



**Approved minutes Nashua Regional Planning Commission
January 21, 2026. In-Person Public Meeting with Zoom Attendance Option**

Members Present:

Jason Hennessey, Town of Amherst (Zoom)	John Yule, Town of Milford
Danielle Pray, Town of Amherst	Tim Berry, Town of Mont Vernon
Jerry Roche, Town of Brookline	Camille Correa, City of Nashua
Tamara Sorell, Town of Brookline	Derek Thibeault, City of Nashua
Joseph Garruba, Town of Hollis	Michelle Cooke, Town of Pelham
Ralph Boehm, Town of Litchfield	Heather Corbett, Town of Pelham
Kimberly Queenan, Town of Litchfield	Paul Dadak, Town of Pelham
Karin Elmer, Town of Merrimack	Kermit Williams, Town of Wilton
Tim Tenhave, Town of Merrimack (Zoom)	William Rose, NHDOT (Zoom)
Janet Langdell, Town of Milford	Jack Wade, NHDES (Zoom)

NRPC Staff Present:

Jay Minkarah, Executive Director
Kate Lafond, Assistant Director
Matt Waitkins, MPO Coordinator
Emma Rearick, Transportation Planner
Salem Quinn, Administrative/Communications Coordinator

1. Welcome and Introductions

Queenan called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. Introductions on Zoom and around the room were made.

2. Privilege of the Floor

Queenan asked if anyone wished to speak or add to the agenda. No one did.

3. Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2025

Queenan asked for any edits to the minutes. Hearing none, Queenan asked for a motion to approve.

Tenhave moved the motion, with a second from Corbett,

THAT the minutes of November 19, 2025, meeting be approved as presented. A roll call vote was conducted.

Rose, Cooke, Elmer, Langdell, Berry, and Yule abstained. **The motion carried.**

4. MPO Policy Committee

- a. Public Hearing opened at 7:12 pm:** NRPC FY2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and FFY2023-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Amendment #3 (**Action Item**). Waitkins gave an overview of the process and how the TIP is part of the Ten-Year Plan. This opportunity is to give public input. TTAC recommended that MPO adopt the Amendment. Affected projects are listed in the agenda packet.

NRPC Commission/MPO Minutes January 21, 2026

Questions around last minute project additions that were answered by NRPC and NHDOT. About the process for projects added during the public comment period not posted as other projects were. Noted that it's okay since it will be posted after the fact.

Williams commented on the large last-minute project coming in at the final hour, Pelham 29450, when so many others are being cut and/or moved out of the Ten-Year Plan. NHDOT noted that this project is delayed by about a month. Since this project is associated with a state bridge project, they need to happen around the same time.

Pray commented on both the process for comments getting to NHDOT, as well as the Wilton-Milford-Amherst-Bedford 13692E, and how Amherst has the stretch of road with the most accidents. She will send written comments to Waitkins about concerns with the project getting pushed out. There was discussion regarding project ranking for the Ten-Year Plan, and how safety could hold more weight. Boehm will also advocate at the legislative level for this project.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER STATION (42571) T2 UNH programmatic project: <https://new-hampshire-geodata-portal-1-nhgranit.hub.arcgis.com/pages/nhsades> Discussed what this technology is and what it is used for. The website is available to the public for viewing data.

Elmer moved the motion, with a second from Hennessey.

THAT the Nashua Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby adopts Amendment 3 to the FFY 2025-2028 NRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and associated Metropolitan Transportation Plan project list as discussed. A roll call vote was conducted.

Wade abstained. **The motion carried.**

Discussed best practices for advocating for projects and processes to get Commissioners information sooner. **Public hearing closed at 7:59 pm.**

- b. FFY2025-2028 TIP January Minor Revisions (Information Item).**
Waitkins gave presentation on Minor Revisions and the minor thresholds. Regional projects are listed in the packet.
- c. Position on Potential Turnpike System Toll increase (Action Item).** After much discussion on the topic, a motion was voted on.

Berry moved the motion, with a second from Boehm.

THAT the Nashua Metropolitan Planning Organization takes a position on the potential Turnpike Toll Increase to allow NH EZ Pass holders to see no increase, while Non-NH EZ Pass or cash payers see a 100% increase. A roll call vote was conducted.

Wade and Rose abstained. Garruba objected. **The motion carried.**

- d. Position on Potential Gas Tax increase (Action Item).** After much discussion on the topic, a motion was voted on.

Berry moved the motion, with a second from Roche.

THAT the Nashua Metropolitan Planning Organization takes a position in favor of potential gas tax increase.

Wade and Rose abstained.

Tenhave, Hennessey, Thibeault, Pray, Garruba, Langdell, Yule, and Boehm objected.

The motion carried.

