



February 22, 2016

Bill Watson  
NH Department of Transportation  
7 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 483  
Concord, NH 03302-0483

**RE: TIP Minor Revision – February 2016**

Dear Mr. Watson:

The Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has considered the request to approve the February 2016 Minor Revision to the adopted Nashua Metropolitan Area 2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The proposed revisions to the following projects meet the requirements of the Nashua MPO expedited project selection procedures.

While the NRPC MPO **concurs** with the proposed changes to the projects listed below for Fiscal Years 2015 through 2018, it would like to document for the public record that the communities of Milford, Amherst, and Merrimack have all expressed concerns about the delays in the overall NH 101A widening project (10136 plus 10136A, B, C and D). The City of Nashua also expressed these same concerns during the public comment period for S/TIP Amendment 2. According to the NHDOT estimate, the parent project for the NH 101A widening first had federal funds expended for preliminary engineering and right of way in 1988. This project has evolved over the last 25+ years from a proposed bypass listed in Ten Year Plans from the 1980s to widening and safety improvements listed in the Plans from the 2000s, and that evolution has clearly contributed to delays as have fiscal constraints of the S/TIP and TYP. Improving NH 101A remains a high priority for the Nashua Region and the MPO has consistently ranked the 10136 projects at the top of its prioritized list. However, the Draft 2017 – 2026 Ten Year Plan programs the final year of construction funding in 2026, nearly 40 years after the need for improvements along this critical east-west corridor was initially identified. The MPO welcomes the opportunity to work with NHDOT to advance construction of this project which will improve the mobility and safety of this key arterial.

**Administrative Modifications – Nashua MPO:**

Milford to Nashua

Project # 10136

NH 101A: PE & ROW for improvements at NH101 WB on-ramp and widening from Craftsman Ln to Continental Blvd

- Preliminary Engineering: Shift remaining FFY2015 to FFY2016; Right of Way: delay funding from FFYs 2015 & 2016 to FFY2017 and reduce total amount by \$200,000
- Net change: \$219,648 decrease; total 2015-2018 TIP funding: \$1,128,952

**Administrative Modifications – Statewide**

- Hazmat Statewide 16344F

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

**NASHUA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**



Tim Roache, Executive Director

cc: Linda Dusenberry – NHDOT, Carol Macuch – NHDOT, Leigh Levine – FHWA