

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 27, 2021, 6:30 p.m. *Physical Location:* <u>Waterbury Municipal Offices</u>, **Steele Community Room, 28 N. Main St., Waterbury** (Facial coverings required for in-person participation)

Join Zoom Meeting via Computer, Tablet or Smartphone: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88981081424?pwd=VUo2UytSSWNnRkt4VUhqdmF1QXhTQT09

Meeting ID: 889 8108 1424 - Passcode: 679190

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Agenda

- 6:30 1) Meeting Commencement
 - a) Roll Call
 - b) Adjustments to the Agenda
 - c) Public Comment
- 6:35 2) Approval of June TAC Meeting Minutes (*Enclosed, Action*)
- 6:40 3) Amendments to FFY21 TPI budget (*Enclosed, Action*)
- 7:00 4) Visitor Information Center discussion (*Enclosed*)
- 7:10 5) Artwork Vermont Arts Council Animating Infrastructure & ACCD Better Places (*Enclosed*)
- 7:30 6) VTrans Permitting Services is updating the town road standard (A-76) (*Enclosed*)
- 7:40 7) TAC Member Round Table
 - a) VPSP2 a year-round process
 - b) Climate Action Plan and Transportation
 - c) Local concerns including project updates and other issues
- 8:00 8) Adjourn

Next Meeting September 27, 2021

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 <u>chartrand@cvregion.com</u> at least 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.

29 Main Street Suite 4 Montpelier Vermont 05602 802-229-0389 E Mail: CVRPC@CVRegion.com

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) DRAFT Minutes June 22, 2021

4 5

	Attendees:				
	Barre City	Scott Bascom	Х	Moretown	Joyce Manchester
Х	Barre Town	Stephanie Magnan			Dara Torre, Alt
		Sebastian Arduengo, Alt		Northfield	Jeff Schulz
Х	Berlin	Robert Wernecke			Jon Ignatowski, Alt
	Cabot	John Cookson	X	Orange	Lee Cattaneo
Х	Calais	David Ellenbogen	X	Plainfield	Bob Atchinson
		Karin McNeill, Alt	Х	Roxbury	Gerry D'Amico
Х	Duxbury	Alan Quackenbush	Х	Waitsfield	Don La Haye
Х	E. Montpelier	Frank Pratt			Harrison Snapp, Alt
	Fayston	Donald Simonini		Warren	Camilla Behn
	Marshfield	Robin Schunk	X	Washington	Peter Carbee
Х	Middlesex	Ronald Krauth	Х	Waterbury	Steve Lotspeich
	Montpelier	Dona Bate	X	Williamstown	Richard Turner
		Harold Garabedian, Alt		Woodbury	Chris Koteas
			Х	Worcester	Bill Arrand
	Staff:	Christian Meyer			
	Guests:	Chris Damiani (GMTA)			

6 7

Chair Steve Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

8

9 Roll Call

- 10 Roll was called and a quorum was present
- 1112 Adjustments to the Agenda
- 13 No adjustments to the agenda
- 14
- 15 **Public Comments**
- 16 None
- 17

18 Review of Draft May Meeting Minutes

- 19 Lee Cattaneo made a motion, seconded by Richard Turner, to accept the minutes from May 25,
- 20 2021 with corrections. The motion was unanimously adopted.

21

1 Election of Officers

- 2 Steve Lotspeich recapped that at the May meeting nominations had been made to elect Steve
- 3 Lotspeich to serve as Chair and for Robert Wernecke to serve as Vice Chair, he then opened the
- 4 floor to any additional nominations. No further nominations were made. By unanimous vote
- 5 Steve Lotspeich was elected Chair and Robert Wernecke was elected Vice Chair
- 6

7 TPI Work Plan

- 8 Staff reviewed updates to the federal fiscal year 2022 (FFY22) Transportation Planning Initiative
- 9 (TPI) work program and how it differs from the FFY21 work program. Gerry D'Amico made the
- 10 motion, seconded by Robert Wernecke, to approve the proposed FFY22 work program and
- 11 *budget.* Joyce Manchester suggested a friendly amendment to give due consideration to the
- 12 electrification of vehicles and the network. The motion, which after discussion and amendment
- 13 was unanimously adopted as follows: to approve the proposed FFY22 work plan and budget
- 14 with due consideration for planning for the electrification of private vehicles, public vehicles, and
- 15 transit and the supporting infrastructure.
- 16

