

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

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To: Lakes Region Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

From: Michael Izard, Principal Planner

Date: September 10, 2014

TAC Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 18, 2014

Tuftonboro Center Fire Station, Route 109A, Tuftonboro, NH

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Sheldon Morgan (Chair), Gilford
Jeff Haines, Center Harbor
Lloyd Wood, Tuftonboro
David Kerr, Barnstead
Bruce Woodruff, Moultonborough
John Gotjen, Tamworth
Ken McWilliams, Alton
Steve Favorite, Bristol
David Ford, Wolfeboro
Rick Ball, Belmont
Michael Capone, Bristol
Katherine Dawson, Tilton

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Glenn Cordelli, Carroll County
Bill Rollins, NHDOT District 3
Warren Hutchins, Laconia / LRPC

OTHERS PRESENT

Tom Ballestero, UNH Stormwater Center
Mark Hemmerlein, NHDOT Water Quality
Edie Lindridge, Campton
George Tuthill, Alexandria
Maggie LaBerge, Alexandria
Mark Howard, Tuftonboro
Michael Izard, LRPC Principal Planner

Call to Order

S. Morgan called the meeting to order at 2:10 PM. Introductions were made followed by a motion to approve the draft minutes of the April 2, 2014 TAC meeting as written.

M/S/Passed – Woodruff/Favorite

Regional Updates

- M. Izard noted a Law Lecture is scheduled for Tuesday, June 24 and briefly discussed how the lecture came to be and why land use board members might want to attend.
- S. Morgan announced tentative retirement plans for spring 2015 and how this may impact his eligibility to serve as TAC Chairman. He will keep the TAC apprised if he is able to represent the town of Gilford in retirement and noted has enjoyed the years of participation on the TAC and his role as Chairman.

The next TAC meeting will include election of officers: Chairman and Vice Chairman; the secretarial position is a role served by the LRPC staff.

- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) – the TAC has historically played a role in proposal evaluations for all types of projects now under this new program. Since the last TAC meeting, M. Izard was in contact with NHDOT TAP Coordinator, Tom Jameson

who indicated a state committee has been established that hopes to have evaluation criteria in place by the end of June. As a grant round is approaching, the TAC should plan to meet in August to prepare an evaluation process.

- M. Izard reviewed a memo from NHDOT Scenic Byway Coordinator, William Rose. The memo identifies the Lakes Region Tour Scenic Byway for potential de-designation based on two newly established program requirements that are currently not being met: 1) a Corridor Management Plan (CMP) meeting minimum requirements; and 2) an established Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC). M. Izard noted the CMP currently being developed exceeds minimum requirements and completion is anticipated in advance of the November 30, 2015 deadline indicated in the memo. Regarding the development of a CAC, M. Izard asked the TAC about creation of a TAC sub-committee for this purpose. LRPC will inquire with byway communities about representation.

Presentation: Stormwater Treatment

S. Morgan introduced Dr. Thomas Ballestero, Director of the UNH Stormwater Center. Dr. Ballestero delivered a PowerPoint presentation that defined stormwater as including associated pollutants in addition to water - more specifically: “Stormwater means surface runoff and drainage that is generated from precipitation and snowmelt, including any debris, chemicals, sediment, or other substances carried along with the water.” He described the positive impacts reductions in ‘effective impervious areas’ can have. These reductions can include removal of impervious surfaces, but are more commonly achieved through stormwater treatment. A host of treatment options were illustrated and described. Traditional stormwater treatments were contrasted with Low Impact Development (LID) strategies including: stormwater infiltration, sand filters, bio retention (bio retention, rain garden, and tree filter), subsurface gravel wetlands, pervious pavements, and ecoroof.

Dr. Ballestero presented compelling research that illustrates LID effectiveness surpasses most traditional treatments at potentially lower costs. He noted that 1) unmanaged areas with 10-25 percent impervious surface will lead to water quality impairments; 2) treatment of rain events of 1” or less takes care of most pollutants; 3) gravel wetlands are “star performers”; and 4) the application of salt requires special consideration as salt is a unique pollutant. Dr. Ballestero answered TAC questions and received an enthusiastic round of applause at the conclusion of his presentation.

Discussion:

Mark Hemmerlein, NHDOT Bureau of Environment, Water Quality Program Manager discussed projects that incorporate LIDs. He indicated that DOT focus on stormwater has changed in the last five years, becoming more of a focal issue. He shared examples in the southern part of the state where large transportation projects are incorporating improved stormwater techniques. Examples in the Lakes Region were fewer, with mechanical

separators mentioned in Wolfeboro and in the Squam Lake area. M. Hemmerlein indicated that he had participated in a Route 3/25 project meeting earlier in the day and this project in Meredith and adjacent to Meredith Bay represents an opportunity for increased stormwater focus.

Other Business

M. Izard noted that through the regional plan update process the transportation chapter vision was modified based on LRPC Commissioner input to include an added focus of transportation system impacts on water quality. This TAC meeting represents one in a series of several designed to gain a better understanding of impacts and mitigation strategies. While it was easier for Dr. Ballestero to travel to the Lakes Region, he has offered a group of 15 or more a guided tour of the Stormwater Center at a reasonable rate. M. Izard will explore this opportunity further with the Center and NHDOIT.

S. Morgan thanked Tuftonboro for hosting the meeting and Chief Adam Thompson for providing tours of the facility built just last year. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 6, 2014 when the TAC will focus on the Transportation Alternatives Program. Motion to adjourn.

M/S/Passed – Wood/Haines

Meeting adjourned 3:56 PM.