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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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William Cass, P.E.
Commissioner

David Rodrigue, P.E.
Assistant Commissioner
Andre Briere, Colonel, USAF (RET)
Deputy Commissioner

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Bureau of Operations
December 3, 2024

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Transportation to continue its membership and participation with the Eastern Transportation Coalition, University of Maryland, College Park, MD (Vendor No. 177778 B007) by **Retroactively** paying annual membership dues in the amount of \$80,000 for Fiscal Year 2025, to be effective July 1, 2024, upon Governor and Council approval. 100% Highway Funds.

Funding is available as follows:

	<u>FY 2025</u>
04-96-96-960515-30090000 Traffic Operations	
026-500251 Organizational Dues	\$40,000
04-96-96-960515-30520000 Trans Sys Mgmt & Operations	
026-500251 Organizational Dues	\$40,000

EXPLANATION

This is **Retroactive** because the invoice for the Coalition dues was received in July 2024 after the fiscal year began.

Formerly the I-95 Corridor Coalition, the organization started as an informal group of transportation professionals working together to manage highway incidents that impacted travel across state lines. In the past 25 years the Eastern Transportation Coalition has evolved from a small, highway-focused group to more than 200 public agencies working together to address the pressing challenges facing the eastern corridor with a focus on Transportation Systems Management & Operations, Freight, and Innovation. In December 2012, the Coalition Executive Board approved updated procedural guidelines which specify two important things: 1) all full members of the Coalition must pay an annual membership fee, and 2) the University of Maryland Center for Advanced Transportation Technology (UMD CATT) is authorized to act on behalf of the Coalition for the majority of its financial and contracting functions.

All funds collected by the UMD CATT for the Coalition will be deposited in an account specifically for Coalition activities. The Coalition and UMD CATT will issue an annual report to the Coalition's Executive Board within 60 days of each Coalition fiscal year. All financial, business and membership records pertaining to New Hampshire DOT's membership in the Coalition shall remain public record and open to inspection.

Membership in the Eastern Transportation Coalition is on a fiscal year basis, July 1 through June 30 and Fiscal Year 2025 fees are budgeted.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Council organization dues and membership approval submissions:

1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?

The Eastern Transportation Coalition was created in 1993. The Department has been a full member of the Coalition for over 25 years.

2. Is there any other organization, which provides the same or similar benefits that your agency belongs to?

There are no other organizations that provide these benefits to the Department specific to The Eastern Transportation Coalition.

3. How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?

The Eastern Transportation Coalition is a partnership of 18 states and D.C. NHDOT is the only New Hampshire state agency that is a member. The dues paid by NHDOT are the only dues paid by the State to the Eastern Transportation Coalition. The employees from other state agencies that serve on various sub-committees do so as subject matter experts (see Attachment A – Membership Search).

4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc)

Annual membership fee of \$80,000 is standard for all participating states. Membership in the Eastern Transportation Coalition is on a fiscal year basis, July 1 through June 30.

5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?

The Coalition represents the world's third largest economy and nearly 40% of the nation's GDP. The Eastern Transportation Coalition connects members with the data, people, resources and tools needed to create solutions and get them across the finish line.

The Coalition is organized into three program tracks:

a) The Transportation Systems Management and Operations Program (TSMO) is the Coalition's largest and most established. The TSMO program focuses on incident management, traveler information, emergency operations, congestion management and the use of data tools to maximize the safety, mobility, and reliability of the transportation system. The program also provides a forum for members to prepare for deployment of connected and automated vehicle technologies.

b) The Freight Program focuses on improving the safety, mobility, and efficiency of freight and goods moving within the Eastern States. The program covers all modes of goods movement, including trucking, rail, water, and aviation. Nearly 40 percent of U.S. gross domestic product and more than 4 billion tons of freight valued at almost \$3 trillion each year travel through the Coalition states. The program is a resource for member states to engage together on freight-related activities, with emphasis on multi-state coordination.

c) *Innovation is an expanding program that supports members as they address new and emerging approaches related to transportation technology, policies, and partnerships. The Innovation program explores opportunities to use technology to advance new approaches to sustainable transportation funding, such as regional approaches to tolling and mileage-based user fees.*

6. Are training or educational/research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.

As a benefit of the membership, New Hampshire has received scholarships to the operations academy, which was a two-week intensive program on transportation management and operations, and the freight academy, a one-week program.

7. Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.

This membership is not required to receive federal grants, participate in licensing or certification of exams.

8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel including the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination of known and purposes of membership-supported trips.

There is no travel costs associated with this membership.

9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and /or officers of the organization.

There are no state agency employees directly involved with this organization.

10. Explain in detail any negative impact to the state if the Agency did not belong to this organization.

Should the Department not belong to the Coalition it would lose access to timely information regarding the I-95 corridor, specifically interoperability and traffic data, as well as the valuable data and results from on-going mileage based user fee pilot programs in the region. The Department would also lose the ability to bring eastern voice and perspectives into national discussions, and the opportunity to benefit from peer-to-peer network/data/tools that enable systems to function when needed most.

It is respectfully requested that this resolution be approved.

Sincerely,



William J. Cass, P.E.
Commissioner

Attachments



July 17, 2024

William Cass, Commissioner
New Hampshire Department of Transportation

Re: The Eastern Transportation Coalition FY25 Membership Dues

Dear Commissioner Cass:

As The Eastern Transportation Coalition celebrates its 30th year of connecting for solutions, we recognize the many accomplishments and successes achieved by member agencies working together. Initially a partnership of nine states and DC under the IVHS Priority Corridors Program, the Coalition has experienced tremendous regional and programmatic growth. Now at 19 states and DC, the Coalition serves as a national model of collaboration toward advancing transportation system improvements.

The Coalition's FY25 Workplan, developed by member agencies, continues the core program elements in TSMO, Freight and Innovation and also addresses emerging and challenging issues. The attached invoice represents your agency's Coalition membership dues for FY25 (July 2024 to June 2025). These dues allow the Coalition to deliver the FY25 Work Plan.

It is through our Coalition partnership that we proactively and efficiently attain many of our mutual goals. As an established and nimble organization, we are well positioned to make an even larger impact into FY25 and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia G. Hendren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Patricia G. Hendren, Ph.D., Executive Director
The Eastern Transportation Coalition
phendren@tetcoalition.org

Attachment: FY25 Membership Dues Invoice



The Eastern Transportation Coalition

INVOICE
#NHDOT-FY25

July 15, 2024

New Hampshire Department of Transportation
7 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302

Purpose: The Eastern Transportation Coalition
Annual Membership Dues

Covering:
Fiscal year July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025

TOTAL DUE.....\$80,000
Due Date: September 20, 2024

Payable to: University of Maryland

Remit to: Center for Advanced Transportation Technology
5000 College Avenue, Suite 2201
Technology Ventures Building
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

I certify that the above invoice is just and correct:

Thomas Jacobs, Director
Center for Advanced Transportation Technology