

**Alternatives to the CIRC Planning Study List
February 23, 2012**

Recommended Phase II Planning Studies for FY13 CCRPC Unified Planning Work Program Consideration

| Project ID | | Municipality | Project | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost* |
|------------|------------|--|--|---|--------------------------|
| CircAlt | PLN-19" c" | Colchester - Recommended by Local Motion | VT127 Scoping Study Update Re: Bike/Ped Accomodations | A scoping study was completed in 2001 evaluating VT127 in Colchester, this corridor has been identified in the regional bike-ped plan as a key regional bicycle connection as well as a key linkage in the Lake Champlain Bikeway, the project purpose would be to update recommendations for bicycle and pedestrian accommodations (taking as a starting point the comprehensive bike-ped recommendations already made in previous studies for this corridor). | TBD |
| CircAlt | PLN-02 | Colchester | East West Connections Between US7 and Susie Wilson Road: Evaluation of Improvements to Severance Road and VT2A in Colchester Village | VT2A and Severance Road are the major east west connections in Colchester. VT2A is also the location of Colchester's historic village. This study will evaluate the east-west flow of traffic in Colchester without construction of the Circ highway. | \$100,000 |
| CircAlt | SCP-10 | Essex | North Williston Road Flood Plain Elevation (currently listed) and North Williston Road/VT 117 Intersection Improvements (added) | 1) Study raising the Essex side of North Williston Road so the road remains open 24/7 during flood events 2) Study intersection improvements at VT117/North Williston Road for added turning/bypass lanes and potential signalization in the absence of CIRC A/B | \$75,000 |
| CircAlt | SCP-14 | Essex Junction | Multi-Use Path: North Street to Railroad Station | Village has a conceptual plan and cost estimate | \$25,000 |
| n/a | | Williston | Yet to be Determined Scoping Studies | Dependent on outcomes of Phase I Williston/Essex Transportation Network Analysis | TBD |
| CircAlt | TRN-12 | Regional - Transit | VT15 Commuter Park and Ride Lots | Evaluate construction of park and ride lots in Essex, Jericho, Underhill and Jeffersonville. | \$50,000 |

Future Planning Studies - Colchester

| Reference Number | Project ID | | Municipality | Project | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost* |
|------------------|------------|---------|--------------|---|--|--|
| 2 | CircAlt | PLN-19b | Colchester | VT127 Intersections | A scoping study was completed in 2001 evaluating VT127 in Colchester, which is the only east-west corridor in Colchester west of I-89. This project will update the scoping study for the intersections of Prim Road/Beane Road and Mallets Bay Avenue/Blakely Road. | \$30,000 |
| 3 | CircAlt | SCP-04 | Colchester | Exit 16 Park and Ride Lot | Evaluate construction of an intercept parking facility Exit 16. This location was identified in the Regional Park and Ride Plan. | \$30,000 |
| 4 | CircAlt | PLN-02 | Colchester | East West Connections Between US7 and Susie Wilson Road: Evaluation of Improvements to Severance Road and VT2A in Colchester Village. | VT2A and Severance Road are the major east west connections in Colchester. VT2A is also the location of Colchester's historic village. This study will evaluate the east-west flow of traffic in Colchester without construction of the Circ highway. | \$100,000 |
| 5 | CircAlt | SCP-01 | Colchester | VT127 Park and Ride Lot | Evaluate construction of a Park and Ride lot on VT127 near the Heineberg Bridge. | To be evaluated in the North Avenue Corridor Study to be conducted by CCRPC in FY12/FY13 |
| 6 | CircAlt | SCP-05 | Colchester | VT 15/Lime Kiln Road Intersection Improvements | Traffic was evaluated in the VT15 Corridor Study. The scoping study will evaluate possible addition of turn lanes. | \$50,000 |