17 In person meetings

- 18 The committee discussed re-establishing in person meetings. The consensus of members
- 19 preferred that meetings continue to be held in a hybrid format, allowing members to attend in
- 20 person or virtually based on their comfort level. Staff noted that per CVRPC guidelines masks
- 21 are currently still required when attending meetings in person. David Ellenbogen made the
- 22 motion, seconded by Peter Carbee, that *the TAC provide the opportunity to attend all its*
- 23 meeting virtually. Robert Wernecke suggested that the TAC did not have the authority to
- 24 mandate all meetings be made hybrid and suggested a friendly amendment that "strongly
- 25 recommend" be added. Steve Lotspeich brought up that during field trips, communication
- 26 infrastructure would not be available to broadcast the events and allow for virtual attendance
- and recommended a friendly amendment to reflect this. The motion, which after discussion
- and amendment was unanimously adopted as follows: the TAC strongly recommends that all
- 29 TAC meetings be held in the hybrid format, allowing for participants to attend in person or
- 30 virtually, except where the TAC is meeting in the field.
- 31

32 Field Trips

- 33 Steve Lotspeich raised the proposal of holding a field trip during the July meeting to visit the
- 34 Waterbury Main Street project, which is midway through construction. Enough interest was
- 35 expressed by members that staff will investigate how this could be achieved.
- 36

37 Local Concerns Including Project Updates and Other Issues

- 38 Lee Cattaneo stated that a functional reclassification change form had been completed and
- 39 submitted for Brook Road and Reservoir Road in Plainfield and Orange over two years ago and
- 40 they have not received a response from VTrans/Federal Highway Administration. Staff stated
- 41 that they would follow up.
- 42

1 Topics for future meetings

- 2 Complete Streets, Equity Report, Electrification of the transportation, AV testing program,
- 3

4 Adjourn

- 5 Lee Cattaneo made the motion, seconded Don La Haye, *to adjourn*. The motion carried.
- 6
- 7 The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM.



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 27, 2021

To: Transportation Advisory Committee

- From: Christian Meyer, Senior Planner
- Re: CVRPC FFY 2021 TPI Adjustment 2

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve the revised FFY21 Transportation Planning Initiative (TPI) budget adjustment.

Summary

CVRPC adopted an organizational budget adjustment in December 2020 for the previously accepted FFY 21 TPI work program and budget. While the work program will remain unchanged, CVRPC is revising it proposed budget. Changes include:

- reallocating tasks among staff to reflect workload shifts that occurred with the addition of a transportation planner in 2021;
- increasing funding under Tasks 4 to account for hiring a planning technician to help with field work for the rest of the summer;
- reducing funding under task 3 to help accommodate the increased work under Tasks 4, and
- reducing contractual funds to ensure all allocated funds can be spent down within the fiscal year.

Summary of budget amounts by task:

Task	Task Description	Approved Amount	Amended	Difference	% Change
Task 1	Administration	\$24,883	\$26,704	\$1,821	7.32%
Task 2	Public Participation & Coordination	\$33 <i>,</i> 580	\$30,705	(\$2 <i>,</i> 875)	-8.56%
Task 3	Long Range Planning	\$37,216	\$13,613	(\$23,603)	-63.42%
Task 4	Short Range Planning	\$120,102	\$147,767	\$27,665	23.03%
Task 5	Project Development	\$17,368	\$14,359	(\$3,009)	-17.32%
Task 6A	Other Planning - TRPT	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	0.00%
	TOTAL	\$293,149	\$293,149	\$0	

Budget changes from the original FFY21 TPI budget include:

- Task 1 Program Administration: Reallocation of hours (tasks) from executive director and planner to new transportation senior planner based on candidate.
- Task 2 Public Participation and Coordination: Minor adjustment to reflect actual trends. Reallocation of hours (tasks) among multiple staff to transportation senior planner.
- Task 3 Long Range Planning: Reduction in overall hours to transfer funds to Short Range Planning for additional planning technicians.
- Task 4 Short Range Planning: Adjusted funds available to planning technicians for assistance and field inventories. Reduced allocation for consultant funds for feasibility study of access for Northfield town forest.
- Task 5 Project Development Planning: Transfer of hours (tasks) to other task as major project development work has been completed for the fiscal year.
- Task 6 Other Planning Activities (TRPT): Held steady.

