



## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 25, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Office  
29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier

6:15 pm - Social & Pizza

\*Action Item

Page **AGENDA**

- 6:30 Introductions**  
**Adjustments to the Agenda**  
**Public Comments**
- 2 **6:35 Approve March 28 TAC Minutes** (enclosed)\*
- 8 **6:40 Presentation on Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan**
- 20 **7:40 Distribution of Extra Transportation Study Funds\***
- 23 **8:00 Transportation Updates** (enclosed)  
An opportunity for TAC members to ask questions about the updates.
- 8:15 TAC Member Concerns**  
Roundtable for any issues, questions, and town updates from TAC members.
- 8:25 Set Agenda for the Future TAC Meeting**
- 8:30 Adjourn**

### Future TAC Meeting Agendas

Below is a preview of upcoming TAC meeting agendas for consideration by the TAC.

August

- **NO MEETING IN AUGUST**

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
2 **Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

3 **DRAFT Minutes**

4 **June 27, 2017**

5 Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Office

6  
7 **Attendees:**

X	Barre City: Scott Bascom		Northfield: Jeff Schultz
X	Barre Town: Harry Hinrichsen	X	Orange: Lee Cattaneo
X	Berlin: Robert Wernecke	X	Plainfield: Bob Atchinson
X	Cabot: Karen Deasy	X	Roxbury: Gerry D'Amico
X	Calais: David Ellenbogen	X	Waitsfield: Don La Haye
X	Duxbury: Alan Quackenbush	X	Warren: Camilla Behn
	East Montpelier: Frank Pratt		Washington: Ray McCormack
	Fayston: Kevin Russell		Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich, Chair
	Marshfield: Vacant		Williamstown: Vacant
X	Middlesex: Ronald Krauth		Woodbury: Vacant
X	Montpelier: Dona Bate	X	Worcester: Bill Arrand
X	Moretown: Joyce Manchester	X	Staff: Ashley Andrews

8  
9 Guests: Bill Woodruff (Town of Waterbury), Kim Swasey (Town of East Montpelier), Member of the  
10 Public Philip Picotte

11 Ashley Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Introductions were completed.

12 **Adjustments to the Agenda: Discuss Summer TAC season**

13 **Public Comments:**

14 None.

15 **TAC Vice-Chair Nominations and Election:** Scott Bascom nominated Bob Wernecke, and was elected Vice  
16 Chair.

17  
18 **Approval of March and April TAC Minutes :**

19 Minutes were reviewed, there were suggestions to spelling errors and then approved.

20  
21 **CVRPC FY 17 TPI Budget Adjustment:** CVRPC added two new staff positions to the budget including our  
22 new Senior GIS Planner and a second Planning Technician. Additionally we added the purchase of two  
23 new Eco Tube Bike Counters. The Overall total budget remains unchanged. D. Bate made a motion  
24

1 **Review of Projects Submitted for FY17 Transportation Planning Funds:** CVRPC has up to \$20,000 in  
2 transportation special projects and studies funding available. Four proposals were received for  
3 evaluation by the TAC. They included:

4  
5 East Montpelier- Traffic study of the Towne Hill Rd/Gallison Hill Rd/ Brazier Rd intersection.

6 Orange- Traffic study of the Reservoir Rd and Lords Rd curve and intersection.

7 Waterbury- Traffic study of the bridge #36 over Thatcher Brook at the North end of Stowe Street and  
8 Route 100.

9 Green Mountain Transit- Survey of GMT rural boarding's and de-boarding's, customer service survey,  
10 and evaluation and planning of Central Vermont routes and services.

11  
12 Kim Swasey from East Montpelier, Lee Cattaneo from Orange and Bill Woodruff from Waterbury made  
13 short presentations, while David Armstrong from GMT was unable to due to technical difficulties. It was  
14 decided that the TAC gets to vote on their first and second favorites. G. D'Amico made a motion to rank  
15 the projects in order from 1-4. East Montpelier was first with Orange Second, Waterbury Third, and GMT  
16 forth. If there is any money left over after the project is completed it should be shared with all. There  
17 was a short discussion debating whether the form of voting was fair, but all agreed in the end that East  
18 Montpelier was the first choice. A motion was made and passed with East Montpelier getting the funds  
19 with two votes against the motion due to scoring concerns.

20  
21 **Draft FY18 Work Program and Budget Review:** Staff requested TAC approval for the draft CVRPC FY18.  
22 This work program and budget reflects the updated VTrans guidance on eligible tasks and budget CVRPC  
23 was provided in May and reviewed with the TAC. A Motion was made by D. Bate to approve the minutes  
24 and was seconded by S. Bascomb. The draft was approved.

25 **Transportation Updates:**

26 A. Andrews reviewed the updates with the TAC.

27  
28 **TAC Member Concerns:**

29 Ron Krauth expressed concern with the lack of visibility for the night road work going on in the region.  
30 (Specifically that at night it was very hard to read the stop signs that the flaggers are holding) This  
31 concern was also mirrored by other TAC members.

32  
33 **Set Agenda for the Future TAC Meeting:**

34 Possible Upcoming TAC agenda items include VTrans Long Range Transportation Plan Presentation

35  
36 **Adjourn:**

37 The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

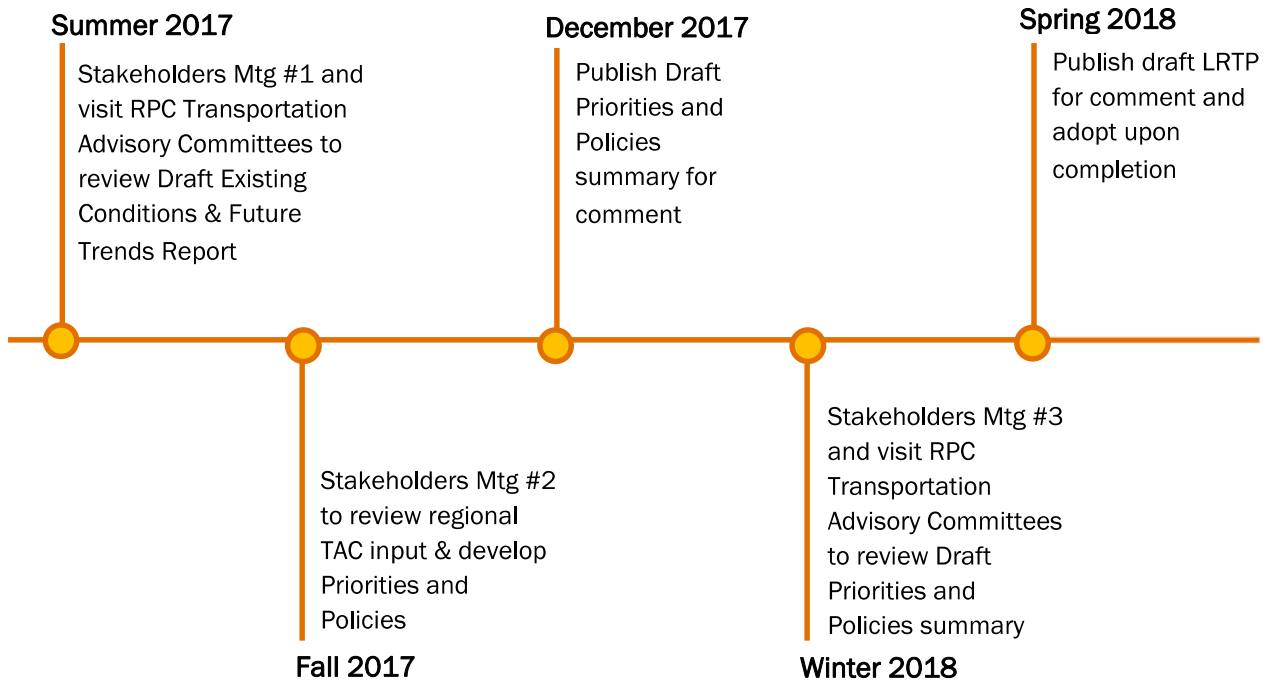
BACKGROUND

Vermont’s Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is a framework to guide transportation decision-making and investments over the next 20 years. All Vermonters have a stake in the continuing evolution of the State’s transportation system. Over the course of the next year, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) will develop the 2040 LRTP and will reach out to stakeholders and regional partners for input. You can also participate in the development of the plan through the website: [vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/long-range-plan](http://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/long-range-plan).

METHODS

VTrans Policy, Planning and Research Bureau staff will update the Vermont Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) over the next 12 months. Two summary documents will serve as the foundation for the update. The first is the 2016 Statewide Transportation Public Opinion Survey, which provides insight into travel behaviors, and public opinion of Vermont’s transportation infrastructure and services. The second is an Existing Conditions and Future Trends report, covering a range of topics including a State and National policy review, energy and climate change, population and demographics, funding and finance, land-use and transportation, and technological change. Together, these reports will serve as the basis for kickoff of the plan update process and inform the Stakeholder and Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings.

PROJECT SCHEDULE



### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### **Role: VTrans Planning Section**

VTrans planning staff will develop the work products for stakeholder consideration and public comment. Work products will include the 2016 Statewide Transportation Public Opinion Survey, Existing Conditions and Future Trends report, presentation materials, summary of public outreach sessions with the Regional Planning Commissions, drafts of the LRTP, and a final LRTP.

#### **Role: VTrans Stakeholder Group**

VTrans will convene an internal stakeholder group to gain input from subject matter experts within the Agency and to ensure awareness and understanding of the Plan's purpose and content throughout the Agency. This group will meet three times throughout the process, in parallel with the External Stakeholder Group.