Future Planning Studies - Essex

| Reference Number | Project ID | | Municipality | Project | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost* |
|------------------|------------|--------|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| 2 | CircAlt | PLN-03 | Essex - #3 Priority | VT15/Susie Wilson Road Improvements | Evaluate recently made intersection changes and recommend changes if necessary. | \$20,000 |
| 4 | CircAlt | SCP-10 | Essex - #1 Priority | North Williston Road Flood Plain Elevation Improvements | Evaluate elevating the north approach to the Winooski River Bridge on North Williston Road to mitigate road closures due to flooding. | \$50,000 |
| 5 | CircAlt | SCP-09 | Essex - Dropped or Very Low Priority | VT117/VT289 Park and Ride Lot | Evaluate locating a park and ride lot at the VT117/VT289 interchange. | \$5,000 |
| 6 | CircAlt | SCP-06 | Essex - Dropped or Very Low Priority | VT2A/VT289 Interchange Improvements | Potential grade separation of VT 289 over VT2A to Susie Wilson Bypass to address heavy traffic volumes between Susie Wilson Bypass and VT289. | \$150,000 |
| 7 | CircAlt | SCP-07 | Essex - #7 Priority | VT289 Multi-use path | Evaluate constructing a multi-use path along the existing VT289 corridor. | \$75,000 |
| 8 | CircAlt | PLN-04 | Essex - Dropped or Very Low Priority | Allen Martin Parkway Connection to VT289 | | \$50,000 |
| 9 | CircAlt | PLN-05 | Essex - #8 Priority | Winooski River Bridge | Evaluate construction of a new bridge over the Winooski River between Essex and Winooski. | \$75,000 |

* See Attached Memo & List for Additional New Priorities from Essex

Future Planning Studies - Essex Junction

| Reference Number | Project ID | | Municipality | Project | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost* |
|------------------|------------|--------|----------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| 2 | CircAlt | SCP-24 | Essex Junction | Pedestrianize Portion of Main Street - War memorial to Martones | Phase II of the Crescent Connector Road Project. | \$75,000 |
| 3 | CircAlt | PLN-06 | Essex Junction | Five Corners Alternative Path Connections | Evaluate pedestrian flow through the Five Corners area in the Village of Essex Junction. Various connections were considered in the Pearl Street Multimodal Transportation Study, 2010, and Route 15 Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Feasibility Study, 2007 | \$35,000 |
| 4 | CircAlt | SCP-14 | Essex Junction | Multi-Use Path: North Street to Railroad Station | Village has a conceptual plan and cost estimate | \$25,000 |

Future Planning Studies - Regional and Transit

| Reference Number | Project ID | | Municipality | Project | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost* |
|------------------|------------|--------|--------------|--|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | CircAlt | SCP-02 | Regional | Signal Updates and Optimization in Circ Study Area | This study will identify signals in the Circ study area that would benefit from equipment upgrades and prioritize those upgrades. The goal of the improvements is to improve traffic flow, capacity and safety. | \$30,000 |
| 2 | CircAlt | ITS-02 | Regional | ITS Operations Center Planning Study | Conduct a planning study to examine potential regional traffic operations center. Study would identify institutional relationships necessary, funding, and peer examples from other regions with similar characteristics. | \$40,000 |
| 1 | CircAlt | TRN-12 | Transit | VT15 Commuter Park and Ride Lots | Evaluate construction of park and ride lots in Jeffersonville and Jericho. | \$25,000 |

Future Planning Studies - Williston

| Reference Number | Project ID | | Municipality | Project | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost* |
|------------------|------------|----------------|--------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 2 | CircAlt | | Williston | Exit 12 Evaluation | Evaluate potential capacity expansion at Exit 12. | \$65,000 |
| 3 | CircAlt | PLN-11 | Williston | Taft Corners Area Park and Ride Lot | Evaluate construction a park and ride lot of approximately 60 spaces in the Taft Corners area. | \$15,000 |
| 4 | CircAlt | PLN-10, SCP-26 | Williston | VT2A Pedestrian Connections | Evaluate connection from Taft Corners to the existing multi-use path, including a bridge over Allen Brook. | Pending outcome of Quadrant analysis |
| 5 | CircAlt | SCP-18 | Williston | Park and Ride Near Exit 12 | Construction of a new park and ride facility in Williston near Exit 12. | \$50,000 |
| 6 | CircAlt | PLN-13 | Williston | US2: Tafts Corner to Williston Village | Evaluated in US2 Corridor Transportation Management Plan, 2007. Provide 2 lane cross section with bicycle/pedestrian facilities | Pending outcome of Quadrant analysis |
| 7 | CircAlt | SCP-22 | Williston | US 2 / Oak Hill / North Williston Road Intersection Improvements | Potential need for some improvement at this location in the future. Previous scoping effort did not result in an alternative with broad public support. | Pending outcome of Quadrant analysis |
| 8 | CircAlt | SCP-16 | Williston | US2/Helena Drive/Trader Lane Traffic Signal | New grid street between VT2A and Trader Lane. | \$20,000 |
| 9 | CircAlt | SCP-15 | Williston | US2/Brownell Road Intersection Improvements | | \$30,000 |
| 10 | CircAlt | SCP-20 | Williston | Park and Ride Lot in Williston Village | Cost based on 30 spaces per Regional Park and Ride Plan. | \$5,000 |
| 11 | CircAlt | PLN-15 | Williston | CSWD Traffic Impacts | Planning study of the impact of CSWD operations on the road network | Pending outcome of Quadrant analysis |

