



## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, September 22, 2020, 6:30 p.m.**

**Via GoToMeeting**

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\*Action Item

### **AGENDA**

**6:30 Introductions**

**Adjustments to the Agenda**

**Public Comments**

**6:35 Approve July TAC Minutes (enclosed)\***

**6:45 Approve TAC Rules of Procedure \*(enclosed previous minutes)**

**7:00 TRPT Presentation** - Pam DeAndrea from CVPRC will be presenting on the Transportation Resiliency Planning Tool results and analysis.

**7:40 FFY20 TPI Budget** – Review and approve budget adjustment (enclosed)\*

**7:40 FFY21 TPI Work Program and Budget** - Review and approve revised work plan and budget (enclosed)\*

**8:05 TAC Member Concerns** - Roundtable for any issues, questions, and town updates from TAC members.

**8:29 Set Agenda for the October 27th 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)**

**Draft Minutes**

**July 28, 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	x	Roxbury: Jerry D'Amico
x	Calais: Alt Karin McNeill		Waitsfield: Don La Haye
x	Duxbury: Alan Quackenbush		Warren: Jim Sanford
	East Montpelier: Frank Pratt		Washington: Vacant
	Fayston: Matt Lillard	x	Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich, Chair
	Marshfield: Robin Schunk	x	Williamstown: Rich Turner
x	Middlesex: Ronald Krauth		Woodbury: Vacant
x	Montpelier: Dona Bate	x	Worcester: Bill Arrand
x	Moretown: Joyce Manchester		

Staff: Ashley Andrews

Guest: Zoe Neaderland VTrans, Chris Damiani GMT, Alice Peal (Mad River TAC, and Waitsfield citizen)

Chair S. Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Quorum was present at the meeting. Introductions were completed.

**Adjustments to the Agenda:**

A Andrews suggested that items that needed to be voted on should be done first so that Robert Wernecke can participate since he just had knee surgery and was rather uncomfortable.

**Public Comments:**

None

**Review of Draft March, April, May, and June Minutes**

Minutes were accepted with changes made. Robert moved to accept the minutes with changes Bob seconded.

**Election of Officers**

Nomination for Chair and Vice Chair.

S. Bascom nominated S. Lotspeich for Chair; B. Atchinson seconded.

S. Bascom nominated R. Wernecke for Vice Chair; B. Arrand seconded

The motion was passed successfully.

**D. Bate recommend that the TAC move the FY21 TPI Work Plan and Budget before the presentation by GMT so that it could be voted on before R. Wernecke leaves.**

#### **TPI Work Plan and Budget**

L. Catano made a motion to approve the program and budget as is and then have discussion on motion later. D. Bate seconded. R. Wernecke supports the Budget and Plan as is. But he suggested that next year that the Plan and Budget include the previous year for comparison. S. Lotspeich also noticed that fy20 was written incorrectly on the budget tables and should have read ffy2021. Z. Neaderland has volunteered to do a presentation on TRPT and act 667 at a later date, since the TAC wasn't familiar with it.

**The motion was passed**

#### **GMT Update**

Chris Damiani Transit Planner at GMT presented on the changes to GMT since COVID-19 started. They are actively cleaning and disinfecting the buses, and have installed protective barriers, and are giving out masks, they have decreased their service routes and the amount of people that can ride the buses at one time but have buses available at certain locations if there is overflow or deviations (which is a ¾ mile deviation from the fixed route) They have also switched to use larger buses. The fare is now free which equates to about a \$2500 a day in revenue loss in the Central Vermont area. Riders are now updated by social media, and other associated apps, and a hotline number on changes. GMT did a survey to see what happens in the future with 200 responses, which looked promising that riders still want to use the bus. GMT has received CARES Act money to help offset costs due to lost revenue. There will be two electric buses added to the GMT fleet in about two years that will operated in Central Vermont, and GMT will also be operating an Uber style service for the Montpelier Circulator, Hospital Hill, and Capitol Shuttle in the not too distant future.

#### **TAC Member Comments/Concerns**

- J. Manchester is concerned about have to get CARES Act money to VTrans since GMT was able to get some.
- K. McNeill said that the Town of Calais is interested in having the autonomous vehicle test conducted in the Town, and wanted to get in touch with Joe Segale for more information. A. Andrews said she would connect them.
- She is also wondering if there is any federal COVID funding out there that was going to VTrans that might be made available/ useable by the RPCs for transportation infrastructure funding? Z. Neaderland said she would look into it, but the only thing that she had heard of were related to electric vehicles and health care. J. Manchester found data on vulnerable population's transportation, but haven't heard of anything else.

#### **September Meeting ideas**

Individual transit outdoor field trip possibly to Waterbury to look at the construction

1 Alice Peal gave an update on what is going in the Mad River. The Mad TAC is planning on doing  
2 a webinar showing what the Mad River has to offer in the way of multimodal transportation.  
3 How to be forward thinking in the time of COVID, and would love feedback from the CVPRC  
4 TAC. They would be happy to share with the CVPRC TAC at an upcoming meeting when it is  
5 completed.

6  
7 **Adjourn:** S. Bascom moved the meeting adjourn. B. Atchinson seconded

8  
9 The meeting was ended at 7:57 pm.

DRAFT



## MEMO

Date: July 28, 2020  
To: Transportation Advisory Committee  
From: Bonnie Waninger, Executive Director  
Re: TAC Rules of Procedure

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**✉ ACTION REQUESTED:** Recommend adoption of the revised Transportation Advisory Committee Rules of Procedure by the Board of Commissioners.

In response to TAC's question, this memo provides information regarding the attendance and quorum in relation to committees of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission. It also provides information regarding other proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure.

### Attendance and Quorum

The TAC asked if quorum can be based on membership (seats) or if it can be based on appointments (filled seats).

