**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, June 23, 2020, 6:30 p.m.**

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\*Action Item

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **AGENDA** | |
|  | **6:30** | **Introductions** |
|  |  | **Adjustments to the Agenda** |
|  |  | **Public Comments** |
|  | 6:35 | Approve March, April, and May TAC Minutes (enclosed)\* |
|  | **6:45** | **TAC Elections of Officers** \* |
|  | **7:00** | **Sneak Peak: Updating Vermont Rail Plan and Freight Plan** – Zoe Neaderland and Dave Pelletier, VTrans  Work has started to update two related plans, and this is an opportunity for TAC members to test drive some contents. |
|  |  |  |
|  | 7:45 | **WACR MB Freight Corridor Commuter Rail Study**- The Vermont General Assembly requested that the Vermont Agency of Transportation develop a report on the state-owned railroad line between Montpelier, VT and Barre, VT focused on the cost to upgrade the existing freight track corridor to commuter rail standards and provide an estimated construction schedule to complete the required upgrades. |
|  | **8:05** | **TAC Member Concerns**  Roundtable for any issues, questions, and town updates from TAC members. |
|  | **8:29** | **Set Agenda for the Future TAC Meeting** |
|  | **8:30** | **Adjourn** |

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](mailto:chartrand@cvregion.com) at least 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.



**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

**Minutes**

# March 24th, 2020

**Attendees:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Barre City: Scott Bascom |  |  | Northfield: Patrick DeMasi |
|  | Barre Town: Shaun Corbett |  |  | Orange: Lee Cattaneo |
| x | Berlin: Robert Wernecke, Vice- Chair |  | x | Plainfield: Bob Atchinson |
|  | Cabot: John Cookson |  | x | Roxbury: Jerry D’Amico |
| x | Calais: David Ellenbogen |  |  | Waitsfield: Don La Haye |
| x | Duxbury: Alan Quackenbush |  |  | Warren: Jim Sanford |
|  | East Montpelier: Frank Pratt |  |  | Washington: Vacant |
|  | Fayston: Vacant |  | x | Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich, Chair |
|  | Marshfield: Robin Schunk |  | x | Williamstown: Rich Turner |
| x | Middlesex: Ronald Krauth |  |  | Woodbury: Vacant |
| x | Montpelier: Dona Bate |  |  | Worcester: Bill Arrand |
| x | Moretown: Joyce Manchester |  |  |  |
| Staff: Ashley Andrews  Guest: Chris Damiani GMT, Zoe Neaderland VTrans | | | | |

Chair S. Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Quorum was not present. Introductions were completed.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:**

A. Andrews requested to have Chris Damiani from GMT update the TAC on service changes.

**Approve Minutes from February Meeting:**

Spelling and punctuation edits were suggested. No quorum was present.

**Public Comments:**

No public present.

GMT Updates to Service Changes:

GMT just posted public hearing information on their website, and a short video for each service area to show more detail of the changes. There is an open comment period until April 8th. GMT will provide comments to the board on April 21st where GMT will review comments and implement service changes at end of June, beginning of July. Comments be can sent to email [ride@gmt.com](mailto:ride@gmt.com) or by telephone at 540-2537

GMT also gave an update of service changes as they relate to covid-19

* Barre Link Suspend
* 2 out of 4 trips for the Waterbury link have been suspended
* Montpelier link has reduced service
* Boosted service to the Waterbury Park & Ride and State Complex
* Suspended first am run on the Route 2 Commuter which leaves Marshfield at six o’clock
* Suspended Mad River Valley seasonal service and reduced service for the Mountain Rd to run hourly between 6-5pm.

**Capitol Program Project Prioritization and Town Highway Bridge Pre-Candidate List for FY2021**

A. Andrews and S. Lotspeich presented the Capitol Program Projects and the Town Highway and Bridge Pre-Candidates, that CVPRC staff prioritized using a matrix set up by the TAC. The TAC decided (since there wasn’t quorum) to make the recommendation to the Executive Committee to move forward with how CVRPC draft prioritized them. B. Wernecke asked for CVPRC to use the scoring matrix on the Lovers Lane Bridge. TAC also expressed concern on how awkward the scoring matrix was and that they would like to create a new matrix before the next round of candidates.

**TAC Member Comments/Concerns**

TAC expressed concern over the meeting platform since they felt that it wasn’t user friendly and had several issues of people not being able to connect. A. Andrews will make the process more clear in the future.

Plainfield updated the TAC about how the Selectboard closed all meetings which made moving forward on the Route 2 intersection difficult. All RAMP projects are on hold which means they will not be moving forward at this time with P. Mitchell’s Hitching Post.

