

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Approved Minutes

January 22, 2019

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Office

Attendees:

	Barre City: Scott Bascom		Northfield: Patrick DeMasi
X	Barre Town: Shaun Corbett	X	Orange: Lee Cattaneo
X	Berlin: Robert Wernecke, Vice- Chair	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		Warren: Jim Sanford
	East Montpelier: Frank Pratt		Washington: Vacant
X	Fayston: Kevin Russell	X	Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich, Chair
	Marshfield: Vacant		Williamstown: Rich Turner
X	Middlesex: Ronald Krauth		Woodbury: Vacant
X	Montpelier: Dona Bate		Worcester: Bill Arrand
X	Moretown: Joyce Manchester	X	Staff: Daniel Currier

Guests: Zoe Nederland (VTrans), Dan Jones, Sustainable Montpelier, Laura Biren Sustainable Montpelier, Jonathan Williams Marshfield, Aaron Ingham Marshfield, Rachel Kenedy (GMT)

Steve Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:32pm. Introductions were completed.

Adjustments to the Agenda:

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Public Comments:

There were no public comment

Review and Prioritization of Municipal Transportation Study Projects

D. Currier presented three additional proposals to the TAC for review for future funding under our Transportation Planning Initiative Program. CVRPC has annually funded transportation planning studied and the TAC spend time at its October and January meetings reviewing and prioritizing projects. The three additional proposals presented included:

- Sustainable Montpelier Coalition – Employee Transportation Demand Study for On-Demand Transit System
- Town of Marshfield – Complete Streets Analysis of Route 2 and other roadways throughout Marshfield village.

- Town of Cabot - Existing Conditions Analysis of Bridge B7 location on VT Route 215 South

Representatives for each of the proposals spoke briefly about their needs and desired outcomes.

Here is a summary for each of the proposals requests.

Sustainable Montpelier Coalition – Employee Transportation Demand Study for On-Demand Transit System

The Sustainable Montpelier Coalition (SMC), a 501c3 non-profit, was incorporated in spring 2017 in response to the public support generated from the winning designs of the Sustainable Montpelier 2030 Design Competition and the need for action steps to realize the vision. The Montpelier-Barre-Waterbury region is in need of a local employee and broad public transportation planning study. The goal of the mobility study would be to develop transport demand profiles for the major employers, town centers, and hospitals within 5 miles of the centers of Montpelier and Barre, if possible extending this profile for employees coming from Waterbury, Middlesex, East Montpelier and Northfield.

Sustainable Montpelier Coalition plans to use this study to assist with implementation of a pilot on-demand micro-transit system in the Montpelier area. Assuming success of the pilot, it foresees a later expansion to Barre-Berlin (with future plans for expansion to Waterbury, Middlesex, East Montpelier and Northfield) region. The envisioned pilot will illustrate the strengths and weaknesses of the given system. The takeaways from the pilot will form a more integrated transportation and land-use ecosystem, with the utilization of accessible and smart on-demand transit.

Town of Marshfield – Complete Streets Analysis of Route 2 and other roadways throughout Marshfield village.

The Marshfield Planning Commission, in accordance with the goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the transportation chapter of our community’s recently revised town plan, requests assistance from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission for the purposes of completing a transportation planning study. This study shall specifically relate to Chapter 5 Objective 8 of the Marshfield Town Plan: “Pursue options to reduce traffic speeds and introduce traffic calming infrastructure on Route 2 and other roadways throughout the village” and Strategy G: “...explore methods such as traffic calming and lower speed limit to reduce traffic speeds on Route 2 through the village. This could include enhanced enforcement and/or signage indicating the speed of vehicles entering the village area.”

Specifically, we would like to request CVRPC assistance in determining where traffic calming infrastructure is most appropriately situated, and which forms of traffic calming infrastructure are most viable, on Route 2 and at other locations throughout town. More specifically, our interest lies in where to install permanent speed radar signs, as these devices are used to great effect in neighboring communities such as Plainfield. Any guidance concerning best practices and funding mechanisms for the purchase and installation of any recommended infrastructure upgrades, and any requisite engineering studies, would also be appreciated.

1 **Town of Cabot - Existing Conditions Analysis of Bridge B7 location on VT Route 215 South**

2 The Town of Cabot is requesting that an Existing Conditions Analysis be completed for the
3 Bridge B7 located in the Town of Cabot on VT Route 215 South.

4 Replacing of this bridge is a priority project for our community based on the poor alignment of
5 the roadway and traffic on the road in question. Leaving the Village the bridge is on a steep
6 incline with a sharp corner on the down slope to navigate after crossing. Trucks navigating this
7 bridge from the south (downhill) direction cross into the opposing lane to navigate the corner
8 and the bridge making travel perilous.