CVRPC is required to follow Vermont statute as it related to open meeting law requirements. Based on consultations with the Secretary of State's office and VLCT, quorum is based on a majority of membership/seats rather than a majority of appointed/filled seats. Specifically, 1 VSA § 172 states:

When joint authority is given to three or more, the concurrence of a majority of such number shall be sufficient and shall be required in its exercise.

In the past, many boards and committees used filled seats to determine quorum. In 2017, the Secretary of State clarified that the number of seats designed for a board/committee must be used to determine quorum. Vacancies cannot be disregarded.

### Other Proposed Changes

Sections on General Activities and Membership were updated in the previous draft to reflect changes in the Commissions bylaws, which were adopted December 10, 2019. Changes to the section on Conflict of Interest is identical to a change the Commission is making to Rules of Procedure for all committees. This common language refers committee participants to the Commission's Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy, adopted December 11, 2018.

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

**Minutes**

**May 26, 2020**

**Attendees:**

x	Barre City: Scott Bascom
	Barre Town: Shaun Corbett
x	Berlin: Robert Wernecke, Vice- Chair
	Cabot: John Cookson
x	Calais: David Ellenbogen
	Duxbury: Alan Quackenbush
	East Montpelier: Frank Pratt
	Fayston: Matt Lillard
x	Marshfield: Robin Schunk
	Middlesex: Ronald Krauth
x	Montpelier: Dona Bate
x	Moretown: Joyce Manchester

	Northfield: Jeff Shultz
x	Orange: Lee Cattaneo
x	Plainfield: Bob Atchinson
	Roxbury: Jerry D'Amico
	Waitsfield: Don La Haye
	Warren: Jim Sanford
	Washington: Vacant
x	Waterbury: Steve Lotspeich, Chair
	Williamstown: Rich Turner
	Woodbury: Vacant
	Worcester: Bill Arrand

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 were well written, however there was some concern as to how the TAC was formed originally. Dona 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

1 voted in every year like the rest of the TAC is. Bob A had concerns about adding outside  
2 representatives since they might not show up, and it will still be hard to chase a quorum. The  
3 members present asked Ashley A. to see if it is possible to have a quorum be the majority of  
4 appointed seats on the TAC vs. the amount of Towns in the region.

5  
6 It was also discussed that in the rules of procedure the Chair has the right to contact members  
7 after 3 consecutive absences and the Town to see what going on. Steve L. commented that he  
8 had been lax about that and probably should start doing that.

#### 10 **Election of Officers**

11 Postponed due to lack of quorum

#### 13 **Transportation Projects going on in the Region**

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

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

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

#### 26 **TAC Member Comments/Concerns**

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

30  
31 David E. is wondering if there is anything that TAC can do that's COVID related since there is  
32 going to be more Vermonters doing staycations this summer to do to encourage safe biking, or  
33 address the unusual state of affairs that we have. Need to stay tuned to federal stimulus,  
34 funding.

35  
36 Joyce mentioned the Cares Act that Vermont received 1.25 billion for but it is funds that have to  
37 be spent by December 30<sup>th</sup> for health and safety issues directly related to COVID-19. She is not  
38 how VTrans would be able to say that bike lanes are directly related to COVID. If we want to  
39 promote healthy outdoor activities it seems related. Need to find someone at VTrans that has  
40 good writing skills to recommend that as an option.

41  
42 **Adjourn:** S. Bascom suggested the meeting adjourn. Lee C. seconded

43  
44 The meeting was ended at 8:30 pm.



## Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

### TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

#### *RULES OF PROCEDURE*

\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ /2020

**PURPOSE:** To oversee the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's (CVRPC) transportation planning program in accordance with CVRPC plans, policies, and procedures, to act as a liaison between local communities and the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), and to provide local and regional input regarding transportation issues important to the region.

#### **GENERAL ACTIVITIES:**

- ◆ Oversee the CVRPC transportation planning program in accordance with CVRPC plans, policies and procedures. This includes assisting with the development of CVRPC's annual transportation work program and budget.
- ◆ Develop and update a regional transportation element as part of the Regional Plan.
- ◆ Provide recommendations on funding and prioritization for the Agency of Transportation's Capital Budget and State Transportation Improvement Program.
- ◆ Act as a liaison between local communities and the Vermont Agency of Transportation.
- ◆ Provide local and regional input regarding transportation issues important to the region.
- ◆ ~~Foster public and member municipality participation in the planning for transportation improvements in the region; support and encourage intergovernmental cooperation on regionally important transportation issues.~~
- ◆ ~~Develop and update a Regional Transportation Plan as part of the Regional Plan and Transportation Improvement Program for Board of Commissioners consideration and subsequent submission to the Agency of Transportation and the Legislature.~~
- ◆ ~~Review the Agency of Transportation's Capital Budget and State Transportation Improvement Program, providing recommendations on funding and project prioritization.~~
- ◆ ~~Participate in special studies conducted by the Regional Planning Commission.~~
- ◆ ~~Assist in the development of the Commission's annual work program and budget to be submitted to the Agency of Transportation.~~
- ◆ ~~Provide input and policy recommendations to the Board of Commissioners regarding pertinent regional transportation issues, including review of State plans, policies, and~~



~~legislation.~~

- ~~◆ Provide support to member municipalities and other partners working on transportation issues determined to be in conformance with the Regional Plan.~~

**ADVISORY ROLE:** The TAC shall be advisory to the Board of Commissioners. The TAC will offer advice, input, and opinions to VTrans and other organizations and individuals as appropriate, provided it is compatible with plans, policies, positions or resolutions adopted by the Board of Commissioners. TAC advice, input, and opinions may be reviewed, confirmed or reversed by the CVRPC Board of Commissioners at the Board's discretion. New or amended plans, policies, positions or resolutions shall be ratified/approved by the Board of Commissioners.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The TAC shall consist of municipal representatives and representatives from transportation-related groups. Each of the member municipalities in the Central Vermont Region is eligible to appoint one voting member and one alternate to the Transportation Advisory Committee. Municipal participation is discretionary and determined by appointment by the municipality's legislative body. Upon the approval of 51% of the Transportation Advisory Committee, other transportation-related groups will be invited to appoint one voting member and one alternate to the Transportation Advisory Committee.