Consultant Study

A feasibility study for improve access to the Northfield Town Forest is currently being initiated using consultant services. It is expected to continue into the next fiscal year.

Transportation Planner

A full time transportation planner was brought on in March, 2021. Adjustments are being made to reflect trends in how this addition has affected how the executive director and planner have been allocating their time.

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FFY 2021 Transportation Planning Initiative - July 2021

Exhibit 2: Budget Detail by Task Category

Task	Task Description	Agreement Amount
Task 1	Program Administration	\$26,704
Task 2	Public Participation and Coordination	\$30,705
Task 3	Long Range Transportation Planning	\$13,613
Task 4	Short Range Transportation Planning	\$147,767
Task 5	Project Development Planning	\$14,359
Task 6	Other Planning Activities	\$60,000
Total		\$293,149

Exhibit 3: Budget Detail by Expense Category

RPC Staff Position	Rate SFY21	Total Hours	Total Cost
Executive Director	\$60.76	308	\$18,714
Senior Planner (GIS)	\$43.89	173	\$7,591
Senior Planner (LU)	\$38.33	92	\$3,526
Senior Planner (Trans)	\$39.59	665	\$26,320
Planner (GIS)	\$37.64	875	\$32,935
Planner (EM)	\$30.54	102	\$3,114
Assistant Planner	\$25.28	39	\$986
Office Manager	\$35.34	56	\$1,979
Planning Technician I	\$20.15	259	\$5,219
Planning Technician II	\$18.00	246	\$4,428
Total		2,815	\$104,812

Indirect Costs	115.13%		
RPC Staff Position	of Hourly Rate	Total Hours	Total Cost
Executive Director	\$69.95	308	\$21,546
Senior Planner (GIS)	\$50.53	173	\$8,739
Senior Planner (LU)	\$44.13	92	\$4,060
Senior Planner (Trans)	\$45.58	665	\$30,302
Planner (GIS)	\$43.33	875	\$37,918
Planner (EM)	\$35.16	102	\$3 <i>,</i> 586
Assistant Planner	\$29.10	39	\$1,135
Office Manager	\$40.69	56	\$2,278
Planning Technician I	\$23.20	259	\$6,008
Planning Technician II	\$20.72	246	\$5,098
Total		2,815	\$120,670

Direct Costs	Total Cost
Contract	\$58,509
Travel	\$3,082
Supplies	\$400
Data/Ref	\$0
Postage	\$800
Phone	\$120
Copy/Print	\$0
Meetings	\$2,955
Equipment	\$1,800
Total	\$67,666

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FFY 2021 Transportation Planning Initiative - July 2021

Fund Allo	Fund Allocation								
Task	Task Description	CVRPC Share ¹	VTrans Share ²						
Task 1	Program Administration	\$2,670	\$24,034						
Task 2	Public Participation and Coordination	\$3,071	\$27,635						
Task 3	Long Range Transportation Planning	\$1,361	\$12,252						
Task 4	Short Range Transportation Planning	\$14,777	\$132,990						
Task 5	Project Development Planning	\$1,436	\$12,924						
Task 6	Other Planning Activities	\$0	\$60,000						
Subtotal	by Share	\$23,315	\$269,834						
Agreem	ent Total		\$293,149						

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.

