

CONSOLIDATED MANCHESTER/ DERRY-SALEM [R8] REGIONAL COORDINATION COUNCIL

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025
SOUTHERN NH PLANNING COMMISSION/ZOOM

DRAFT MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Mike Whitten, Chair – MTA	Teri Palmer – State Mobility Manager*
Tricia Adams – CareGivers of Greater Derry*	Angelique Pandolph – Easterseals
Scott Bogle – RPC	Susanne Peace – Future In Sight*
Tim Diaz – RNMOW*	Elizabeth Robidoux – Derry*
Jo Ann Duffy – Goffstown	Sylvia von Aulock – SNHPC
Kristan Farr – Londonderry*	Liliana Vornehm – SNHPC
Ben Herbert – R8 Mobility Manager	Tracey Whitehead – MTA/CART
Adam Hlasny – SNHPC	James Wilkie – CareGivers*
Lisa Ludwigsen – Easterseals NH*	John Wilson – Citizen Member (Londonderry)
Nate Miller – SNHPC	Cindy Yanski – R3 Mobility Manager*

**attended virtually*

1. Call to Order

Chair Whitten called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

2. Action on Minutes of July 15, 2025

Motion by Angelique to approve July 15 minutes, seconded by John. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Updates

FY 2025 Section 5310 Activities

Nate reported that final FY2025 invoices have been compiled and submitted to NHDOT.

FY 2026-27 Section 5310 Activities

Nate reported that subrecipient invoices must now be rounded down to the nearest cent.

Weare-New Boston Volunteer Driver Programs

Thus far, New Boston has had 15 rides requested, but only 3 have been covered, all by Peterborough-based drivers. Weare has had 3 rides requested, 2 of which were covered by one Weare-based driver.

Sylvia and Ben are still working on outreach, making connections with potential partners in both communities including librarians. There is some optimism, as several prospective drivers are on the cusp of approval in New Boston.

Mobility Management

Ben shared new quarterly ridership data broken down by service providers. The Hooksett Shuttle and Deerfield VDP run by ReadyRides are experiencing success, whereas the Goffstown Shuttle has seen declining numbers.

4. Extended Derry Service Discussion

This topic was put on the agenda at the request of the CART Advisory Committee, as the Town of Derry has not been able to provide local match for its evening and weekend service 5310 project. CART has been drawing down reserve funding to cover match in the meantime. Several key players at the town level have retired, and the town budget process did not line up with the RCC's project selection dates.

The overall annual cost of the Derry 5310 project is \$94,284, with a local match requirement of \$18,857 (approximately \$1,600 per month). If Derry remains unable or unwilling to provide match, a different project could be eligible for those funds. Several ideas were suggested, including:

- Using funding to support the CART Salem Shuttle. This could be advantageous as CART is facing the prospect of service cuts. However, this is not a perfect option due to the fact funding being redeployed to an existing service is a net loss of service hours in the region. There are also potential eligibility concerns, as there must be proof that most shuttle users are seniors and/or individuals with disabilities.
- Redirecting funding to support New Boston/Weare VDP.
- Redeploy the funding to support Future In Sight, which already receives 5310 funds through the Region 3 (Belknap-Merrimack) RCC. This could take the form of a funding transfer to R3, modeled on current transfers to R10 (\$10k) and R5 (\$8k). It is unlikely that Region 8 would be “punished” for this, as interregional coordination is viewed very favorably by NHDOT.

Ben noted that the biggest unmet need in the region is connecting the eastern towns (Deerfield, Raymond, Sandown, Danville, etc.) to Manchester. Regional connections to medical hubs in Boston, Lebanon, and the Seacoast are also needs.

There was consensus among RCC members that Derry should be given an additional month to discuss further with Town Council and discern whether providing match is doable. Sylvia suggested a deadline of the October 27 CART meeting, which would give the RCC time to react at its November meeting and potentially have a new project in place for January 1, 2026.

Chair Whitten agreed to write a formal letter to the Town of Derry detailing past conversations and clarifying the amount of match funding needed to continue the extended CART service. If Derry can produce some, but not all, of the match, then service could potentially be tweaked to capture the times with highest ridership.

5. Other Business

There was no other business.

6. Next Meeting

The next RCC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 18, at 12:30**.

Motion by John to adjourn, seconded by Jo Ann. Meeting stood adjourned at 1:54 PM.