



MINUTES - 12/14/05

**NRPC TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
APPROVED**

**Members Present:** Steve Williams, NRPC Executive Director  
Bruce Berry, Town of Amherst  
Wayne Husband, Ted Setas and Amy Gill City of Nashua Public Works  
Carol Murray, NH DOT  
Jeff Brillhart, NH DOT  
Bill Parker, Town of Milford  
Kit Morgan, NHDOT  
Bob Jeniski, Nashua Transit System, General Manager

**Others Present:** Ryan Friedman, NRPC Transportation Planner, GIS  
Matt Waitkins, NRPC Transportation Planner  
Steve Wagner, NRPC Litchfield/Wilton Circuit Rider  
Karen Baker, NRPC Administrative Assistant

**Meeting Opened and Review of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Williams at 12:09 PM. Members introduced themselves and were introduced to Karen Baker, new to the NRPC. Steve Williams started with a brief description of what would be discussed in the meeting.

**NH DOT Request for NRPC Support**

Kit Morgan discussed the Concord Trailways request to NHDOT for a bus service to provide commuter bus services from Nashua to Boston, until the rail system is in. This would replace the services provided by Vermont Trailways, which ended in May of 2005. A schedule and budget was put together by Concord Trailways and presented to NH DOT. The bus schedule would run daily Monday through Friday with 9 roundtrips daily, with no weekend service. The system would service the Park and Ride located at exit 8, and then proceed to the Welcome Center at Exit 6 where tickets could be purchased. Concord Trailway's proposed budget would include funds for a mobile trailer or equivalent, 4 commuter coaches (3 and 1 spare to be used when there are more riders), funding for marketing, security cameras for protection, additional seating, and improvements for a ticket counter. From past experience, Concord Trailways came up with an estimate in ridership, which would grow from 81,000 in the first year of service to 132,000 by the third year. Costs should break even at the end of three years. No agreement would be necessary for bus service to stop once the rail system was in place.

Bill Parker questioned whether this would threaten the passenger rail service once it came. Carol Murray responded "no".

Steve Williams questioned if there would be a 13C issue once the rail system became available. Kit Morgan responded "Concord Trailways would assume responsibility, not the State and there was a 6 year liability and that most likely CT would be able to absorb the employees".

Steve Williams questioned the decision to operate from Exit 6 and 8 rather than just Exit 6. Kit responded that running service from Exit 8 would pick up the 101A commuters. Steve Williams asked Carol Murray how the use of CMAQ funds for this project would impact other Nashua projects. Carol responded that she sees this project as an NH DOT and Concord Trailways project and should not affect Nashua CMAQ projects.

Steve Williams informed members of a commitment letter from Carol Murray, NH DOT commissioner, stating that they had agreed to the 20% match (556,000) needed to go forward with this project. In addition, an Air Quality Analysis must be done to receive the funds to proceed with the Nashua increased transit service proposed by Concord Trailways.



Bill Parker moved to accept the motion to approve the project for CMAQ consideration and Bruce Berry seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was passed.

**Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)**

Steve Williams presented an Air Quality Conformity Analysis showing overall reduction of emissions over a two year period once the Nashua Commuter Bus System starts. EPA regulations require that we account for emission reductions wherever they occur, NH, MA, etc. It was noted that this project would have a positive impact in terms of reduction on emissions.

**Update: Project number 10136A** - Widening of NH 101A between the Celina Avenue and Somerset Parkway. The proposed project was originally scheduled to start construction in 2007 and complete by 2009. The new time frame shows construction in 2010 with completion in 2012. An updated Air Quality Conformity Determination was completed to reflect this change in construction years. Steve Williams indicated that the TTAC needed to recommend approval of the updated Air Quality Conformity Determination from NH DOT and NH DES.

Wayne Husband stated that the City of Nashua is in the middle of procurement for Wal-Mart and wanted to know how this will be affected? It was noted that the project should not be affected.

Bill Parker moved to accept a motion to recommend the updated Air Quality Conformity Determination to the Commission at their Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Bob Jeniski seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Next meeting is scheduled for January 18th, 2006 at 12 noon.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 1:04 PM.**