**Alternatives to the CIRC - Phase I Planning Study List
CIRC Alternatives Task Force Approved 12/08/11**

| Project ID | Municipality | Project | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost* |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------|
| CircAlt PLN-19a | Colchester | Conduct a Scoping Study of VT 127 Intersections including Prim Road/West Lakeshore Drive and Laker Lane/Mallets Bay Avenue. | A scoping study was completed in 2001 evaluating VT127 in Colchester, which is the only east-west corridor in Colchester west of I-89. This project will update the scoping study for the intersections of Prim Road/West Lakeshore Drive and Laker Lane/Mallets Bay Avenue. | \$50,000 |
| CircAlt IMP-05 / PLN-20 | Essex/Williston | Williston-Essex Transportation Network Analysis | Evaluate traffic, transit and bike and pedestrian conditions in Williston & Essex. Study area includes CIRC Study Area networks within Williston & Essex (See Scoping Study for Details). | \$215,000 |
| CircAlt SCP-12 | Essex Junction | Conduct a Scoping Study of Pearl Street/Post Office Square Intersection Improvements and Post Office Square to Five Corners Streetscape and bike improvements. | Evaluate congestion and safety issues at Post Office Square/Pearl Street intersection and evaluate streetscape and bike improvements from Post Office Square to Five Corners. | \$40,000 |
| CircAlt SCP-13, SCP-11 | Regional - Essex Junction/ Essex/ Colchester | Conduct a Scoping Study of the VT 15 Multi-Use Path: West Street to Vermont National Guard. | Numerous studies have considered a path connection along VT15. This study will develop an alignment and proposed implementation plan. | \$75,000 |

Memorandum

TO: Patrick C. Scheidel, Town Manager
Linda Myers, Selectboard Chair
Jeff Carr, Primary RPC Representative
Trevor Lashua, Assistant Town Engineer
FROM: Dennis Lutz, P.E., Public Works Director/Town Engineer
DATE: 21 February 2012
SUBJECT: Priority List for the Circ Alternative Projects for the FY13 CCRPC Work Program

In preparation for Thursday's Circ Alternatives Task Force meeting, Michele Boomhower requested that Essex and the other towns provide a prioritized list of those projects the community is most interested in moving forward in the planning process. She needs the list by close of work today. There are a number of Town projects that are already in the process and these do not need to be considered for inclusion. She also provided a draft list (copy attached).

Attached is the project planning list that I recommend we use. Because of the time requirement, I intend to forward it to Michelle before close of business today. We can always provide her with a modified list at the meeting on Thursday if the group is of the opinion that the priorities should be different. I have dropped or changed certain projects that she had listed and they are as follows with an explanation:

Dropped or Very Low Priority Projects:

- 1) VT117/VT289 Park and Ride Lot – This project has been given to UVM senior students in their senior project course for that group to evaluate and make recommendations. They are doing the investigation in conjunction with studying a small, potential park and ride lot at the Simon's store on VT15 and park-and-ride sharing using existing unused parking spaces at the commercial properties along VT15. It will not be a complete scoping study but will identify the viability of the project. Also, by using the UVM students, it does not get the Town into studying an option that would prematurely eliminate another bridge crossing at the original site for the Circ crossing of the Winooski River.
- 2) Allen Martin Parkway Connection to VT289 – This project is not a project to which additional planning funds should be directed at this time. Justification for or against this project needs to be made based on a broader scoping study of the impacts of not building the Circ on that portion of VT15 east of the present day Circ interchange near Ehlers.
- 3) VT2A/VT289 Interchange Improvements with a bridge over VT2A and an extension of the Circ Highway (Future long-term project). Given the funding necessary to make this project happen and the environmental obstacles, this project is not likely to ever see the light of day.

