



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

Salem-Plaistow-Windham

TAC Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 15, 2004
Hampstead Town Hall

Members Present: Ellen Faulconer, Chair, Kingston; Marilyn Senter, Plaistow; Richard Cooney and Bill Scott, Salem; Susan Hastings, Hampstead; Becky Ohler, DES; and Subramanian Sharma, DOT.

Staff Present: David Walker, Scott Bogle and Roxanne Rines.

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

The project update memo was distributed to members. **Walker** reminded members about the DOT Business Plan listening session on Wednesday, October 25, 2004, at 7:00 p.m., after the SPW Policy Meeting. He encouraged everyone to get the word out and attend.

Ohler distributed the latest Clean Cities magazine to members and stated NH is mentioned twice. **Bogle** reviewed the RPC Legislative Committee's top priorities: establishing the small projects funding; identifying an ongoing source of funding for alternate modes of transportation and establishing a new regional transit alliance for the Greater Derry/Salem Regional Transportation Council.

Senter stated there is a meeting about Route 125 on November 3rd; regarding the Walton Road/Route 125 intersection, it appears on the drawings that the road will totally cut off a housing development as well as the town voting place.

3. Minutes from May 14, 2004

Motion: **Senter** made a motion to accept the minutes of May 14, 2004, as written. **Cooney** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with Faulconer and Hastings abstaining.**

4. 2005-2007 TIP

Walker stated the document consists of all the federally funded and any significant state funded transportation projects that are occurring in the region over the next three fiscal years. This also constitutes the first 3 years of the state's 2005-2014 Ten Year Plan. In conjunction with this, we have to do an air quality conformity analysis.

Ohler questioned one of her projects, the chart shows funding in every year, but the state copy shows all the funding in one year. She continued that DES will need to request an amendment to fix the funding years. **Walker** stated he will fix the chart and reviewed the changes he received from DOT, primarily cost changes. The TIP must be approved in order to receive federal funds for projects within the region.

Walker stated the model results show that the regional admissions are within air quality conformity, this must be met for the TIP. Next, the TIP needs to be fiscally constraint, we depend on DOT to tell us if we meet this and we do.

Motion: **Senter** made a motion to conditionally approve the 2005-2007 TIP contingent with staff changes noted at meeting, pending no negative comments being received during the 30-day comment period and recommend that the SPW MPO Policy Committee approve the document and forward it to DOT. **Hastings** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with Faulconer opposing and DES and DOT abstaining.**

5. 2005-2025 Long Range Plan

Bogle stated staff will complete a limited update to the long range plan. Staff is recommending that the MPO adopt an updated list of projects. The list only includes projects beyond the 2005-2007 TIP, the table starts at 2008 and runs until 2025.

Some projects listed between 2008 and 2014 are not on the 10-year plan because we anticipate could be future TE or CMAQ projects. The public comment period ends October 27, before the Policy meeting. Members spoke about roads in their towns that were in need of fixing. Discussion ensued about the park and rides to be located along I-93.

Motion: **Senter** made a motion to conditionally approve the 2005-2025 Long Range Plan Project Lists contingent with staff changes noted at meeting, pending no negative comments being received during the 30-day comment period and recommend that the SPW MPO Policy Committee approve the document and forward to DOT. **Hastings** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with DES and DOT abstaining.**

6. Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Walker stated the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendment require that air quality conformity determinations be made in conjunction with our TIP and Long Range Plan. We have to make sure our transportation projects are not worsening, but in fact making the air quality in the region better. We do this using our recently updated regional transportation model.

We need to perform analysis for three years: 2007, 2017 and 2025. The model incorporates all the projects included in the TIP, 10-Year Plan and Long Range Plan. There are three regions included in our model: the Seacoast non-attainment area; the Manchester marginal non-attainment area; and Southern NH serious non-attainment area. He continued to explain the model numbers and stated that our air quality analysis meets the requirements.

Ohler stated in June 2005, the new 8-hour standard will take affect. Our required attainment year under the 8-hour standard is 2010. She continued that DES will receive the analysis before the policy committee meeting to ensure the analysis are correct.

Motion: **Senter** made a motion to conditionally approve the Air Quality Conformity Analysis contingent upon the off-model air quality analysis be completed and pending no negative comments being received and recommend that the SPW MPO Policy Committee approve the document and forward it to DOT. **Hastings** seconded the motion. **Motion carried with Cooney and DOT abstaining.**

Ohler gave an explanation of how and why an air quality analysis is performed.

7. NH 125 Environmental Assessment

Walker stated he has not had a chance to review the assessment. There is a hearing on November 3rd, in Plaistow.

8. TIP Amendment Definitions

Walker stated the definitions have been reviewed by both SPW and Seacoast TAC and Policy members. He incorporated comments from Faulconer and Senter. Changes were added from the Seacoast, Nashua and Manchester regions. All the changes will be reviewed by the Executive Directors. All the MPO's will see a revised document, ideally all the MPO's will approve the same set of definitions.

9. NH DOT Transportation Business Plan Update

Bogle stated the business plan is what used to be known as the Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan. DOT is undertaken a very extensive public outreach process. Staff feels very optimistic, the first round of listening session is happening in October and is geared towards stakeholders in the process.

He continued that there will be a second round of regional meetings in January or February, these will be visioning sessions that will be open to the general public. DOT has asked the NH Charitable Foundation be (NHCF) involved in coordinating an advisory committee for the process.

Ohler stated one of the interesting things is that the meetings are run by a professional facilitator and she was very impressed with the meeting she attended. Further discussion ensued about how comments at the meetings will be incorporated by DOT.

10. Project Updates

Walker stated the RPC received a SPR grant to create a traffic impact manual for the region and explained how the document will be produced.

Cooney asked about the Route 111 Bypass, will it be completed in 2006? **Walker** stated he will asked the project manager and have the answer at the policy committee meeting.

11. Discussion of Next Meeting/Meeting Schedule

Walker stated the next meeting should be Friday, December 12, 2005, place to be announced.

12. Meeting Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne M. Rines, Recording Secretary