

## NCC Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

### Meeting Minutes

Granite State Room at the UNH Extension / Fish & Game building

629 Main Street, Lancaster, NH 03584

Friday, July 16th, 2021

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

MEMBERS IN PERSON	MEMBERS VIRTUAL	OTHERS IN PERSON	OTHERS VIRTUAL
Raymond Gorman (Colebrook)	Stan Judge (Shelburne)	Katie Lamb (NCC)	Michelle Moren-Grey (NCC)
Paul Robitaille (Gorham)	Mark Decoteau (Waterville Valley)	Brian Bresnahan (Kuster)	William Rose (NHDOT)
Doug Grant (Randolph)			Chuck Henderson (Shaheen)
Ben Gaetjens-Oleson (Lancaster)			
Clayton Macdonald (Stratford)			
Rosalind Page (Lisbon)			
Carl Martland (Sugar Hill)			

### 1. ATTENDANCE

The meeting began at 2:18pm due to technology difficulties and a roll call of all in attendance was performed.

### 2. VOTE ON MARCH AND APRIL TAC MINUTES

Paul R. made a motion to approve the March minutes as written and Doug G. seconded. A full roll call of members present in person was done with no objections. Paul R. made a motion to approve the April minutes as written and Carl M. seconded. A full roll call of members present in person was done with no objections.

### **3. NORTH COUNTRY CONNECTIONS (2021 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN)**

Katie L. gave a brief overview of the changes and contents of North Country Connections and noted that the plan is much shorter to increase accessibility and that much of the data included in the prior plan is now housed online and kept more up to date there. Paul R. noted he found it difficult to use the Transportation Data Management System (TDMS) at first and Katie L. agreed that it is a confusing system. She suggested that she could pass along comments to NHDOT and also make a short instructional video that guides new users through using the database. Carl M. requested survey results be included in an appendix and Katie L. noted this in her list of revisions.

Then the group went over each goal group and accompanied objectives supporting the goals. Carl M. encouraged objectives to be more specific, or to add strategies to the objectives. Katie L. suggested that she could provide strategies in an appendix to each objective since it provides opportunities to get more specific, as well as providing examples of how each objective could play out for those who may not understand what the types of projects would come out of the objectives.

While discussing the safety goals, Clayton M. recommended adding in language about the negative health impacts of freight, such as air pollution and noise. Additionally, the group agreed to change the word “eliminate” to reduce and minimize. Carl M. and Paul R. noted freight concerns over safety, regarding driver training and GPS routing. Carl M. suggested that the freight corridors be more clearly defined in the plan.

The group then went over the corridors generally and members agreed that a written narrative for each corridor isn't necessary and that linking to town websites would be sufficient. Katie L. suggested that once the plan is finalized, a webpage on each corridor can be created on the North Country Council website, which would allow for a short narrative and quick access and updates to the corridors. Doug G. noted that US 3 merges with I-93 through Franconia Notch and Katie L. noted to update that map and that she would add the Franconia Notch trailhead overflow parking to the list of identified projects.

### **4. UPDATES**

#### **North Country Council**

- Katie L. noted that NCC hosted a workshop on Complete Streets on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and that a recording of the session is available on the NCC website and YouTube page. She also noted that NCC will be working with several communities over the coming months to perform Complete Streets pop-ups and policy creation.
- Katie L. highlighted the significant achievements of the NCC field crew in conducting stream crossing assessments and their plans for the remainder of the field season.

- Katie L. announced that NCC would be hiring on-call engineer services again this year, with a maximum contract of \$20,000 and contract going until the end of the state fiscal year, June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. She noted a consultant should be in place by September 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.
- Lastly, Katie L. noted that Ride&Rack efforts have slowed, but that she is working with the Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail to submit an application for up to \$10,000 in grant monies from People for Bikes to purchase new racks.

### **Scenic Byways**

Carl M. highlighted the recent Byway Achievement Awards, which were presented on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The winner for the “Read The Marker” award went to the Stone Iron Furnace in Franconia and the “By the Byway” award went to Coffin Pond in Sugar Hill. Carl M. noted that nominations for Phase II of the awards are due September 27<sup>th</sup> 2021 and cash prizes are \$1,000 for each award.

### **Communities**

- Gorham: Still working towards connecting sidewalks with trail systems in and around Gorham. The Coos Cycling Club have been working to reopen trails. Noted that EV map may be wrong in Gorham area.
- Sugar Hill: Pavement is being redone, with wider curves and shoulders which will help cyclists. Local trails are being added to and improved on an ongoing basis.
- Colebrook: Main Street project in final engineering and construction is slated for 2022.
- Lancaster: Main Street buildings are being rehabilitated, which will increase housing and commercial space in downtown. Seasonal paving being done.
- Stratford: Still having speed issues through town and speed readback signs purchased last year are awaiting the arrival of breakaway posts in order to be installed. Interested in conducting speed studies before and after installation of readback signs to see difference. Concerns about growing ATV use in area, increased by new campground.
- Waterville Valley: NH 49 being repaved and bike-ped path project has support in house transportation committee. Working on updating local plan and road maintenance plans to encourage more active transportation. Noted that several new housing units are slated for construction.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Lamb