TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 28, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Central VT Chamber of Commerce, Paine Turnpike North, Berlin, VT
(Coming off the interstate at exit 7, turn left at the first light.
Just before the next crossroads, the Chamber is on your left. It is the light yellow building.)

6:15 pm - Social & Pizza

Page AGENDA

6:30 Introductions

Adjustments to the Agenda

Public Comments

2 6:35 Presentation on Diverging Diamond Interchange Exit 16 — Mike LaCroix (VTrans)

4 7:35 Approve October and November TAC Minutes (enclosed)*

10 7:40 TPI Budget Adjustment Review — CVRPC Staff*

13 8:00 Transportation Updates (enclosed)
An opportunity for TAC members to ask questions about the updates.

8:10 TAC Member Concerns
Roundtable for any issues, questions, and town updates from TAC members.

8:25 Review February Meeting Date and 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.

February meeting date 25th
• Start Project Prioritization

Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in programs or activities are encouraged to contact Nancy Chartrand at 802-229-0389 or chartrand@cvregion.com at least 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.
The current interchange at Exit 16 is a grade separated tight diamond interchange with I-89 crossing over US Routes 2/7 via two bridges. The existing interchange yields frequent traffic congestion, lengthy delays, and significant queuing during peak hours. These existing conditions are a safety concern with a high number of incidents, collisions, and a lack of accommodations for non-motorized travel.

PROJECT OVERVIEW:
The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is improving the roadway along the US Routes 2/7 corridor, in the vicinity of I-89 Exit 16, to enhance mobility and safety in Colchester, Vermont. The core of the project is to reconfigure the existing tight diamond interchange to a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) at I-89 Exit 16.

Additional improvements include:
- Adding turn lanes at the Mountain View Drive, Hercules Drive and Rathe Road intersections.
- Construction of dedicated pedestrian and shared pedestrian/bicycle facilities such as sidewalks and shared-use paths.
- Modernizing traffic signals at South Park Drive, I-89 Exit 16, Mountain View Drive, Hercules Drive, Rathe Road, and at Tigan Street in Winooski City.
WHAT IS A DDI?

A Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) is an innovative, modern interchange design that can relieve traffic congestion and improve safety for drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

In a DDI, traffic crosses to the left side of the roadway allowing for ease of access to the interstate by eliminating difficult left turns. With traffic diverted to the left side of the roadway, vehicles making a left onto the interstate entrance ramps do not have to cross oncoming traffic, creating fewer conflict points. The reduction of conflict points reduces potential user collisions, thus improving safety and vehicle throughput. With left turn movements operating freely within the DDI, the traffic signals no longer require dedicated left turn phasing, improving overall traffic operations at the interchange. Additional benefits include reducing driver discomfort, fuel consumption, and lost time. Raised islands within the interchange create short crossing distances, which increase overall safety for non-motorized users such as pedestrians and bicyclists.

PROJECT COST:
The project is estimated to cost approximately $10 million.

In addition to the safety and operational benefits of the DDI, the construction of a DDI is cost effective. The DDI can be constructed utilizing the existing bridge structures eliminating the need to modify or replace them, reducing construction costs. The construction schedule of a DDI is much shorter than the construction of more common interchanges not only reducing overall cost, but also impacts to the traveling public.

CONSTRUCTION:
Construction is anticipated to begin in Spring 2020 and be completed over the course of two full construction seasons, ending in Spring 2022. The first year of construction will consist mainly of utility relocation, ledge removal, and drainage work with the bulk of the roadway construction including the installation of the DDI, the addition of the turning lanes, and the implementation of the pedestrian and bicycle accommodations taking place the following construction season.

During construction, weekly Construction Updates will be distributed to notify the public of construction activities and travel conditions for the following week. Project Updates and Traffic Alerts will be issued on an as needed basis throughout the life of the project. Sign-up to receive project updates on our website: www.Exit16DDI.vtransprojects.vermont.gov.

Contractor: TBD

VTrans Project Manager: Michael LaCroix

VTrans Resident Engineer: TBD

Project Outreach Coordinator: Annabelle Dally

CONTACT US

For more information on Exit 16 DDI Project visit
www.Exit16DDI.vtransprojects.vermont.gov
Email us info@Exit16DDI.vtransprojects.vermont.gov
or call our 24-hour project hotline
1-802-595-4399

Facebook: @VtransOnTheRoad
Twitter: @AOTVermont
Instagram: @AOTVermont
YouTube: VTransTV
Flickr: VTrans
Steve Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Quorum was present. Introductions were completed.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:**
Cross VT Trail Association requested to be added to the agenda to request a letter of support for an upcoming grant application to the Transportation Alternative program. This item was added before the presentation on the Public Transit Policy Plan.

