

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

July 14, 2009 Meeting Minutes
Lebanon Senior Center- Lebanon, NH

Attendees:

Van Chesnut, Chair, Advance Transit
Dean Eastman, NHDOT
Nate Miller, UVLSRPC
Bruce Temple, Claremont
Richard Lee, New London
Peter Kulbacki, Hanover
Mike Lavalla, Lebanon
Carl Schmidt, Orford

Review and Approval of June 9th Meeting Minutes

Following introductions, Peter Kulbacki moved that the minutes of June 9th be accepted as submitted. Van Chesnut seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with Mike Lavalla abstaining due to absence.

Ten Year Plan/Project Updates

Nate Miller reported that he provided testimony on June 17th to the Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) on behalf of UVLSRPC. He provided GACIT with an overview of how the UVLSRPC TAC re-prioritized the region's Ten Year Plan projects in the spring. Due to ongoing financial constraints, new projects will not be solicited for the Ten Year Plan in this update cycle.

Nate Miller reported that the TAC's recommendation to move Project #10034A, the Reconstruction of Mechanic Street in Lebanon, from 2016 to 2013 has been well received by NHDOT. The Department recognizes the benefits of coordinating this work with the City of Lebanon's previously scheduled Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) project, and has agreed to move the Ten Year Plan project from 2016 to 2013.

Nate Miller reported that the most recent STIP amendment draft postpones the Transportation Enhancement project to construct sidewalks on Maple Street in Enfield for one year. This project was intended to be coordinated with a large-scale residential development at Laramie Farms in Enfield; however, that development appears to be on hold indefinitely. As a result, there has been little momentum moving the sidewalk project forward. The Town of Enfield may consider significantly changing the scope of the project or eliminating the project entirely.

Transportation Enhancement Scoring Criteria

Upon the consensus of the TAC, agenda item #5 (Transportation Enhancement Scoring Criteria) was moved ahead of agenda item #4 (Transportation Enhancement Program Update).

Nate Miller advised that he reviewed the scoring criteria used in the 2003 and 2005 Transportation Enhancement rounds, and in both cases, the TAC used the previous version of the project scoring system that was updated in January 2009. Nate Miller distributed the most

current version of the scoring criteria, and asked if any additional adjustments need to be made. TAC members commented that the criteria seem to fit the TE program well, and no changes should be made at this time. However, the criteria should again be re-evaluated after this TE round.

Richard Lee moved that the TAC endorse the scoring criteria for the 2009 TE round without additional changes. Peter Kulbacki seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Nate Miller noted that, in previous rounds, UVLSRPC staff has scored the TE applications and presented their scoring to the TAC for discussion. However, the TAC always has the option of appointing a small Sub-Committee to work with staff on an initial scoring of applications. Nate Miller asked which option would be preferable for this round.

Van Chesnut noted that having staff initially score the applications has worked well in the past. TAC members concurred that the staff scoring method works well and there is no need to change that practice for this TE round.

Transportation Enhancement Program Update

Nate Miller noted that the deadline for TE Letters of Intent was July 2nd, so the TAC now has a complete picture of the potential applications from communities in the region. There are 5 potential applications from communities and one statewide application.

City of Claremont- Sugar River Walking/Biking Trail

Bruce Temple provided the TAC with an overview of this project, which will consist of a walking/biking trail along the Sugar River. The trail will connect the Claremont Visitor's Center, the existing rail trail network, canoe launch, Middle School, High School, Mill District, and future Claremont Community Center.

City of Lebanon- Mascoma River Greenway

Mike Lavalla provided the TAC with an overview of this project, which would build a one-mile paved section of the Mascoma River Greenway. The Mascoma River Greenway will be a four mile long trail that will connect Lebanon to West Lebanon village. TE funding would result in the construction of the first phase of that project.

City of Lebanon- Meriden Road Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements

Mike Lavalla provided an overview of this project, which would see bicycle and pedestrian improvements along NH Route 120 from South Street to Goodwin Park. These improvements would include a 5' ADA-compliant sidewalk in the urban compact and a 4' paved shoulder outside of the urban compact.

Town of New London- Elkins Village Improvements

Richard Lee provided the TAC with an overview of this project. The project will include pedestrian safety improvements at the intersection of Elkins Road and Wilmot Center Road, addition of sidewalk and bicycle travel lanes, and restoration of a historic mill building for use as a welcome center and museum.

Town of Sunapee- Old Town Hall Rehabilitation

Nate Miller provided the TAC with an overview of this project, which would provide repairs and structural improvements to Sunapee's Old Town Hall. The building is a former livery stable, and has significant historic value. It was recently named as one of "Seven to Save" by the NH Preservation Alliance. The goal of this historic preservation effort is to rehabilitate the Old Town Hall into a fully functioning municipal building.

Statewide- Study of Historic Highway Bridges

Nate Miller provided the TAC with an overview a potential statewide application submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. NHDOT will apply for funding to conduct Phase I of a statewide Historic Highway Bridges study. This statewide application will be prioritized by each of the nine regional planning commissions.

Other Business

- Nate Miller noted that NHDOT will be releasing a schedule of Municipally Managed Project Workshops in mid-July. Communities that have submitted letters of intent should make sure that they register for a workshop, as participation is a requirement for the submission of a TE application.
- Nate Miller noted that there will not be a regular TAC meeting in the month of September. The TAC will hear presentations from TE applicants in October and finalize TE scoring in November.

The TAC scheduled their next meeting for August 11th at 5:00 PM at the Lebanon Senior Center. Mike Lavalla made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM. Carl Schmidt seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.