend a mandatory informational session will be eligible to apply for TAP funds. Applications will be submitted to the governing planning commission. The TAC will score and rank projects before the commission submits to NHDOT. It is hopeful that criteria will be determined by June and a grant round will be announced this fall.

Other Business

Next meeting will be June 4, 2014. Location may be UNH Stormwater Center in Durham. M. Izard will look into this and Tuftonboro as an alternative location. Motion to adjourn.

M/S/Passed – Haines/Harriman

Meeting adjourned 3:24 PM.