

**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission
Meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

August 10, 2010 Meeting Minutes
UVLSRPC Offices- Lebanon, NH

Attendees:

Dick Jones, Lyme
Richard Lee, New London
Mike Lavalla, Lebanon
Peter Kulbacki, Hanover
Dean Eastman, NHDOT
Nate Miller, UVLSRPC

Acceptance of June 8th Meeting Minutes

Following introductions, Dick Jones moved that the minutes of June 8th be accepted as submitted. Richard Lee seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Cancellation of Maple Street Sidewalk Transportation Enhancement Project in Enfield

Nate Miller provided an overview of the Maple Street Sidewalk project. The project is from the 2004 round of the Transportation Enhancement program and was intended to provide sidewalks along Maple Street in Enfield between Main Street and a proposed residential development at Laramie Farms. At the time, more than 100 dwelling units were proposed, and the developer had committed to providing a significant portion of the local match funding.

However, with the condition of the economy, the Laramie Farms development hasn't materialized and the Transportation Enhancement project has been put on hold indefinitely. The NHDOT Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance has requested that the project be cancelled, and the Town of Enfield has concurred that the project should be cancelled.

Dick Jones moved that the TAC endorse the cancellation of Project #14406 [04-16 TE] to construct sidewalks on Maple Street in the Town of Enfield. Peter Kulbacki seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Highway Safety Improvement Program

Nate Miller provided an overview of the new process for sponsoring projects for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding. The purpose of HSIP is to reduce the number of fatal or serious injury crashes on New Hampshire roadways. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation receives approximately \$5.5 million per year to implement safety improvements in locations where accident data indicates safety deficiencies. The selection of HSIP candidate projects is largely data-driven and the funds must be used in locations that have a demonstrated safety need.

Communities and Regional Planning Commissions can sponsor HSIP applications for intersections or segments of road with specific safety concerns. This is essentially a three step process.

1. Identify the intersection of segment of road and gather the appropriate accident data (full reports for at least the past three years) to document the safety concern.
2. Submit the accident data to the NHDOT Safety Engineer and request that a Road Safety Audit be conducted at the location. A Road Safety Audit is a cooperative (local officials and NHDOT staff) field review of the specific safety concerns at the location. The Road Safety Audit can also serve as an informal brainstorming session for potential improvements.

3. Using the results of the Road Safety Audit, formalize the improvement plans for the location and complete the Highway Safety Improvement Program Application. The HSIP application is essentially a cost-benefit analysis that NHDOT will use to evaluate project proposals from around the state.

Nate Miller advised that UVLSRPC staff is available to assist communities in navigating the HSIP application process. UVLSRPC will also sponsor HSIP projects on behalf of member communities.

USDOT/HUD/EPA Sustainable Communities Initiative

Nate Miller reported that the nine Regional Planning Commissions in New Hampshire have been working cooperatively to develop an application for funding under the USDOT/HUD/EPA Sustainable Communities Initiative. If successful, the grant funding will be used to develop a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development in each of the nine regions. The plans will identify regional housing, transportation, economic development, land use, environmental, energy, green space, and water/sewer infrastructure goals and priorities.

TAC members expressed optimism that the UVLSRPC Regional Transportation Plan would be updated with the funding and that tangible, meaningful, and achievable transportation goals and priorities would be established through the plan development process.

Ongoing Project Updates

Route 12 Reconstruction

Nate Miller reported that the Public Hearing for the Reconstruction of NH Route 12 in Charlestown and Walpole took place on July 29th and feedback from the public was very positive. The project will now move into the final design and right-of-way procurement phase.

Route 10/East Thetford Road in Lyme

Nate Miller reported that a Public Informational Meeting was held on June 16th. Those in attendance agreed on a preferred design alternative. NHDOT is planning to advertise the project at the end of August for construction next spring.

Claremont-Upper Valley Transit Service Design

Nate Miller reported that UVLSRPC has been awarded funding from the NHDOT Bureau of Rail and Transit to oversee the development of a transit service design between Claremont and the Upper Valley. A RFP for consulting services will be issued in September, and a service design will be in place by the end of June.

FHWA Form 536 Data Collection

Nate Miller reported that the FHWA Form 536 data collection effort is nearly complete. The City of Lebanon is the final community to report, and will have the form completed during the week of August 16th.

Other Business/Updates

The next TAC meeting will be held Tuesday, September 14th, 5:00 PM, at the UVLSRPC offices in Lebanon, NH. Peter Kulbacki moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM. Dick Jones seconded and the motion passed unanimously.