



*Victoria F. Sheehan
Commissioner*

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**



*William Cass, P.E.
Assistant Commissioner*

**FINDING OF NECESSITY MEETING MINUTES
NASHUA-MERRIMACK-BEDFORD, 13761
JOHN O. MORTON BUILDING
7 HAZEN DRIVE, CONCORD, NH**

May 8, 2019

9:30 A.M.

NAMES OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

David K. Wheeler, Chairman
Joseph D. Kenney

NAMES OF ADDITIONAL PEOPLE PRESENT AT THE MEETING

Peter Stamnas, Director of Project Development, DOT
Wendy Johnson, Project Manager, Bureau of Highway Design, DOT
John Corcoran, Administrator of Turnpikes, DOT
Jon Evans, Bureau of Environment, DOT
Dan Prehemo, Bureau of Highway Design, DOT
Jon Hebert, Bureau of Highway Design, DOT
Paul Coddington, Chief of Administration, Bureau of Right of Way, DOT
Susan Hubschmann, Hearings Coordinator, Bureau of Right of Way, DOT
Scott Owens for East Ridge Condos
Walter E. Johnson of 8 Priscilla Lane, Merrimack, NH

DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER DISCUSSED

Chairman Wheeler called the meeting to order at 9:37am, gave the opening statement, and asked the Project Manager, Wendy Johnson, to give an overview of the issues that were raised at the Public Hearing and in the ten days following, and how they have been addressed.

Wendy Johnson gave an overview of the issues raised and addressed, primarily concerning sidewalks and noise.

Chairman Wheeler mentioned the need to be clear about the fact that the Town of Merrimack would need to maintain the sidewalks they have requested.

Wendy Johnson said that a maintenance agreement would be in place for the upkeep of the sidewalks.

Joseph Kenney raised the question of the addition cost of the sidewalks, and Wendy Johnson responded that the estimated additional cost would be about \$600,000.00.

There were further questions from the Special Committee about sound walls which was primarily addressed by Jon Evans. Mr. Evans discussed the noise levels required to justify sound walls, and other factors in terms of how the determination is made to build or not to build sound walls.

Joseph Kenney asked about the question of graffiti and safety measures.

Wendy Johnson said that safety measures such as rumble strips, addressing "pinch points", changing the sharp curve to better handle the design speed and wider lanes are all part of the plan. There is only so much that can be done about making the sound walls "graffiti proof", but they will do what is reasonable to try to minimize that issue.

Joseph Kenney asked about the timeline for construction and possible contractors.

Wendy Johnson said that the project will be divided into three sections, south, middle and north, the bridges may be broken out separately as well, and there would likely be several contractors. The north section, being the simplest, would likely be the first part to get started.

Chairman Wheeler asked if there were any outstanding questions not yet addressed.

Wendy Johnson said that the only item outstanding is a field meeting with Representative L'Hereaux to address the issue he raised at the Public Hearing, which is planned soon. However, that issue does not fall within the scope of the project, and will be addressed separately.

Chairman Wheeler then called for a motion to vote, Joseph Kenney made the motion to vote, with two voting for the layout and none opposed, the Special Committee voted to approve the project.

Chairman Wheeler closed the meeting at 10:10 A.M.

Minutes taken by Susan Hubschmann: *Susan L. Hubschmann*
Dated: May 8, 2019

Cc: Victoria Sheehan, William Cass, Christopher Waszczuk, Peter Stamnas, all Attendees.

Noted by: Paul Coddington