9
10 Many trucks use this route on a daily basis, traffic counts for this roadway, VTrans data, AADT is
11 1600 per day. Roadway width is limited on the bridge between curbs at 21.7 ft limiting options.
12 It is not clear what the depth of the current foundations on this structure are or if the bridge
13 can handle hydraulic flows.

14
15 After the presentations the TAC ranked its top three proposals as follows.

- 16
17 1) Northfield Main St Bridge Existing Conditions Analysis
18 2) Town of Cabot - Existing Conditions Analysis of Bridge B7 location on VT Route 215 South
19 3) Duxbury’s traffic study of the three-way intersection of River Rd and Main St
20

21 **Approval of October TAC Minutes:**

22 Z. Nederland asked for some corrections to the October TAC minutes to help clarify the
23 presentation on the VTrans Aviation Plan. K. Russell motioned to accept the minutes with
24 corrections D. La Haye seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

25
26 **Review and Prioritization of Town Highway Bridge Pre-Candidates**

27
28 An annual list of CVRPC’s top regional Town Highway Bridge Pre Candidates are prioritized by
29 the TAC and submitted to VTrans as candidates each year. Projects ranked by the region will
30 have a greater probability of being selected by VTrans to move forward to Design and
31 Evaluation. VTrans is looking for the TAC to prioritize its top 10 bridge pre candidates.

32 D. Currier presented this year’s list. It was noted that Montpelier and Northfield have both
33 shared the number 1 slot over the last three years. Northfield’s bridge has an overall ranked of
34 15. The TAC felt it was appropriate to assign the number 1 ranking to Northfield and help it
35 move onto the candidate list in the Capital Program. The TAC ranked the bridges as follows.

Town Name	Road Name	Route	Bridge Number	CVRPC Approved Pre-Candidate Ranking 2019
NORTHFIELD	N MAIN ST	VT12	00060	1
MONTPELIER	STATE ST	USBR2	0B2-1	2
MONTPELIER	GRANIT ST	GRNIT	00017	3
MONTPELIER	GROUT RD	C30GR	00015	4

MORETOWN	MORETOWN MTN RD	C2001	00021	5
MARSHFIELD	ONION RIVER RD	C3057	00027	6
NORTHFIELD	STONY BROOK RD	C3008	00047	7
NORTHFIELD	RABBIT HOLLOW RD	C3057	00065	8
FAYSTON	N FAYSTON RD	C2001	00006	9
WAITSFIELD	EAST RD	C3010	00021	10

1
2 R. Wernecke motioned to accept the ranking L. Cattaneo seconded that motion. The motion
3 passed unanimously.

4
5 **Presentation on Waterbury Stowe St Bridge Existing Condition Report**

6
7 D. Currier give a presentation to the TAC on the Waterbury Stowe St Bridge Existing Condition
8 Report including process, engagement, and final report. The Waterbury Bridge #36 Feasibility
9 Study was undertaken in 2018 by Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC), in
10 partnership with the Town of Waterbury, to document existing conditions, and identify
11 opportunities for improvements at two intersections and the bridge between them, at the
12 northern terminus of Stowe Street, in the Town of Waterbury, Vermont. Public input was
13 received during a local concerns meeting held by the project team, as well as through a Local &
14 Regional Input Questionnaire. Existing conditions were documented, including field
15 observations and follow-up analyses, traffic operations and safety, roadway geometry, bridge
16 condition inspection and assessment.

17 The full report can be reviewed and downloaded by visiting -
18 [http://centralvtplanning.org/wpcontent/
19 uploads/2012/03/Waterbury-Bridge-36-Existing-Conditions-Report-Final.pdf](http://centralvtplanning.org/wpcontent/uploads/2012/03/Waterbury-Bridge-36-Existing-Conditions-Report-Final.pdf)

20
21 **TAC Member Concerns**

22 D. Currier shared a memo from GMT outlining the upcoming budget discussion and need to find
23 ways to help create a balance budget. Staff will keep the TAC up to date on this topic.

24 R. Kennedy talked about the outreach that will be starting for the route level changes being
25 proposed for Central VT. The meetings are set to start in March.

26 B. Atchinson talk about his concerns that the large buses will not be able to enter the new
27 transit center in Montpelier. Instead the large buses will park at the curb out on the road.

28 L. Cattaneo talked about the lack of bus stop facilities at many of the stop between Montpelier
29 and Barre and the concerns that riders shared about how unsafe many of them are because the
30 busses cannot pull off the road to drop off or pick up riders.

31
32 **Set Agenda for Future TAC Meeting**

33 Capital Program Project Prioritization

34 Trail Counts and Economic Impact Report

35
36 **Adjourn:**

37 The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.