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Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
Minutes
Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Attendees:						
X	Barre City	Michael Hellein		X	Moretown	Joyce Manchester
X	Barre Town	Stephanie Magnan				Dara Torre, Alt
		Sebastian Arduengo, Alt			Northfield	Jon Ignatowski
X	Berlin	Robert Wernecke				Patrick Demasi, Alt
	Cabot	John Cookson			Orange	Lee Cattaneo
	Calais	David Ellenbogen		X	Plainfield	Bob Atchinson
X		Karin McNeill, Alt		X	Roxbury	Gerry D'Amico
	Duxbury	Alan Quackenbush		X	Waitsfield	Don LaHaye
X		Bill Whitehair, Alt.			Warren	Michael Bridgewater, Alt
	E. Montpelier	Frank Pratt			Washington	Peter Carbee
	Fayston	Donald Simonini		X	Waterbury	Steve Lotspeich (Chair)
	Marshfield	Robin Schunk		X	Williamstown	Richard Turner
X	Middlesex	Ronald Krauth			Woodbury	Chris Koteas
X	Montpelier	Dona Bate		X	Worcester	Bill Arrand
Staff:		Christian Meyer				
Guests:		Amanda Holland (AOT)				

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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

- Steve Lotspeich added a discussion on hybrid meetings to the round table discussion.

Public Comments

- None

Review of Draft February Meeting Minutes

- Robert Wernecke made the motion, seconded by Don LaHaye, *to accept the March TAC meeting minutes as presented.* With Stephanie Magnan abstaining, the motion carried.

1 **VPSP2 Asset-Driven Bridge Project Review**

- 2 • Staff reviewed the three categories of projects that the TAC received to consider. The
3 committed projects are projects that the AOT has already committed to advancing into
4 design and construction. The asset-driven projects are those projects that AOT staff has
5 identified through their asset management system as priorities for rehabilitation work
6 based on their condition. The Region and TAC are responsible for reviewing these
7 projects and adding specific information regarding requested attributes that include
8 connectivity and access to community features. Finally, the Region can also bring
9 forward projects as regional priorities that are ultimately reviewed and scored based on
10 the same criteria as the asset driven projects. Dona Bate was curious about how the
11 scoring was derived for each project. Staff discussed several examples and referenced
12 the guidebook before jumping into the specific projects to provide greater context. In
13 reviewing each project with the TAC several discrepancies were identified and questions
14 arose regarding the definitions of each field. Upon completing a review of each project
15 and corresponding relevant characteristics, staff recommended that the TAC hold-off on
16 endorsing any values or data until the May meeting where the transportation values will
17 also be included.

18 **VPSP2 Regional Bridge Priorities**

- 19 • Staff walked the TAC through the project intake form for town identified regional
20 priorities and how it relates to the process by which asset driven projects are being
21 scored. Steve Lotspeich mentioned that Waterbury intends to have a project reviewed.
22 Staff urged interested parties to try and reach out to the Region as soon as is feasible to
23 get the process started, ideally before the end of April. All projects must be reviewed,
24 scored, endorsed and submitted to the AOT by the end of May. Bob Atchinson stated
25 that he would consult with his community as to whether there was interest in Plainfield
26 including a bridge on Brook Road for consideration.

27 **TAC Member Round Table**

- 28 • Staff let the members know that they are hoping to hold a Road Foreman’s meeting in
29 June. There are a number of items that are on the agenda to discuss, but TAC members
30 can let CVRPC know if there is something that their road crews need more support on.
31 • Staff have interviewed planning technicians to join the RPC for summer field work
32 starting in late May.
33 • Staff has had some difficulty procuring services through RFPs. The market is tight and
34 consulting engineers are not necessarily chasing every project. The RFP for the study on
35 Berlin Street in Barre City is currently being advertised.
36 • Others in the region have noticed and appreciate the completed culvert project on
37 Fisher Road in Berlin.

- 1 • Robert Wernecke spoke of the study Berlin is undertaking to look at a road diet on
2 Fisher Road and how this road could be made more worthy of a town center.
- 3 • Steve Lotspeich let the group know that the Stowe Street bridge is in engineering and
4 design for a three-lane bridge and will be paired with a bike and pedestrian project
5 creating a crosswalk across Route 100.
- 6 • Joyce Manchester asked if there were AOT signage to help cut idling in the Moretown
7 village. Fellow TAC members let her know that there is a state statute that prohibits
8 more than 5-minutes of idling per hour and pointed her to the Be Idle Free page on the
9 DEC web site (<https://dec.vermont.gov/air-quality/mobile-sources/be-idle-free>). Bob
10 Atchinson also spoke of some of the success he had by informing drivers of the law and
11 following up with positive reinforcement.
- 12 • Ron asked if information could be provided to the towns on the federal funds that might
13 be available for road work.
- 14 • The committee discussed how everyone felt about going for a hybrid meeting. Steve
15 Lotspeich noted that it would allow those who cannot participate remotely to join in the
16 meetings with the use of conferencing technology, like the owl. Dona Bate noted that in
17 her experience the hybrid model is awkward and that she would recommend the
18 committee be either 100% in-person or 100% virtual. Discussion ensued. Steve
19 Lotspeich recommend further discussion.

20 **Adjourn**

21 Don LaHaye made the motion, seconded by Bob Atchinson, *to adjourn*. By unanimous consent,
22 the motion carried.

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24 The chair adjourned the meeting at 8:33 PM.