

1 **Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission**
2 **Regular Meeting Minutes**
3

4 **Date:** Wednesday, October 15, 2014

5 **Time:** 6:00 p.m.

6 **Place:** CCRPC Offices; 110 W. Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT 05404

7 **Members:**

8 Bolton, Joss Besse	20 St. George, Barbara Young
9 Buels Gore, Absent	21 Shelburne, Absent
10 Burlington, Andy Montroll	22 So. Burlington, Chris Shaw
11 Charlotte, Jim Donovan	23 Underhill, Brian Bigelow
12 Colchester, Marc Landry	24 Westford, Absent
13 Essex, Jeff Carr	25 Williston, Chris Roy
14 Essex Junction, Dan Kerin	26 Winooski, Mike O'Brien (6:30)
15 Hinesburg, Andrea Morgante	27 VTrans, Amy Bell
16 Huntington, Absent	28 Socio/Econ/Housing, Justin Dextrateur
17 Jericho, Catherine McMains	29 Conservation/Environment, Don Meals
18 Milton, Absent	30 Industrial/Business, Absent
19 Richmond, Chris Granda	31 Agriculture, No Representative

32
33 **Ex-Officio (non-voting):**

34 Burlington Int'l Airport, Absent	37 FTA, Absent
35 CCTA, Absent	38 Railroad Industry, Absent
36 FHWA, Absent	

39 **Others:**

40 Matthew Langham, VTrans	44 Ted Wimpey, Burlington Resident
41 Diane Meyerhoff, Third Sector Assoc.	45 Josh Bagnato, TDI New England
42 Scott Moody, CCTV	46 David Scherr, Buel's Gore PAC Rep.
43 Deb Ingram PPP Committee Chair	

47 **Staff:**

48 Michele Boomhower, Asst./MPO Director	52 Peter Keating, Senior Trans. Planner
49 Forest Cohen, Business Manager	53 Emma Long, Communication Manager
50 Bernadette Ferenc, Trans. Business Mgr.	54 Regina Mahony, Senior Planner
51 Christine Forde, Senior Trans. Planner	55 Melanie Needle, Senior Planner

56
57 **1. Call to Order; Changes to the Agenda**

58 The meeting was called to order at 6:03PM by the Chair, Andy Montroll. Andy noted one change to the
59 agenda; for the consent agenda item, the recommended action is to accept the communication and
60 place it on file.
61

62 **2. Public Comment Period on Items NOT on the Agenda.** There were none.
63

64 **3. Approve Consent Agenda (MPO Business).**

65 JEFF CARR MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY JIM DONOVAN, TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA
66 FOR THE COMMUNICATION REGARDING EXPEDITED AMENDMENTS TO THE FY2014 TRANSPORTATION
67 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM. THE ACTIVITY IS PERMANENT REPAIRS TO TWO CULVERTS ON THE I-89
68 SOUTHBOUND LANES IN MILTON. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
69
70

1 **4. Approve Minutes of September 17, 2014 Meeting**

2 CATHERINE MCMAINS MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY CHRIS GRANDA, TO APPROVE THE
3 MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2014. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH FOUR ABSTENTIONS
4 FROM JOSS BESSE, JIM DONOVAN, DON MEALS, AND CHRIS ROY.

5
6 **5. Warn Public Hearing for TIP Amendment – Colchester Park & Ride**

7 Christine Forde of the CCRPC staff explained that the proposed Colchester Park & Ride, a new project,
8 requires a major amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The proposed facility
9 will be located at an existing parking lot on the west side of US Routes 2 and 7 just north of Interstate
10 89 Exit 16 and opposite Hercules Drive. VTrans is considering buying the property and building the Park
11 & Ride for a total cost of \$1.2 million. JEFF CARR MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY JIM
12 DONOVAN, TO WARN A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TIP AMENDMENT FOR THE NOVEMBER
13 19, 2014 BOARD MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

14
15 **6. Public Hearing on the Public Participation Plan**

16 **6a. Presentation:** Michele Boomhower, CCRPC Assistant/MPO Director, introduced Emma Long, CCRPC
17 Communications Manager, and Debbie Ingram, the Williston CCRPC Alternative and Chair of the Public
18 Participation Advisory Committee. Emma explained that the plan is an update from the previous 2008
19 version and is the methodology for involving the public in CCRPC’s work. The advisory committee met
20 for over a year; the draft plan before the Board is the result of that work. Debbie Ingram noted that
21 although the plan is a federal requirement, it is an important document for the organization. As the
22 county’s demographics are changing, we have to be intentional in reaching those who traditionally
23 have not been heard. Part of what came to light at the advisory committee level is that some members
24 of our community need a stipend to participate. Residents with hourly jobs, young children at home,
25 and lack of transportation find it difficult to participate in our activities. The stipend is meant to enable
26 these people to participate.

27
28 **6b: Public Hearing:** Chair Andy Montroll opened the public hearing at 6:22PM. There were no public
29 comments either at the hearing or during the public comment period. Chris Jolly of FHWA provided
30 minor comments on the plan today; he noted in his communication that his comments should not
31 prohibit the Board from acting tonight. Chair Andy Montroll closed the hearing at 6:23PM.

