

CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC





Railyard Enterprise Project Kickoff Meeting

PREPARED FOR: Steering Committee

January 29, 2013

- Welcome
- Public Comment Period
- Project Development Process and Scoping/PEL Studies
- Steering Committee Roles & Responsibilities
- Study Scope of Work and Timeline
- Next Steps & Public Meeting

Summary of Project Development Process

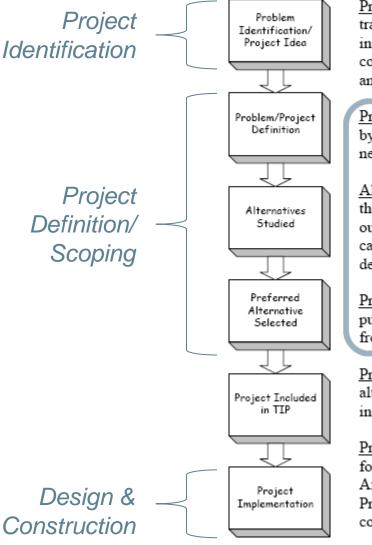


The process can take anywhere from 4 to 6 years depending on NEPA (EA or EIS), ROW, and other issues

What is a Scoping Study?

The Life of a Project: From Concept to Reality

Typical Stages in the Development and Funding of Transportation Projects



<u>Problem Identification/Project Idea</u> – The process starts when a particular transportation problem is identified or a new idea is put forward. This step can be initiated by members of the public, local elected officials, a private business, a community group, or a public agency. The CCMPO also often identifies problems and projects through its ongoing regional planning process.

<u>Problem/Project Defined</u> – The problem or project idea is brought to the CCMPO by local officials for definition and discussion (development of "purpose and need").

<u>Alternatives Studied</u> – As part of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the CCMPO studies the problem/project idea and examines alternatives through our Technical Assistance and/or Scoping and Project Definition process. In some cases, depending on the scale and complexity of the project, the CCMPO can develop a "quick fix" to resolve the problem quickly.

<u>Preferred Alternative Selected</u> – Working with affected community and the public, the CCMPO facilitates the selection of a preferred alternative, which flows from the study process, for implementation.

<u>Project Included in TIP</u> – Once local and regional consensus is reached on the best alternative for the project, it moves to consideration for prioritization and inclusion by the CCMPO in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

<u>Project Implementation</u> – Once the CCMPO votes to include the project in the TIP for funding, the Governor (through VTrans) and federal agencies must approve it. After these approvals, it is added to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and the Statewide Capital Program for funding, engineering, design, and construction.

Issue: Work done under Scoping was often duplicated when the project moved into the environmental review process (NEPA)

> Duplication of effort created delays in project delivery

Solution: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) developed the Every Day Counts (EDC)/Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) initiative that allows for planning/scoping level information and data to be used in the NEPA process

The Railyard Enterprise Project (REP) will follow a PEL process that will help streamline the project development process and expedite delivery of the project

Details of the FHWA Every Day Counts initiatives are available at: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/everydaycounts/

Project Background

Waterfront South Access Project (2010)

- Develop access & circulation alternatives within the study area
 - ✓ to promote economic development
 - ✓ to improve truck access to the Vermont Railway Railyard
 - ✓ to advance City land use goals

Railyard Enterprise Project (2013)

- Scoping/PEL Study: Work with stakeholders to assess current & future conditions; develop the project Purpose and Need; develop and evaluate alternatives; select a preferred alternative that meets the P&N
- Strong City support for the project
- Federal, State, Regional and Local coordination



Study Team

Consultant Team:

- RSG-consultant project management/multimodal transportation planning, analysis, design
- VHB-stormwater management
- dlandstudio-landscape architecture, multimodal design, innovative stormwater management
- Rail consultant
- UVM-Consulting Archaeology Program historic/arch resource assessment
- Vermont Survey
- Third Sector Associates manage public outreach aspects of this project in close cooperation with the City

 Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) staff will manage this study with assistance from Burlington's Community & Economic Development Office (CEDO) and Public Works Department (DPW)

- Task 1: Project Start-Up, Data Gathering (Feb-April)
- Task 2: Local Concerns Meeting/Purpose and Need Statement/Coordination with Resource Agencies (March/April)
- Task 3: Alternatives Development (April-June)
- Task 4: Identify Constraints, Evaluate Alternatives (May-August)
- Task 5: Alternatives Presentations (3) (September)
- Task 6: Draft & Final Scoping Report (September-October)

- Kick-Off Meeting
- Review Existing Data/Studies
- Develop Initial Project Base Map
- Conduct Stakeholder Meetings

SOW Task 2 (March/April)

- Local Concerns Meeting (Public Meeting #1, March 7 at City Hall)
- Draft & Final Purpose and Need Statement
- Coordinate with Resource Agencies
 - Federal Agencies: FHWA, FTA, EPA, US Army Corps of Engineers
 - VTrans
 - Agency of Natural Resources
 - VT Fish & Wildlife

ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE & NEED STATEMENT (ESSEX JCT CRESCENT CONNECTOR)

The purpose of this project is to create an additional route connecting VT 2A with VT 117 and VT 15 in order to open up the Village center to economic development and facilitate regional travel to destinations south, east and northeast of the Village as well as improve local circulation in the Village center.