Municipal legislative bodies shall certify the appointment of the committee member and alternate in writing to CVRPC. Committee members and alternates begin serving immediately upon certification of appointment unless otherwise specified in the appointment. Terms for committee members and alternates are one year, from July 1 to June 30. Committee members and alternates may be appointed to serve successive terms. Committee members and alternates who are appointed midterm shall serve out the term ending June 30 and may continue serving for the subsequent term starting July 1 without recertification.

~~Each of the 23 member municipalities in the Central Vermont region is eligible to appoint one voting member and one alternative representative. Municipal participation is discretionary, and determined by appointment from the municipality's legislative body to the Board of Commissioners. Other transportation related groups and/or organizations, upon 51% vote of the TAC membership (at least 12 votes in favor) at a regular TAC meeting, will be invited to appoint one voting member and one alternate representative to the TAC. Additional membership in the organization shall be subject to the ratification of the Board of Commissioners. Membership term shall be one year, appointed in March.~~

**OFFICERS/ELECTIONS:** The TAC will elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson annually at the TAC's May meeting. The Chair will be responsible for running meetings, setting agendas in

conjunction with staff, reviewing and signing correspondence on behalf of the TAC, and representing the TAC at various meetings as needed. The Vice-Chair will provide support to the Chair as needed. If the Chair or Vice-Chair should resign before his/her term is expired, an interim election shall be held within two meetings or when regular elections are held in May, whichever is earlier.

**ATTENDANCE AND QUORUMS:** A quorum shall consist of a majority of members. ~~As the TAC is advisory, a quorum shall consist of a majority of members.~~ Members are encouraged to attend all regular meetings and special meetings as they arise. Members with three consecutive unexplained absences will be contacted by the Chairperson to determine if they still wish to serve on the TAC. The TAC shall meet at least eight (8) times per year or as determined by the Chair to be necessary to carry out the stated purpose.

**COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION:**

- ◆ Meetings shall be noticed and held in accordance with Vermont Open Meeting Law.
- ◆ Draft policies and resolutions shall be forwarded to TAC members and interested/affected parties for comment before action by the TAC, or final action/approval by the Board of Commissioners.
- ◆ Minutes of all regular and special meetings will be prepared by staff, distributed to TAC members and interested parties, and made available to the public in accordance with open meeting and public records laws described in 1 V.S.A.
- ◆ TAC members are encouraged to serve as liaisons to their local legislative boards by facilitating communication and coordination on a regular basis.
- ◆ TAC members are encouraged to offer input on all matters before the TAC, and are encouraged to bring up items of local or regional concern for TAC consideration.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Upon joining the Commission or its committees, individuals must review and sign the Commission's most recently adopted Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy to indicate that they have read, understood, and agree to comply with it.

~~In the event any TAC member has a personal or financial interest with any individual, partnership, firm or corporation seeking to contract with the CVRPC, or to provide materials or labor thereto, or has a personal or financial interest in any project being considered by the TAC, the member shall state on the record the nature of his or her interest. If the member feels this conflict interferes with his/her ability to be objective, the member shall not participate in any vote on any related motion. If the member is uncertain whether he/she should participate in the decision, the TAC shall determine by vote whether the member should participate.~~

~~The Committee may also make a determination of conflict of interest and disallow voting by a member if the majority of voting Committee members in attendance at the meeting determine a conflict of interest exists.~~

**ADOPTION OF ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURES:** The TAC may, at any time, vote to amend these procedures, upon 51% vote of the TAC membership (at least 12 votes in favor). Proposed amendments will be forwarded to TAC members, chairs of local legislative boards, and interested parties before consideration at a regular TAC meeting. Amendments will then be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners for ratification.

The TAC is not a standing or special committee of the Regional Planning Commission, and is therefore not subject to the Commission's bylaws. These Rules of Procedure, combined with Robert's Rules of Order, provide procedural and administrative guidance for the TAC.

Adopted by the Transportation Advisory Committee: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20

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Laura Hill-Eubanks, Chair  
CVRPC Board of Commissioners



## MEMO

Date: September 14, 2020

To: Transportation Advisory Committee

From: Bonnie Waninger, Executive Director

Re: Budget adjustment for CVRPC FFY 2020 TPI Work Program and Budget

✉ **ACTION REQUESTED:** Approve the second budget adjustment to CVRPC's FFY 20 Transportation Planning Initiative work program and budget.

CVRPC must adjust its FFY20 Transportation Planning Initiative (TPI) agreement to bring task allocations in line with current spending trends. VTrans no longer allows overages on tasks even if the total budget is less than or equivalent to the award. No changes are required for the Work Program.

Funds in Task 1 were increased to reflect staffing changes and increased travel expenses due to COVID-19 health and safety recommendations. Funds in Task 4 were increased for to complete additional field inventories. Funds for Task 3 and 5 were reduced to accommodate the increases. Exhibits 2-3-4 reflect the adjusted budget. Items in red text on Exhibit 4 show specific areas where staff hours or expenses have been adjusted.

