

Southwest Region Planning Commission
37 Ashuelot Street, Keene, NH 03431 603-357-0557 Voice 603-357-7440 Fax

**Transportation
Advisory Committee**

Kendall Lane, Chair
Keene

Frank Sterling, Vice Chair
Jaffrey

Susan Ashworth
HCS Community Services

Brian Barden
Dublin

Leslie Casey
Sullivan

William Faulkner
Pathways for Keene

Dale Gray
Winchester

Rhett Lamb
Keene

Leandra MacDonald
Peterborough

Cheryl Mayberry
Walpole

Ed Smith
Hinsdale

Bruce Tatro
Swanzy

Ruth Ward
Stoddard

with

John Kalfelz
NHDOT District 4

and

Lucy St. John
*NHDOT Bureau of
Planning & Community
Assistance*

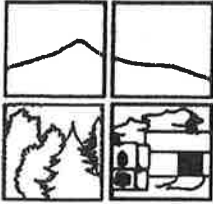
Transportation Advisory Committee

**September 27, 2021
2:00 p.m.**

**Southwest Region Planning Commission
37 Ashuelot Street
Keene, NH**

Agenda

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Minutes of August 2, 2021
- III. 2023-2032 Ten Year Plan Update
- IV. Presentation: Swanzy NH 10 Corridor Study
- V. Other Updates
- VI. Next Meeting: December 6, 2021
- VII. Adjourn



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Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes

August 2, 2021

Present: Kendall Lane, Chairman, *City of Keene*; Frank Sterling, Vice-Chairman, *Town of Jaffrey*; Susan Ashworth, *Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services*; Brian Barden, *Town of Dublin*; Leandra MacDonald, *Town of Peterborough*; Cheryl Mayberry, *Town of Walpole*; Bruce Tatro, *Town of Swanzey* (remotely); Ruth Ward, *Town of Stoddard*; Lucy St. John (ex officio), *NHDOT*.

Staff members present: Tim Murphy, Executive Director; Rebecca Baldwin, Office Manager; J. B. Mack, Principal Planner; Henry Underwood, GIS Specialist/Planner.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Lane called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

II. Minutes of June 7, 2021

Motion: To approve the minutes of June 7, 2021 as presented.

Motion by Cheryl Mayberry, seconded by Frank Sterling. Minutes were approved with Ruth Ward abstaining.

III. Transportation Program Updates

J. B. Mack referred to a listing of several transportation program updates that were included in the meeting agenda packet. He drew attention to several public meetings that have been scheduled by NHDOT regarding the NH State Rail Trail Plan noting that one will be conducted on August 11th at 6:00 p.m. at the Keene Recreation Center. All of the public meetings will be conducted utilizing a hybrid format that will allow for participation both in-person and online.

IV. FY 2023-2032 Ten Year Plan Update

Lucy St. John provided an update on the FY 2023-2032 Ten Year Plan (TYP) and encouraged TAC members to visit the NHDOT website for the most current information regarding the status of the TYP. She reported that the amount of available federal funding for the TYP is unknown at this time and once NHDOT receives the information she will pass it on to SWRPC to be distributed to TAC members. Chairman Lane asked if the FAST Act is part of the bi-partisan Senate Bill and Lucy St. John responded that she didn't know but would find out and get the answer back to the TAC.

Lucy St. John reported that regarding state funding there is anticipated to be a reduction to turnpike, betterment and SB367 funds as a direct result of COVID-19. Traffic volumes are down as well as toll collections and gas tax revenues. Turnpike funding has also been affected by COVID-19 causing capital project delays. Chairman Lane asked if the turnpike project is shovel ready, can it be upgraded if additional federal funds become available? Lucy St. John replied that she did not know the answer to that question and would get back with an answer.

