

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

April 14, 2009 Meeting Minutes
Claremont Visitors Center- Claremont, NH

Attendees:

Dick Jones, Vice Chair, Lyme
Bruce Temple, Claremont
Ed Tinker, Claremont
Dave Edkins, Charlestown
Richard Lee, New London
William Rose, NHDOT
Nate Miller, UVLSRPC
Dean Eastman, NHDOT (Tour Only)
Bernie Folta, Claremont (Tour Only)

Claremont officials led a tour of the city's ongoing Mill District redevelopment project between 4:00 and 5:00 PM. The regular TAC meeting began at 5:00 PM.

Review and Approval of March 17th Meeting Minutes:

Following introductions, Richard Lee moved that the minutes of March 17th be accepted as submitted. Bruce Temple seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. As a follow-up to the March 17th discussion, Bruce Temple commented that the North Street Intersection Relocation project would be designed this fall.

Ten-Year Plan Update

Nate Miller reported that he sent correspondence to NHDOT detailing the TAC's Ten-Year Plan project priorities and recommendations. The TAC's recommendations were well received, and are under consideration by NHDOT. Nate Miller continued, noting that NHDOT is currently evaluating the impact that ARRA funding has had in clearing out the backlog in the existing Ten-Year Plan, and is considering the feasibility of a new solicitation for Ten-Year Plan projects.

Dick Jones expressed concern over a potential solicitation of new Ten-Year Plan projects, noting that the plan was overburdened because of solicitations for projects that could not be funded. Richard Lee concurred, and questioned why certain interstate projects are moved up 5-7 years (e.g. I-89 bridges over King Hill Road), but local projects that were in the plan for more than a decade (e.g. New London Main Street) were eliminated. Nate Miller advised that he had asked this question of NHDOT in the past and was told that, because conditions on the interstate system sometimes change rapidly, there is a certain level of "fluidity" needed to implement interstate projects.

William Rose advised that he understands this concern, and that NHDOT is currently re-evaluating a number of programs (including the Transportation Enhancement program) to consider ways of better integrating regional recommendations.

Overview of Upper Valley Intermodal Transportation Facility

Nate Miller provided an overview of the upcoming Intermodal Transportation Facility planning process. Last year, Congressman Paul Hodes secured a \$500,000 congressional appropriation for an Intermodal Facility/Park-and-Ride along Interstate-89. UVLSRPC will lead the process of siting and scoping the facility. Nate Miller explained that he has been working to assemble a Project Advisory Committee to guide the process. This Committee will include a wide range of stakeholders including Advance Transit, Stagecoach, Connecticut River Transit, Dartmouth Coach, local communities, state agencies, regional employers, and others. The Upper Valley Transportation Management Association (UVTMA) will be assisting in the scoping process as well.

Nate Miller noted that the intermodal facility could have 800-1000 parking spaces in addition to terminal spaces for intercity and local transit, bike and pedestrian facilities, taxi stands and a potential linkage to the region's rail system. Additional funding for the project may have been secured through ARRA; however, specifics about this funding (if available) are still being determined.

Review and Prioritize Potential Park-and-Ride Locations

Nate Miller provided a recap of the TAC's ongoing effort to prioritize potential park-and-ride locations within the region. To date, the TAC has identified more than 30 potential locations for park-and-ride facilities.

Nate Miller presented an overview of each location and provided guidance about the feasibility of developing a park-and-ride facility at each site. After discussion, the TAC selected 9 locations to be investigated further and prioritized:

- NH Route 11/NH Route 12 intersection in Charlestown
- Rest area on NH Route 12 in Charlestown (across from Whelen Engineering)
- NH Route 120 across from River Valley Community College in Claremont
- NH Route 120/North Street intersection in Claremont
- Enfield Community Center
- Interstate-89 Exit 18 vicinity (the TAC noted that this location could be addressed by the construction of the Upper Valley Intermodal Transportation Facility)
- Mormon Church on U.S. Route 4 in East Lebanon (via potential agreement between the church and NHDOT)
- High Street/ NH Route 10 intersection vicinity in Lyme
- Church of Christ in Plainfield (via potential agreement between the church and NHDOT)

Nate Miller advised that he would apply the TAC's park-and-ride prioritization criteria to evaluate each site and present the results to the TAC in May.

Other Business

The TAC scheduled their next meeting for May 12th at 5:00 PM at the Lebanon Senior Center. Bruce Temple made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM. Dave Edkins seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.