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FFY 2021 Transportation Planning Initiative - July 2021

Exhibit 4: Time-Task-Cost Summary

	nnel (Hours)		Bonnie	Pam	Clare	Vacant	Ashley	Grace	Zach	Nancy	Elena	Sam	
			Exec	GIS	Land Use	Transportation	GIS	Emerg Mngmt	Land Use	Office	Planning	Planning	
Task #	Task Description		Director	Sr Planner I	Sr Planner II	Sr Planner III	Planner I	Planner II	Asst Plan I	Manager	Tech I	Tech II	Total Hours
1	Administration		40	5	2	100	20	2	2	15	2	2	190
2	Public Participation & Coordination		15	6	40	140	125	5	5	25	5	3	369
3	Long Range Transportation Planning		13	13	20	75	15	10	12	0	2	1	161
4	Short Range Transportation Planning		225	55	25	275	650	40	20	16	250	240	1,796
5	Project Development Planning		5	0	5	75	65	25	0	0	0	0	175
6	Other Planning Activities		10	94	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	124
		Total	308	173	92	665	875	102	39	56	259	246	2,815
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	Costs (\$) ¹		15%	8%	6%	42%	5%	2%	4%				
B. Direct Task #	Costs (\$) ¹ Task Description Administration			8% Travel	6% Supplies	42% Data/Ref	5% Postage	2% Phone	4% Copy/Print	Meetings	Equipment	Total	
	Task Description		15%	8%	6%	42%	5%	2%	4%				
Task # 1	Task Description		15%	8% Travel	6% Supplies	42% Data/Ref	5% Postage	2% Phone	4% Copy/Print	Meetings	Equipment	Total \$9,157	
Task # 1 2	Task Description Administration Public Participation & Coordination		15%	8% Travel	6% Supplies	42% Data/Ref	5% Postage	2% Phone	4% Copy/Print	Meetings	Equipment	Total \$9,157 \$0	
Task # 1 2 3	Task Description Administration Public Participation & Coordination Long Range Transportation Planning		15% Contract	8% Travel	6% Supplies	42% Data/Ref	5% Postage	2% Phone	4% Copy/Print	Meetings	Equipment	Total \$9,157 \$0 \$0	
Task # 1 2 3 4	Task DescriptionAdministrationPublic Participation & CoordinationLong Range Transportation PlanningShort Range Transportation Planning		15% Contract	8% Travel	6% Supplies	42% Data/Ref	5% Postage	2% Phone	4% Copy/Print	Meetings	Equipment	Total \$9,157 \$0 \$0 \$10,000	

C. Cost Proposal Summary (\$)

		Exec	GIS	Land Use	Transportation	GIS	Emerg Mngmt	Land Use	Office	Planning	Planning				
Task #	Task Description	Director	Sr Planner I	Sr Planner II	Sr Planner III	Planner I	Planner II	Asst Plan I	Manager	Tech I	Tech II	Total Personnel	Indirect	Direct	Total Costs
	Hourly Rate	\$60.76	\$43.89	\$38.33	\$39.59	\$37.64	\$30.54	\$25.28	\$35.34	\$20.15	\$18.00				
1	Administration	\$2,430	\$219	\$77	\$3,959	\$753	\$61	\$51	\$530	\$40	\$36	\$8,156	\$9,390	\$9,157	\$26,704
2	Public Participation & Coordination	\$911	\$263	\$1,533	\$5,543	\$4,705	\$153	\$126	\$884	\$101	\$54	\$14,273	\$16,432	\$0	\$30,705
3	Long Range Transportation Planning	\$790	\$571	\$767	\$2,969	\$565	\$305	\$303	\$0	\$40	\$18	\$6,328	\$7,285	\$0	\$13,613
4	Short Range Transportation Planning	\$13,671	\$2,414	\$958	\$10,879	\$24,466	\$1,222	\$506	\$565	\$5,038	\$4,320	\$64,039	\$73,728	\$10,000	\$147,767
5	Project Development Planning	\$304	\$0	\$192	\$2,969	\$2,447	\$764	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,675	\$7 <i>,</i> 685	\$0	\$14,359
6	Other Planning Activities	\$608	\$4,124	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$610	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,341	\$6,150	\$48,509	\$60,000
	Total	\$18,714	\$7,591	\$3,526	\$26,320	\$32,935	\$3,114	\$986	\$1,979	\$5,219	\$4,428	\$104,812	\$120,670	\$67,666	\$293,149

115.13% Indirect Rate											Total En	nployee Indirect
	Indirect per employee	\$21,546	\$8,739	\$4,060	\$30,302	\$37,918	\$3,586	\$1,135	\$2,278	\$6,008	\$5,098	\$120,670

Notes

¹ 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.