Summary of budget amounts by task:

Task	Task Description	Approved Amount	Amended	Difference	% Change
Task 1	Administration	\$21,787	\$30,785	\$8,998	41.30%
Task 2	Public Participation & Coordination	\$45,854	\$46,537	\$683	1.49%
Task 3	Long Range Planning	\$94,660	\$67,571	(\$27,089)	-28.62%
Task 4	Short Range Planning	\$55,729	\$75,005	\$19,276	34.59%
Task 5	Project Development	\$15,094	\$13,226	(\$1,868)	-12.38%
Task 6A	Other Planning - VT Culverts	\$3,398	\$3,398	\$0	0.00%
Task 6B	Other Planning - Watershed Planning	\$22,377	\$22,377	\$0	0.00%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$258,899</b>	<b>\$258,899</b>	<b>\$0</b>	

The following budget changes from the current FFY20 budget include:

Task 1 – Program Administration: Reallocation of hours to staff to reflect staffing changes and an increase in expenses due to COVID-19 health and safety recommendations for field activities.

Task 2 – Public Participation and Coordination: Minimal changes due to reallocation of hours.

Task 3 – Long Range Planning: Reduction of staff hours as Green Mountain Transit (GMT) Board Chair duties and other RPC/GMT coordination activities were substantially reduced as GMT focused on COVID-19 response.

Task 4 – Short Range Planning: Increased staff hours. Hired two additional Planning Technicians to assist with field inventories, primarily bridge and culvert inventories for multiple towns. Removed consultant funds for ash tree inventories. The new Planning Technicians will allow CVRPC to complete this activity.

Task 5 – Project Development Planning: Reduced to reflect actuals trends.

Task 6A – Other Planning Activities (VT Culverts): No change.

Task 6B – Other Planning Activities (Watershed Planning): No change.



## MEMO

Date: August 7, 2020

To: Transportation Advisory Committee

From: Bonnie Waninger, Executive Director

Re: Updates to CVRPC FFY 2021 TPI Work Program and Budget

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☒ **ACTION REQUESTED:** Approve the revised CVRPC FFY 21 Transportation Planning Initiative work program and budget.

During the VTrans review process for the FFY2021 TPI work program and budget, VTrans noted an error with the grant amount and requested minor updates to the work program to refine program deliverables. Staff requests the TAC approved the revised work program and budget.

### Work Program Updates

Updates to the work program are noted using bolded text for additions and strike through for deletions. They include:

Task 1 – Program Administration: No changes.

Task 2 – Public Participation and Coordination: No changes.

Task 3 – Long Range Planning: Remove duplicate language. Add Regional Plan transportation element as a deliverable.

Task 4 – Short Range Planning: Note Montpelier microtransit project participation and Green Mountain Transit Chair role. Update Safe Routes to School language. Delete old language. Update deliverables.

Task 5 – Project Development Planning: Include implementation of VPSP2 project prioritization process and regional prioritization process update. Delete old language. Update deliverables.

Task 6 – Other Planning Activities: None

### Summary of Budget Amounts by Task

CVRPC's TPI award was \$12,471 higher than was included in the original budget.

Task	Task Description	Original Amount	Updated Amount	Difference	% Change
Task 1	Administration	\$29,230	\$29,172	(\$58)	-0.20%
Task 2	Public Participation & Coordination	\$39,217	\$36,441	(\$2,776)	-7.08%
Task 3	Long Range Planning	\$43,083	\$47,856	\$4,773	11.08%
Task 4	Short Range Planning	\$96,898	\$102,515	\$5,617	5.80%
Task 5	Project Development	\$14,721	\$17,165	\$2,444	16.60%
Task 6	Other Planning	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$223,149</b>	<b>\$233,149</b>	<b>\$12,471</b>	

The budget update:

Task 1 – Administration: Minor change to adjust for math.

Task 2 – Public Participation and Coordination: Reduced funds based on Assistant Planner participation in these activities.

Task 3 - Long Range Planning: Added funds to continue work on the Regional Plan transportation element. Staff is currently working on the element by updating data and identifying implementation actions. TAC engagement is anticipated in late fall.

Task 4 - Short Range Planning: Added funds to compensate for staff hours to support the Regional Elders and Persons with Disabilities Committee. CVRPC intended to have its VISTA member provide significant Committee support. The member withdrew from the program.

Task 5 – Project Development: Added hours for Senior Planner to participate in studies completed by municipalities (ex. Better Connections program).

Task 6 – Other Planning: No change.

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION****FFY 2021 Transportation Planning Initiative**

Federal Fiscal Year: October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

Approved by: TAC \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_; Executive Committee \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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**EXHIBIT 1: WORK PROGRAM****Purpose and Summary**

This document describes the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) Transportation Planning Initiative (TPI), Federal Fiscal Year 2021 Work Program. The transportation program is continually adapted to meet the needs of our 23 municipalities, the region at large, and the work tasks developed cooperatively with the Vermont Agency of Transportation. This work program is a summary of work tasks with more specific work scope and schedule guidance being provided by VTrans and/or our member communities. Implicit in this agreement is that CVRPC staff will hold themselves to a professional standard and seek training opportunities in all relevant transportation and planning related topics. The regional transportation planning program is intended to achieve the following goals:

1. Enhance cooperative decision-making among state, regional, and local partners about the transportation system.
2. Better connect federal, regional, and statewide transportation planning.
3. Provide technical assistance to municipalities and expand their ability to implement transportation planning best practices.
4. Deliver results that advance VTrans strategic and long range transportation plans.

The CVRPC TPI Work Program has enabled creation of the Transportation Element of the Regional Plan, organizes regional priorities for VTrans projects, enables municipalities to learn about VTrans planning processes, provides transportation planning services to municipalities, provides local input into state planning processes, and studies transportation problems.

The current Work Program continues the above activities. In addition, activities have been added to strengthen the transportation / land use linkage, assist municipalities to plan for a resilient transportation system, and plan for Clean Water initiatives.

This work program is presented in six task areas, each corresponding to VTrans FFY 2021 Transportation Planning Initiative (TPI) guidance materials and direction from VTrans. The narrative for each includes a description of the goals, objectives, and activities/products proposed to address the tasks.