**Public Comments:**
There were no public comments

**Cross VT Trail Association Requested for Letter of Support**

Greg Western, Director of CVTA request the TAC support their application to the Transportation Alternative Program to fund the bridge over the Winooski River. The CVRPC TAC has long supported the CVTA and its trail planning and construction efforts. The TAC felt strongly that they should continue to support the trail and the effort to build the bridge over the Winooski River. D. Currier presented a draft letter to the TAC for review. R. Wernecke motion for CVRPC to sign the draft letter to support CVTA application. B. Atchinson 2nd the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
Presentation on Public Transit Policy Plan

Jackie Cassino presented on the Public Transit Policy Plan. The Vermont Public Transit Policy Plan will quantify Vermont’s transit needs, as well as recommend programmatic and policy initiatives to strengthen the statewide transit system. This plan will lay out a 10-year vision for improved transit service in Vermont and develop policies and strategies to guide the improvement of Vermont’s transit network.

The development of a PTPP every five years is required by Statute (Title 24, VSA, §5089). The first PTPP was published in 2000 and the most recent version was published in 2012. This Plan will be an update to the 2012 PTPP and will serve as a guide for the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and its partners in making decisions on implementing and funding transit projects that facilitate mobility, minimize duplication of services, leverage limited funds, maximize ridership, and improve coordination of services. In addition, the PTPP will meet the objectives of the 2014 Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan, including developing an annual workplan for the Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Transportation Program.

The plan will: provide a summary of state and federal regulations, policy framework, and planning requirements unique to transit; provide a current profile of the system; identify current needs; establish recommendations; create a performance framework that will guide future investment decisions and Agency practices; and develop an implementation plan, inclusive of an E&D Program Workplan, that will identify both short and long term strategies and action items to fulfill proposed recommendations.

CRITICAL THEMES & CHALLENGES

- Aging population, including detail on demographic trends in Vermont, travel needs of older adults, and potential strategies for addressing those needs
- Economic trends and opportunities, including the divide between urban and rural areas in Vermont, and the critical issue of access to jobs as traditional economic models change
- Technology and information, including the revolution in transit information, improvement in operations management, and the rise of on-demand mobility and ride scheduling
- Public awareness, including the impacts of geography, age and income on Vermonters’ awareness of public transit service, the perceptions of public transit, and ways to increase awareness
- Land use development and housing location, including rural development patterns, State land use regulation, and strategies for coordinating land use and transportation decisions

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

- ADDRESSING AGING VERMONT
- EXPANSION OF TRANSIT ACCESS
- OUTREACH AND RAISING AWARENESS, AND
- LONG-TERM LAND USE PLANNING AND INVESTMENTS.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?
All relevant information can be found on the project webpage

http://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/PTPP

Draft reports are up for review. The complete PTPP will be open for public comment November-December 2019.

Have additional questions? Contact Project Manager Jackie Cassino (contact info below).

Jackie Cassino | Planning Coordinator
Policy, Planning & Intermodal Development
Vermont Agency of Transportation
219 N. Main Street | Barre, VT 05641
802-272-2368 | jackie.cassino@vermont.gov

Minutes from July Meeting – Minor edits where made to the minutes. J. D’Amico motion to approve minutes with changes. D. La Haye seconded and the motion passed.

Presentation on New Project Prioritization Process
Was moved till November.

TAC Member Concerns

RAMP members in Plainfield are displease with the design of the fix for the Main St US 2 intersection because of the possible closure of the Main St bridge into the Village.

The Montpelier Transit Center will have its opening on Friday October 25th but GMT does not plan on operating out of the location till November 18th

Set Agenda for Future TAC Meeting
Review new process to prioritize projects introduce process with presentation, will replace regional process.
Presentation on the Transportation Resiliency Vulnerability Analysis
Discussion on Regional Transportation element

Adjourn:
The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.
Steve Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. A quorum of members were no present. Introductions were completed.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:**
There were no adjustments to the agenda

**Public Comments:**
There were no public comments

**Presentation on Transportation Resiliency Planning Tool work in the Stevens Branch Watershed.**
Pam DeAndrea and Daniel Currier presented on the Transportation Resiliency Planning Tool work in the Stevens Branch Watershed. Information on the project can be found here - [https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/transportation-resilience](https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/transportation-resilience)

TAC Members asked the following questions:
- Can the model incorporate the road erosion inventory data that has been collected to help understand all the issues at a locations? The data can’t be added to the web tool but CVRPC could create maps that show both the TRPT data and the REI data.
- Do you plan on working on other watersheds? Yes
- How much is being spent on this project? $30,000
CVRPC staff will be back to the TAC once the data has been added to the web tool to share the final results.

