


APPROVED MINUTES
NRPC TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
04/13/11

Members Present:

John Cashell, Town of Hudson
 Jeff Babel, Town of Hollis
 Jason Hoch, Town of Litchfield
 Wayne Husband, Nashua Traffic
 Kathy Hersh, City of Nashua
 Louise Woodworth, Nashua Transit
 Steve Dookran, City of Nashua
 Leigh Levine, FHWA

John St.Pierre, Town of Amherst
 Nick Alexander, NHDOT
 Jeff Gowan, Town of Pelham
 Bill Parker, Town of Milford
 Mark Sousa, Nashua Transit
 Raymond Blethen, Nashua Transit
 Kyle Fox, Town of Merrimack
 Eric Abrams, NDHES

Staff Present

Tim Roache, MPO Coordinator
 Kerrie Diers, Executive Director
 Steve Wagner, Regional Planner
(Circuit Rider for Mason, Wilton & Litchfield)

Karen M. Baker, Administrative Assistant
 Julie Chizmas, Transportation Planner

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Tim Roache opened the meeting at 12:10 with introductions

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 9TH 2011 MEETING

Roache referred to the minutes of March 9th, 2011 included in the agenda packet as Attachment 1 and asked for a motion to approve. Gowan moved to approve the March 9, 2011 minutes with a second from Sousa. All were in favor with 1 abstention from Fox.

DRAFT 2013 - 2022 TEN YEAR PLAN PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

Roache referred to the letter included in the agenda packet and provided a summary of the process to date. He explained that NRPC recognizes the budget constraints at the state and federal level and therefore focused the project solicitation process on longer term needs of the region utilizing the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) meetings as well as meetings with community officials to arrive at the recommendations. The focus of today's TTAC meeting is to develop recommendations for the projects in the existing Ten Year Plan based on discussions with community officials and from the three previous meetings. Roache added that NRPC recognized the challenges presented by the sun setting of the motor vehicle registration fee, with no replacement source of revenue identified, and a scenario that would result in approximately \$30 Million per year in project impacts. Based on a NHDOT list of projects that could potentially be impacted, Roache informed the group that NRPC requested the projects listed in the current Ten Year Plan be delayed rather than cut from the 2013 – 2022 Ten Year Plan. In addition, projects that may be delayed beyond the horizon year (2022) of the Ten Year Plan will be carried in the NRPC Metropolitan Transportation Plan until such time that they can be reintroduced to the States Ten Year Plan.

NRPC recommends the following revenue neutral updates to the draft 2013-2022 Ten Year Plan:

- East Hollis Street reconstruction project (Project# 123456) should be advanced to 2013
- Delay the Broad Street NH 130 project (Project# 123456) to 2019
- Modify the scope of the Main Street project (Project# 123456) to better reflect the needs of the City and take advantage of proposed improvements in the planning stages

- Broad Street Parkway (Project# 10040) remain on schedule as currently programmed in the Ten Year Plan
- Capital Corridor Project remain as a high priority project in the region

Roache continued informing of NRPC project solicitation process for the update of the regions Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to coincide with the biennial update of the States Ten Year Transportation Plan. He added that the NHDOT has not requested new projects for inclusion in 2013- 2022 Ten Year Transportation Plan as future funding levels for transportation improvements are currently being debated in both the State and Federal Legislatures. However, NRPC will add new projects to the regions 2013-2040 MTP. The goal of the project solicitation is to update the MTP project list and over time advance these projects through the planning process to develop well defined transportation solutions that will be ready to advance into the Ten Year Plan when the fiscal environment allows the consideration of new projects. Currently, new project applications have come from Hudson, Amherst, Brookline, Pelham and Milford. Projects are listed below:

- **Amherst:** The Town of Amherst is seeking improvements to Railroad crossings at Hollis Road, Caldwell Drive, Northern Boulevard, Old Nashua Road, NH Rte. 101A and Rte. 122
- **Brookline:** The Town of Brookline is seeking a southbound left turn lane at the intersection of NH 13 and Old Milford Road. NRPC has identified this intersection as a safety concern in the NH 13 Access Management Study and the in the iTRaC Vision Plan for NH 13 and NH 130.
- **Hudson:** The Town of Hudson has submitted four projects for consideration.
 - Southbound Route 3A/Lowell Road turn lane addition at the Sagamore Bridge
 - Continuation of the Sidewalk/Bike Lane along Rte. 102, Phillips Dr. to Hudson Mall
 - Rte. 102 Sidewalk/Bike Lane Project from Towhee Dr. to Megan Drive
 - Sidewalk - Rte. 3A/ Lowell Rd. from Nottingham Sq. to Executive Drive
- **Pelham:** The Town of Pelham has submitted three projects for consideration.
 - Roundabout at the intersections of Mammoth Road (NH 128) and Sherburne Road
 - Safety improvements at intersection of Old Gage Hill Road and Route 38.
 - Willow Street Bridge replacement to address narrow deck and has other structural issues.
- **Milford:** The Town of Milford has submitted three projects for consideration.
 - A new full access/interchange on Route 101, approximately one-mile east of the 101/Phelan Road/Old Wilton Road intersection. Intent is to provide access to an area that has been identified by the Town as a growth center for significant mixed-use economic development
 - Roadway widening and access management for safety improvements and congestion management on Route 101 from the signalized intersection at Wilton Road to the signalized intersection at Route 101/Elm Street (101A)/North River Road.
 - Eliminate the bypass extension of Route 101 proposed in the 101 Corridor Study. This extension is considered to not be feasible due to real estate acquisition costs and project construction cost.

Parker provided additional information detail on the Milford project. Roache asked if everyone was comfortable with the how their projects were listed. Hersh felt comfortable with Nashua's and deferred to Dookran. Dookran questioned something in regards to the Main Street project. Roache addressed this.

Illustrative projects which appear in the MTP with funding sources that have not been fully identified would also be a continued focus of NRPC. Projects that meet this category include:

- Hudson Parkway from NH 3A to NH 111
- Northern Crossing of the Merrimack River
- FE Everett Turnpike Exit 36S

Alexander was pleased with the prioritization. Chizmas said that a sidewalk phase would also be added for the Town of Hudson. Roache informed the group that he was looking for a recommendation from TTAC for the Executive Committee to be discussed and later be approved by them on behalf of the Commission since there is not a full Commission meeting until June. Sousa moved to recommend to the Executive Committee the 2013-2022 Ten Year Plan Recommendations with a second from Babel. All were in favor and the motion passed.

STAFF AND PROJECT UPDATES

Chizmas passed around the latest project advertising schedule and noted that projects which have been added to the advertising schedule or have a new advertise date are marked with an asterisk.

Chizmas also informed the group that STIP Amendment #2 which contained some CMAQ projects that would impact air quality and would therefore require an update, would be discussed at the next TTAC meeting.

Roache said he would be looking at the NRPC MTP in May and June and requested that any new projects submitted have sufficient detail included.

Dookran informed that the Broad Street Parkway (BSP) was moving forward and the City was hoping for a bid by June. There was talk of concerns with the Mill Yard Area. Alexander said there would be re-alignment of the BSP which would appear in STIP Amendment #2 as well as one larger PE/ROW and construction project which should have pretty accurate numbers.

Dookran informed that the 101A Widening project contract should be ready to execute in FY12. Dookran did have some concerns with the "spot on" numbers and funding or lack of due to the sunset of the motor vehicle fee said he would like this commitment for funding from DOT. There was some question on the consistency of the 101A project in the TIP from Levine. Roache addressed this.

Sousa motioned to adjourn with a second from Parker. The meeting adjourned at **12:30pm**.