**TASK 1. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

CVRPC will be responsible for the management of financial, reporting, and auditing requirements related to agreement fulfillment. Staff is experienced in the administration of federal, state, and local agreements and is familiar with federal and state financial and audit procedures. Local officials, Commission representatives, and members of the public will have access to information regarding the administration of this planning initiative. This task involves activities necessary for the proper management of the TPI work program and the development of future work programs.

Included are the following activities:

1. hire, train, and supervise staff, and hire, supervise, and evaluate consultants as necessary to undertake the work program.
2. prepare and update policies and procedures to maintain compliance with state and federal laws, procedures, and requirements.
3. participate in a commission-wide audit, in conjunction with other CVRPC programs and in conformance with federal standards.
4. develop an indirect cost proposal.
5. work cooperatively with VTrans in an evaluation of the overall program to define strengths and deficiencies in meeting the objectives as defined in the VTrans/CVRPC agreement for services.
6. develop work plans and budgets and participate in the mid-year review process.
7. conduct financial and progress reporting to meet federal and VTrans requirements, such as preparation of monthly billings, monthly progress reports, and weekly status reports regarding work accomplishments and financial status.
8. purchase supplies, equipment (traffic counter), and software directly related to TPI activities and necessary to complete the work program; repair and maintain equipment as necessary.
9. complete annual TPI and VAPDA Performance Reporting.
10. attend monthly TPI meeting.
11. training to enhance knowledge and skills specific to transportation planning best practices.

Personnel: Executive Director, Office Manager, Senior Planners, Planners

Products: Administrative activities will be ongoing throughout the agreement period. Specific products will include procurement documentation, monthly invoices, progress reports, an

annual audit report, indirect cost proposal, related proposals, subcontracts, work programs, budgets, updated policies, and the CVRPC FY21 Annual Report and VAPDA SFY2021 Annual Report that includes transportation performance measures.

## **TASK 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COORDINATION**

The purpose of this task is to ensure that the public, business owners, and other stakeholders have the opportunity to participate in the regional transportation planning process both individually and through their locally elected officials. This includes work efforts related to municipal, regional, and interagency coordination, citizen participation, public informational meetings associated with the Regional Commission's transportation planning program and special transportation planning projects. Staff will continue to act as a liaison between the municipalities and VTrans.

Included are the following activities:

1. coordinate transportation planning activities with adjacent regional commissions, public transit providers, economic development agencies, human service providers and advocates, housing organizations, VTrans, and other organizations.
2. publish and advertise informational materials regarding activities of the Regional Transportation Planning Program and related VTrans planning efforts. Media can include newsletters, website and social media content, and other materials to enhance understanding of the planning process, evaluation of needs, and development of transportation solutions.
3. meet regularly with VTrans staff to discuss the development, implementation and progress of programs and activities of interest to the region's member municipalities.
4. monitor the development of legislation affecting local and regional transportation; communicate information as appropriate.
5. coordinate and facilitate the Central Vermont Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and coordinate its activities with local officials, groups, and other regional TACs and its involvement in statewide modal and policy plans.
6. solicit public participation in the planning process, including sponsor and convene informational meetings and public hearings (such as annual STIP/Capital Program hearings) and coordinate and participate in VTrans-sponsored events.
7. engage the public in the identification of transportation problems and solutions.
8. participate in the update and implementation of current VTrans plans by facilitating public input through forums, public meetings, and other engagement tools as appropriate.
9. coordinate, facilitate, and provide technical support for quarterly road foreman roundtables.

10. serve on various transportation-related task forces and study committees.
11. attend meetings of local boards and commissions on transportation related topics including safety improvements, capital planning, infrastructure planning, etc.
12. provide outreach and assistance to municipalities in integrating good access management practices into local plans, regulations, and ordinances.
13. conduct outreach to municipalities on adoption and use of Town Road and Bridge Standards and how they relate to the Emergency Relief Assistance fund reimbursement.
14. engage the public in the Regional Plan update as it pertains to various modes of transportation, goals for transportation planning, and future transportation needs.
15. participate in emergency management training and activities to support a resilient transportation system.
16. monitor current transportation projects by reviewing the five year VTrans Capital Program and Project Development Plan, and the STIP.
17. participate and coordinate Travel Demand Management initiatives to meet the needs of Central Vermont.
18. coordinate the region's participation in the VTrans Aviation Program, including participation in State Aviation Council meetings and exploration of a State Airport Committee for the Edward F. Knapp Airport.
19. obtain in-house reference materials, such as periodicals, manuals and textbooks, on transportation planning, engineering, and related topics, for use by staff, local officials and the public.

Personnel: Executive Director, Office Manager, Senior Planners, Planners, Assistant Planner, Planning Technicians

Products: Public participation and outreach activities will be ongoing throughout the agreement period. Specific products will include meeting announcements and minutes, written recommendations and correspondence as appropriate, the newsletter, a written report regarding the Way to Go! Challenge planning efforts.

### **TASK 3. LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

Long range transportation planning includes development and incorporation of transportation planning into the Regional Plan, corridor management plans and modal specific plans. All modes of

transportation should be considered and integrated into the overall transportation system. A basic component of a region's planning work should be a systematic review of multi-modal transportation needs based on existing and future land use patterns, socioeconomic characteristics and trends, environmental challenges and other driving factors. This task includes activities specifically related to long-range transportation system planning and analysis, i.e., database and GIS system development and maintenance, systems analyses, the adoption of the regional transportation plan to the Regional Plan, corridor management, and all long-range transportation system management activities.