**Adjourn:** B. Wernecke suggested the TAC adjourn**.**

The meeting ended at 7:58 pm.

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

**Draft Minutes**

# April 7, 2020

**Attendees:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| x | Barre City: Scott Bascom |  | x | Northfield: Jeff Shultz |
| x | Barre Town: Shaun Corbett |  | x | Orange: Lee Cattaneo |
| x | Berlin: Robert Wernecke, Vice- Chair |  | x | Plainfield: Bob Atchinson |
|  | Cabot: John Cookson |  |  | Roxbury: Jerry D’Amico |
| x | Calais: David Ellenbogen |  |  | Waitsfield: Don La Haye |
| x | Duxbury: Alan Quackenbush |  |  | Warren: Jim Sanford |
|  | East Montpelier: Frank Pratt |  |  | Washington: Vacant |
|  | Fayston: |  | x | Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich, Chair |
| x | Marshfield: Robin Schunk |  |  | Williamstown: Rich Turner |
| x | Middlesex: Ronald Krauth |  |  | Woodbury: Vacant |
|  | Montpelier: Dona Bate |  |  | Worcester: Bill Arrand |
| x | Moretown: Joyce Manchester |  |  |  |
| Staff: Ashley Andrews  Guest: Peter Carbee - Washington | | | | |

Chair S. Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Quorum was not present at beginning of the meeting. Introductions were completed.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:**

A. Andrews apologized that the Minutes were not included in the mailing, and S. Lotspeich suggested to look them over at the May meeting

**Public Comments:**

Peter Carbee from Washington was present but since Washington doesn’t have a member he was monitoring the meeting.

**District Leveling Prioritization**

A. Andrews presented the VTrans Districts suggested leveling projects for the CVPRC region. The projects may be funded by federal stimulus money. There are seven projects split between three Districts. District 4 had one project for the region, District 5 had 3 projects, and District 7 had 3 projects. They are all paving or spot paving projects. District 4 was discussed first, the TAC believes that Route 12 South and North of Montpelier is in worse shape than Route 14, however they believe it is project that would be starting from scratch rather than leveling. District 5 Middlesex has two sections of road that are a continuation of last year’s paving project on Route 2 and one in Moretown farther west. It was suggested if possible to combine all three projects into one. The TAC made a comment to the District to push for a complete paving rehabilitation of Route 2 to remove the concrete road underneath. District 7 has a project on Route 14 going from East Calais village and ending in Woodbury at the Town office. Plainfield to East Montpelier on Route 214 (Which was incorrectly labeled as Route 2 on the map) and B. Atchinson would like to double check the total mileage being paved for that project. East Barre to Washington on Route 110. (Which was incorrectly displayed on the map as to where the segments started and ended) S. Corbett recommended that the TAC ask the District to expand treatment to stretch the entire length of project rather than sections.

R. Schunk wondered about adding a paving project on Route 232, but it was discovered that there was one already planned for this year.

S. Bascom made a recommendation to accept the priorities as listed except make Route 214 number 3 rather than number 5 as the District had listed. B. Wernecke seconded. The TAC added comments on combining the projects in District 5 into one, and the projects on Route 110 into one and expanding the treatment to encompass all sections, and double checking the mileage on Route 214. *The recommendation was passed.*

**TAC Member Comments/Concerns**

R. Krauth dozens of roads in Vermont have concrete underlays but if we can somehow get started on fixing them it is better than nothing.

B. Atchinson was very irritated that the TAC was only given four days’ notice for the meeting, since he had to miss another meeting and since there would most likely not be a quorum present as a result of four days’ notice.

D. Ellenbogen didn’t see all the attachments and emails for the meeting, he had been on the TAC 6 years and had never heard of an emergency meeting. In order to get a quorum, with the short notice he felt there should have been phone calls or repeat emails to make sure the TAC was aware.

S. Lotspeich responded by saying that he understands people are frustrated. It is the symptom of dealing with an emergency. This was a project we were told to schedule. A. Andrews and he were instructed to do this by Bonnie Waninger and the EC Committee. Not to duck the responsibility and we can certainly send a reminder out next time. A. Andrews did send a packet out yesterday to remind everyone about tonight’s meeting, but he realizes email is not the perfect way to go but we did the best we can.

**Discuss Future TAC Meetings**

At this time all non-essential meeting have been put on hold unless there is something that the TAC needs to meet about. There will be no meeting at the end of April, and A. Andrews will keep the TAC informed if there is something essential they need to meet about in May.

