



TAC Meeting

Minutes of March 4, 2020

Pease Public Library: 1 Russell St. Plymouth, NH 03264

Members Present

Malcolm “Tink” Taylor—Holderness, Chair
Lloyd Wood—Tuftonboro, Vice-Chair
Charles Smith-Ashland
Dari Sassan—Belmont
Steve Favorite—Bristol
Bill Dowey (Alt)—Bristol
Jeff Haines—Center Harbor
Mark Hempton—Effingham
Megan Theriault—Gilford
Sheldon Morgan (Alt)—Gilford
Paul Hazelton—Hebron
Krista Larson—Laconia
John Edgar—Meredith
Bruce Woodruff—Moultonborough
Robert Pollock—New Hampton
Joe Fagnant—Plymouth
Juliet Harvey-Bolia (Alt)—Plymouth
John Gotjen—Tamworth
Lee Ann Moynihan—Tilton

Non-Voting Members

Lucy St. John—NHDOT, Bureau of Planning and
Community Assistance
Cindy Yanksi—Belknap Merrimack CAP
Brian Murphy—Plymouth

Others

Bill Bolton, Plymouth Selectman
Patricia Kendall, Transport Central
Doug Grant, Transport Central
Rep. Sallie Fellows
Rep. Joyce Weston
Marsha Morris, Grafton County Commissioner
Marv Everson, Laconia Airport Manager

LRPC Staff

Susan Slack, Principal Planner
Jessica Bighinatti, Assistant Planner

1. Call to Order | Introductions:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM. Introductions of attendees and guest.

2. Approve Draft Minutes- February 5, 2020

A motion was made and seconded to approve the draft minutes of February 5, 2020, with the correction that Cindy Yanski should have been listed as being in attendance.

M | S | P – Favorite | Pollock | Passed. Abstained: John Edgar

3. LRPC Regional Transportation Plan Update:

S. Slack discussed the work that LRPC staff is doing to update the Regional Transportation Plan, organizing information around each of the region’s 19 highway corridors. TAC members discussed a draft of a section about the NH 104 corridor, which was presented as an example of the types of data and maps to be included about each highway corridor. LRPC staff is still collecting data for

each corridor, including NH 104, and creating additional maps, charts, and narrative summaries. Maps will indicate pavement conditions, traffic conditions, and other relevant information.

- J. Bighinatti explained that the data shown on the maps comes from NHDOT GIS files. She said she has requested crash data information from NH Department of Safety, which can be displayed on maps to indicate locations of transportation fatalities and high accident areas.
 - J. Edgar suggested that the maps should highlight where the corridor segments intersect and indicate village centers. He also noted the importance of capturing seasonal variations in traffic volume as well as the number of seasonal housing units and an estimated seasonal population. The seasonal nature of traffic is a significant factor in the Lakes Region and affects design/build considerations for the region's transportation network.
 - R. Pollock highlighted the importance of obtaining seasonal traffic counts on NH 104 near I-93's Exit 23 and the NH 132 intersection.
 - J. Edgar also suggested maps that show the connections some Lakes Region highway corridors have with neighboring states, while others connect to regions within New Hampshire, and some provide connections within the Lakes Region.
 - L. Wood discusses bridge projects and other roadway construction projects can divert traffic causing other corridors to receive higher volumes of traffic.
 - S. Slack noted that 2020 Census Data may not be available in time for the Regional Transportation Plan update, but population and other data can be drawn from the 2010 Census, the American Community Survey (2012-2017), and from the Office of Strategic Initiatives (NH OSI) estimates and projections. J. Edgar suggested that the 2010 Census might have seasonal information.
 - B. Woodruff suggested identifying corridor critical locations and cross referencing recent highway corridor studies.
 - S. Slack said each highway corridor section will also include information about available public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and highlight upcoming Ten Year Transportation Plan projects along each corridor.
- TAC members discussed labor market information, and B. Downey suggested highlighting industries that employ large numbers of employees. T. Taylor said Plymouth State University and its effect on seasonal population and traffic should be mentioned.
- J. Edgar suggested that LRPC collaborate with other RPCs for information on corridors that connect to neighboring regions.

