

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

2 **Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

3 **Approved Minutes**

4 **April 23, 2019**

5 Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Office

6 **Attendees:**

X	Barre City: Scott Bascom		Northfield: Patrick DeMasi
X	Barre Town: Shaun Corbett		Orange: Lee Cattaneo
X	Berlin: Robert Wernecke, Vice- Chair	X	Plainfield: Bob Atchinson
	Cabot: Karen Deasy	X	Roxbury: Gerry D'Amico
X	Calais: David Ellenbogen		Waitsfield: Don La Haye
	Duxbury: Alan Quackenbush		Warren: Jim Sanford
X	East Montpelier: Frank Pratt		Washington: Vacant
	Fayston: Kevin Russell	X	Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich, Chair
	Marshfield: Vacant	X	Williamstown: Rich Turner
X	Middlesex: Ronald Krauth		Woodbury: Vacant
X	Montpelier: Dona Bate		Worcester: Bill Arrand
	Moretown: Joyce Manchester	X	Staff: Daniel Currier

Guests: Zoe Nederland and Evan Robinson (VTrans), Greg Western (Cross VT Trail) Tom McArdle (City of Montpelier)

7 Steve Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Quorum of members where not  
8 present. Introductions were completed.

9  
10 **Adjustments to the Agenda:**

11 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

12  
13 **Public Comments:**

14 There were no public comment

15  
16 **Presentation from VTrans on the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)**

17 Evan Robinson VTrans UAS Program Director presented on the use of the system by the Agency.  
18 Currently there is a group of VTrans staff involved in the UAS program and make up the team.  
19 VTrans follows the FAA requirement for UAS operations including being certified to fly them.  
20 The UAS systems falls under part 107 compliance of the FAA regulations which dictates the  
21 weight (less than 55 pounds) flight elevation (under 400 feet) and other regulations on there  
22 use.

23  
24 VTrans currently has one UAS that it operates a DJI Phantom 4. This has proven to be a  
25 workhours but they have four more UAS's on order. Their daily flight operations include  
26 structure inspection, project and construction management, transportation promotion, GIS  
27 mapping and environmental surveys.

1 Q - How do you determine elevation? The photo are stitched together using photogrammetry  
2 and the elevation I'm not sure about.  
3 Q - How about the computer. Do you have a processing computer to do that? We do but it is  
4 not nearly powerful enough and we are in the processing of purchasing a new one.  
5 Q - You have pilots for the UAS but can't you run the UAS with the computer. Yes we can but  
6 we still need spotters and a pilot to help manage the flight. All of these people help to improve  
7 our safety while flying. The UAS can also be used during an emergency and live stream photos  
8 into the Emergency Operation Center.  
9 Q - Even during search and rescue do you still need line of sight? Yes you do.  
10 Q - Do you produce a lot of film? No all photos are digital and get stored on servers at VTrans.  
11 Q - Is weather a problem to flying? Yes we have limits especially wind speed.  
12 Q - UVM has a program correct? Yes and we use them when we have questions and are a great  
13 resource.  
14 Q - How much do all of these cost? \$1,000-\$2,000 for a basic UAS but up to \$20,000 for the  
15 high end one.  
16 The UAS photos can be used to help support the use of the snooper truck but will not replace  
17 the snooper truck inspection.  
18 Evan will share the info on what are the requirements for flying a UAS in VT.

19  
20 **Central VT Construction Project Updates:**  
21 **Cross VT Trail (Winooski River Bridge/US 2)** – Greg Western, Cross VT Trail Director presented  
22 an update on the Trail between Montpelier and East Montpelier on US 2. This section of trail is  
23 a continuation of the Montpelier Bike Path. Greg reports they have received their letter of  
24 intent from VTrans for their Section 1111 State highway access permit for the section of path  
25 along US 2 and are working on other permits for the Winooski River bridge crossing. This  
26 section, including the bridge and path, is scheduled to be completed by 2021. At the same time  
27 that this work is going on Cross VT is also working on securing trail easements in East  
28 Montpelier and Plainfield.

29  
30 Comment: This section of the Cross VT Trail is also part of the Central VT Path and should be  
31 added as a foot note in your material.  
32

33 **Montpelier Bike Path** – Tom McArdle, City of Montpelier Public Works Director presented an  
34 update on the construction of the Montpelier Bike Path from Taylor St to Main St and Granite  
35 St to the Ice Center on Gallison Hill Rd. These section totals 1.9 miles of path with 1.1 miles  
36 being off road. The planning for this section of the path started 20 years ago and originally was  
37 going to connect Montpelier to Berlin. But due to restrictions on the use of the Rail Road bed  
38 between Montpelier and Berlin the City had to abandon the section of the path to Berlin and  
39 move it to an on road facility. The total project cost is 4.9 million and will be completed this  
40 year.

41  
42 **Waterbury Main St** – Steve Lotspeich, Waterbury Community Planner presented an update on  
43 the construction of the Waterbury Main St Reconstruction. The planning for this project  
44 started 30 year ago and includes 0.9 miles of reconstruction including water and sewer mains,

1 sidewalks, roadway, power utilities, lighting, and trees. The project cost is 15 million dollars  
2 and will be completed by 2021. The project will be worked on in four segments with segment  
3 2, 3 and 4 being work on in 2019, section 1 and 2 being work on in 2020 with all work  
4 completed in 2021.

5  
6 **I 89 Exit 6 Ledge Removal** – Daniel Currier, CVRPC staff presented an update on the I-89 Exit 6  
7 Ledge removal. The project consists of the removal of ledge for 1400 foot along I-89. The ledge  
8 will be cut back to a 1 to 1 slope in most locations and the removal of vegetation along the top.  
9 The project will result in the closure of Exit 6 for about 6 weeks and rolling road blocks on I-89  
10 north and south bound during blasting. The exit closure and reduced lands on I-89 is schedule  
11 to being in June.

12  
13 **Approve January 22<sup>nd</sup>, February 26<sup>th</sup> and March 26<sup>th</sup> TAC Minutes:**

14 No motion was made as there was no quorum present to vote. The minutes will be added to  
15 the May meeting agenda for approval.

16  
17 **Review of Functional Class Road Changes in Barre Town:**

18 D. Currier presented on the request from Barre Town to change three segments of road from a  
19 local roads to major collectors in the Functional Classification system including:

- 20 • Waterman St from VT 110 to Websterville Rd
- 21 • Websterville Rd from Waterman St to Miller Rd
- 22 • Websterville Rd from Church Hill Rd to Quarry Hill Rd.

23 The purpose of the functional classification system is to identify the particular role a roadway  
24 plays in moving vehicles through a network of highways. It groups roads into three main  
25 functional classes as defined by the United States Federal Highway Administration: arterial,  
26 collector, and local.

27  
28 Each roadway was reviewed by the TAC and they agreed with the request by Barre Town to  
29 pass on these roadways to VTrans for incorporation as major collectors into the Functional  
30 Classification system.

31  
32 **TAC Member Concerns**

33 No concerns were shared

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35 **Set Agenda for Future TAC Meeting**

36 TPI Budget Adjustment

37 TPI Work Program Review

38 Presentation on Paratransit Planning Grant Results

39  
40 **Adjourn:**

41 The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.