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**Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Committee Meeting
January 22, 2009
Minutes
FINAL**

MPO Members Present: Glenn Davison (NHDOT), Tom Crosby (Madbury), Frank Torr (Dover), George Snyder (Somersworth), Carol Vita (Middleton), Lou Vita (Middleton), Rick McMenimen (Newmarket), Kenn Ortmann (Rochester), Larry Brown (Milton), Elaine Lauterborn (Rochester), Sandra Keans (Rochester), Paul Eaton (Strafford), Scott Martin (Northwood), Chris Skoglund (NHDES-ARD) and Stephen Pesci (UNH)

MPO Members Proxy Votes: Rad Nichols (COAST) and Ed Jansen, Jr. (Rollinsford)

SRPC Staff Present: Cynthia Copeland (Executive Director), Myranda McGowan (Transportation Planner), William Proulx (Regional Planner) and Marilyn Barton (Administrative Assistant).

GUESTS: Ted Diers (NH DES), Eric Fiegenbaum (Madbury)

Presentation by Guest Speaker

T. Crosby introduced the guest speaker, Ted Diers, Program Manager for the NH DES Coastal Program at 6:40 p.m.

T. Diers gave a PowerPoint presentation on the history of the Program, explaining the vision and principles of the Coastal Program. T. Diers noted the services it provides and projects that may occur in our region. T. Diers also explained about the Coastal Zone Reauthorization Act of 2008 and how that would focus on four priorities – supporting healthy coastal communities and communities; protect and restore coastal ecosystems, habitats and unique resources; prepare for impacts of climate change on the nation's coasts and ensure that local, state, regional and federal coastal programs are coordinated and integrated at all appropriate scales. T. Diers noted State and local government land use decisions and public infrastructure investments are key to the future of protecting coastal resources and creating healthy communities.

1. Convene Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee

Chairman L. Brown convened the meeting as the Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization Committee at 7:09 p.m.

2. Open Public Hearing to Solicit Public Comments on Draft FY 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program Scope of Work

Chairman L. Brown opened the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. M. McGowan gave an overview of the document and went through the tasks and specific activities of those tasks. C. Copeland noted this allows SRPC to show all agencies and what the budget is for these activities would be.

P. Eaton asked what document the MOU was and C. Copeland gave an overview of that document. C. Copeland stated it was an agreement between SRPC, RPC, COAST and NH DOT. C. Copeland noted it puts into operation of how the parties would work together. C. Copeland noted it would follow the three C's of protocol: Continuing, Comprehensive and Cooperative and it addresses the responsibilities of each party, payment and funding sources and processes.

K. Ortmann asked if there were any line items that were different than what has been seen in the past. M. McGowan noted more money was put into the Metro Plan, GIS and TIP because of work that needs to be done.

P. Eaton asked how this budget compared to the prior year? C. Copeland stated it was \$35,000 lower. R. McMenimen stated he would prefer to have both budgets side by side for comparison. C. Copeland noted a lot of money was spent with outside consultants.

M. McGowan stated she would send out that information the following day.

3. Close Public Hearing

Chairman L. Brown closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m.

4. Draft MPO Minutes of November 20, 2008

Chairman L. Brown asked for a motion to adopt the Draft MPO Minutes of November 20, 2008. T. Crosby made a motion and L. Vita seconded the motion. It was noted there was one abstention-S. Pescias he was not at the November 20, 2008 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

5. Draft FY 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program Scope of Work and Memorandum of Understanding

Chairman L. Brown asked for a motion to adopt the draft FY 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program Scope of Work and Memorandum of Understanding. K. Ortmann made a motion and T. Crosby seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

6. Project Updates Handout

M. McGowan went over the handout regarding various projects currently being worked on. M. McGowan noted SRPC staff has begun meeting with Town and City Planning Staff to review existing statistical Census boundaries. M. McGowan stated updates would be completed in the next month and are due to the US Census Bureau by March 1, 2009.

M. McGowan noted the deadline for submitting grant applications for Round Three of the Safe Routes to School Program is Monday, February 2, 2009 to NHDOT. M. McGowan stated the William Allen School and Somersworth School District are applying for grants during Round Three and noted this is a 100 percent reimbursable federal program.

M. McGowan stated NH, along with the rest of the US States have been busy creating a list of ready-to-go transportation projects and noted the projects in the region included: Dover #13042-NH 9 Bridge Replacement. M. McGowan noted each project needs to be shovel ready within six months of receiving federal funds and will need to go through state and local procedures. M. McGowan noted these procedures take time and the Policy Committee may need to have an emergency meeting in April or May 2009.

M. McGowan reviewed proposed legislative bills that included designating segments of the Cochecho River as protected under the Rivers Management and Protection Program.

7. Other Business

M. McGowan noted SRPC would be soliciting projects for the next Ten Year Plan. M. McGowan noted the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) would be meeting in February and March to discuss regional priorities. C. Copeland stated there is a need to look at long-range projects and to get them ready. C. Copeland noted there has been no reprioritizing of regional projects since the Seacoast MPO went forward as SRPC. C. Copeland noted there would be a special MPO Policy meeting in March or April to discuss these projects as well the Economic Stimulus.

L. Vita asked if there was an updated status of HB58? S. Keans stated there was a hearing the previous week and thought the vote on that bill was January 21, 2009.

L. Vita discussed HB 124 and HB 125 regarding the gas tax and stated the gas tax would slow down economic recovery. L. Vita asked what the feeling on the part of the Commission was and if the Committee could send a letter.

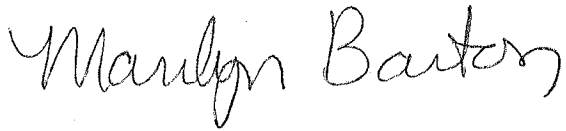
S. Pesci stated there had been discussions on the gas tax when it was still the Seacoast MPO and needs to be revisited. S. Pesci stated revenues need to keep pace with costs and there is a need to come up with a modern system.

L. Brown stated it would be useful to have text to review before making a policy decision. L. Vita asked if this could be put on the next Executive Committee meeting?

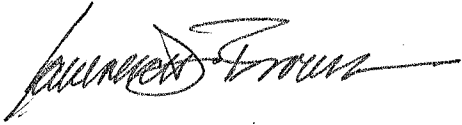
8. Adjournment

Chairman L. Brown asked for a motion for adjournment at 8:10 p.m. K. Ortmann made a motion and T. Crosby seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marilyn Barton".

Marilyn Barton
Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry Brown".

Larry Brown
Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee Chair