Lucy St. John noted that the next GACIT meeting is scheduled for September 1st. She further indicated that the schedule of GACIT hearings relative to the 2023-2032 TYP has not yet been set and likely won't be released until sometime after the September 1st GACIT meeting. J. B. Mack suggested that it may be premature to discuss talking points for the upcoming GACIT hearings at this point. Chairman Lane agreed noting that, among other things, we need to know the amount of funds we are talking about prior to formalizing talking points. It was acknowledged that this may require TAC to meet prior to their next scheduled meeting on October 4th. Those present agreed to table any discussion regarding talking points until more information is provided by NHDOT.

V. Presentation: Cheshire Rail Trail South Plan

Henry Underwood provided a presentation on the Cheshire Rail Trail South Plan, an effort which began in June 2020 and ran through June of 2021. The trail segment covers approximately 21 miles that extends from Keene south to the Massachusetts state line. The goal of the project is to identify needs and opportunities along the Trail. The project was completed with the help of a working group that was comprised of representatives from the five communities that the Trail runs through and others including equestrian advocates, snowmobile and cycling clubs, land conservation groups, and staff from the Town of Winchendon, MA.

Data was collected on the Trail and public outreach efforts were conducted including an on-line survey and documenting Trail surfaces through the submittal of photographs. Top priorities identified in the survey, which was taken by over 700 people, include the need for wider trails, better parking areas and increased signage. A website was created that will serve as an ongoing point of information for future trail development and improvements.

Copies of the final Plan will be distributed to each of the communities along the Trail. Director MacDonald asked if the trail connects with the Winchendon Trail and was told that it doesn't at present but could be connected in the future.

VI. Next Meeting:

It was agreed that the next meeting of TAC would be at the call of the Chair based on release of a schedule for GACIT hearings.

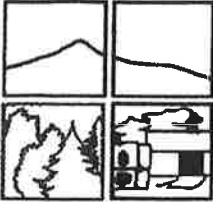
VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca I. Baldwin
Office Manager



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Agenda Item III

Date: September 27, 2021
To: Transportation Advisory Committee
From: Staff

RE: 2023-2032 Ten Year Plan Update

Background

The Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) met for a second time on September 1st regarding the draft 2023-2032 Ten Year Plan (TYP). At this meeting, New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) staff presented budgeting assumptions and initial transportation infrastructure investment recommendations for the TYP. During the meeting, NHDOT responded to questions and comments from GACIT, and agency staff announced that they would finalize the GACIT hearing schedule and the draft TYP in the coming weeks. A copy of NHDOT's presentation and other handouts distributed at the GACIT meeting are available for review at <https://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/planning/typ/index.htm>.

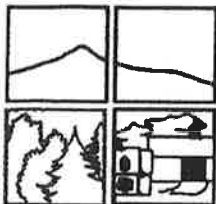
The GACIT hearings schedule was released on September 16th. Meetings scheduled in southwest New Hampshire are shown below:

- **Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**
Keene Parks and Recreation Building at 312 Washington Street in Keene
- **Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**
Jaffrey Fire Station at 138 Turnpike Road in Jaffrey

At the September 27th TAC meeting, SWRPC staff plans to provide an overview on the 2023-2032 TYP and highlight some of the key takeaways as they relate to southwest New Hampshire. NHDOT staff are also expected to attend the meeting to participate in discussion. In addition, SWRPC staff plan to engage the TAC in developing talking points for use during upcoming GACIT hearings on the TYP.

Recommendation

For your information.



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Agenda Item IV

Date: September 27, 2021
To: Transportation Advisory Committee
From: Staff

RE: Presentation: Swanzey NH 10 Corridor Study

Background

Earlier this summer SWRPC completed a study of the NH 10 Corridor in Swanzey. The Study was requested by the Town of Swanzey to look into safety concerns the Town has stemming from crash analyses conducted for the *Southwest Connects Long Range Transportation Plan* and to assist the Town in identifying other transportation, land use and economic development opportunities and challenges associated with the Corridor.

During the September 27th TAC meeting, SWRPC staff will summarize the Study's scope of work, findings and proposed strategies for addressing identified challenges and opportunities. For more information, visit the Study report at <http://www.swrpc.org/files/data/trans/NH10CorridorStudy.pdf>.

Recommendation

For your information.