



**Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting
 Minutes of February 3, 2021 (Zoom)**

Members Present	LRPC Staff
Malcolm (Tink) Taylor - Holderness, Chair David Kerr – Barnstead Rick Ball – Belmont Bill Dowey (Alt) - Bristol Mark Hempton - Effingham Meghan Theriault - Gilford Paul Hazelton - Hebron Krista Larsen - Laconia John Edgar - Meredith Bruce Woodruff - Moultonborough Robert Pollock - New Hampton Joe Fagnant - Plymouth John Gotjen - Tamworth Lee Anne Moynihan - Tilton Tavis Austin (Alt.) - Wolfeboro	Jeffrey Hayes, Executive Director Susan Slack, Principal Planner Dave Jeffers, Regional Planner Jessica Bighinatti, Assistant Planner Renée Reardon, Administrative Assistant Guests Joseph Kenney, Executive Council Virginia Dryer, Executive Council Intern David Katz, LRPC Commissioner, New Hampton Katie Lamb, North Country Council

Non-Voting Members
Cindy Yanski, Belknap-Merrimack CAP Bill Watson, NHDOT, Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance Lucy St. John, NHDOT, Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance Samantha Fifield, NHDOT District 3

1. Welcome and Introductions / Call to Order

Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and read the required Notice of Electronic Meeting pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order 2020-16. Attendees and guests introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

At the request of the Chair, a motion to approve the December 2, 2021, meeting minutes was made by J. Gotjen and seconded by J. Edgar. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved. Voting in favor were: R. Ball, M. Hempton, M. Theriault, T. Taylor, K. Larsen, B. Woodruff, R. Pollock, J. Fagnant, J. Gotjen and L. Moynihan, with D. Kerr, B. Dowey, P. Hazelton and T. Austin abstaining.

3. LRPC’s Road Surface Management Services

T. Taylor introduced D. Jeffers, Regional Planner, to discuss road surface management services conducted by LRPC in 2020 and the data collection services that will be offered in 2021.

D. Jeffers stated that LRPC had a busy past year and is looking forward to working with municipalities in the new season. He said these services can help municipalities with budgeting, forecasting, statistics and trends; updating Master Plans; and may be of interest to local businesses.

The information discussed in the presentation will be available on the LRPC website Transportation page (<https://www.lakesrpc.org/servicestransportation.asp>). Contact D. Jeffers to discuss LRPC services at (603) 279-8171.

D. Jeffers discussed five categories of the data collecting services provided.

Traffic Counting (TC)

LRPC conducts about 160 Traffic Counts per year, under agreement with NHDOT. Data is sent to NHDOT, processed and compared with other collected state data consisting of more than 450 sites throughout the Lakes Region. Data identifies vehicle speed and type of vehicle such as motorcycles, passenger vehicles, cars and trucks. In addition, requests can be made by municipal police, public works and planning departments for traffic volume, turning movement as well as bicycle and pedestrian counts. Recent projects performed by LRPC include:

- ✓ Bristol Route 104 mapping program.
- ✓ Holderness and Center Harbor speed count report on College Road.
- ✓ Gilford Route 11A and Meredith Main Street volume and turning movement counts that supported those towns' Road Safety Audit applications.

J. Edgar said LRPC's work for the Meredith led to a successful Road Safety Audit application through the NHDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

Road Surface Management Systems (RSMS):

This service is a comprehensive review of paved road network surface conditions and useful in programming improvements. It is part of the Statewide Asset Data Exchange System (SADES). LRPC worked with New Hampton in 2019 and piloted a paved and gravel road assessment project in Gilmanton.

D. Katz asked if LRPC services, such as RSMS, guardrail and culvert inventories, could be "bundled" for cost savings to municipalities. J. Hayes responded that there probably would not be cost savings and would have to be considered on a case-by-case basis because of how these services differ in the way data is collected.

Culvert Inventory (CCDS):

This service focuses on structures and is a useful tool in sharing asset locations and conditions for coordinating local projects. Data collection includes culvert and headwall materials, size and condition, obstructions, sediment build-up, substrate scouring and other attributes. Culvert inventories are helpful for addressing hazard mitigation infrastructure projects. LRPC worked with Gilmanton to assess and map around 700 culverts on municipal roads.

J. Gotjen asked if there is a measure of value for unpaved town roads. J. Bighinatti responded that similar to the paved roads, LRPC can assess Class V unpaved roads. She said the roads and split into 1/4-mile segments and assessed on a variety of criteria, which generates a score. D. Jeffers will send J. Gotjen additional information.

K. Larsen asked about guardrail assessments. D. Jeffers said LRPC assesses the conditions of existing guardrails but does not recommend areas that may need guardrails.

