


NRPC APPROVED MINUTES
NRPC TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
02/9/11

Members Present:

John Cashell, Town of Hudson
 Jeff Babel, Town of Hollis
 Leon Kenison, City of Nashua DPW
 Wayne Husband, Nashua Traffic
 Steve Dookran, City of Nashua DPW
 Kathy Hersh, City of Nashua
 Nick Alexander, NHDOT

Leigh Levine, FHWA
 Mark Sousa, Nashua Transit
 Louise Woodworth, Nashua Transit
 Kyle Fox, Town of Merrimack
 Jeff Gowan, Town of Pelham
 Bill Parker, Town of Milford

Staff Present

Tim Roache, MPO Coordinator
 Kerrie Diers, Executive Director
 Julie Chizmas, Transportation Planner

Karen M. Baker, Administrative Assistant
 Steve Wagner, Regional Planner

Others Present

Joe Mendola, City of Nashua DPW

Diane Sheehan, City of Nashua

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Tim Roache opened the meeting at 12:15 with introductions

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 19TH 2011 MEETING

Roache referred to the minutes of January 19, 2011 included in the agenda packet as Attachment 1 and asked for a motion to approve. Gowan moved to approve the January 19, 2011 minutes with a second from Babel. All were in favor and the motion passed.

NEXT STEP IN THE NRPC TWO-YEAR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING CYCLE***Review Existing Projects in the Ten Year Plan and Discussion of Proposed 2011-2014 S/TIP Amendment #1***

Roache summarized the last meeting and referred to attachment 2 in the agenda packet and passed the floor to Chizmas who provided a presentation on the projects listed in the outer years of the 2011-2020 Ten Year Plan. Each of the projects listed below were summarized providing information on the original scope, project cost, when introduced into the ten year plan and the project manager:

NASHUA - Broad Street Reconstruction**Scope:**

Reconstruction of Broad Street from Coburn Avenue to Coliseum Avenue including Dublin Avenue to provide shoulders and safety improvements.

- Introduced in 2003 – 2012 TYP
- Project Estimate: \$4,950,000* (\$167,000 in PE previously expended)
- Municipally managed with 20% City Match

Chizmas responded to a question from Levine on saying that she would look into the cost discrepancy with the project manager. Dookran commented that his project would serve the community and the time was right to bring the project back. He added that the first phase of engineering was done years ago and stalled due to DOT pushing the funding back. In addition, he said it was the Mayor's intent to look at this project again. Roache asked Dookran to email updates regarding the status of the project.

NASHUA – East Hollis Reconstruction

Scope:

Reconstruction of East Hollis Street from Main Street to Hudson town line to improve capacity.

- Introduced in 2003 – 2012 TYP
- Project Estimate: \$2,320,000
- Municipally managed with 20% City Match

Dookran elaborated some on the corridor improvements that were planned for this project. Hersh summarized a bit more explaining that in 2004 the E. Hollis Master Plan was adopted which included pedestrian friendly and safety improvements as well as the possibility of a train station using 5307 funds.

Roache questioned the importance of the Broad Street Reconstruction project vs. the East Hollis Reconstruction project, adding that he wanted to look at both sides of the river. Hersh said the issues were not the same with both projects and felt it would be more likely that the E. Hollis project would get done because there was less opposition to it. Sousa asked why the E. Hollis Street project was cheaper than the Broad Street Reconstruction project even though they both were about the same length. Roache said it could be the ROW acquisition.

NASHUA – Main Street Construction

Scope:

Reconstruction of Main Street from Hollis Street to Orchard Avenue (1.09 miles).

- Introduced in 2005 – 2014 TYP as a “Future Consideration”
- Project Estimate: \$2,200,000
- Municipally managed with 20% City Match

Hersh stated that the City is looking to establish as a Business Improvement District to redo the 3.7 miles of sidewalk on Main Street from the Hunt Building to Library Hill. She added that legislation would soon be introduced using a bond to pay for it. The project in the Ten Year Plan may overlap that proposed District, so additional information needs to be gathered to determine the scope and extent of the two projects. Roache asked to be emailed the most current information on the Main Street project. He stressed the importance of having the most accurate numbers regarding improvements when presenting to DOT.

PELHAM – Main Street Bridge Reconstruction

Scope:

Replace bridge over Beaver Brook (Bridge ID 110/090)

- Red List Priority #34; deck status = 4 Poor
- One of the few new projects introduced in 2011 – 2020
- Project Estimate: \$2,494,000 (Per STIP Amendment #1)
- 80% Federal and 20% State (no local match)

Gowan added that the bridge took a major hit during the March storm and that a big part of the deck is gone.

WILTON – NH 31 Bridge Replacement

Scope:

Replace bridge deck over Souhegan River (Bridge ID 129/126)

- Red List Priority #45; deck status = 3 Serious
- One of the few new projects introduced in 2011 – 2020
- Project Estimate: \$2,266,000 (Per STIP Amendment #1)
- 80% Federal and 20% State (no local match)

Chizmas informed the group that she included this project in the list even though it was moved up to 2015.

Roache added that 3 projects that were proposed as amendments to the TIP would be addressed at the meeting next month and would be out for 30 day public comment.

Hersh asked if it was necessary now, to provide the numbers for ROW for the E. Hollis project to be included as part of the Amendment 1 to the TIP. Roache said Amendment 1 was already in process and suggested that revisions be proposed for Amendment 2. Dookran questioned if projects in another region could lose out at the expense of one that was originally programmed for 2 million, but increased to need 4 million. Roache said either one project would have to back out or another would have to give. He added that as an MPO, working with other communities to resolve and address these issues is part of the charge.

DRAFT 2012-2013 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Roache explained that the development of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is required by federal regulations (23 CFR Part 450, Subpart C) to facilitate the continuing, cooperative and comprehensive metropolitan planning process. The UPWP identifies the planning priorities and work tasks that the Nashua Region MPO will address during the two year program period and reflects the current understanding of transportation planning needs and priorities within the region. He added that is kind of like a scope of work between Regional Planning Commissions and the NHDOT that shows detail of what we do and the work that goes into it. Roache said a budget would be developed and would accompany the UPWP and be submitted to DOT and FHWA.

He added that a different format was used this time due to a general consensus with the other RPC's to be uniform. Roache asked the group to take this opportunity over the next few months to review and comment.

STAFF AND PROJECT UPDATES

Chizmas passed around a Project Updates explaining that the intent of the memo was to provide information to NRPC communities on the status of projects in the region. It is based on discussions with NH DOT project managers, NH DOT project revision reports, and NH DOT project advertising schedules. She referred to projects listed in the NHDOT Advertising Schedule for FY's 2011-2013 shown as item #2 of the memo. Chizmas referred to the Hollis Ash Street Sidewalk project as an example. Alexander informed the group that he contract amounts shown in the advertising schedules are generally lower in as there are costs associated with projects in addition to the estimated contract amounts. Roache explained that the reason for this was due to questions received at the last Commission meeting regarding monies for projects. Hersh thanked Chizmas and Roache adding that this would be a useful tool. Roache said he would provide it to the Commissioners at their next meeting.

Roache informed the group that he was still moving forward with the LRTP project solicitation presentation and would soon be visiting towns to meet and present. He added that he would like to have the TTAC representatives from the towns also be involved. He added that at the next TTAC meeting, his hope was to do the LRTP presentation and have it recorded to put onto local cable access channels all the towns in the region. Sheehan thanked Roache and Chizmas and said this was a very good thing.

Dookran motioned to adjourn with a second from Babel. The meeting adjourned at **1:08pm**.