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Technical Advisory Committee

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**Memorandum:**

To: Strafford MPO Policy Committee  
From: Marc Ambrosi, Transportation Planner  
Dan Camara, Sr. GIS/Transportation Analyst  
RE: Public Hearing and Policy Committee Meeting  
Date: November 13, 2013

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**Action Items**

**4.2) 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program: Amendment 3**

Recommended Action - Approval of *Amendment*

*Amendment 3* adds two projects to the Strafford Transportation Improvement Program including: A statewide project for traffic signal timing and calibration that originated in the most recent Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) round. SMPO staff have requested a list of exactly which signals are planned for calibration but have not received any information to date. The other project impacts COAST and Wildcat Transit. This project originated as a mitigation action for the Little Bay Bridge project to increase peak hour transit service during bridge construction. The implementation of this project has been taking place for over a year and the project breakout shown in this Amendment illustrates the funding specifically dedicated for the project. The other remaining projects included in the Amendment make minor funding changes to existing projects.

**4.3) Public Participation Plan**

Recommended Action - Approval of the *Public Participation Plan*

Federal regulations established in 2005 as part of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) require a public participation component for the metropolitan transportation planning process to ensure fair and equitable public input opportunities in transportation planning.

Stafford Metropolitan Planning Organization  
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In compliance with federal transportation requirements, this document outlines the Stafford Metropolitan Planning Organization's strategy and goals for engaging the public and ensuring fair and equitable representation for the public within the Stafford Region.

Please note that it is the intent of the Stafford Metropolitan Planning Organization to provide an interim update to the Public Participation Plan in February. This update will include performance targets and measures of success to provide a quantifiable way to assess the success of our public participation activities. The update will also likely include the addition of images and tables to make the document more approachable to readers.

## **Public Participation Plan**

### **Comments Received During Public Comment Period as of 11/14/2013**

#### **Paul Lockwood (NHDES)**

Comment: "...is quite superior to other planning commissions' participation plans."

Response: Thank you

Comment: "...attention to minority and low income populations. Your Plan mentions "underrepresented populations" offering targeted events as a medium to reach this group. Along with this, the only strategy I might suggest adding to your Plan, is to piggyback outreach on existing Federal and State programs that provide assistance to these populations."

Response: SMPO will review federal and state programs aimed at "underrepresented populations" and utilize, where possible, these programs as an avenue for public outreach to target populations. This will be included in the interim update planned for February.

Comment: Review performance measures and where possible seek more meaningful measures that track actual success of public outreach. Not just number of meetings etc...

Response: SMPO agrees with this comment and has plans to do an interim update of the PPP in February 2014 with the intent of reevaluating Performance measures.

#### **Bill Conner (SRPC Commissioner)**

Comment: There is duplication of words in the table of contents.

Response: Technical edit noted and will be addressed

Comment: Page 3) Identify who is meant by "Stakeholders"

Response: This comment will be reviewed to clarify the meaning of "Stakeholders" in this instance