

August 19, 2010

George N. Campbell Jr., Commissioner
Rockingham Planning Commission
J.O. Morton Building
7 Hazen Drive; PO Box 483
Concord, NH 03302


**RE: Long Range Plan Project Certification - *Haverhill-Plaistow MBTA Commuter Rail Extension*
U.S. DOT TIGER II Discretionary Grant Application
(CFDA Number: 20.933; Opportunity Number: DTOS59-10-RA-TIGER2)**

On behalf of the Rockingham Planning Commission -Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) I am writing to convey my agency's full commitment and support for the above referenced Surface Transportation Infrastructure (TIGER II) Discretionary Grant and to certify that the project is included the MPO Long Range Transportation Plan.

The Rockingham Planning Commission/MPO has supported the extension of the MBTA's commuter rail service to Plaistow since the idea was first formally proposed in 1991. We have included the project in our Transit and Long Range Plans, in various forms, since that time. Presently it is included in our Long Range Plan constrained project list ([FY 2009-2035 Metropolitan Long Range Transportation Plan](http://www.rpc-nh.org/transplan.htm), page 86; www.rpc-nh.org/transplan.htm) as project number 13515 as proposed for CMAQ funding in 2003. Our Long Range Plan will be amended in October 2010 to adopt the forthcoming FY 2011-2014 TIP and Air Quality Conformity determination. Should the TIGER II funding for the project be secured, we will amend our Long Range Plan and TIP at that time to include the project as described in the TIGER II application.

We are pleased to participate in this innovative bi-state transit initiative and pledge our continuing support as the project moves toward implementation. Your support for the project has been essential to the progress that has been made and is most appreciated by the MPO and the Town of Plaistow. We look forward to working with you as the project plans becomes reality.

Sincerely,



Cliff Sinnott
Executive Director

cc: RPC/MPO Commissioners
Sean Fitzgerald, Town Manager, Town of Plaistow