

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

DRAFT Minutes

June 25, 2019

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Office

Attendees:

	Barre City: Scott Bascom		Northfield: Patrick DeMasi
	Barre Town: Shaun Corbett	X	Orange: Lee Cattaneo
X	Berlin: Robert Wernecke, Vice- Chair	X	Plainfield: Bob Atchinson
	Cabot: John Cookson	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
	Fayston: Kevin Russell	X	Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich, Chair
X	Marshfield: Robin Schunk		Williamstown: Rich Turner
X	Middlesex: Ronald Krauth		Woodbury: Vacant
	Montpelier: Dona Bate	X	Worcester: Bill Arrand
X	Moretown: Joyce Manchester	X	Staff: Daniel Currier

Guests: Zoe Nederland (VTrans), Erin Parizo (VTrans), Gregory Goyette (Stantec), and Robert Clark (Berlin)

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

Adjustments to the Agenda:

Plainfield US2/Main St Intersection Reconstruction Update was switch with the Berlin Route 62/Paine Turnpike Park and Ride Discussion

Public Comments:

There were no public comment

Approve May, 28th TAC Minutes:

S. Lotspeich suggested some corrections to the minutes. R. Wernecke motioned to accept the May 28th TAC minutes as corrected. R. Krauth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Plainfield US2/Main St Intersection Reconstruction Update

Erin Parizo of VTrans and Gregory Goyette of Stantec presented on the work done to develop a preferred alternative for the Plainfield US2/Main St Intersection. This intersection has received new momentum and community engagement so that a preferred alternative has been designed. The scoping work was conducted back in 2005 by CVRPC at that time the community did not select a preferred alternative. The project was then restarted 2014 with VTrans

1 studying with the assistance of Stantec. The intersection has a lot of contrast to deal with
2 including: properties, grade, traffic, pedestrian, and cost. The intersection geometry is also very
3 awkward with poor sign distance, steep grades, high volumes, regional corridor, and historic
4 structures. Room is very limited to do anything.

5
6 VTrans with help from CVRPC and Town came to a consensus on a preferred alternative this
7 alternatives is a three way signalized T intersection. The design will remove the island and
8 utility poll. Build new sidewalks and cut US 2 down by 2 feet. The new grade for Main St will be
9 changed from 16% to 15%. The grade of 15% is above the highway specification for side roads.
10 10% is the standard. But there will be a 5% stop area for the first car to sit on.

11
12 Q1 - Will the old Plainfield hardware store be removed? No it will stay but conversation will be
13 had with all of the landowners.

14 Q2 - What will happen with the removal of the parking spaces in front of the old store? VTrans
15 and the towns are looking for a way to mitigate to loss of parking perhaps on the adjacent town
16 parking.

17 Q3 - Do you have the profiles? Not at the meeting but Greg will share.

18 Q4 - What about the cross walk and the grade? They will be installed to the ada compliant and
19 the signal will have a dedicated ped crossing. More work on the design and local preference
20 will be incorporated as they work out the details and design.

21 Q5 - How different is the grade from the previous preferred to this one? It is the same?

22 Addition design considerations

23 Q6 - How can construction occur? Main st would be closed temporarily with alternating 1 way
24 traffic on us 2.

25 Q7 - How long will the constitution take? One constitution season

26
27 The timeline for this project is as follows. Public information meeting will take place with the
28 town is a few months, fall 2019 30% plan update, winter 2020 60% plans, ROW started 2020,
29 100% with bid advertisement-TBD, with possible construction in 2023. Public engagement will
30 be important and VTrans plans to start it very soon?

31
32 Q8 - Have you considered underground the utilities? Those conversations have started but the
33 utility don't like to pay for it. So there is more to work out.

34 Q9 - Could the railing be fixed to help improve sign distance? We have really focused on the
35 final solution and not spent to much time on other fixes.

