

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes

April 15, 2009

Present: Beverly Raymond, Henry Anderson, Miriam Bader, Ed Betz, Frank Claffey, Dean Eastman, Joseph Elgosin, Glenn English, Joel Godston, Carl Martland, Bonnie Moroney, Charles Muller, and Rob Nadler.

Staff: Mary Deppe, Tara Bamford, Michelle Moren

Call To Order:

Beverly Raymond called the meeting to order at 3:00, members of the committee and guest introduced themselves. Minutes, agenda and handouts were passed out.

Review and Approve Minutes From 2/18/09:

Edits to minutes:

- First page, bullet number 2 (Joel commented ...change to "strong support from the state legislature")
- On the next bullet, Dean Eastman commented ... federal funding would be 95%, 2.5% state and 2.5% local).
- Charles Muller was in attendance of that meeting but was not included in the minutes.

Frank Claffey made a motion to approve the minutes from the 2/18/09 TAC meeting. Joe Elgosin seconded the motion, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Regional Transportation Plan Chapters:

Air Regional and Local Priorities:

3.) Discussion around the importance of having transportation linkage to major air ports also. A priority will be added to read, "North Country Council should advocate for improvements to transportation linkages between the region and the major airports serving residents and businesses."

6.) Discussion around public or private use or owned. What did the committee mean? Privately owned but used by the public. The priority will be edited to read, "The North Country should support legislation to preserve existing public-use airports in the state, whether publicly or privately-owned."

There was discussion about supporting legislation and needing to know when there is legislation about airports. Glenn English is involved in this and will keep the TAC abreast on pertinent issues.

Joe Elgosin made a motion to approve the Air Regional Local Priorities. It was seconded by Frank Claffey. All were in favor and none were opposed.

NH State Rail Plan Recommendations (REVISED)

Mary gave an overview of the revisions.

Wording: Continuous infrastructure... NHDOT (identifies) the following...

Discussion: Keep in mind that this comes from the state and the wording can not be altered extensively. Take a look at the regional rail section and possibly add close to major transportation hubs (see Carl's notes). Also add in the fact that transportation is for products, people and recreation.

Rail: Regional and Local Priorities:

Discussion: Send a strong message to the state that it is their responsibility to build infrastructure and not for the customers to be entirely responsible for building it. The state should take a leadership roll in connecting the North Country with the rest of the US and Canada. (Added to 1.)

Motion to approve the Rail Regional Local Priorities with edits was made by Charles Muller and seconded by Carl Martland. All were in favor and none were opposed.

NH Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Priorities:

Discussion: Current state bike maps puts people on unsafe roads. The maps were designed as recommendations if you were to take that route. There was discussion about having the maps display level of difficulty. There was discussion about the use of the word and definition of "facilities". NCC will add a note that it is referring to bike paths.

Edit: 8.) Remove criteria on how to build.

Motion to approve the NH Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan PRIORITIES with edits was made by Glenn English and seconded by Joel Godston all were in favor and none were opposed.

New Hampshire State Trails Plan Recommendations:

Discussion: This includes rails / trails.

Edits: 2.) Trail improvements... Trails between (remove within) in Haverhill (remove Woodsville)

Motion to approve the New Hampshire State Trails Plan recommendations with edits was made by Carl Martland and seconded by Joe Elgosin. All were in favor and none were opposed.

Bike –Pedestrian Chapter

Regional and Local Priorities

Discussion: Add ADA compliance paragraph.

Edits: 11.) Address rails and recreation.

13.) Add federal and State Agencies

Edits: 7.2 add in the amount of hiking trails.

Edit table 7.2 remove 3, 2 covers it.

Regional Bicycle Maps reword starting at (The intention of these maps is to suggest the route a cyclist would take if they were in the area.)

Transit Update:

North Country Transit has been busy apply for funding for various projects. NCT will be receiving 11 vehicles from the stimulus package. Vehicles are now blue with white and say "Transportation for Everyone".

NCC Regional Coordinated Transit Plan Update

Meeting on Friday to review some draft segments of the plan. Goal is to have a draft plan done in June.

NCC is receiving a grant through DOT to help develop/do the administration involved with Regional Coordination Councils.

NCC also was awarded funding to develop North Country RideShare. Which will match rides for people going in the same direction, web-based system.

Other Business

Want to have a draft of the Regional Transportation Plan by August and to have TAC approval in June. In order to meet this deadline, there will be an additional TAC meeting held on May 27th, from 3-5:30 to review the Highways Chapter and other highways materials.

Dean Eastman made a comment that Air projects are prioritized based safety and capacity and that projects are selection with consideration for both national and state needs.

Adjourn

Joe Elgosin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Henry Anderson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:25.

Minutes Approved: 5/27/09