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Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Minutes

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Attendees:					
Χ	Barre City	Michael Hellein		Moretown	Joyce Manchester
	Barre Town	Stephanie Magnan (Chair)			Dara Torre, Alt
			X	Northfield	Thomas Davis
	Berlin	Robert Wernecke			Patrick Demasi, Alt
	Cabot	John Cookson	X	Orange	Lee Cattaneo
Х	Calais	David Ellenbogen	Х	Plainfield	Bob Atchinson (Vice Chair)
		Karin McNeill, Alt	X	Roxbury	Jerry D'Amico
Χ	Duxbury	Alan Quackenbush		Waitsfield	Don LaHaye
			X		Alice Peal, Alt
		Bill Whitehair, Alt.		Warren	Michael Bridgewater, Alt
	E. Montpelier	Gina Jenkins	X	Washington	Peter Carbee
	Fayston	Donald Simonini	Х	Waterbury	Steve Lotspeich
	Marshfield	Robin Schunk	Х	Williamstown	Richard Turner
Χ	Middlesex	Ronald Krauth		Woodbury	Chris Koteas
	Montpelier	Dona Bate	Х	Worcester	Bill Arrand
	Staff:	Keith Cubbon			
	Guests:	none			

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Steve Lotspeich, filled in to chair committee and called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

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Roll Call

- Roll was called and a quorum was present
- Adjustments to the Agenda 11
- 12 None
- 13 **Public Comments**
- 14 None

Staffing announcements

- CVRPC has hired one person and has set up an interview for a second seasonal Planning
 Tech.
 - Berlin Street traffic calming-RFP has been posted
 - Bike and Pedestrian Grant-applications due June 9th.
 - Grants in Aid Letters of Intent due May 5th.
 - Clean School Bus (EPA) grant is open for schools to apply
 - Update on sidewalk maps for towns review.
 - Keith requested input from the TAC about returning to in person meetings

10 Approval of March 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes

• Rich T. made a motion to accept the minutes and Michael H. 2nd that motion.

VT EV Charging Sites Survey

Keith C. gave an overview of the Vermont EV Charging Host and Service Provide survey Vermont EV Charging Host & Service Provider Questionnaire (arcgis.com).

This is the state of Vermont's development of EV charging installations and the map of the federally designated EV corridors within our region. Discussion about locations and build out in other areas and if providing grants or opportunities to businesses provides unfair advantages ensued. Ronald K. asked if VTrans is thinking about future infrastructure needs in their corridor and construction plans, also are they adding EV chargers to all the park and ride locations? Keith replied he is unaware of either and will look into the subject for both of these questions.

RRFB Report

Keith C. provided a quick overview of the small scale Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB) research report from UVM and VTrans. Mainly reviewing the executive summary and the graphed statistics showing increases in safety at the studied intersections. Implementation of RRFBs as a tool for unsignalized intersections. There was discussion about use of RRFBs and need for traffic calming, and prioritization of pedestrians. Michael stated that Barre City has acquired one of these and will be installing it in the near future.

Highway Safety Improvement Program memo (HSIP)

A memo on the upcoming Highway Safety Improvement Program's-small scale grants for safety infrastructure was reviewed. Rich Turner asked if this could be used for Ash tree removal efforts, Keith replied he would look into this and get back to Rich T. with an answer. Steve L. also brought up the Urban Forestry grant program for possible funding for tree removal as well.

Round table

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- Tom D. notified the committee that Northfield is trying to find funding to pave Lover's Lane or have the state take it over. This is a shortcut between Rt 12 and Rt 12A and has over a 1000 cars per day. The town is currently spending more than \$25,000/year on gravel at this location with much of it washing into the Dog River. Alice P. mentioned that the CWSP program may be able to help with funding since this may lower the total Phosphorus load in the watershed which is part of the Lake Champlain basin program. Or possibly ANR to help with funding due to lower sediment runoff.
- Alice Peal stated that EV stations are on the to do list at Mad River Glen the only privately-owned ski resort and would be looking for funding help on this. Waitsfield is doing a bylaw modernization grant and vibrant village program. Stated that business owners are struggling with lighting and signage allowance within the state ROW. They would like more leeway in improving signage. Needs to find out from VTrans what the actual rules are? Who to contact? Steve commented that typically signs permitted by towns have to be outside of highway ROW are by town bylaws, in the ROW has to conform with the MUTCD and offsite regulated by state statute with the billboard law. Can't advertised off premises unless it is a tourist information sign. Bob A. mentioned Plainfield was able to use a sandwich board for posting their town farmers market along the Rt 2 corridor. VTrans differed to the town for this temporary posting and seemed that as long as it is reasonable may be able to do it. Try to keep it unoffensive, civil, and no flashing lights and hope for no complaints. Steve commented to contact the zoning administrator to avoid enforcement issues. Issue is currently in the planning commission. Michael mentioned also that there are rules in relation to signs that have moving parts or motion in state law.
- Keith C. mentioned that a VTrans Traffic Safety Toolbox for Speeds is suppose to be coming out next month and that there may be an outreach program for this and hopefully we can get a presentation for the next meeting.

Adjourn

- Michael H. moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Rich T.
- The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:54