#### **Role: External Stakeholder Group**

A broad range of External Stakeholders will guide the development of the Plan. These will include State Agencies and Departments including Natural Resources, Human Services, Economic Development, Public Safety, and Public Service, representatives of public transit, representatives of users of pedestrian and bicycle facilities, economic development organizations, and representatives of Vermont's most vulnerable populations including elders and persons with disabilities. Stakeholders will meet three times to review and comment on 1) the purpose of the LRTP and the Existing Conditions & Future Trends report; 2) to develop priorities and policies to address the identified long-term issues; and, 3) to review a draft priorities and policies summary.

#### **Role: RPC Transportation Advisory Committees (TAC)**

VTrans will consult the Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committees in all regions of the state twice during the development of the Plan. The first set of TAC visits will take place over the summer of 2017 to present the Statewide Survey and Existing Conditions & Future Trends findings, solicit feedback regarding current and projected conditions and trends in transportation, and hear about regional issues and priorities. The second round of TAC visits will take place in early winter of 2017/18 to review draft priorities and policies.



## MEMO

Date: July 25, 2017

To: Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

From: Daniel Currier, Program Manager

Re: Distribution of remaining Transportation Planning Study funds

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### Request

Staff requests TAC distribute the remaining funding under our Transportation Planning Initiative to one of the remaining proposal/s. To be completed by the end of CY 17.

CVRPC has up to \$6,000 in transportation special project and study funding remaining. Two proposals remain from consideration of these funds. They include:

- Waterbury's study of the bridge # 36 over Thatcher Brook at the north end of Stowe Street, and
- Green Mountain Transit's survey of GMT Rural Boardings and de-Boardings, Customer Service Survey, and Evaluation and Planning of Central Vermont Routes and Service

### **Waterbury's study of the bridge # 36 over Thatcher Brook at the north end of Stowe Street**

Waterbury wishes to utilize an experienced bridge engineering consulting firm to review options and develop related project costs for each option for rehab or replacement of the existing Bridge #36 over Thatcher Brook at the north end of Stowe Street. The Town is aware that there are two general approaches to rehab or replacement of an existing bridge. One approach is to construct a bypass bridge allowing for continued traffic flow while the existing bridge is rehabbed or replaced. The other approach is to close the road, divert traffic to alternate routes and rehab or replace the bridge. This second approach usually results in less construction time.

Cost: \$20,000.00

**Green Mountain Transit's survey of GMT Rural Boardings and de-Boardings, Customer Service Survey, and Evaluation and Planning of Central Vermont Routes and Service**

GMT would utilize the funding to accomplish the following three tasks. First a survey of GMT Rural Boarding's and de-Boarding's. This survey, known in transit as a ridecheck, is the hallmark of service planning once a system is up and running. Second a customer Service Survey. This survey provides insight into passenger demographics, travel patterns, needs and wants and opinions on system, route and driver performance. Third is the Evaluation and Planning of Central Vermont Routes and Service. They would evaluate current service in Central Vermont, obtain and review data and reports, elicit community input, consider community requests, determine mileage, time and cost for new service, propose new transit service, develop service implementation plans, and write bus and driver schedules for new service.

Cost: \$12,000.00

# TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

July 25, 2017

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These updates are aimed at keeping the TAC informed about potential modifications to State programs and practices that may affect transportation, CVRPC transportation initiatives, VT's Clean Water Act, and other news that may be of interest.

## **VTrans' Municipal Highway and Stormwater Funding Opportunity**

VTrans - It is with great pleasure that I am writing to make you aware of a new funding opportunity being offered through the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans). As part of VTrans' commitment to improving the quality of state waters and providing funding to municipalities to assist in their efforts, VTrans is pleased to provide this opportunity.

Applications must be received on or before **August 15, 2017**

Informational workshops will be held via Webex. It is strongly recommended that an official representative of the applicant attend one of these workshops. Workshops will be provided as webinars, and attendees may log on to [vtrans.webex.com](http://vtrans.webex.com) to fully understand the requirements associated with federal-aid projects. No password or pre-registration is required. Applicants may participate in the training from any computer connected to the internet by clicking on the Municipal Mitigation Workshop link on the above website. Two sessions are scheduled as follows:

Session 1: Thursday, July 20th from 10:00am-12:00pm

Session 2: Tuesday, July 25th from 6:00pm-8:00pm

<http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/Municipal-Highway-and-Stormwater-Mitigation-Program>

## **Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grants**

WASHINGTON - The Department of Transportation (DOT) is announcing the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) discretionary grant program through a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in the Federal Register on June 29. The INFRA program will make approximately \$1.5 billion available to projects that are in line with the Administration's principles to help rebuild America's crumbling infrastructure — a priority for this Administration. In addition to providing direct federal funding, the INFRA program aims to increase the total investment by state, local, and private partners.

The INFRA grant program preserves the statutory requirement in the FAST Act to award at least 25% of funding for rural projects. The Administration understands that rural needs may well exceed this limit, and the Department will consider rural projects to the greatest extent possible.

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/infragrants>