It was noted that even though the motion carried, since it was such a close call, it makes sense to note the vote but not take a stance.

- e. Presentation: Camille Correa, NTS Transit Administrator - Nashua Transit System Public Transit Agency Safety Plan & Transit Asset Management Targets **(Information item)**.

Correa gave a presentation regarding safety targets. NTS Statistics presented with data that they inputted into their systems. Information in packet has been updated, and new data printouts are here tonight.

- f. Demonstration of NRPC Project Tracker & TIP Management Software **(Information Item)**:
Deferred to next meeting.
- g. Other Transportation updates: None were brought forward.

5. Other Business

a. NRPC Regional Plan

We expect to have a draft available in February and will be soliciting feedback. Plan to have presentation at the April MPO meeting. Also discussed NTS Ten-Year Plan: the final document is being formatted and will be available soon.

b. Other Updates

NH DES has a few funding opportunities. Also, there is a 1/31 deadline for requests for information.

6. Commissioner's Roundtable

- Tenhave **Merrimack**: The overall increase amount was relatively 9% improved in town budget and decrease in school district. Tumultuous with ICE protests and Budweiser plant closing.
- Thibeault **Nashua**: Mayor has asked all departments to stay withing a 3% increase in budget.
- Pray **Amherst**: 3.2% increase in town budget. State grant for solar panels, which were installed at transfer station and went live a month ago.
- Garruba **Hollis**: Guidance for town budget was -2%, which was nearly met. School budget most likely won't meet guidance. Upcoming warrant for expansion of the primary school for \$20 million, which will be controversial.
- Corbett **Pelham**: Town budget hovering around a 1-2% increase, school district stayed lean even with health insurance increase. Pelham Fire Chief asked board about SB245 and back billing for ambulance

NRPC Commission/MPO Minutes January 21, 2026

services. Hope is to increase revenue from what was received from commercial insurances. 3.25% of what Medicare pays. Dadak noted discussions of understanding wetland protections, and they had hearings at planning boards. Some people want to get rid of the regulations. Planning board was all opposed to getting rid of protections.

- Sorell **Brookline**: hoping to add a third district, a downtown village district. Mixed use with light commercial. Roche added budget to just under 5% increase, hoping for under 3%. Social media helped to get people's insight, and many people showed up at the meeting. There are a few warrant articles: most notable is to eliminate the fire wards. Currently the Fire Dept. answers to three fire wards instead of the Board of Selectmen.
- Correa **NTS**: Fare increase proposal. Meeting tomorrow morning at the library and upcoming public hearing. Asking for feedback.
- Boehm **Litchfield**: Already discussed Ten-Year Plan. Bill came forward to force a tax cap on school districts, it failed and is trying to come in as an amendment on another bill. Also being added as a ballot question for the November election. Also, the SAU budget passed as a separate article instead of as part of the school district.
- Queenan **Litchfield**: Town evaluation was completed. Town will possibly go with a default budget, were as lean and thin as we could be. School was going to propose an upgrade, but it was pulled at the last minute. Litchfield Resource Fair – first ever! Resources for Litchfield residents and Veterans. Circumferential highway land is available from NHDOT: first it's made available to renters, then to town, then to NH Housing Authority, then it will go up for sale. Commercial zone will reach out to Hudson to see what they are doing with their Commercially zoned land.
- Langdell **Milford**: School system applied technology center CTE has potential money from state for \$10 or \$11 million to revamp high school on the ballot. This is the 3rd year that it's been brought forward and the last chance to get this money from the state. To give appropriate classroom space and repairs that are needed. Planning board has put forward some land use zoning ordinance proposal changes related to housing: one of which is a cottage park area in 3 residential zones to encourage development of smaller homes that are more affordable. Obligatory ADUs because of the changes at the state level last year. Proposed zoning ordinance to change density in downtown area to encourage more mixed use and more housing units. New community development director and town administrator. Yule added closed on 4.8 areas of conservation land. Budget is about 9%, most of which is the extra pay period. Going after a grant for evaluation of town hall.
- Berry **Mont Vernon**: Budget 10% increase (down from 13%).
- Williams **Wilton**: Capital projects, they have a few going on: new highway garage with large costs from consultants. Was hoping for \$3 million, but it's projected at \$8-10 million. They have 4-6 bridge projects going on. Only going to go forward with one of the bridge projects. They also have two high hazard dams. The Dam Bureau has said they have to do something with them but are not sure of deadline. They keep setting aside money for all these projects. Cost keeps going up. However, it is the same cost to remove or replace. NRPC confirmed that Bike/Ped Count Requests are open for 2026.

7. Adjourn: meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm.

The next Commission/MPO meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 15th, 2026.

Respectfully submitted by Salem Quinn, NRPC Administrative/Communications Coordinator.