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Notice of Comment Period and Public Hearing Rockingham Planning Commission

The Rockingham Planning Commission, in cooperation with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and partner Metropolitan Planning Organizations, conducted a review of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment process to improve efficiency and enhance public involvement. One identified opportunity is to reduce the length of the TIP amendment process. The current TIP amendment process can take up to 90 days to complete, which impacts project schedules and costs.

Cooperatively, the NRPC, NHDOT and partner MPOs have proposed a flexible public comment period. For each amendment, the MPO, in consultation with NHDOT, DES, FHWA and EPA, will recommend a length for the public comment period between 10 and 30 days. The recommendation will be based on various factors including the magnitude of the changes being proposed, the relative sensitivity of the projects included, and any factors that require timely actions, e.g., emergency maintenance, federal funding lapses, etc.

A second change to the document are statements clarifying that the MPO transportation planning process, specifically the TIP approval/amendment and public involvement processes, include the public transit operators in the region (currently COAST and CART) as required by the Federal Transit Administration 5307 program.

The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Public Involvement Process has been updated to reflect these proposed actions. This update is open for the federally required 45 day public comment period through January 6, 2012 and will be discussed at the December 15th Transportation Advisory Committee meeting at the RPC offices (9:00AM) and at the January 11, 2012 Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee meeting to be held at the Newton Town Hall (2 Town Hall Road, Newton, NH 03858)

Written comments may be submitted via email to comments@nashuarpc.org or via US mail to:

Rockingham Planning Commission
156 Water Street
Exeter, NH 03833
Email: email@rpc-nh.org with Public Participation Plan Amendments in the subject line

For more information please contact David Walker at Rockingham Planning Commission at (603) 778-0885.