



Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Minutes

Tuesday, May 27, 2025

Attendees:					
	Barre City			Northfield	Thomas Davis
	Barre Town				Jeff Schulz, Alt
X	Berlin	Robert Wernecke	X	Orange	Lee Cattaneo
	Cabot	John Cookson	X	Plainfield	Bob Atchinson (Chair)
X	Calais	David Ellenbogen (Vice Chair)	X	Roxbury	Gerry D'Amico
		Karin McNeill, Alt		Waitsfield	Don LaHaye
X	Duxbury	Alan Quackenbush	X		Alice Peal, Alt
		Bill Whitehair, Alt.		Warren	Jim Crafts
	E. Montpelier	Adam Stanforth	X	Washington	Peter Carbee
		Jen Devine, Alt			
	Fayston	Donald Simonini	X	Waterbury	Mike Hedges
	Marshfield	Todd Eaton			Doug Greason, Alt
X	Middlesex	Ronald Krauth	X	Williamstown	Richard Turner
	Montpelier	Dona Bate	X	Woodbury	Michael Gray
x	Moretown	Joyce Manchester			
			X	Worcester	Bill Arrand
Staff: Reuben MacMartin, Keith Cubbon					
Guests: Monica White (GMT), Marcella Dent (VTrans)					

Bob A. brought the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Roll Call

- Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Adjustments to the Agenda

- None

Public Comments

- None

Staff Announcements

- Field work has begun for the region including traffic counts and road erosion inventories.
- Regional Safety Action Plan and Network Analysis project is underway and will be looking to the TAC to act as stakeholder representatives for the towns.

Approval of March 2025 TAC Meeting Minutes

- Robert W moved that minutes be approved, 2nd by Alice P.
 - Group voted; Motion passed.

Discussion: TPI FY 26 Guidance/Work Program

- Reuben M presented the TPI FY 26 Guidance and draft work program
- The group discussed transportation planning documents.
 - Bob A clarified the location of rail information in the plan.
 - Joyce M raised concerns about the lack of federal funding and state incentives for electric vehicles, questioning what the RPCs would do in light of these challenges.
 - Reuben M responded that CVRPC will continue to assist municipalities in planning and looking for funding.
 - Alice P explained that VTrans could still develop plans for reducing emissions and promoting electric vehicles, but would need to wait for federal funding and potential restart of state programs.
 - CVRPC confirmed that their transportation work was currently stable and funded at the same level as the previous year.
 - Mike H suggested that the TAC have Andrea Wright as a guest speaker on energy and emissions funding.
 - Alice P suggested that STIP presenter (VTrans Finance) speak to the TAC regarding current and expected funding picture.
 - CVRPC agreed that the suggested speakers would be helpful to clarify VTrans funding, policy, and priorities. CVRPC agreed to reach out to VTrans to schedule speakers.
 - CVRPC noted that the committee needs to finalize guidance and work plan documents by the end of July to secure Executive approval by September for October implementation.
 - David E endorsed the idea of speakers and asked about how traffic count locations were determined.

- Keith explained that towns request locations and the state maintains a database
- David inquired about the document's reference to 3 seasonal 7-day counts per year at 4 locations.
- Reuben explained that this is a minimum requirement of the program and towns can request priority locations they'd like to see counted.
- Keith clarified that they are conducted per region rather than per town, with staff selecting the locations unless already counting in a specific place. Keith shared that they have been conducting counts in the Mad River Valley for almost 9 years, noting that historical data with established baselines allow for more robust analyses of emergent patterns.
- Alice P asked about transit planning work, specifically seasonal buses.
 - Reuben M explained that this falls under the transit planning support task, and that analyses of regional shuttles could be added to workplan if requested.

TAC Member Round Table

- **Crosswalk Demonstration Project Review:** Ron K asked about the proposed crosswalk demonstration project near Red Hen. Reuben M explained that the project, which aims to calm traffic and measure driver response to a mock-up of the Walkable Middlesex locally preferred alternative, involves flexible delineators and temporary asphalt tape, is currently under review by transportation engineers and aims to be installed for three weeks this summer, potentially between July and September. Ron K expressed concerns about the safety of the location due to the S-turn and heavy traffic and requested to be kept informed about the project's progress.
- **Road Flooding and Infrastructure Repairs:** Alice reported on recent flooding in Waitsfield, where heavy rains caused significant road damage and closures, including a major washout on Butternut Hill Road. She emphasized the need for better maintenance of culverts and bridges to prevent future issues, noting that efforts to secure federal funding have been unsuccessful. Mike shared Waterbury's efforts to mitigate muddy roads, particularly on Perry Hill, using pavement grindings and additional gravel. Robert reported that Berlin will soon have a new bridge installed on Payne Turnpike North, reconnecting Fisher Road and Route 62 after a two-year closure.
- Gerry D inquired about the status of the TPI, which CVRPC explained was informational and requested that any proposed amendments be brought to the June meeting for inclusion in the work plan.

- **Field Trip Planning:** Gerry D inquired about a July field trip. The group discussed the possibility of a field trip in July, with Alice suggesting a visit to see rail switches (per Zoe N's TAC presentation) and Mike mentioning the Stowe Street Bridge project in Waterbury as a potential site. The conversation ended with Peter making a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Robert and approved by the group. Bob A mentioned ongoing pavement work on Route 2 between Danville and Marshfield.

Adjourn

- A 7:30 PM Peter C moved to adjourn Robert W 2nd the motion.
 - Group voted; Motion passed.

Action Items

- Reuben to coordinate with Andrea Wright from VTrans for a potential guest speaker appearance at a future TAC meeting to discuss environmental planning and transportation energy issues.
- Reuben to explore inviting the VTrans Director of Finance to present on the State Transportation Infrastructure Program and funding processes at a future TAC meeting.
- TAC members to review the TPI FY26 Guidance/Work Program document and provide any feedback or suggestions at the June meeting.
- Keith to follow up with David Ellenbogen et al via email with the correct link for the traffic count data website.
- TAC members to propose ideas for the July field trip, considering options such as railroad infrastructure, the Stowe Street Bridge project in Waterbury, or other ongoing projects in the region.

Respectfully submitted by:

Reuben MacMartin, Senior Transportation Planner