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## COAST INVITES PUBLIC INPUT FOR 2020 PLANS

*Dover, NH*—Continuing a process to reinvent public transportation in the region by responding to public interests and budget challenges, COAST is announcing a series of community meetings to unveil their latest conceptual plan and invite input from riders and other stakeholders across the Seacoast.

Community input is critical for public transportation planning because it not only supports creating a strong vision but informs funders from elected officials to the NH Department of Transportation that the model that is eventually rolled out has strong backing from the communities and riders it serves.

All members of the community are welcome at all meetings, though each location will likely focus on the details that most affect that community and those nearest it.

Farmington (Town Hall) - Wednesday, May 22, 6-8pm Dover (Wentworth-Douglass Hospital) - Tuesday, May 28, 6-8pm Portsmouth (City Hall) - Thursday, May 30, 6-8pm Somersworth (City Hall) - Tuesday, June 4, 6-8pm Rochester (Public Library) - Tuesday, June 11, 6-8pm

COAST Executive Director Rad Nichols notes, "We really appreciated the public input we received last fall and winter through our surveying and our public events. While there are budget-driven tradeoffs in designing this new system, we hope the plan reflects the best opportunities we have today while creating a scalable model that could grow with future increases in funding. Currently, we do not have all the funding in place for the model we'll be sharing, but we are optimistic that stakeholders, including our communities and the NHDOT, will partner with us to support this creative vision. We are in constant contact with all our funding partners."

The Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST) champions and provides customerfocused public transportation with a commitment to excellence in safety and service. More information is available at www.coastbus.org/ourfuture.