



Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Minutes

Tuesday, January 23, 2023

Attendees:					
	Barre City		x	Moretown	Joyce Manchester
	Barre Town	Stephanie Magnan (Chair)		Northfield	Thomas Davis
x	Berlin	Robert Wernecke			Jeff Schulz, Alt
	Cabot	John Cookson	x	Orange	Lee Cattaneo
x	Calais	David Ellenbogen	x	Plainfield	Bob Atchinson (Vice Chair)
		Karin McNeill, Alt	x	Roxbury	Gerry D'Amico
x	Duxbury	Alan Quackenbush	x	Waitsfield	Don LaHaye
		Bill Whitehair, Alt.	x		Alice Peal, Alt
	E. Montpelier	Gina Jenkins		Warren	Michael Bridgewater, Alt
	Fayston	Donald Simonini		Washington	Peter Carbee
	Marshfield	Todd Eaton	x	Waterbury	Mike Hedges
x	Middlesex	Ronald Krauth	x	Williamstown	Richard Turner
x	Montpelier	Dona Bate		Woodbury	Chris Koteas
				Worcester	Bill Arrand
Staff: Keith Cubbon, Rueben MacMartin					
Guests:					

Bob brought the meeting to order at 6:34pm.

Roll Call

- Roll was called and a quorum was present

Adjustments to the Agenda

- Mike Hedges offered to share Project information-VTransparency and Budget information at a future meeting.

Public Comments

- None

1 **Staff Announcements**

- 2 • Keith introduced Reuben MacMartin Senior Transportation Planner. Reuben gave a
3 quick introduction of his background and that he had been working on the
4 Transportation chapter of the regional plan.
5 • Keith gave an update about the State Transportation Improvement Plan and stated it
6 will be sent out to TAC members with the meeting link. Also the VPSP2 program is still
7 on hold due to the inflation rate taking up most of the increase of the IJA bill.

8 **Approval of September 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes**

- 9 • Robert W. made a motion to accept the September meeting minutes with Lee C. as 2nd.
10 Group voted and motion passed

11 **Approval of October 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes**

- 12 • Lee C. made a motion to accept the October meeting minutes with Mike H. as 2nd.
13 Group voted and motion passed

14 **Memo 1 2024 Meeting calendar**

- 15 • Keith reviewed that this is the list of 10 meeting dates for 2024.
16 Mike H. made a motion to accept the calendar of meetings with Donna B. as 2nd.
17 There was a discussion about switching the July and August meeting dates. No changes
18 made at this time. Keith stated he would look into the bylaws as to if there are any
19 requirements or rules about meeting requirements or calendars and report back.
20 Group voted and motion passed.

21
22 **Memo 2 Regional Plan Transportation Chapter discussion.**

- 23 • Keith started off with sharing the Statute requirements for the Transportation chapter
24 and goals from the 2016 plan. Bob A.- requested more emphasis on climate issues and
25 multiple members vocalized being in a climate emergency and the need to set goals that
26 address this. With roads washing out, bridges washing out, and for his vote to endorse
27 we would need language to address this. Lee-Seconded Bob and spoke to Route 302 a
28 major highway has closed due to flooding twice this year and needs to be addressed.
29 Bob-Likewise with Route 2 both North and South of Plainfield.
30 Alice-Said she will third and would speak to goals that the plan will lead. supporting
31 town with flood mitigation and flood planning strategies moving forward. Landslides
32 throughout region. Siting transportation infrastructure and transportation support
33 infrastructure, and should fix connector services.
34 The old goals seem redundant. They mention maintaining what we have. Goals should
35 Be to enhance. Mike H.- The agency spends most of its budget to maintain what we
36 have. Bob A.-We are doing reactive things and we should be doing proactive things.

1 When he worked with the agency to upsize culverts and bridges, but this is a all hands-
2 on deck emergency and needs to be handled accordingly. David E.- Asked if the goals
3 are ranked by priority. Reuben- Mentioned language that these old goals could be
4 consolidated some and that we can put language in addressing the committee's desire
5 for goals for a climate emergency. Keith- Stated that staff agree with this sentiment and
6 would like to strongly address the climate within this plan.

7 Bob W.- Spoke that we have an existing investment and keeping it in a state of good
8 repair this is the most cost-effective way of maintaining this. Mike H.- Spoke to language
9 to Maintain and enhance. Reuben- The language would ideally be then to "Maintain and
10 enhance". David E.- Instead of improving or maintaining, replacement, how many times
11 do we have to replace a road instead of moving it. Also mentioned that the Aspiration #
12 6 which is for the transportation chapter mentions multiple users by type of the
13 transportation system but doesn't mention wheelchair users. Retirement of some
14 roadways or pieces should be an option.

15 Joyce- Was surprised by Green House gas emissions weren't listed and state climate
16 goals. Reuben mentioned it is not called out but in goal 3-5. The group spoke to having
17 clearer goals that more directly called out their intent.

18 Ron- Would like to see more about how we are going to set up the grid for more vehicle
19 charging. Reuben- Electrification and infrastructure are handled more in other chapters.
20 Committee spoke to needing language in both in text and goals, and encouraging people
21 to drive electric.

22 Alice spoke to the Regional Plan Committee and that they will be reviewing the chapters
23 as well and will take the ideas from this committee to the Regional Plan Committee.

24 Mike H.- Mentioned ice storms moving into the future and likely moving forward.

26 Reuben spoke to the regional plan draft if there are any charts, data, and text that are
27 missing please let him know. Lee- asked to have the town boundaries on the maps.

28 Joyce- Average Vehicles Per Mile that 2020 wasn't an average year and would like a
29 note mentioning Covid effect to numbers for that year.

30 Mike- HPMS map which doesn't cover many of the routes in the region. AADT maps can
31 be gotten from the agency. Reuben- We can do passenger AADT, this one is to
32 specifically make a statement about freight.

33 Gerry- Small section on air transportation, would like to see more. Also would like
34 mention of Burlington and Lebanon airports for regional connectivity. Reuben- Would
35 like to get volume, especially freight. Is tougher to get.

36 **TAC Member Round Table**

- 37 • Rich Turner- Williamstown finally got 100% of roads open from July just a week ago. The
38 December flooding had set them back but finally got them all back.

- Mike H.-Spoke to I-89 condition rapidly declining. Will need up to 6" of pavement removal in '25 and '26 from Waterbury to Montpelier. Southbound one year and Northbound the next.
- Alice-Post December flooding the town roads are in mud season followed by rut season. Most were impassable during the last rain and flooding event. This is causing issues with access to houses especially for emergency services. Have started talking about need for rescue vehicles that can navigate these conditions.

Adjourn

- At 7:43 PM Mike H. made a motion to adjourn Don 2nd the motion.
Motion passed.