

CVRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Minutes June 24, 2014
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Barre City: Scott Bascom	Northfield: Leslie Matthews - Absent
Barre Town: Jeff Tucker - Absent, Harry Hinrichsen - Absent	Orange: Lee Cattaneo
Berlin: Ed Schmeckpeper - Absent	Plainfield: Bob Atchinsen
Cabot: Kevin Lehoe - Absent	Roxbury: Gerry D'Amico - Absent
Calais: Rick DeWolfe - Absent	Waitsfield: Don LaHaye
Duxbury:	Warren: Craig Klofach - Absent
East Montpelier: Frank Pratt	Washington: Ray McCormack - Absent
Fayston: Kevin Russell	Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich
Marshfield: Michael Sabourin - Absent	Williamstown: Larry Hebert
Middlesex: Ronald Krauth - Absent	Woodbury:
Montpelier: Eileen Simpson - Absent	Worcester: Bill Arrand - Absent
Moretown: Steve Sharp - Absent	Staff: Steve Gladczuk, Amelia Norris
Others:	

The meeting began at 7:06 PM.

1. Approve May TAC Minutes

Larry made a motion to approve the minutes and Don seconded. There was no discussion and the minutes were passed.

2. Update on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) – Vision, Goals, & Policies

The TAC has begun reviewing the Vision, Goals, and Policies in the existing RTP as part of the 2016 Regional Plan update process. Steve G. aggregated preliminary comments from committee members and presented suggested changes for further discussion. Most revisions included changing wording in the interest of clarity, removing outdated and obsolete policies that the TAC does not feel are within the scope of the Regional Plan, and combining related policies. The full RTP can be downloaded at: <http://centralvtplanning.org/programs/transportation/regional-transportation-plan/>.

3. Report on the East Montpelier US2/VT 14 Bridge & Intersection Project Public Meeting

Steve G. shared the presentation from the public meeting that occurred in East Montpelier on June 2, 2014. VTrans is exploring a variety of options to keep traffic flowing during the necessary replacement of the bridge in question on VT Route 14. The project includes adding a turning lane on the bridge and one lane on US Route 2, as well as a traffic signal and 5' sidewalks.

The proposed duration of the construction is 2 years with a project cost of \$6.3 million if the bridge remains open, which will increase traffic delays and congestion. The proposed alternative dials the duration back to 1 year with a project cost of \$4.8 million and includes a 75-day bridge closure, a detour, and limited night construction. Delays and congestion will occur whether or not the bridge is closed, but will be worse if the bridge remains in operation. The following general comments were expressed at the meeting:

- Businesses in the area are concerned that construction during the summer months will impact profits
- Towns are worried about increased traffic on back roads due to detours and are demanding compensation to cover repairs, maintenance, etc.

There is potential for the timing of the closure to be delayed from summer to fall and the duration lessened to 30 days. Contractors will be involved in the design process early to provide input. The next public meeting will be held in August.

4. Green Mountain Byway Recreation Guide Brochure Reprint

The Green Mountain Byway Committee has requested that the TACs from CVRPC and Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) fund the reprint of the Recreation Guide Brochure. The existing supply is expected to run out this summer. It would cost between \$1,500 and \$1,800 to print 20,000 additional copies as requested. Currently, LCPC does not have any funds to allocate to reprinting and has asked CVRPC to cover the full cost at this time with the expectation that LCPC will cover printing next year. Larry made a motion to allot \$1,650 to the Green Mountain Byway Committee for the brochure reprint. Bob seconded and it was approved by a vote.

5. Strong Communities, Better Connections Grant Program

The Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) and VTrans have partnered to offer a grant program. The program, which is in its pilot stage, aims to fund planning projects that link land use and transportation. The entire state, with the exception of Chittenden County, is eligible to apply. The current availability for funding is around \$200,000 and the program hopes to fund two projects and may not spend the entire budget due to limited staff. The grant requires a 10% local or municipal match and will be funded 10% through ACCD and 80% through VTRANS. Steve G. will deliver a PowerPoint with more details at the next meeting.

6. Set agenda for the July TAC Meeting (July 22, 7-9 PM at CVRPC Offices)

- Alternatives Presentation on the VT 64 Williamstown/Northfield Park & Ride Lot Expansion Project

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM.