

## **Mobility Innovation Working Group**

### **Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2020, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM**

Attendees: Katja Hamler (Governor's Office), Colleen Quinn (Governor's Office), Nicole Verdi (Governor's Office), Joe Masino (Governor's Office), Janet Coit (Department of Environmental Management), Terry Gray (Department of Environmental Management), Pam Cotter (Department of Transportation), Linda George (Division of Public Utilities and Carriers), Leo Wold (Division of Public Utilities and Carriers), Meredith Brady (Division of Statewide Planning), Scott Avedisian (Rhode Island Public Transit Authority), Greg Nordin (Rhode Island Public Transit Authority), Sarah Ingle (Rhode Island Public Transit Authority), John McCoy (Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance), Rachel Calabro (Department of Health), Nicholas Ucci (Office of Energy Resources), Barbara Cesaro (Office of Energy Resources), Hank Webster (Acadia Center), Jennifer Slattery (Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns), Lloyd Albert (AAA Northeast), Julia Rege (Alliance for Automotive Innovation), Meghan McGuinness (National Grid), Josh Brumberger (Utilidata, Inc.), Peter Rothstein (Northeast Clean Energy Council), John Flaherty (Grow Smart RI), Carmen Diaz-Jusino (Bank Newport), Chris Waterson (Waterson Terminal Services LLC), Jakob Frenette (City of Providence), Allison Archambault (Department of Environmental Management), Junior Jabbie (Banneker Supply Chain Solutions), Ashley Brown (Spin), Kevin Tedesco (AECOM consultant team), Jay Duncan (AECOM consultant team), Stephen Gazillo (AECOM consultant team), Christian Nielsen (AECOM consultant team), Eric Weis (Cogent consultant team), Holly Parker (Less Road Traveled consultant team), Christopher Porter (Cambridge Systematics consultant team)

- 1) Welcome and Logistics: Katja Hamler welcomed everyone to the fifth meeting of the Mobility Innovation Working Group and introduced Jay Duncan. Jay Duncan welcomed attendees and gave an overview of the meeting agenda. He then introduced Chris Porter.
- 2) Chris Porter reviewed the tradeoffs among the clean mobility strategies included in three illustrative investment portfolios. He presented the benefits of the portfolios – which “crosswalked” the Working Group Members’ recommendations with clean mobility strategies: electrification, reducing single occupant vehicle (SOV) travel, transit and rail, and traffic flow improvements. He also explained the economic benefits of the strategies, and the following key metrics: Greenhouse Gas emissions, health benefits, non-SOV trips/equitable mobility, and job creation. Strategies are broken into 4 categories: traffic efficiency, transit and rail, vehicle travel reduction, and electrification.

The three illustrative investment portfolios are:

1. Electrification (75%) and mobility strategies (25%)
2. Mobility strategies – vehicle travel reduction, transit and rail investment, traffic efficiency (75%) and electrification (25%)
3. Mix of investments: electrification (40%) travel reduction (30%) transit and rail investment (20%) and traffic efficiency (10%)

Chris Porter then explained that a conservative estimate of revenue from Rhode Island's participation in the Transportation and Climate Initiative is approximately \$22 million a year.

- 3) Jay Duncan explained that Working Group members' recommendations were categorized by the Guiding Principles with which they best aligned. He then introduced Colleen Quinn.
- 4) Colleen Quinn presented the recommendations that aligned with the Guiding Principle, "Design a roadmap towards a clean transportation future." The recommendations included:
  - a) *The Road to Vehicle Electrification*;
  - b) *Electrification Framework*; and
  - c) *Rhode Island's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Infrastructure*.
- 5) Katja Hamler introduced the highlighted recommendations relative to the Guiding Principle, "Guide policy development on the investment of funds, which could be made available to improve clean transportation and mobility in RI." The recommendations included:
  - a) *Advancing Equity in Rhode Island Transportation*; and
  - b) *Mobility Access and Healthy Communities Act*.
- 6) Katja Hamler then introduced the highlighted recommendations from the Guiding Principle, "Create a healthier, more sustainable environment for all Rhode Islanders with specific benefits for residents of our most vulnerable communities." The recommendations included:
  - a) *Active Mobility: Micro-Mobility for All*;
  - b) *Develop a Statewide Mobility Services Program, Utilizing Emerging Technologies and Practices*; and
  - c) *Improve Transit Accessibility*.
- 7) Jay Duncan then presented the recommendations that align with the Guiding Principle, "Improve air quality by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector." The recommendations included:
  - a) *Air Quality Monitoring*; and
  - b) *Electric Vehicle Rebate Program*.
- 8) Jay Duncan continued by presenting the highlighted recommendations that align with the Guiding Principle, "Unlock economic opportunity and enhance options for transit innovation to support business and economic development." The recommendations included:
  - a) *Next Generation Transit Districts*; and

- b) *Incentives to Optimize Transit-Oriented Development (TOD).*
- 9) Colleen Quinn introduced the highlighted recommendations that align with the Guiding Principle, “Develop innovative approaches to mobility, including opportunities for new business development and job creation.” The recommendations included:
- a) *Mobility Innovation Transformation Initiative;* and
  - b) *Legislative, Training and Partnership Priorities.*
- 10) Colleen Quinn then introduced the highlighted recommendations that align with the final Guiding Principle, “Lead by example and set the tone for broader actions, demonstrating meaningful change within the transportation sector is possible.” The recommendations included:
- a) *Transportation and Climate Initiative;* and
  - b) *The Electrification of Transportation in Rhode Island.*
- 11) Closing Remarks: Katja Hamler thanked the members of the public, Working Group members, the AECOM consultant team, and Chairwoman Quinn for their time, commitment and input throughout the process. Colleen Quinn stated that next steps include drafting the Final Report and a presentation of the Report in January.