4. Guest: Executive Councilor Joe Kenney, District 1

T. Taylor introduced Council Kenney and asked whether federal stimulus money would be available for infrastructure projects. J. Kenney responded that he has been talking with state officials about the possibility of stimulus funding, including NHDOT Commissioner Victoria Sheehan. He suggested that regional planning commissions begin developing lists of “shovel ready” transportation projects that could be considered if funding becomes available.

Councilor Kenney also discussed the Ten Year Transportation Plan (TYP) and noted that GACIT (Governor’s Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation), which includes the members of the Executive Council, conducts public meetings on the proposed TYP and sends its recommended plan to the Governor, who then sends it to the legislature for final approval.

In addition to state and federal transportation funding, Councilor Kenney noted that the Northern Borders Commission and the USDA Community Facilities program provide funding for some infrastructure projects. He said the state had halted proceeding with some projects, due to COVID-19, to allow the Governor time to determine what the state’s revenue picture will look like later this year.

S. Slack asked whether infrastructure stimulus funds, if they become available, would go directly to municipalities for bridge and road projects, or if funds would be directed through state aid programs. Councilor Kenney said it is likely that stimulus funds would be applied to existing programs, such as NHDOT’s State Aid Bridges program.

Councilor Kenney asked if there were particular Lakes Region project that TAC members would like him to advocate for. J. Hayes responded that LRPC can help with reaching out to municipalities for lists of stimulus “shovel ready” projects and coordinate with his office and Commissioner Sheehan.

5. Transportation Projects and Funding Updates

Ten Year Transportation Plan (2023 – 2032) Projects

LRPC staff recently met with NHDOT to discuss their comments on the three proposed projects submitted in November for consideration in the Ten Year Transportation Plan. S. Slack said she spoke with TAC members from Meredith, Plymouth and Laconia about the NHDOT comments. She presented the following information:

- **Lakes Region Allocation**
 - \$5,109,680
 - \$619,123 – carryover for Tilton Main Street roundabout 2021-2030 TYP
 - \$4,490,557 – remaining for 2023-2032 allocation
- **LRPC’s 2023-2032 Priorities**
 - Meredith – NH 25
 - Improvements to 4 intersections east of the village
 - NHDOT project estimate - \$2,813,515
 - Plymouth – Tenney Mountain Highway (NH 25)
 - Roundabout at Smith Bridge Road intersection

- NHDOT project estimate - \$2,086,799
- Laconia – Weirs Blvd (US 3)
 - Replace Langley Brook bridge, add turning lane and sidewalks
 - NHDOT estimate - \$3,778,787 (federal - \$3,023,030; city - \$755,758)
- **The Math**
 - Meredith and Plymouth = \$4,900,314
 - \$409,757 over available allocation
 - Meredith, Plymouth, and Laconia = \$7,923,344*
 - \$3,432,787 over available allocation
 - Can future allocations be committed now?
 - Will the 2025-2034 TYP allocation be the same as or similar to the current \$5.1m

****Does not include 20% city match.***

Councilor Kenney and TAC members discussed the details of the three proposed projects.

S. Slack listed the projects already included in the Ten Year Plan from the Lakes Region. There are different dates for construction on these projects. She asked if stimulus money might be available to enhance some projects. L. St. John said there are many projects in the Ten Year Plan that have various dates of preliminary engineering, right of way and construction. She said DOT will work with the Executive Councilors and said she would be happy to get more information.

K. Larsen stated Laconia has two projects in the State Bridge Aide program. She asked Councilor Kenney if stormwater projects or community resilience or sustainability projects that address climate change would be eligible for funding. J. Kenney said that USDA Rural Development, EDA and Northern Borders may be funding sources.

L. St. John said DOT looks at resiliency, climate change, stormwater and environmental issues on all its projects. As part of this Ten Year Plan process, the regional planning commissions put together criteria to evaluate the priorities for the regions and some of those criteria included resiliency and sustainability.

J. Kenney said that he would look out for the Lakes Regions projects. He invited people to sign up for his newsletter. Councilor Kenney can be reached via email at joseph.d.kenney@nh.gov or via phone at the Governor's Council office at (603) 271-3632. S. Slack thanked Councilor Kenney for attending the meeting and listening to the region's concerns.

6. Public Comments

T. Taylor asked if there were any questions from the public. There were none.

7. Other Business

S. Slack stated that on Friday, February 5, the Letters of Interest (LOIs) on Transportation Alternative projects are due, and that she was aware of four proposals going in for Meredith, Plymouth, Belmont and Laconia. B. Woodruff added that Moultonborough will send a proposal, as did B. Dowey representing Bristol making six potential TAP proposals from the Lakes Region.

T. Taylor noted that the next TAC Committee meeting would be held Wednesday, March 3, 2021, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. B. Woodruff made the motion, it was seconded by P. Hazelton, and the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee M. Reardon
LRPC Administrative Assistant