Included are the following activities:

1. maintain, distribute, and verify through local officials and business/community leaders future land use, demographic, and transportation network characteristics.
2. continue to incorporate transportation planning into the Regional Plan.
3. conduct outreach to local officials and the public on, and participate in, State modal and other transportation planning.
4. participate in working groups, steering committees, and/or advisory committees of VTrans-managed planning projects, such as acting as a technical advisor.
5. participate in work groups and committees and conduct outreach to local officials and the public on environmental policy and planning items.
6. participate in Corridor Management Planning efforts to integrate local and regional perspectives.
7. coordinate intermodal, multimodal, and freight transportation planning activities, including bike/pedestrian systems planning.
8. coordinate inter-regional efforts, such as clean water planning for inter-regional roads.
9. integrate, and assist municipalities to integrate, the results of the statewide analysis and Transportation Resilience Planning Tool into regional and local plans and planning efforts.
10. provide technical support to assist municipalities with municipal plan updates, zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, highway ordinances, and other transportation-related documents or ordinances.
11. provide planning, technical assistance, and grant management support as needed for communities participating in the Better Connections program.
12. develop and implement analytical methods to identify gaps in the connectivity of the transportation system.

13. Coordinate inter-regional efforts, such as the Scenic Byways Program, public transit, and others.
14. identify transportation opportunities and challenges in meeting State land use planning goals.
15. develop and maintain statistics and GIS data and analyses used to support transportation planning and project development, such as 2020 Census data.
16. identify wildlife corridors, roadway barriers and crossings, and other environmental transportation connections.
17. ~~Integrate, and assist municipalities to integrate, the results of the statewide analysis and Transportation Resilience Planning Tool into regional and local plans and planning efforts.~~  
(duplicate of #9)
17. **Update the transportation element of the Central Vermont Regional Plan, including a program for the implementation of the Regional Plan's transportation objectives.**

Personnel: Executive Director, Office Manager, Senior Planners, Planners, Assistant Planner

Products: Updates to the Regional Plan; GIS coverages/maps (updated base, land use, transportation network, associated transportation data, GIS updates of long-range plan maps); Project related products as applicable.

#### **TASK 4. SHORT RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

Short range transportation planning projects may be identified in long range plans, conducted in response to an emerging issue, or prepared at the request of a municipality to address a specific need. The planning work may focus on a smaller area such as a downtown, commercial area or school and recommendations would be developed at a greater level of detail than typically provided in long range planning work. Short range planning includes collection of data to support all phases of transportation planning and project development. This task includes activities specifically emphasizing short-range transportation system analysis and problem solving, including the evaluation of specific local or regional transportation problems or issues of a one-time or short-term duration.

1. review and provide recommendations on transportation elements of municipal plans and assist municipalities to develop transportation capital improvement plans.
2. assist communities participating in the planning aspects of Transportation Alternatives, Byway, Bicycle/Pedestrian, Better Connections, discretionary, and other grant programs and in regional bicycle and pedestrian initiatives, such as the Cross Vermont Trail, Central Vermont Path, and Mad River Path.
3. review transportation issues and impacts of proposed development projects with impacts to the

regional transportation system, and provide technical assistance to municipalities for transportation impact review of local development projects as necessary to strengthen local transportation planning.

4. conduct traffic monitoring by maintaining current data for major roads and problem areas, and by responding to local requests.
5. conduct traffic, parking space, bicycle and pedestrian, turning movement, and park and ride counts.
6. collect municipal highway major collector HPMS data and model inventory of roadway elements (MIRE) data programs.
7. update information on dedicated On-Road Bicycle Facilities
8. assist municipalities to plan for Complete Streets, and conduct a municipal complete streets implementation inventory.
9. assist municipalities to inventory, assess, plan for, and manage local transportation systems by conducting municipal road, culvert, bridge, ditch, roadway sign, and bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure inventories and assessments, road erosion assessments, tree inventories, and by supporting development and maintenance of road surface management systems, municipal road stormwater management plans, and capital improvement plans. This work will, in part, assist towns in applying for Municipal Road General Permits and complying with the Vermont Clean Water Act.
10. participate in public transit planning, **including collaboration on the Montpelier microtransit project**, update of Transit Development Plans, coordination of human service needs with transportation options, monitoring changes of transit systems in the region, and updating transit mapping.
11. support enhancement of Human Services Transportation Coordination, including enhancement of the Regional Elders and Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee, serving on the Public Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC) and public transit boards (**serve as Chair of the Green Mountain Transit Board**), continuing to provide technical support to regional public transit providers, advisory groups, and groups working to identify and fill transportation gaps for the public and underserved populations (Green Mountain Transit, Rural Community Transportation, Mad River TAC, THRIVE Transportation Collaborative Action Network), and participating in activities as necessary; continue to serve on Boards and committees to act as a liaison between providers and local needs.
12. participate and coordinate efforts with VTrans, GMT, and communities to develop travel demand management measures.

13. support Safe Routes to School **efforts as needed by increasing awareness and participation of schools and municipalities with the program, assisting with updating School Travel Plans, collecting traffic data to support school travel plans, and serving as a member of regional expert panels available to help schools with their local programs.** ~~outreach, planning, implementation, and evaluation.~~
14. participate in the Systemic Local Road Safety Program and Road Safety Audit Reviews.
15. ~~review of functional classification system.~~

Personnel: Executive Director, Senior Planners, Planners, Assistant Planner, Planning Technicians, Consultant/Contract staff as needed

Products: Municipal Plan updates; Traffic, parking space, bicycle and pedestrian, and turning movement counts; Sufficiency rating data on VTrans identified miles of municipal highway major collectors; Complete Streets implementation inventory; Municipal transportation system inventories, assessments, and capital plans; Nominations and mapping of high hazard locations and programmatic corridors to the HRRR Program; Updated school area infrastructure maps **and/or School Travel Plans** developed for SRTS Program as needed; **at least four quarterly E&D Committee meetings held in accordance with Vermont Open Meeting Law; E&D Committee workplan; FFY20 E&D Rider Survey respondents follow up; attendance at E&D Summit; Welcome packet for new E&D riders/clients;** Other products as applicable.