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 27, 2021To: Transportation Advisory CommitteeFrom: Christian Meyer, Senior PlannerRe: Agenda Items 4, 5 and 6

> ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion Items

Vermont Visitor Information Center Study

The study was collectively initiated by VTrans, the Department Building and General Services , and Agency of Commerce and Community Development, to work collaboratively on a comprehensive planning effort to understand the current physical conditions and financial funding structure for Visitor Information Centers across the state, coordinate with stakeholders to identify issues and opportunities, identify current and future funding options, and develop an implementation plan to advance recommendations developed through a study. CVRPC staff reviewed the document, distributed the it for regional review, further discussed the recommendations with those communities most closely affected, and submitted comments. Staff comments are available for in the meeting packet for committee review.

Art Installations

The RPC would like to recognize the importance art can play in developing a sense of place in a community and call to your attention several programs that your municipality may be interested in taking advantage of and a recently developed VTrans process for gaining approval for installations on state facilities.

Vermont Arts Council – Animating Infrastructure: Animating Infrastructure Grants support community projects that integrate art with infrastructure improvements. Through this program, the Council strives to demonstrate the positive impact of art in helping communities meet goals of livability, walkability, safety, economic vitality, and community vibrancy, and to support the creation of unique infrastructure projects where function and art are one and the same. More information is available on their website https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/organizations/animating-infrastructure

ACCD – **Better Places:** The Better Places program will provide "placemaking" grants that improve the vitality of state designated downtowns, village centers, new town centers, or neighborhood development

29 Main Street Suite 4 Montpelier Vermont 05602 802-229-0389 E Mail: CVRPC@CVRegion.com areas. This program has a broad set of goals that include economic revitalization, building social capital, public health, and public arts. Additional information is available on the ACCD web site: https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/better-places

VTrans – Art Installations On State Transportation Facilities: Finally, to help guide your community, VTrans has developed a process for how to pursue gaining approval for and art installations and on which structures it can occur. <u>https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/policy-planning/art</u>

VTrans Permitting Services – Updates to the A-76

VTrans Permitting Services is updating the town road standard (A-76) and invites RPC and municipal comments. A copy of the updates has been included in the meeting packet. Nate Covey requests that you provide comments by 7/29 or call him to discuss it. Also, the updated standard drawings for residential drives (B-71a) and commercial drives (B-71b) along with other permitting, access management, and demonstration project material are available at http://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/permitting. Contact info: nathan.covey@vermont.gov or 802-498-7055.



July 5,2021 Montpelier, Vermont

Dave Pelletier VTrans Planning Coordinator Vermont Agency of Transportation 219 North Main Street Barre, VT 05641

Mr. Pelletier,

Thank you for sharing this draft report with our organization. Staff has reviewed the study and discussed the findings with those central Vermont communities most affected by the recommendations. Based on these discussions, staff has the following comments:

Return on Investment

The report takes a very deep dive into the costs associated with each visitor center, but does not fully explore the return generated by the system. The return could be measured in two fashions, (1) how much does each individual visit generate in economic activity, and (2) what is the value of maintaining the Vermont brand through the statewide system of visitor information centers.

Under the first point listed above, it seems important to know if visiting a visitor information center generates additional economic activity. That is, by providing access to information about ongoing activities and destinations throughout the state, do the visitor information centers accelerate economic activity? Does this math change between a full visitor center and rest area with restrooms? If so, eliminating centers or changing the provided services would incur economic costs not currently included in your model.

The second point looks at the Vermont brand as a whole. Do clean, inviting and accessible visitor information centers positively impact the Vermont brand? If so, to what degree do they play a role in attracting visitors to this state relative to competing destinations?

The aggregated impact these two factors may have on the Vermont economy appears to be an important piece in developing a benefit/cost analysis for managing the visitor information centers statewide and should be part the decision making process.