36
37 **Berlin Route 62/Paine Turnpike Park and Ride Discussion**

1 D. Currier present the preferred alternative for the Berlin Exit 7 Park and Ride expansion. In
2 total the park and ride will be expanded from 76 spots to 112 with 5 handicap, a new bus
3 shelter, lighting, and an exit directly onto VT 62. The land around the new park and ride will
4 have a berm installed with trees to help shield the adjacent land owner's view of the park and
5 ride. Robert Clark (adjacent land owner) talk about his experience work with VTrans on this
6 project including being proactive about talking with VTrans and advocating for the
7 improvements that would lest impact his quality of life. He also talk about using his local and
8 state contact to make sure he was heard. The TAC discussed further with R. Clark about the
9 park and ride.

10
11 Q1 – Why is this expansion of the park and ride occurring? The park and ride use at this lot has
12 been over VTrans's thresholders and was identified for expanding in their 2016 Park and Ride
13 Plan.

14
15 **TPI FFY 20 Work Program and Budget Review and Approval**
16 **Presentation on Paratransit Planning Grant Results**

17 D. Currier present the draft CVRPC FFY 20 Transportation Planning Initiative work program and
18 budget. This work program and budget reflects the updated VTrans guidance on eligible tasks
19 and budget (new tasks have been **bolded**).

20
21 In brief: The following changes from the FY19 work program and budget are as follows:

22 Task 1 – Program Administration: This task covers the administration of work program and
23 budget.

24 Task 2 – Public Participation and Coordination: This task covers the time spent by staff
25 attending public meetings, including the TAC meetings, and working with VTrans on various
26 State working groups.

27 Task 3 – Long Range Planning: This task covers the time spent by staff to assist Green Mountain
28 Transit and updated our local and regional plans.

29 Task 4 – Short Range Planning: This task covers the time spent by staff to conduct our field
30 services including culvert and bridge inventors, vehicle counts, and road erosion inventors.

31 There is a new task included in short Range Planning: Public Transit Planning - **Human Services**
32 **Transportation Coordination/Regional E&D (Elderly and Disabled) Public Transit Advisory**
33 **Committees (RPTAC)**

34 Task 5 – Project Development Planning: This task covers the time spent by staff to assist with
35 grant and project development.

36 Task 6 – Other Planning Activities This is a new task that includes **(Watershed Planning):**

37 **Transportation System Resiliency Planning work includes add the Stevens Branch**
38 **watershed to the tool and assist the communities in incorporating the results into**
39 **their local planning documents.**

40
41 Funding Level for this year's budget is \$243,124.

1 Summary of budget amounts by task

2

Task	Task Description	Agreement Amount
Task 1	Program Administration	\$18,802
Task 2	Public Participation and Coordination	\$37,800
Task 3	Long Range Transportation Planning	\$63,588
Task 4	Short Range Transportation Planning	\$97,786
Task 5	Project Development Planning	\$15,148
Task 6	Watershed Planning Activities	\$10,000
Total		\$243,124

3

4 TAC discussed the work program and budget. R. Wernecke motioned to approval the draft
5 CVRPC FFY 20 Transportation Planning Initiative work program and budget. L. Cattaneo
6 seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7

8 **TAC Member Concerns**

9 R. Wernecke voiced gratitude toward VTrans for the work on progressing Us2/Main St
10 intersection.

11 It was noted that highways across the region took a real beating this past winter with pot holes
12 everywhere.

13 R. Wernecke Berlin Lover's land bridge is closed. It was reconstructed in 1994 but the deck is
14 now gone. It is a pony truss bridge. Berlin will be looking for help on getting this bridge fixed.
15 Q1 - How much traffic? Not very much but it's a favorite crossing for locals.

16 R. Wernecke talk about seeing an article on the VT 63 Park and Ride but it was his
17 understanding that that project was suspended. D. Currier will follow up with Wayne Davis and
18 let Bob know.

19 **Set Agenda for Future TAC Meeting**

20 July field trip to Montpelier transit center

21

22 **Adjourn:**

23 The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.