



## **Salem-Plaistow-Windham TAC Meeting**

September 27, 2002  
Windham Town Hall

**Members Present:** Merylyn Senter, Chair, Plaistow; Tom Case and Alfred Turner, Windham, Steve Laurin, Newton; Becky Ohler, DES; and Robert Lyford, DOT.

**Staff Present:** Cliff Sinnott, Dave Walker and Roxanne Rines, RPC.

**Proxy Vote:** Mary Allen, Newton.

### **1. Introductions**

Attendees introduced themselves and stated what municipality they were from or the agency they represented.

### **2. Communications**

**Walker** excused the mix up in the start time of the meeting. **Sinnott** stated the draft I-93 EIS has been released and will be discussed later in the meeting.

**Ohler** stated DES has a new law that states "residential trash burning is no longer allowed". She gave an overview of the clean cars program; cars are available at dealerships and handed out flyers. **Ohler** handed out an ozone summary and reviewed the document. Discussion ensued amongst members about testing cars for emissions.

### **3. Minutes**

**Case** stated Senter was not in attendance, but gave her proxy vote. Further discussion ensued about proxy votes. **Sinnott** explained how the vote works.

**Motion:** **Ohler** made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. **Laurin** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with abstentions.**

### **4. Long Range Transportation Plan**

**Walker** stated the list of draft projects was presented at the last meeting, the current memo included in the packet is relatively unchanged except for more cost estimate information. The MPO needs an updated project list that matches the TIP and air quality model project lists, prior to adopting the TIP and Air Quality Conformity.

The list was developed looking at the last TIP list, public input received, and projects that were purposed during CMAQ and TE rounds. The TAC needs to approve the list and send it to the Policy Committee for final approval, the list is currently in its 30-day comment period.

**Sinnott** stated cost estimates are needed because the list needs to be financially constrained. Windham's Wall Street project can be added to the Long Range Plan list.

**Senter** reviewed some of Plaistow's projects that need minor adjustments. **Walker** stated the projects are those that the MPO would like to see happen in the future. Members discussed further ideas about projects.

**Motion:** **Case** made a motion to adopt the amended Long Range Transportation Projects List and send to the Policy Committee for their adoption into the Salem-Plaistow-Windham Long Range Plan pending quorum calls. **Laurin** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with DOT and DES abstaining.**

## 5. SPW 2003-2005 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

**Walker** stated the list of projects will be started in the 2003-2005 timeframe; this is the combination of the last two years of work. A draft TIP was submitted to DOT in spring 2001, it has been through all of the committees and has been approved by the Legislature and now needs approval from the MPO. The changes that have occurred to the document are listed on pages 2 and 3 of the memo.

Most notably are the changes to the Kingston/Plaistow project, construction being delayed and generally some other delays. Discussion ensued about the project delays.

**Walker** reviewed the changes as printed in the memo. Members discussed some questions they had on other listed projects.

**Walker** stated that table 3A are all the projects that are specific to the region; 3B is the breakdown of funding; and 3C is the listing of all the district and statewide projects. Page 6 talks about the financial constraints of the projects. The MPO assumes that DOT has a financially constraint document, which makes the MPO document constrained.

He continued that page 7 talks about the air quality conformity analysis which is based on the 2001-2003 TIP through amendment #9.

**Motion:** **Case** made a motion to adopt the amended draft 2003-2005 TIP with changes and send to the Policy Committee for their approval pending quorum calls. **Laurin** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with DOT and DES abstaining.**

## 6. Air Quality Conformity

**Walker** stated he has an updated document with all the off-model projects which are not included in the handout. He has been working on the document for the last several months, this is the air quality conformity determination for the 2003-2005 TIP and will also serve as the same for the Long Range Plan projects that were adopted earlier. It consists of a lot of tables and analysis that boil down

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to what is on pages 10, 11 and 12 of the document. The MPO is required to have the TIP conform with the state implementation plan for meeting air quality standards and this document demonstrates that, page 12 deals with this region.

**Walker** explained the list and their impacts on air quality and the findings. According to the model and DOT we are meeting our budget for all three analysis years. He continued to explain how the total emissions are combined with emission outputs from the Nashua region and a portion of the Manchester region. All of the combined is called the Southern NH Non-attainment area. All the combined numbers are totaled by DOT to determine if the budget is being met.

**Ohler** stated she is very confident in the accuracy of the document. **Sinnott** explained clean air conformity. **Walker** stated he found a couple of errors in the document and stated he would send an updated page to members. He stated the document he sent to DOT had the correct numbers.

Members discussed emissions and budget issues. Walker gave an overview of how the model works.

**Motion:** **Case** made a motion to adopt the amended Air Quality Conformity Determination with the correct numbers and send the document to the Policy Committee for their approval pending quorum calls. **Laurin** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with DOT and DES abstaining.**

## 7. I-93 Draft EIS

**Sinnott** stated he does not have a date for the November public hearing; there will be a 30-day comment period after the hearing. Included in the draft was the decision to make the preferred alternative a four lane widening of the entire corridor.

The transit alternative that will be built as a mitigation measure will be bus service for TMA's in northern Massachusetts. They are included in a fairly indefinite way. The mitigation package is of great concern; the EPA and DOT are not agreeing. The draft shows a bike path mostly in the right-of-way of I-93.

Comments have to be approached as an MPO when evaluating the document. **Sinnott** continued that he believes TAC and Policy members need to be educated with what is being proposed and the issues with those proposals and prepare comments. He suggested a joint meeting of the TAC and Policy Committee's with staff from EPA and DOT to help educate the members.

**Senter** asked that the executive summary be sent to members. **Sinnott** asked the members how they want to proceed? Members agreed a joint meeting is needed. **Sinnott** stated staff will write comments about the draft and then members can discuss and decided on final comments at the joint meeting.

**Walker** stated the agenda for the next meeting will include the full Long Range Plan for adoption. Staff will find a date and notify members of both the next TAC meeting and the joint meeting.

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## **8. Project Updates**

**Sinnott** stated the Greater Derry/Salem Transit Council is working on their fixed route alternative and the project will conclude at the end of the year.

## **9. Next Meeting**

**Walker** stated there might be a TAC meeting the end of October focusing on I-93.

## **10. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne M. Rines  
Recording Secretary

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