Understanding Table 2, Page 38

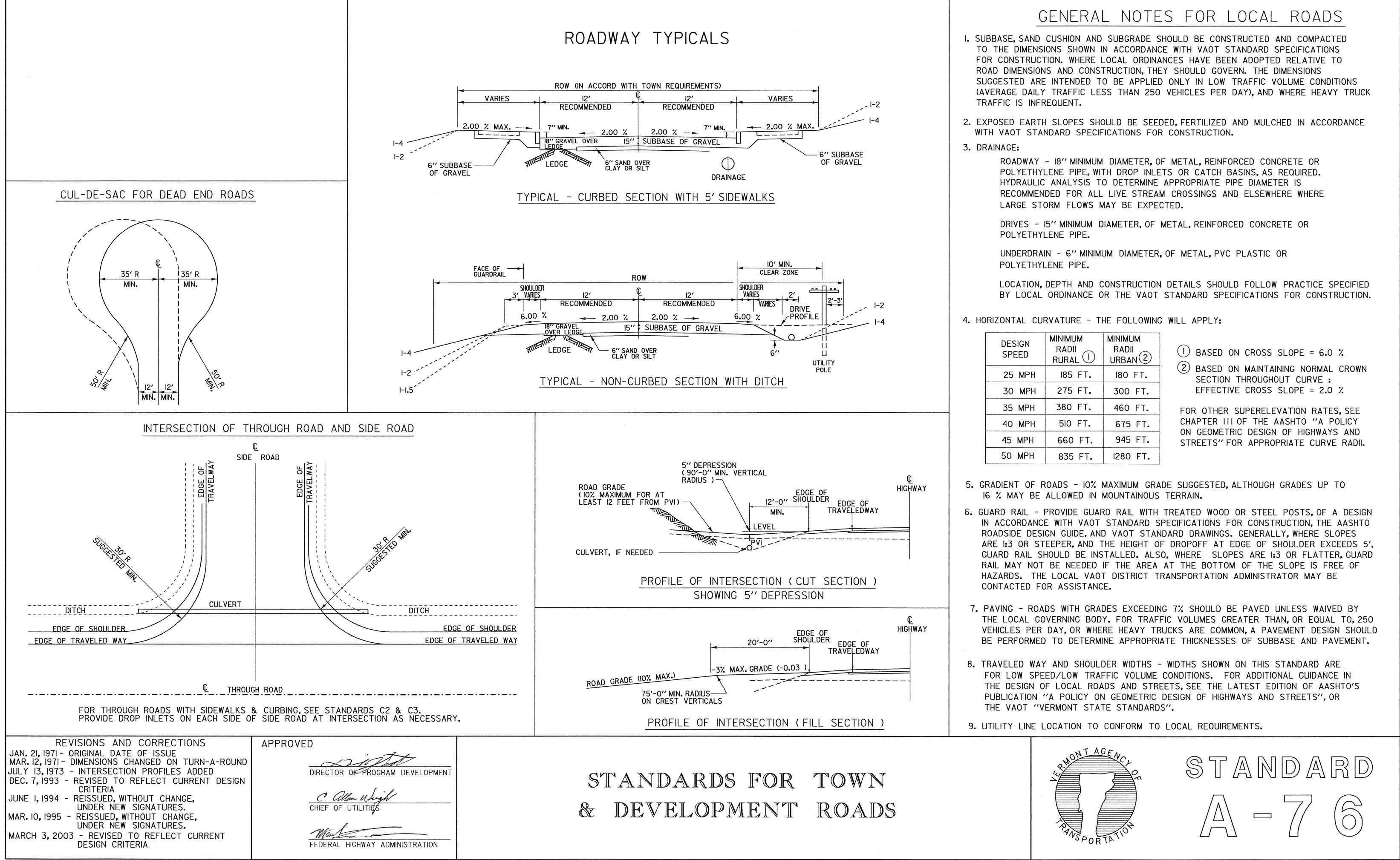
This table takes a moment to fully understand. If you are used to seeing a #1 ranking as a positive thing, being ranked #1 for closure is a little counter intuitive. The color coding is helpful and appreciated but perhaps the order could be reversed?

For additional details regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact Christian Meyer, Senior Planner, at the CVRPC.

Cordially,

Christia Meyor

Christian Meyer



DESIGN SPEED	MINIMUM RADII RURAL ()	MINIMUM RADII URBAN (2)
25 MPH	185 FT.	180 FT.
30 MPH	275 FT.	300 FT.
35 MPH	380 FT.	460 FT.
40 MPH	510 FT.	675 FT.
45 MPH	660 FT.	945 FT.
50 MPH	835 FT.	1280 FT.