

MINUTES
Rockingham Planning Commission
Metropolitan Planning Organization
February 13, 2019

Kingston Public Library, Kingston NH

Commissioners/MPO Reps Present: B. Kravitz, Chairman, F. McMahon, A. Carnaby (Hampton); G. Coppelman, P. Coffin (Kingston); T. Moore, J. Kiszka (Plaistow); R. Nichols (COAST); G. Davison (NHDOT); Elizabeth Strachan (NHDES); L. Gagnon (Stratham); G. English, L. Plumer (Exeter); P. Britz (Portsmouth); B. Donahue, P. Pelletier (Salem); R. McDermott, A. Brubaker (H. Falls); R. Clark (Atkinson); P. Wilson (North Hampton)

Guests: L. Wilson (North Hampton); D. Merrill, N. Stiles (Hampton Beach Area Commissioners); S. Kravitz (Hampton)

Staff: T. Roache (Executive Director); D. Walker (Assistant Director); S. Bogle (Sr. Transportation Planner); A. Pettengill (Business Manager)

- 1. Call to Order:** Chairman Kravitz called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and introductions were made.
- 2. Minutes of January 9, 2019**

*Kravitz noted that the Minutes being voted on are the MPO Minutes only of January 9, 2019. Coppelman moved to approve the MPO Minutes of January 9, 2019 as presented; Plumer seconded. **SO VOTED.***

- 3. Public Hearing: Draft 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program & Draft 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan – D. Walker, Assistant Director**

Kravitz opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 pm. Roache gave an overview of the purpose and function of the MPO. Walker reviewed Attachment #2 and noted that the Technical Advisory Committee reviewed and discussed both documents at their January 24th meeting and recommended approval of both to the MPO Policy Committee, with the following caveats: any comments received during the public comment period be addresses and incorporated; several technical changes as written in Attachment #2, Page 4; the TIP and Plan remain financially constrained; the TIP and Plan continue to reflect regional project priorities; Air Quality Conformity determination addresses Transportation Conformity as per guidance from EPA and FHWA; and the TIP and Plan continue to make progress towards achieving the region's

performance targets and describes the potential for that progress. Discussion and questions followed. *Kravitz closed the Public Hearing at 7:38 p.m.*

- 4. MOTION TO ADOPT:** *Nichols moved to approve the 2019-2022 TIP and 2045 Transportation Plan Update as presented; McDermott seconded. **SO VOTED.***

5. Hampton Seabrook Bridge Project Update – D. Walker

Walker gave a presentation on the Hampton Harbor Bridge proposal and reviewed all the existing conditions and proposed changes/alternatives. Discussion followed.

6. Public Private Partnership (P3) Commission proposal for Transit Center leases – S. Bogle

Bogle stated that there was a hearing on January 9th at Dover City Hall for the P3 Commission proposals for Transit Center leases. He explained that the P3 Commission was established in 2016 by the State Legislature to attract private investment in expansion and modernization of the transportation infrastructure. He reviewed the letters of interest that were received for projects and reviewed some specifics on each. Bogle asked the MPO if they would like to submit comments. General consensus was that the MPO wants to ensure that the State's interests are covered in relation to pricing of whatever project they choose, and it was suggested that a shorter lease term be suggested – 10-15 years instead of 30 years. Bogle suggested that any other comments be emailed to him and he will summarize and submit to the P3 Commission.

7. Project Updates

- a. Hampton Branch Rail Trail: Bogle noted that five towns have agreed to sign a trail agreement after the negotiations between NHDOT and PanAm conclude. Kravitz thanked Bogle for his work getting this project to an end agreement.
- b. Joint Land Use Study: Walker stated that Kittery and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard are looking at options to correct the congestion and parking issues they're experiencing. Both Walker and Roache are members of the Policy Committee for that group.

8. Public Comment

Stiles commented that the proposed transit center on Rte 16 shouldn't be located too closely to the City of Dover exits as it will impact local business and existing gas/convenience stores that currently benefit from people exiting the highway for services.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Annette Pettengill