## TASK 5. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The task includes activities emphasizing project-specific planning and development. Project development activities provide continuity between planning and implementation and provide a framework for on-going public participation as specific design alternatives, costs and impacts are explored. The work will involve developing transportation projects and preparing them for state or local implementation. The project development assistance will be extended to municipalities and VTrans first with a secondary priority of serving nonprofit and interest groups. These are projects and planning activities that can realistically be implemented within a few years.

Included are the following activities:

1. identify local issues that relate to scoping analysis, and conduct feasibility and location studies.
2. facilitate public participation during scoping analysis and the project development process, and participate in public meetings.
3. assist and review transportation projects that can be funded outside the statewide prioritization system, such as Transportation Alternatives, Bicycle and Pedestrian, and other locally or regionally managed projects.

4. prioritize VTrans projects and evaluate conformance with the Regional Plan; **implement the new VPSP2 project prioritization process as directed by VTrans and adapt CVRPC's regional process as needed.**
5. ~~prioritize District paving projects.~~
6. provide outreach, assistance, and coordination for accelerated and high impact projects, participate in meetings, and provide assistance to municipalities as needed.
7. provide outreach to identify road diet projects and coordinate municipal education and participation.
8. provide input into the new VPSP2 project prioritization process.
9. provide input on draft New Project Summaries and provide regional and local context and supplemental plans.

Personnel: Executive Director, Senior Planners, Planners, Assistant Planner, Consultant/Contract staff as needed

Products: Regional project prioritization list and map; ~~District paving prioritization list~~; scoping and feasibility studies as applicable; **New Project Summaries input**; Project assistance as applicable.

<b>TASK 6. OTHER PLANNING ACTIVITIES</b>
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None anticipated.



Transportation Advisory Committee  
**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**FFY 2021 Transportation Planning Initiative**  
**August 2020**

**Exhibit 2: Budget Detail by Task Category**

Task	Task Description	Agreement Amount
Task 1	Program Administration	\$29,172
Task 2	Public Participation and Coordination	\$36,441
Task 3	Long Range Transportation Planning	\$47,856
Task 4	Short Range Transportation Planning	\$102,515
Task 5	Project Development Planning	\$17,165
Task 6	Other Planning Activities	\$0
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$233,149</b>

**Exhibit 3: Budget Detail by Expense Category**

RPC Staff Position	Rate SFY21	Total Hours	Total Cost
Executive Director	\$59.34	516	\$30,619
Senior Planner (GIS)	\$45.64	225	\$10,269
Senior Planner (LU)	\$37.09	270	\$10,014
Planner (GIS)	\$35.28	915	\$32,281
Planner (EM)	\$29.07	300	\$8,721
Assistant Planner	\$25.28	275	\$6,952
Office Manager	\$34.41	65	\$2,237
Planning Technician I	\$13.99	2	\$28
Planning Technician II	\$13.99	217	\$3,036
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,785</b>	<b>\$104,157</b>

Indirect Costs	115.13%		
RPC Staff Position	of Hourly Rate	Total Hours	Total Cost
Executive Director	\$68.32	516	\$35,252
Senior Planner (GIS)	\$52.55	225	\$11,823
Senior Planner (LU)	\$42.70	270	\$11,529
Planner (GIS)	\$40.62	915	\$37,165
Planner (EM)	\$33.47	300	\$10,040
Assistant Planner	\$29.10	275	\$8,004
Office Manager	\$39.62	65	\$2,575
Planning Technician I	\$16.11	2	\$32
Planning Technician II	\$16.11	217	\$3,495
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,785</b>	<b>\$119,916</b>

Direct Costs	Total Cost
Contract	\$0
Travel	\$3,000
Supplies	\$400
Data/Ref	\$0
Postage	\$800
Phone	\$120
Copy/Print	\$0
Meetings	\$2,955
Equipment	\$1,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,075</b>

Fund Allocation			
Task	Task Description	CVRPC Share <sup>1</sup>	VTrans Share <sup>2</sup>
Task 1	Program Administration	\$2,917	\$26,255
Task 2	Public Participation and Coordination	\$3,644	\$32,796
Task 3	Long Range Transportation Planning	\$4,786	\$43,070
Task 4	Short Range Transportation Planning	\$10,252	\$92,264
Task 5	Project Development Planning	\$1,717	\$15,449
Task 6	Other Planning Activities	\$0	\$0
<b>Subtotal by Share</b>		<b>\$23,315</b>	<b>\$209,834</b>
<b>Agreement Total</b>		<b>\$233,149</b>	

**Notes:**

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 Advisory Committee**  
**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**FFY 2021 Transportation Planning Initiative**  
**August 2020**

**Exhibit 4: Time-Task-Cost Summary****A. Personnel (Hours)**

		Bonnie	Pam	Clare	Ashley	Grace	Zach	Nancy	Elena		
Task #	Task Description	Exec Director	GIS Sr Planner I	Land Use Sr Planner II	GIS Planner I	Emerg Mngmt Planner II	Land Use Asst Plan I	Office Manager	Planning Tech I	Planning Tech II	Total Hours
1	Administration	60	5	0	140	0	0	15	2	5	227
2	Public Participation & Coordination	20	5	70	260	30	80	25	0	0	490
3	Long Range Transportation Planning	37	160	150	45	85	110	10	0	0	597
4	Short Range Transportation Planning	394	55	30	370	85	65	15	0	212	1,226
5	Project Development Planning	5	0	20	100	100	20	0	0	0	245
6	Other Planning Activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>516</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>2,785</b>

