

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
Minutes
September 28, 2021

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

Chair Steve Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Roll Call

Roll was called and a quorum was present

Adjustments to the Agenda

No adjustments to the agenda

Public Comments

Alice Peal spoke about her experience in Waitsfield trying to improve pedestrian safety along Main Street (Route 100) following a recent fatal crash. She is concerned with the speed at which AOT has addressed community concerns, stating that it is taking too long.

Review of Draft July Meeting Minutes

Frank Pratt made a motion, seconded by Ronald Krauth, *to accept the minutes from July 27, 2021*. The motion was unanimously adopted with David Ellenbogen abstaining.

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Amendments to FFY21 TPI Work Program Budget

Staff briefed the group on the minor changes that were made to FFY21 budget tables following their review and approval at the July TAC meeting, how the budget was being adjusted to meet planning needs, and why the group was reviewing these numbers again. Bob Atchinson made the motion, seconded by Richard Turner, *to approve the proposed adjustments to the FFY21 work program and budget*. Motion passes unanimously.

VPSP2 Selected Projects

Staff presented the VTrans list of selected projects for programming. The committee discussed the list wondering exactly where the 150% of expected programming decision came from given the potential for a federal infrastructure bill that may push the number far higher. The committee was also interested to know what role the TV would play now that project development is underway. The Committee requested the initial VPSP2 selection tables be distributed to the Committee again for reference. David Ellenbogen requested that the description be modified for the regional priority at the intersection of Route 100 and Route 17 to include the safety of cyclists. Allice Peal voice her emphatic support for this improved description and added that friends of the Mad River had also identified this location as being important to storm water run-off.

Joyce Manchester wondered about the potential for labor and materials shortages if all the expected funding comes to fruition. Adding that it would be great to have a representative from VTrans join the group to discuss this and how towns should think about addressing potential shortages.

Steve Lotspeich asked about the coming year’s prioritization process and when should towns start thinking about regional priorities. Staff responded that in the next round of prioritizations the TAC will be considering bridges and that if towns have priorities, they can start talking to the region now about those projects.

VTrans Road Usage Charge Study - Survey

The Committee discussed the active Road Usage Charge Study survey. Comments included that it asked about usage charges but failed to ask about increasing the tax fuel tax for internal combustion engines and how it would address the wear and tear caused by out of state visitors. Discussion ensued.

Transportation Alternatives (TA) set-aside program

Staff discussed the launch of the current solicitation for projects for the TA set aside program. Towns are encouraged to contact the Region for additional resources and application support. Committee members requested a one pager on the program to distribute to their local partners.

Local Concerns Including Project Updates and Other Issues

1 Waterbury had the official ribbon cutting for their Main Street project. Additionally, VTrans is
2 wrapping up scoping on the reconstruction of the bridge on Stowe Street at the intersection of
3 100.

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5 Plainfield ran into some challenges with the pedestrian bridge on Main Street. However, the
6 project is going forward.

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8 East Montpelier got the 35 MPH zone extended to Towne Hill Road. This was a 4 to 5-year
9 process.

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11 **Topics for future meetings**

12 GMT MyRide, labor and materials with increased federal assistance

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14 **Adjourn**

15 Don La Haye made the motion, seconded Bob Atchinson, *to adjourn*. The motion carried.

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17 The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:53 PM.