Project area needs:

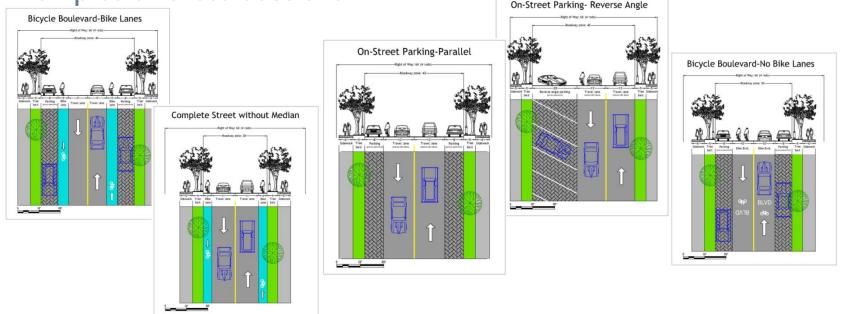
- Improve regional mobility and local connectivity in the Village.
- Reduce traffic congestion and increase safety at the Five Corners intersection.
- Increase development potential and promote economic growth in the Village center.

SOW Task 3: Alternatives Development (April-June)

Develop Range of Preliminary Alternatives Combining....

- Multimodal Alignment Alternatives
- Street Cross-Sectional Alternatives
- Development of Multimodal Design Criteria

Examples of Cross-Sections



Screen Preliminary Alternatives I

Select viable Alternatives for detailed Evaluation

Task 4: Evaluation of Viable Alternatives (May-August)

Formal Evaluation Involves:

- Traffic impacts
- Resource Impacts
- Community Impacts
- Right of Way Impacts
- Utility Impacts
- Estimated Costs
- Evaluation Relative to Purpose & Need
- Future Year Development Assumptions
- Development of Multimodal Design Criteria
- Development of Performance Measures

Task 5: Alternatives Presentation

- –Public Meeting #2
- -Transportation, Energy, and Utilities Committee
- -City Council
- Task 6: Draft and Final Report

Meeting #	lssue/Topic/Task
1	Review Scope of Work
2	Review/Discuss Purpose & Need Statement
3	Working Meeting to Develop Preliminary Alternatives
4	Select 3 Alternatives for Formal Evaluation; Develop Multimodal Design Criteria
5	Review Formal Evaluation, Select Preferred Alternative

Proposed Project Schedule

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				January			February			larch		April			May				June			July				August			September		
Task 1:	Project Startup & Existing Conditions																														
	A SC Meeting #1: Kick-Off Meeting			\$															1						Τ		í T				
	B Review of Studies																														
	C Develop Project Base Map							•	•																						
	D Initiate Survey																														
	E Stakeholder Meetings																														
Task 2:	Local and Regional Concerns - Purpose & Need																														
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	B SC Meeting #2: Purpose & Need Statement								•	Ø																					
	C Coordination with Resource Agencies										٠																				
Task 3:	Alternatives Development																														
	A SC Meeting #3: Develop Range of Multimodal Alternatives												·	•	\$																
	B SC Meeting 4: Select 3 Alternatives, Establish MM Design Criteria																•	•	\$										П		
Task 4:	Identify Constraints, Evaluate Alternatives																														
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	B Stormwater Evaluation																														
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	G SC Meeting #5: Select Preferred Alternative																						¢	ł							
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	B Develop Vision Graphics																							•							
Task 6	Initial Scoping Report																														
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	G Draft and Final Scoping Report																													•	

Local Concerns Public Meeting

>Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 7PM, Contois Auditorium, City Hall

Steering Committee #2

Purpose & Need Statement

>End of March

Meeting with Resource Coordination Group

Project SOW - Purpose & Need

>April 10, 2013 (Tentative)

Consultant Team Manager (RSG) <u>Robert Chamberlin -</u> <u>robert.chamberlin@rsginc.com</u>

CCRPC Project Manager <u>Eleni Churchill – echurchill@ccrpcvt.org</u>

Project Web Site is Being Developed