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ATKINSON ? DANVILLE ? HAMPSTEAD ? KINGSTON ? NEWTON ? PLAISTOW ? SALEM ? SANDOWN ? WINDHAM

Salem-Plaistow-Windham  
TAC Meeting  
Minutes

Friday, March 11, 2005  
Plaistow Town Hall

**Members Present:** Merylyn Senter, Acting Chair, Plaistow; Richard Cooney, Salem; Kevin Burke, Kingston, Becky Ohler, DES; and Dennis Fowler, DOT.

**Staff Present:** Dave Walker, Scott Bogle and Roxanne Rines, RPC.

**Meeting opened at 9:35 a.m.**

**1. Introductions**

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

**2. Communications**

**Bogle** stated the Seacoast TAC members will send a letter to the Congressional Delegation asking them to support funding for the Downeaster.

**Motion:** **Senter** made a motion to recommend the SPW Policy Committee send a letter to the Congressional Delegation asking them to support funding for the Downeaster. **Burke** seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

**Walker** stated he is adding an item to #4, it is a CMAQ project in Windham for a signal coordination on Route 111; there are some changes that need discussion.

**3. Minutes from February 3, 2005.**

**Motion:** **Senter** made a motion to accept the minutes. **Cooney** seconded the minutes. **Ohler** gave two corrections to the minutes. **Motion to accept the minutes with corrections carried with Burke abstaining.**

**Walker** asked what cost OBD testing will add to the inspection price? **Ohler** stated the stations will pay \$3.40 per test, unless they do less than 15 inspections per month. It also adds 5 to ten

minutes to the test. Once the stations become familiar with the process it will save time because all they do is scan the vehicle identification number and the machine will bring up all of the vehicles information.

**Cooney** asked what happens if a vehicle does not pass the OBD test? **Ohler** stated that if a vehicle passes the safety portion, the vehicle will get the number portion of the inspection sticker, this indicates that the vehicle has passed the safety portion of the test. If the vehicles fails the OBD portion of the test, the vehicle will not get the colored background of the inspection sticker. The owner has 60 days to repair the vehicle and get it retested. The retest should not cost the motorist anything, because it isn't costing the station anything.

**Ohler** stated if a vehicle can not be fixed (this does not happen very often), there will be an arbitration system set up.

**Cooney** stated there are concerns because motorcycles and fleets will not be tested. He commented that the DOS did a terrible job implementing the program.

**Senter** asked what happens when someone needs repairs that are very costly and the person can't afford to have them done? **Ohler** stated she suspects that the legislature will probably direct DOS to implement a waiver program. The CCA allows for waivers, it sets the waiver limit fairly high, right now the waiver is set at about \$650.00 for maximum expenditures. If the owner spends \$650.00 and the vehicle still fails, the owner will be given a waiver for one year. The next time it's tested it has to pass.

#### **4. STIP Amendment #2**

**Walker** stated significant changes are being proposed by DOT to the STIP, several projects involve this MPO. There are two expedited/informational amendments, these do not require any action. Expedited amendments are ones which can be signed by the Executive Director as long as he is okay with them. Full amendments must be noticed with a 30-day public comment period and approved by the MPO Policy Committee.

He reviewed the projects included in the document. There was discussion about what would happen to projects if the I-93 project was bonded. **Walker** stated he would guess that other projects would move forward.

**Walker** stated staff is recommending that TAC give their approval of the document with all the changes, provided that staffs questions on the memo are answered by DOT. He reviewed the pending questions.

**Motion:** **Senter** made a motion to recommend the Policy Committee approve STIP Amendment #2. **Burke** seconded the motion.

**Cooney** stated he will not vote for approval when staff doesn't have answers. **Ohler** stated DES has a project that needs to be added to the STIP as an amendment and she will speak with Alaina Bailey at DOT about adding the project. **Motion failed 0-3-2.**

**Motion:** **Senter** made a motion that the TAC Committee send this item to the Policy Committee without their recommendation, because further information is not available. **Cooney** seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

#### 4a. **Windham Signal Coordination on Route 111**

**Walker** stated in 2002, DOT projected the cost to be \$100,000; however, they underestimated the cost, it will be closer to \$200,000. DOT wants to know if the MPO is okay with the cost change. If the MPO is not okay, DOT will take the cost change to the CMAQ Committee for approval.

**Motion:** **Cooney** made a motion that the MPO support this project; however, the MPO believes it should go before the CMAQ Committee for their approval. **Senter** seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

#### 5. **Air Quality Conformity Determination**

**Walker** stated the MPO is switching from a one hour standard to an 8 hour standard. STIP amendments have caused conformity to be re-determined.

We have repeated what was done last fall, which was to run the transportation model and estimate emission based upon the output of the model. **Walker** reviewed what a lapse in funds would mean. **Walker** reviewed the results of the determination included in the memorandum.

Discussion ensued about how emissions were reduced and how the model works.

**Motion:** **Cooney** made a motion to recommend approval of the Air Quality Conformity Determination Analysis to the Policy Committee. **Senter** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with DOT abstaining.**

#### 6. **NH Ten Year Transportation Plan & MPO Long Range Project List**

**Walker** stated he forgot the paperwork for this item, but wanted to talk about the current projects in the 10-year plan. The 10-year plan has been frozen; therefore, the only projects that can be added are emergencies.

Communities need to look at the current projects in the document and make sure they are still priorities. **Walker** reviewed the regions projects.

**Senter** asked if I-93 is bonded, can the MPO get DOT to move the 125 project ahead? **Walker** stated that is a legitimate request.

**Motion:** **Senter** made a motion to send a letter to DOT stating the projects currently listed in the 10-year plan are still this MPO's priorities and we would like to see our projects advanced or constructed as soon as possible. **Cooney** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with DES and DOT abstaining.**

## **7. Review of Draft 2006-2007 UPWP**

**Bogle** distributed an update of the budget estimates and projected non-personal costs. The UPWP is the MPO's 2-year work program. This is intended to include all projects to be worked on based on all sources of funding. He reviewed the proposed work products.

**Motion:** **Senter** made a motion to recommend approval of the draft 2006-2007 UPWP to the Policy Committee. **Burke** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with DES and DOT abstaining.**

## **8. Project Updates**

**Bogle** distributed a memo and reviewed.

## **9. Discussion of Next Meeting/Meeting Schedule**

**Walker** stated the next scheduled meeting would be on May 13, 2005 and the SPW Policy meeting is Wednesday, April 6, at the Kingston Town Hall at 7 p.m.

## **10. Meeting Adjourn**

**Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne M. Rines, Recording Secretary