4. Status of Ten Year Plan 2021-2030

S. Slack reported that she attended the March 3 public hearing held by the House Public Works and Highway Committee on the proposed Ten-Year Plan and spoke in support of the Lakes Region's proposed projects. The timing of the Plymouth Highland Street project was discussed at the hearing and several Plymouth town officials advocated for advancing the project to its original preliminary engineering and construction dates. The project was originally scheduled for preliminary engineering in 2022 and construction in 2024, but was mistakenly included in the proposed plan for all activity to occur in 2027. The committee was receptive to advancing the timing of the project.

Planning for Ten Year Plan 2023-2032

S. Slack discussed the anticipated schedule for the next round of Ten Year Plan project proposals. She urged LRPC municipalities to begin considering project proposals soon and to contact LRPC for assistance in developing project details and data collection, even though the criteria that will be used for evaluating projects is under discussion between NHDOT and the regional planning commissions (RPCs). The criteria and the project submittal form probably won't be available until June.

S. Slack said LRPC's allocation for projects in the 2021-2030 TYP round was \$5,109,000. The allocation for the upcoming 2023-2032 round is likely to be the same. The three projects submitted in the last TYP round were Moultonborough (NH 25 at Redding Lane), Gilmanton (NH 140/NH 107 roundabout), and Tilton (Main St/School St roundabout). With inflation and indirect costs, they exceeded the \$5.1 million allocation, but NHDOT permitted RPCs to pledge funds from the next TYP allocation to cover these costs. LRPC pledged \$639,000 towards those three projects, therefore if LRPC's 2023-2030 allocation remains at \$5,109,000 we will have about \$4,470,000 to allocate for 2023-2032 TYP projects. RPCs are being asked to submit two or three projects, with perhaps one or two extras for engineering estimates.

So far, New Hampton has expressed interest in updating the NH 104 Access Management Study, and Plymouth has expressed interest in a roundabout at the Tenney Mountain Highway (NH 25) and Smith Bridge Road intersection.

S. Slack asked L. St. John about having a guest speaker from NDOT to discuss the scoring criteria and how to apply them to proposed projects. L. St. John said she would look into it. L. St. John also said that NHDOT and the RPCs will be meeting to discuss the criteria and submittal form and that there will be only one project submittal date. In the previous TYP round there was one date if the RPC wanted NHDOT to estimate project costs and a later date if project costs were submitted with engineering estimates, which caused some confusion. S. Slack said the project submittal for should coincide better with the criteria.

S. Slack said that if the TYP schedule is similar to the last round, she expects that TAC will evaluate project proposals in November.

J. Edgar said that in the past communities would present their project proposals to TAC and then the TAC members would score them. He suggested spreading the presentations over multiple

meetings prior to the scoring meeting, which would give TAC members more time to fully understand the projects being proposed.

5. Regional Updates

S. Slack noted the link provided on the agenda to the UNH Technology Transfer Center (T2), which has listed its calendar of training workshops, including one scheduled in Ossipee and other introductory workshops designed for selectmen and other municipal officials who do not hold public works positions. She also mentioned the handout from Granite State Clean Cities on the Green Your Fleet Workshop on June 4 Municipalities and school districts are among those invited.

6. Public Input:

Patricia Kendall, chair of the Transport Central board of directors, was joined by several other Transport Central board members to speak about the organization, which is a volunteer transportation service for 19 towns, from Lincoln to Bristol (north to South) and Holderness to Dorchester (east to west). Transport Central volunteers drive people to medical appointments and other locations. There is no public transit system in the Plymouth area, where Transport Central is based. Transport Central is looking to partner with Plymouth State University on creating a public transportation system where students and community members can use the PSU bus system to travel around Plymouth and then possibly other communities. Transport Central is using Keene as their model because of success there in creating a public transportation system. Currently PSU has a system in place with three buses that bring students to different locations in Plymouth. Since Plymouth is a relatively new member of LRPC, Transport Central board members wanted to share their plans and concerns with the TAC.

7. Other Business

T. Taylor said Executive Councilor Michael Cryans had received complaints about the current condition of NH 175 in Holderness.

T. Taylor announced that the next TAC meeting will be on April 1, 2020, at the LRPC office, unless another member wants to host the meeting.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm following a motion by Steve Favorite and unanimously approved.

M | S | P – Favorite | Edgar | Passed