**Adjourn:** S. Bascom suggested the TAC adjourn**.**  B. Wernecke seconded

The meeting was ended at 7:30 pm.

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

**Draft Minutes**

# May 26, 2020

**Attendees:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| x | Barre City: Scott Bascom |  |  | Northfield: Jeff Shultz |
|  | Barre Town: Shaun Corbett |  | x | Orange: Lee Cattaneo |
| x | Berlin: Robert Wernecke, Vice- Chair |  | x | Plainfield: Bob Atchinson |
|  | Cabot: John Cookson |  |  | Roxbury: Jerry D’Amico |
| x | Calais: David Ellenbogen |  |  | Waitsfield: Don La Haye |
|  | Duxbury: Alan Quackenbush |  |  | Warren: Jim Sanford |
|  | East Montpelier: Frank Pratt |  |  | Washington: Vacant |
|  | Fayston: Matt Lillard |  | x | Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich, Chair |
| x | Marshfield: Robin Schunk |  |  | Williamstown: Rich Turner |
|  | Middlesex: Ronald Krauth |  |  | Woodbury: Vacant |
| x | Montpelier: Dona Bate |  |  | Worcester: Bill Arrand |
| x | Moretown: Joyce Manchester |  |  |  |
| Staff: Ashley Andrews  Guest: Peter Carbee - Washington | | | | |

Chair S. Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Quorum was not present at the meeting. Introductions were completed.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:**

No adjustments to the Agenda

**Public Comments:**

Peter Carbee from Washington was present but since Washington doesn’t have a member he was monitoring the meeting.

Review of Draft March and April Minutes

Postponed due to lack of quorum

**Review of Draft TAC Rules of Procedure**

The members present of the TAC felt that the rules of procedure where well written, however there was some concern is to how the TAC was formed originally. Bona B. asked if there was any way to change the quorum numbers to be able to make more decisions. Scott B. suggested the TAC encourage bus/rail/bike and pedestrian groups to be part of the TAC. Bob W. recommended using a super majority vs. a simple majority to get more participation. Lee C pointed out that 51% of full membership might work vs quorum. David E. said there was more of a downside to including outside groups because once a group has a representative the TAC will never be able to get rid of them. Lee C. recommended that the outside representative be voted in every year like the rest of the TAC is. Bob A had concerns about adding outside representatives since they might not show up, and it will still be hard to chase a quorum. The members present asked Ashley A. to see if it is possible to have a quorum be the majority of appointed seats on the TAC vs. the amount of Towns in the region.

It was also discussed that in the rules of procedure the Chair has the right to contact members after 3 consecutive absences and the Town to see what going on. Steve L. commented that he had been lax about that and probably should start doing that.

**Election of Officers**

Postponed due to lack of quorum

**Transportation Projects going on in the Region**

Ashley A. presented on Berlin 1-89 bridge replacements, Montpelier Multimodal Transit Center, Route 12S crack sealing, replacement of BR13 on Cummings St in Montpelier. Steve L. gave an update on the Waterbury Main St Project, and Bob A. gave an update on the Plainfield Main St intersection.

**Ash Tree Inventories and EAB Preparedness/Management Plans**

Ashley A. presented on Ash Tree Inventories and Management Plan that CVRPC helped develop. Steve L. presented a bit on Waterbury’s Emerald Ash Borer Preparedness Plan completed by Redstart Inc, with help from CVPRC on inventorying and mapping. CVRPC would like to offer its services to any Municipality that hasn’t completed an inventory or management plan. Please contact Ashley Andrews at [andrews@cvregion.com](mailto:andrews@cvregion.com) for more information.

**TAC Member Comments/Concerns**

Bob A. is concerned about Plainfield being able to get anything done at the moment due to the unrest at the Town government level, especially with the Plainfield Route 2 and Main Street Project with VTrans

David E. is wondering if there is anything that TAC can do that’s COVID related since there is going to be more Vermonters doing staycations this summer to do to encourage safe biking, or address the unusual state of affairs that we have. Need to stay tuned to federal stimulus, funding.

Joyce mentioned the Cares Act that Vermont received 1.25 billon for but it is funds that have to be spent by December 30th for health and safety issues directly related to COVID-19. She is not how VTrans would be able to say that bike lanes are directly related to COVID. If we want to promote healthy outdoor activities it seems related. Need to find someone at VTrans that has good writing skills to recommend that as an option.

**Adjourn:** S. Bascom suggested the meeting adjourn**.**  Lee C. seconded

The meeting was ended at 8:30 pm.