Priority List of Recommended Circumferential Highway Alternative Projects for Future CCRPC Work Programs

| On CCRPC list or new project | Project Title | Project Description | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost |
|--|---|--|---|-------------------------|
| #1 On list but modified (Circ Alt SCP-10) | North Williston Road flood plain elevations (old) <u>and North Williston Road/VT117 intersection improvements (new)</u> | 1) study raising the Essex side of North Williston Road so the road remains open 24/7 during flood events 2) study intersection improvements at VT117/North Williston Rd. for added turning/bypass lanes and potential signalization in the absence of the Circ A/B | Provide increased capacity, all season-mobility, safety, connectivity, preservation of existing system and efficient system management that will be needed in the absence of Circ A/B | \$75,000 |
| #2 On list (Circ Alt IMP-05) | Intersection improvements at Kellogg Road/Susie Wilson Road and Blair Road | Evaluate capacity and safety at this high volume intersection. Include potential for “smart” controller operation with optical-based traffic control and potential for roundabout | Same as previous project less the issue of all-season mobility, connectivity and with increased emphasis on safety | \$40,000 |

| On CCRPC list or new project | Project Title | Project Description | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost |
|---|---|--|---|-------------------------|
| #3 On list Circ Alt (PLN – 03) | VT15/Susie Wilson Road Intersection Improvements | Evaluate the intersection for: added turn lane plus center island on Susie Wilson Road; intersection signal upgrade with “smart” controller operation with optical based traffic control; change to uniform LED lighting | Provide increased mobility; capacity for left turns off Susie Wilson Road, safety, preservation of existing system and efficient system management that will be needed in the absence of Circ A/B | \$25,000 |
| #4 new | VT15/Allen Martin Drive Intersection Improvements | Evaluate the intersection for: Added turn or thru lane for VT15, safety improvements plus potential signalization | Provide for improvements likely to be identified as needed in Essex/Williston corridor study | \$25,000 |
| #5 new | VT15 corridor east of the existing intersection with VT15 to the intersection of VT15/Allen Martin Drive plus the impact on Sand Hill Road/Allen Martin Parkway | Evaluate the impacts of future traffic on VT 15 between the referenced locations including using a potential alternate route | Provide for congestion mitigation, improved access, safety, preservation of existing system and efficient system management. Provide for improvements likely to be identified as needed in Essex/Williston corridor study | \$40,000 |

| On CCRPC list or new project | Project Title | Project Description | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost |
|------------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------|
| #6 new | VT 15 Park and Ride, at or near the intersection of VT15 and Allen Martin Drive | Study the potential for a new, large park-and-ride at the proposed location, including the acquisition of land to enable the project | Reduce congestion by providing a well-sited, large park-and-ride lot to both remove single occupancy vehicles and provide for transit pick-up on direct bus service to Burlington. Provide increased capacity, mobility, safety, connectivity, preservation of existing system and efficient system management that will be needed in the absence of Circ A/B | \$25,000 |
| #7 on list Circ Alt (SCP-07) | VT289 Multi-use path | Provide for a paved multi-use path along the existing Circ corridor in Essex from VT2A to VT117 | Provide for a safe alternative transportation route primarily for commuter bicyclists | \$50,000 |

Extended List

Note: The intent of the extended list is to include projects that may develop from one or more of the planning studies that are underway that have not been identified elsewhere.

| On CCRPC list or new project | Project Title | Project Description | Project Purpose | Estimated Planning Cost |
|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| <p>#8 On list Circ Alt (PLN-05)</p> | <p>Winooski River Bridge</p> | <p>Evaluate construction of a new bridge over the Winooski River between Essex and Williston</p> | <p>Provide increased capacity, mobility, safety, connectivity, efficient system management that will be needed in the absence of Circ A/B</p> | <p>\$75,000</p> |
| <p>#9 On list Circ Alt (SCP-09)</p> <p>Note: This project is currently under study by the UVM Senior- Civil Class As a Senior project. Project would only warrant further study if a new bridge across the Winooski at this location was determined to be</p> | <p>VT117/VT289 Park and Ride Lot</p> | <p>Evaluate locating a park and ride lot at the referenced intersection in the area between the two ramps</p> | <p>Reduce congestion by providing a well-sited, large park-and-ride lot to both remove single occupancy vehicles and provide for transit pick-up on direct bus service to Burlington. Provide increased capacity, mobility, safety, connectivity, preservation of existing system and</p> | <p>\$5,000</p> |

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| permanently dropped from consideration. | | | efficient system management that will be needed in the absence of Circ A/B | |
|--|--|--|---|--|