Minutes from October Meeting – Minor edits where made to the minutes. No action was taken.

Presentation on New Project Prioritization Process
Dan presented on the new project prioritization process.
Currently the RPC’s ranking account for 20% of the total score while VTrans ranking accounts for the other 80%. The new process is vision-performance based and is even more data driven to calculate its transportation value.
The new process also includes a community driven process for projects that will be combined into the capital program. This will allow more projects on the community driven side to move forward. The new criteria include: Safety, asset condition, mobility/connectivity, community, economic access, environment, resiliency, and health access
The RPCs will be responsible for entering in the economic access and community criteria for each project.
TAC Members asked the following questions:
Will we be able to give input on charging stations? No because those have been grant specific project and we don’t weight in on those in this process.
Where did corridor management go? VTrans still does corridor planning and needs identified during that process are going to be mapped and included as part of other projects.
Will bad ideas get recycled? Yes
The RPCs will be doing some pilot testing with the goal to start using this new system no sooner than 2022.

Discussion on Updating CVRPC Regional Plan and Transportation Chapter
Staff is directed to work with regional plan committee to update the Regional Plan.
Dan talked with the TAC about their potential role in this update.
What part would the TAC want to play in the development of the plan?
S. Lotspeich talk about how in the past the TAC was really involved and that the regional plan committee has a lot to do to get this plan updated.
D. LaHaye asked if we have a digital way to get people to meetings? Yes
L. Cattaneo asked if we could have separate meetings given the amount of time it will take?
Dan shared that in 2016 there was an update done which condensed 100s of pages down to 40 pages.
It was suggest that the TAC add 30 minutes at the beginning of each regular meeting to meet and review sections of the Transportation Plan.
S. Lotspeich asked if the regional plan committee want us to fill this role? Dan offer to talk with Clare and check in on that?
If there are transportation data we want to include that can go in the appendix.

TAC Member Concerns
Plainfield talk about working with GMT to get more info on routes-buses to Health Center and Senior Center so they could figure out ridership info and advertise routes.

Route 14 RCT bus started from Hardwick to Montpelier/Barre and meets up with the Route 2 commuter at the East Montpelier park and ride.

Montpelier- encourage people to use new paths and transit center when open.

Marshfield is waiting on VTrans to set up a meeting they did find out that they did not approve the requested change in speed limits in Marshfield. The town is working with the project manager for the road reconstruction.

Set Agenda for Future TAC Meeting
Next Meeting is January 28th
Diverging Diamond Interchange presentation
Regional plan and trans chapter

Adjourn:
The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.
Date: January 28, 2020

To: Transportation Advisory Committee

From: Ashley Andrews, Planner

Re: CVRPC FFY 2020 TPI Budget Adjustment 1

Request
Staff requests TAC approval of the CVRPC FFY 20 Transportation Planning Initiative work plan and budget adjustment 1.

This adjustment reflects budget changes to Task 1-6 and the addition of funds to plan Task 6B (Watershed Planning). Exhibit 2, 3, 4 includes the full budget details.

Summary of budget amounts by task:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Task Description</th>
<th>Approved Amount</th>
<th>Amended</th>
<th>Difference</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Task 1</td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$18,988</td>
<td>$18,153</td>
<td>($835)</td>
<td>-4.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task 2</td>
<td>Public Participation &amp; Coordination</td>
<td>$38,945</td>
<td>$37,571</td>
<td>($1,374)</td>
<td>-3.53%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 3</td>
<td>Long Range Planning</td>
<td>$65,691</td>
<td>$93,207</td>
<td>$27,516</td>
<td>41.89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 4</td>
<td>Short Range Planning</td>
<td>$93,816</td>
<td>$68,488</td>
<td>($25,327)</td>
<td>-27.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 5</td>
<td>Project Development</td>
<td>$15,591</td>
<td>$15,612</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>0.13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 6A</td>
<td>Other Planning - VT Culverts</td>
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<td>0.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 6B</td>
<td>Other Planning - Watershed Planning</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$22,377</td>
<td>$12,377</td>
<td>123.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$246,429</td>
<td>$258,806</td>
<td>$12,471</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

These budget adjustments helps to bring tasks allocations in line with current spending trends and the addition of new funds to task 6B.

