


APPROVED MINUTES
NRPC TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
11/13/13

Members Present:

Sarah Marchant, Town of Amherst
 Thomas Bayrd, Town of Hollis
 John Cashell, Town of Hudson
 Jeff Gowan, Town of Pelham
 Kyle Fox, Town of Merrimack

Wayne Husband, City of Nashua
 Stephen Dookran, City of Nashua

Others Present:

Paul Lockwood, NH DES
 Linda Dusenberry, NH DOT
 Leigh Levine, FHWA

STAFF PRESENT

Tim Roache, MPO Coordinator
 Julie Chizmas, Transportation Planner

Matt Waitkins, Field Data/Transportation Planner
 Karen Baker, Program Assistant

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Tim Roache opened the meeting at 12:12 with introductions.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 MEETING

Roache referred to the minutes of September 11, 2013 included in the agenda packet as Attachment 1 and asked for a motion to approve. Gowan moved to approve the September 11, 2013 minutes with a second from Fox. Levine referred to page 2 of the minutes and clarified that he had asked if the classification could be adjusted and the answer was yes and that the sentence regarding crossing guard capability be omitted to reflect what he was asking. Lockwood also commented that he did not ask any question in regards to solar glare. It was moved by Gowan and seconded by Fox to approve the September 11, 2013 minutes as amended. The minutes were approved with one abstention.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 9, 2013 MEETING

Roache moved onto the minutes of October 9, 2013 included in the agenda packet as Attachment 2 and asked for a motion to approve. Marchant moved to approve the minutes of October 9, 2013 with a second from Fox. Cashell referred to the typo on page 3, last paragraph, 2nd to last sentence saying it should read "...but education is necessary so that folks that *don't* know...". Marchant moved to approve the minutes as amended with a second from Fox. The minutes were approved with 2 abstentions.

S/TIP AMENDMENT 3 – ACTION ITEM

Chizmas informed the TTAC about Amendment #3 to the adopted Nashua Metropolitan Area 2013 – 2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). She explained that the NRPC is amending the TIP to account for changes to projects within the Nashua region and to maintain consistency with the Statewide TIP (STIP). Chizmas summarized the projects in the amendment that were in the Nashua Region:

Nashua – NH 111 ~ Construct Park and Ride and accessory facilities at up to two Nashua locations with a proposed amendment to delay \$2,450,000 in FY2016 construction funds beyond the 2013 – 2016 TIP horizon year. The reason for the delay was per the request of the City of Nashua.

Wilton – NH 31 ~ Bridge deck replacement over Souhegan River with a proposed amendment to add \$1,308,000 in FY2014 construction funding. Reason for construction schedule is due to condition of the bridge deck.

She added that there were also various statewide projects in the amendment. In addition, the proposed amendments to the projects in the Nashua region maintain fiscal constraint requirements and that as of July 20, 2013 the 1997 & 2008 Ozone Standards are revoked for transportation conformity purposes in the Boston-Manchester-Portsmouth (SE) NH area. Chizmas also informed the group that the City of Nashua Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Area and that the Nashua Metropolitan Area Air Quality Conformity Analysis (2013 – 2040) continue to be valid. A legal notice was placed in the Nashua Telegraph and on the NRPC website accepting public comments through Wednesday, November 1, 2013 of which no comments were received. A Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at the Nashua Regional Planning Commission at 6:00 PM at the NRPC office, 9 Executive Park Drive, Suite 201, Merrimack, NH 03054. Action is required from the TTAC to recommend approval of the proposed Amendment #3 by the Nashua Regional Planning Commission.

Lockwood asked why Nashua was asking to delay the Park and Ride. Roache said he was unsure but added it could be due to other stuff going on or to be able to coordinate with other projects i.e. rail or E. Hollis Street project. Cashell moved to recommend approval of S/TIP Amendment # 3 by the full Commission with a second from Gowan. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MPO PERFORMANCE MEASURES – LEIGH LEVINE, FHWA

Levine provided a presentation of MAP 21 MPO Performance Based Planning and Program Requirements to the TTAC with information on MAP-21 Performance Measures. Roache and Chizmas provided additional information on the efforts to develop performance based planning measures for the MPO. There was general discussion by the TTAC which resulted in a consensus to support the approach presented by Roache and Chizmas.

UPDATE TO THE REGIONAL ITS ARCHITECTURE

Chizmas referred to the outdated Regional ITS Architecture report that needed to be updated. She added that the State is in the process of updating theirs as well. An architecture defines a framework within which a system can be built. It functionally defines what the elements of the system do and the information that is exchanged between them. An architecture is important because it allows integration options to be considered prior to investment in the design and development of the elements of the system. An architecture is functionally oriented and not technology specific, which allows the architecture to remain effective over time. It defines "what" must be done, not "how" it will be done. The functions the system performs remain the same while technology evolves.

Chizmas provided some examples of its devices said it is something we need. She added that the recent mock TMA review, it was noted as a deficiency. A more updated useful, timely document needs to be done and the state plan will be used as a guideline. Chizmas said the Denise Markow would be at the next TTAC to provide some guidance. Chizmas asked for TTAC member to think now about who should be part of the stakeholder group from the DPW, school board, local media, emergency preparedness officials, public access TV, FD and PD from within their communities. Roache added that it feels good to rely on the state plan architecture since we are such a small state. Dookran said that the City has a good ITS Architecture in place with the schools, FD, PD and emergency preparedness folks. He added that Nashua often sees impact of turnpike accidents and that it would be good to have a good system in place to communicate to folks to take alternate route.

STAFF AND PROJECT UPDATES

Roache asked if there were any updates from the communities. Husband said that the Nashua CMAQ project is substantially complete. Dookran said the 1st Phase of the large Broad Street Parkway project is in progress near the DMV where a bridge is coming out. He added that the 2nd railroad bridge to be removed at Fairmont Street is out to bid for a contractor and they anticipate 2015 for completion. Dookran also said that they are just waiting for a wetlands permit letter confirming they are good to go for Manchester Street bridge project.

Gowan informed the group that the first roundabout is complete and that hopefully by spring for the other one and as long as the utilities are complete. He added that they will work good when each is in place and are working in conjunction with each other. Gowan said that the temporary signs are up as well. Husband asked Gowan if their roundabout had lighting and if they had any issues. Gowan said a little on the edge and they have not had any issues. Husband said it is pretty important to have lighting because when it is dark, folks forget it the roundabout is there.

Roache informed the TTAC of the Regional Transportation Workshop on November 18th which will basically build on the last workshop and take what they have heard and ask folks how they would invest if they were in charge. In addition, he mentioned the last GACIT Hearing that will be on November 20th at DOT where all executive councilors will be reviewing public comment.

Chizmas pointed out the Advertising schedule included in the agenda packet.

Dookran motioned to adjourn with a second from Marchant. The meeting ended at 1:17 pm.