


**NRPC APPROVED MINUTES**  
**NRPC TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**June 12, 2019**

### Members Present:

Mark Chamberlain, Town of Lyndeborough  
 Todd Croteau, Town of Hollis  
 Jeff Gowan, Town of Pelham  
 Simon Carson, Town of Amherst  
 Wayne Husband – City of Nashua

Dawn Tuomala, Town of Merrimack  
 Julie Chizmas, City of Nashua  
 John Savage, NTS  
 Camille Pattison, NTS

### Others Present

Linda Dusenberry, NHDOT  
 Tim White, NHDES  
 Jack Madden, Erdman Anthony  
 Joe Mendola, City of Nashua  
 Stephen Michon, Nashua Rail Committee  
 Carl Seidel, Nashua Rail Committee

Sam Lewis, Town of Merrimack DPW Intern  
 William Dobbs, Town of Merrimack DPW Intern  
 Laynie Rosati, Town of Merrimack DPW Intern  
 Sydney Lewis, Town of Merrimack DPW Intern  
 Joe DeGregorio, Town of Merrimack DPW Intern

### STAFF PRESENT

Matt Waitkins, Senior Transportation Planner  
 Jay Minkarah, Executive Director

Sabrina Pedersen, Community Relations Coordinator  
 John Goeman, Reg'l Planner/Wilton Circuit Rider

### CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Waitkins called the meeting to order at 12:09 pm with a round of introductions.

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 8TH, 2019 MEETING

Waitkins referred to the minutes of May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 included in the agenda packet as Attachment 1. Husband requested a fix to his member title in the minutes.

***Waitkins motioned with a second from Gowan and Husband seconded to approve the May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 TTAC minutes as amended. All were in favor and the motion passed.***

### APPROVAL OF STIP/TIP AMENDMENT #1

Waitkins referred to the 2019 – 2022 S/TIP Amendment #1 (as described in Attachment 2). Waitkins reviewed the guidelines that trigger an amendment for the following projects in Amherst, Hudson, and Nashua. A fourth additional project has been added to Amendment #1.

NRPC asked for a recommendation from the TTAC for the NRPC Commission to adopt at the public hearing on Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>.

Gowan had understood that part of the S/TIP amendment was actually a reduction in CMAC funding to their 200 section projects. He wanted to ensure that there were no revisions missing in this amendment. Waitkins clarified that it was a minor revision.

Husband asked if there are any additional costs to the combined projects. Chizmas confirmed that Nashua's B project cost moved directly into their A project, with no other additional costs.

Mendola asked if the 10136A project is ongoing in 2019. Chizmas is guessing that 2019 could be bumped out to 2020. This amendment will trigger a change in their MOU. Currently, no consultant has been hired.

Chizmas asked if there will be a way for TTAC to review public comments once the hearing opens. Waitkins stated that he is open to sending comments to TTAC at the end of the comment period and in advance of the public hearing, potentially July 15<sup>th</sup>.

***Waitkins motioned with a second from Husband and Pattison seconded to approve the May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 TTAC minutes as amended. All were in favor and the motion passed.***

#### **NASHUA PASSENGER RAIL UPDATE**

Minkarah presented an overview and update of the passenger rail ridership for service extension to Nashua. Minkarah opened the floor for questions.

- Madden clarified that Pan Am owns the tracks from Manchester to the Massachusetts border. All the rest owned by MBTA except for one segment of freight Maine line owned by Pan Am.
- Chizmas asked how eager the MBTA and MassDOT been to form this partnership. Minkarah responded that there have been no real conversations with MassDOT since 2007. MassDOT showed interest, stating that they need to see serious commitment from New Hampshire in order to move forward. Minkarah's hope is to see funding for NHDOT to conduct a study if Senate Bill 241 gets passed.
- Michon added that the Rail Committee hired a consultant to guide them on the MBTA's interest. Madden added that the MBTA may not have enough of a fleet size in order to extend their service.
- Minkarah added that Pan Am is discontinuing their signals, without word about the public comment period reopening. Madden said it affects speed since no signal system decreases it from 79 mph to 59 mph.

Waitkins presented about the ridership estimates requested by the Nashua Rail Committee. Chizmas asked if the 2012 collected data reflects the current state of ridership for 2019. Minkarah clarified that ridership estimates were compared from 1999 to 2019.

#### **STAFF UPDATES**

Waitkins presented minor revisions:

- East Hollis project in Nashua – change to the fiscal year for a couple of phases
- Main Street Bridge project in Pelham – adjusting for inflation
- Route 101 in Wilton, Milford, Amherst into Bedford – increase in funds for preliminary design phase

Husband asked if letters of interest are still being submitted for CMAC. Chizmas clarified that Nashua already submitted projects earlier in the month.



White presented about funding opportunities related to the Volkswagen settlement. Assisting the Office of Strategic Initiatives, NH DES is getting out RFPs about school bus replacements. First RFP focuses on replacing old diesel engine school buses with propane combusted buses. More information can be found on OSI's website. A second RFP focuses on replacing old diesel school buses with electric buses. This RFP is due July 26 with an information session happening on Friday, June 21.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **ADJOURN**

Waitkins asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

***Chizmas motioned with a second from Gowan to adjourn. All were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 pm.***