Funding Level - $258,806
The following budget changes from the FFY20 include:

Task 1 – Program Administration budget changes include: Reallocation of hours to staff, addition of funding for updating our traffic counting software, and the moving of funds from travel to consultants.
Task 2 – Public Participation and Coordination budget changes include: Reallocation of hours among staff.
Task 3 – Long Range Planning budget changes include: Reallocation of hours among staff.
Task 4 – Short Range Planning budget changes include: Reallocation of hours among staff.
Task 5 – Project Development Planning budget changes include: Reallocation of hours among staff.
Task 6A – Other Planning Activities (VT Culverts): Small change due to hourly rate increase.
Task 6B – Other Planning Activities (Watershed Planning): Addition of $12,377 to the task from FY19 carry over which is to be used to continue working on existing Transportation Resiliency Planning Tool (TRPT) watershed project.
### Exhibit 2: Budget Detail by Task Category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Task Description</th>
<th>Agreement Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Task 1</td>
<td>Program Administration</td>
<td>$18,153</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 2</td>
<td>Public Participation and Coordination</td>
<td>$37,571</td>
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<td>Task 3</td>
<td>Long Range Transportation Planning</td>
<td>$93,207</td>
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<td>Task 4</td>
<td>Short Range Transportation Planning</td>
<td>$68,488</td>
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<td>Task 5</td>
<td>Project Development Planning</td>
<td>$15,612</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 6A</td>
<td>VOBCIT Technical Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 6B</td>
<td>Watershed Planning activities</td>
<td>$22,377</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$258,806</strong></td>
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### Exhibit 3: Budget Detail by Expense Category

#### RPC Staff Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate SFY20</th>
<th>Total Hours</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIS Senior Planner I</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIS Planner I</td>
<td>$33.98</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Use Senior Planner III</td>
<td>$36.27</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Manager</td>
<td>$37.64</td>
<td>64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerg Mngmt Asst Plan I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Use Asst Planner II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning Technician I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning Technician II</td>
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#### Indirect Costs

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<tr>
<td>Program Manager</td>
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<td>GIS Planner I</td>
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<td>Office Manager</td>
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<td>Land Use Asst Planner II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning Technician II</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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#### Direct Costs

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<td>Contractual</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
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<td>Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data &amp; References</td>
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<td>Advertising</td>
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#### Fund Allocation

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<th>Task Description</th>
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<th>VTrans Share²</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Administration</td>
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<td>VOBCIT Technical Support</td>
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<td>$3,398</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watershed Planning activities</td>
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<td>$22,377</td>
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<td><strong>Subtotal by Share</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,303</strong></td>
<td><strong>$235,503</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Agreement Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$258,807</strong></td>
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</table>

**Notes:**

¹ CVRPC share comes from annual appropriations from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (Municipal & Regional Planning Fund) and CVRPC's member municipalities.

² VTrans share comes from federal transportation funds provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and state transportation funds appropriated by the Vermont Legislature.
TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

January 28, 2020

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.

Study of I-89 in Chittenden County:
The goal of this study is to assess the capacity of Interstate 89 (especially through the urban core of the county) and existing interchanges; identify current safety, operational and resiliency issues; assess future needs; develop and evaluate alternatives, including sketch level conceptual plans, that address identified issues for all modes of transportation; examine transportation and land use effects of mainline widening and/or new/expanded interchanges; evaluate climate change effects of alternatives (air quality, energy consumption, etc.); determine asset management/maintenance needs; and develop an implementation plan for interstate and interchange investments. This implementation plan will be developed and considered in the context of the broader 2018 ECOS Plan. CVRPC Staff sit on the Advisory Committee providing input into the process.

Upcoming Public Meetings:
January 30 2020 - South Burlington Where: South Burlington City Hall 6-8 PM
February 13 2020 – Williston Where: Williston Town Hall 6-8 PM
March 11 2020 – Winooski Where: Winooski City Hall 6-8 PM
Web Site - https://envision89.com/

VTrans Legislative report on Methods to increase the Use of Public Transit in Vermont
Section 20 of Act 59 (2019) of the Vermont Legislature directed the Agency of Transportation to develop a report on methods to increase the use of public transit in Vermont. This report responds to the legislative directive. It includes an overview of the policy goals related to increasing transit ridership, the potential target markets for increased ridership, and a series of recommendations derived from a literature review, analysis of existing Vermont transit services, and stakeholder input. The report estimates the costs of the recommendations when possible and offers criteria to use to determine the priority of potential actions.

VTrans Legislative report on Washington County Rail Road Upgrade Costs
This Corridor Study has identified proposed infrastructure improvements to the track, grade crossings, and bridges along the 8-mile section of track on a portion of the New England Central Railroad (NECR) and the Washington County Railroad (WACR) Montpelier and Barre (M&B) Division between Montpelier Junction in Montpelier, VT and the TD Bank Drive Thru located on Metro Way in Barre, City VT (WACR MP 7.75).