



TAC Meeting

Minutes of November 6, 2019

103 Main Street Meredith, NH- Humiston Building 1st Floor Conference Room

Members Present

Malcolm (Tink) Taylor, Chair, Holderness
Lloyd Wood- Vice Chair, Tuftonboro
George Tuthill, Alexandria
Charles Smith, Ashland
David Kerr, Barnstead
Dari Sassan, Belmont
Steve Favorite, Bristol
Bill Dowey, Bristol
Jeff Haines, Center Harbor
Megan Theriault, Gilford
Krista Larsen, Laconia
John Edgar, Meredith
Robert Pollock, New Hampton
Tracey Hutton, Northfield
John Gotjen, Tamworth

Non-Voting Members

Cindy Yanski, Belknap Merrimack CAP and Mid-State RCC
David Katz, LRPC Commissioner, New Hampton

LRPC Staff

Susan Slack, Principal Planner
Dave Jeffers, Regional Planner
Jessica Bighinatti, Assistant Planner
Colby St. Pierre, Intern

1. Call to Order | Introductions

T. Taylor called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM. Members and guests were introduced.

2. Election of new Chair/Vice Chair

With the resignation of Sheldon Morgan, due to the appointment of a new Public Works director and TAC representative from Gilford, an election was held for a new TAC chair. A motion was made and seconded to nominate Malcolm (Tink) Taylor of Holderness to serve as chair.

M|S|P Wood | Gotjen | Passed

T. Taylor said that Sheldon Morgan had been an important leader of the Transportation Advisory Committee for many years and will be missed by those who have worked with him over the years. He said Sheldon was a great force on the TAC and was an asset to the Lakes Region.

To fill the vacancy in the position of vice chair, a motion was made and seconded to nominate Lloyd Wood of Tuftonboro.

M|S|P Haines | Edgar | Passed

3. Approval of Draft Minutes of October 2, 2019

A motion was made and seconded to approve the draft minutes of the October 2, 2019 TAC meeting.

M | S | P – Tuthill | Gotjen | Passed. Abstained: John Edgar, Megan Theriault, Tracey Hutton, Paul Hazelton, Dari Sassan.

4. Presentation: LRPC’s Road Surface Management System (RSMS) and Culvert/Stream Assessment Programs

David Jeffers- LRPC Regional Planner

D. Jeffers discussed the various data collection programs provided by LRPC to assist municipalities in managing their roads. Roadway infrastructure is a major local expense, and LRPC can assist municipalities by providing data needed to prioritize spending. Services provided by LRPC include:

- Traffic counts (NHDOT and Municipal)
- Road Surface Management Systems
- Culvert Inventories/Stream Assessments
- Guardrail Inventories
- Pedestrian Infrastructure

Traffic Counts: D. Jeffers explained that each summer LRPC technicians take approximately 150 traffic counts at locations around the region. LRPC has been collecting traffic data for the past 25 years. LRPC coordinates with NHDOT on processing the data collected by including seasonal and locational factors to obtain the average annual daily traffic (AADT). There are 60 permanent counters. Data collected by NHDOT and Lakes Region Planning Commission is available at <https://nhdot.ms2soft.com/tcds/tsearch.asp?loc=nhdot>. D. Kerr noted that the historic data available online is an interesting measure of growth over time.

J. Edgar asked how far back information is available. It could be important in planning for Ten Year Plan projects to show trends and data over extended periods of time. D. Jeffers said traffic counts are available as far back as the 1990s. In some cases, counts are done annually, in others counts are done every two or three years.

D. Jeffers answered TAC members’ questions about the traffic count program, including ability to distinguish between passenger vehicles and trucks, data on speed of vehicles, other data collection services that LRPC can provide for individual towns, and seasonal factors that affect AADT.

D. Jeffers also discussed the Road Surface Management System (RSMS) program, which LRPC has offered since the early 2000s. RSMS has evolved, utilizing improved technology to collect better information on road conditions and allow for better forecasting. The program is supported by NHDOT and the UNH Technology Transfer Center (T2). The RSMS approach is to “Keep the Good Good.” Different conditions are assessed, including types of cracking; potholes; drainage; roughness; rutting; frost heaves; edge cracking; and local factors. Based on the Pavement Condition Index (PCI), an assessment report is developed with recommendations based on cost, maintenance, and different types of treatments.

- D. Katz, who chairs New Hampton's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee, spoke about how the town worked with LRPC on its RSMS study. The three-month study assessed New Hampton's paved roads. Each road and each quarter mile of road was given a PCI. He said the PCI and forecasting information will help the town prioritize and budget for road projects by incorporating them into the town's CIP, which is available on New Hampton's website.
- D. Jeffers said that while the RSMS program currently only has application to paved roads, LRPC is working on developing a program for assessing unpaved road.
- L. Wood said Tuftonboro's RSMS study has saved the town about \$10,000 annually. K. Larsen said Laconia used a private engineering firm to assess its roads and finds that the information is difficult to update and to incorporate drainage structures.
- D. Jeffers discussed LRPC's culvert assessment program, which uses GPS to plot culvert location and assesses culvert materials and condition. Stream assessment looks at a larger area of flowing water and assesses infrastructure based on four dozen attributes. Stream assessments include NH DES hydro modeling and assessments of ecosystems and organisms.

5. Regional Updates

Route 171 Tuftonboro – LRPC data collection analysis

- S. Slack followed up on the October TAC meeting discussion about safety concerns at the NH 171 intersection with Ledge Hill and Durgin roads in Tuftonboro and on LRPC's effort to collect relevant data about traffic patterns at the intersection to share with the town and NHDOT. D. Jeffers explained how the data on traffic counts, speed, and turning movements was collected. The data is being analyzed and will be presented in a report to the town and NHDOT.

2021-2030 Ten Year Plan – Public Comment Deadline November 12, 2019

<https://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/planning/typ/index.htm>

- S. Slack said there is still time to comment on the proposed TYP and participate in a NHDOT online survey on transportation priorities. Another GACIT meeting is scheduled for November 6 in Franklin. The Laconia GACIT meeting in October brought out discussion of the NH 106 corridor. LRPC's three TYP project proposals were also highlighted at the Laconia GACIT meeting.

Grant Opportunity for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations in Rural Municipalities

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants/nh>

- S. Slack shared information about a USDA funding opportunity for installation of electric vehicle charging stations in rural communities.
- L. Wood proposed sending a letter or card to Sheldon Morgan thanking him for his years of service to TAC. J. Edgar suggested acknowledging Sheldon's service at an LRPC Commissioners meeting.

6. Other Business

- T. Taylor announced that the next TAC meeting will be February 5, 2020 and asked members if anyone would like to volunteer to host the next meeting. The December 4, 2019 meeting is canceled and there will be no meeting on January 1 due to the holiday.
- S. Slack said she would like the TAC to get a jumpstart on the collection of data and information for the next round of Ten Year Plan project proposals to better prepare for that process.
- S. Slack also reported that LRPC has begun the process of updating the Regional Transportation Plan. J. Edgar said sharing data with the TAC on trends for the region's primary lifeline corridors would be helpful.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 pm following a motion by J. Haines and seconded by J. Edgar. The motion was unanimously approved.

M | S | P – Haines | Edgar | Passed