**B. Direct Costs (\$)<sup>1</sup>**

B. Direct Costs (\$)¹		25%	11%	16%	44%	14%	13%	4%			
Task #	Task Description	Contract	Travel	Supplies	Data/Ref	Postage	Phone	Copy/Print	Meetings	Equipment	Total
1	Administration	\$0	\$3,000	\$400	\$0	\$800	\$120	\$0	\$2,955	\$1,800	\$9,075
2	Public Participation & Coordination										\$0
3	Long Range Transportation Planning										\$0
4	Short Range Transportation Planning										\$0
5	Project Development Planning										\$0
6	Other Planning Activities										\$0
	Total	\$0	\$3,000	\$400	\$0	\$800	\$120	\$0	\$2,955	\$1,800	\$9,075

**C. Cost Proposal Summary (\$)**

Task #	Task Description	Exec Director	GIS Sr Planner I	Land Use Sr Planner II	GIS Planner I	Emerg Mngmt Planner II	Land Use Asst Plan I	Office Manager	Planning Tech I	Planning Tech II	Total Personnel	Indirect	Direct	Total Costs
	Hourly Rate	\$59.34	\$45.64	\$37.09	\$35.28	\$29.07	\$25.28	\$34.41	\$13.99	\$13.99				
1	Administration	\$3,560	\$228	\$0	\$4,939	\$0	\$0	\$516	\$28	\$70	\$9,342	\$10,755	\$9,075	\$29,172
2	Public Participation & Coordination	\$1,187	\$228	\$2,596	\$9,173	\$872	\$2,022	\$860	\$0	\$0	\$16,939	\$19,502	\$0	\$36,441
3	Long Range Transportation Planning	\$2,196	\$7,302	\$5,564	\$1,588	\$2,471	\$2,781	\$344	\$0	\$0	\$22,245	\$25,611	\$0	\$47,856
4	Short Range Transportation Planning	\$23,380	\$2,510	\$1,113	\$13,054	\$2,471	\$1,643	\$516	\$0	\$2,966	\$47,653	\$54,862	\$0	\$102,515
5	Project Development Planning	\$297	\$0	\$742	\$3,528	\$2,907	\$506	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,979	\$9,186	\$0	\$17,165
6	Other Planning Activities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$30,619</b>	<b>\$10,269</b>	<b>\$10,014</b>	<b>\$32,281</b>	<b>\$8,721</b>	<b>\$6,952</b>	<b>\$2,237</b>	<b>\$28</b>	<b>\$3,036</b>	<b>\$104,157</b>	<b>\$119,916</b>	<b>\$9,075</b>	<b>\$233,149</b>

<b>115.13% Indirect Rate</b>											<b>Total Employee Indirect</b>			
Indirect per employee		\$35,252	\$11,823	\$11,529	\$37,165	\$10,040	\$8,004	\$2,575	\$32	\$3,495	<b>\$119,916</b>			

**Notes**

<sup>1</sup> Contract : Audit; design and planning services as needed (problem evaluation); design / layout for transportation program materials

Travel: Mileage, non-mileage transportation, rooms, meals, conference / workshop fees

Supplies: Office, mapping and traffic counting supplies used specifically for the transportation program

Data / Ref: Reference materials, portion of cost of new data

Postage: for materials specific to the transportation program

Phone: for calls or data plans specific to transportation program activities

Copies / Printing: Reproduction costs, including photocopies

Meetings: Meeting room space, legal notices, other associated costs

Equipment: Any eligible equipment purchased during the implementation of the grant agreement e.g. traffic counters and computer equipment.



July 24, 2020

For TAC Information Only

US Economic Development Administration  
Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Program  
US Department of Commerce  
Washington, DC

RE: Support for CCRPC's EFSCR

To the Economic Development Administration:

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) supports the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission's Economic Feasibility Study of Community Rail (EFSCR) grant application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration. Evaluating the economic impact of community rail service for Addison, Chittenden, Franklin, Rutland, and Washington Counties will strengthen the collaboration among Vermont's regions and communities and offer a unique opportunity to establish new regional economic partnerships between our five-county region and the rest of the state. It will ignite new planning efforts to move forward with community rail service and Transit-Oriented Development.

Central Vermont is home to one railway which passes through eight of the region's 23 municipalities. Two active rail stations in Waterbury and Montpelier are in close proximity to and within the Regional Center, Town Center, Industrial, and Mixed Use Commercial Future Land Use Areas identified in the *2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan, Amended 2018*. Future development in these areas is guided by the following policies:

- In order to maintain the existing settlement patterns, higher density residential, commercial, and industrial development should be located in Regional Centers and Town Centers. (Land Use 2-22, Regional/Town Centers)
- Encourage the transformation of existing commercial areas into areas serving a mix of uses, including residential, and offering diversified transportation options, while also conforming to traditional historic development patterns. (Land Use 2-26, Mixed Use Commercial)

Barre City, another population center, is an Opportunity Zone. Its unemployment rate was slightly higher than the statewide average in 2019, however, its poverty rate was 26.6% compared to a statewide 11.2% in 2018. Barre City residents could benefit most from increased options for transportation and regional economic development opportunities close to their homes. The EFSCR program would support economic and workforce development programs operational in this Opportunity Zone.

It is imperative to create an economic development model that enables our region and state to be a competitive place to retain and attract value-added businesses to generate high-paying jobs and sustainable economic opportunities for Vermonters. CVRPC believes that the EFSCR will enable our region to enhance connections between local and regional transportation systems to support existing

businesses, attract new employers, and strengthen connections between housing and employment centers. Reinvigorating Vermont's small downtowns and village centers, especially the Barre City Opportunity Zone, with new development and transportation options can energize state-led efforts to support the vitality of our communities while also attracting new businesses and a younger workforce to our aging state.

Regions that promote community rail service and Transit-Oriented Development support healthy communities, enhance economic development, and promote environmental sustainability. Therefore, it is vital for our regional organizations to support efforts such as the EFSCR. Results from this study will guide policy makers to make informed decisions about transportation investments and future land uses around train stations based on opportunities for economic growth and development.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Waninger  
Executive Director