32
33 **6c. Board Adoption:** CHRIS GRANDA MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY CATHERINE MCMAINS, TO
34 ADOPT THE CCRPC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN WITH MINOR REVISIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY
35 STAFF. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

36
37 **7. Presentation of the Proposed [New England Clean Power Link Project](#)**

38 Josh Bagnato, Project Manager of the TDI New England Clean Power Link Project, explained that the
39 proposed project will transmit 1,000 megawatts of electricity. The cost, \$1.2 billion, is being funded by
40 Blackstone, a private equity firm. It will bring power from Canada to Vermont and New England
41 through a high voltage direct current transmission line buried next to existing roads and under the
42 Lake. The project will have a total of 154 miles of cable with 98 miles in Lake Champlain and 57 miles
43 on land. Public comment is ongoing as part of the US Department of Energy (DOE) process. A Vermont
44 Public Service Board Section 248 Certificate of Public Good will be filed next week, followed by permit
45 applications to DOE, Army Corps, Vermont ANR, and VTrans. Construction could begin in 2016 with the
46 link operational in 2019.

47 During discussion, Josh explained that the link would have “black start” capability to jump start the
48 electrical grid in case of a major system failure. The project is privately funded and therefore the “toll”

1 paid to the developer by the electrical shipper/generator is not regulated and the amount is
2 confidential. There is no Canadian financial interest in construction of this infrastructure.

3
4 **8. TMDL Committee Recommendations**

5 Don Meals of the TMDL Committee explained that the committee focused on specific areas of
6 developing feedback for the VT Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) regarding the
7 proposed Lake Champlain TMDL Implementation Plan, namely stormwater runoff, developed land
8 runoff, and stormwater planning. The committee developed principles, including that TMDL work be
9 done on a watershed basis and focus on specific problems rather than forcing a blanket solution. The
10 committee made recommendations for program improvements, prioritization, and possible funding
11 mechanisms. The deadline for comments to DEC is November 15th. The committee realized today that
12 they didn't solicit comments from MS4 municipalities or the CCRPC Transportation and Planning
13 Advisory Committees.

14
15 Andrea Morgante asked about the relationship between DEC and VTrans regarding state highways and
16 how they will meet the proposed TMDL recommendations. Don doesn't know; DEC publishes manuals
17 of best practices for reducing roadway runoff. Amy Bell of VTrans hasn't been involved in this effort.
18 Andrea suggested adding private roads to GIS modeling; the nature of private roads and their
19 contribution to pollution and runoff is crucial.

20
21 In response to a question, Don noted that the questions in the report are those that the committee
22 was asking for clarification from the DEC rather than necessarily an outcome. He will review these
23 questions again.

24
25 There was discussion about the lack of input from the nine MS4 communities and the need for a
26 cooperative effort between the CCRPC and these municipalities. The CCRPC needs to be careful not to
27 insert itself between DEC and these communities; contacting these communities should have been
28 part of the protocol prior to coming to the Board. There is also an opportunity for the CCRPC to play a
29 role by thinking regionally to solve the problem and helping non-MS4 municipalities learn from others.

30
31 Don will work with Charlie to reach out to the TAC, PAC, and the MS4 communities. The timing of these
32 meetings is difficult with the November 15th DEC deadline. The Board asked that staff contact the
33 committees and communities and try to get TAC feedback prior to the TAC meeting on November 4th.
34 Comments and concerns will be brought to the Executive Committee at their meeting on November
35 5th. Discussion of email voting was discussed; the CCRPC Bylaws do not allow it.

36
37 **MARK LANDRY MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY JEFF CARR, TO DIRECT THE CCRPC STAFF TO**
38 **CONSULT WITH THE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE,**
39 **AND MS4 COMMUNITIES AND REPORT TO THE FULL BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BY**
40 **NOVEMBER 5, 2014. THE BOARD DELEGATES AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO APPROVE**
41 **THE TMDL RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT WITH CHANGES AS APPROPRIATE AND AUTHORIZE THE**
42 **BOARD CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SHARE THE REPORT WITH APPROPRIATE STATE OFFICIALS**
43 **AND LEGISLATORS. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

1 **9. FY15 Board Meeting Scheduled – Revised**

2 The Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for December 11, 2014 from 7:30-9:00AM. The Board will hold a
3 meeting on November 19, 2014. JEFF CARR MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY JOSS BESSE, TO
4 APPROVE THE REVISED FY2015 MEETING SCHEDULE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
5

6 **10. FY16 Municipal Dues**

7 Staff recommended no dues increase this year. JIM DONOVAN MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY
8 DAN KERIN, TO APPROVE THE FY16 MUNICIPAL DUES AS SHOWN IN THE TABLE, "FY15 TO FY16
9 MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENTS." THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ONE ABSTENTION FROM AMY
10 BELL.
11

12 **11. Executive and MPO Directors' Updates**

13 **11a. Monthly Project Status Report:** Emailed today.

14 **11b. Meetings with Municipal Selectboards, Trustees, Councils:** Michele reported that she and Charlie
15 have begun their outreach to municipal boards. Topics of discussion include the CCRPC Annual Report,
16 the upcoming Work Program project solicitation, Public Participation Plan, TMDL, watershed mapping,
17 and the Neighbor Rides Program.

18 **11c. FHWA Accelerated Innovation Deployment Grant:** A grant application for \$1.2 million was
19 submitted to install advanced technologies that are proven to accelerate transportation projects;
20 specifically, blue tooth and dedicated short range communications monitoring devices for the purpose
21 of traffic monitoring and communications. Proposed corridors include areas where significant
22 construction projects are expected to be underway: Exits 14, 16, 17, and the Route 2A corridor in
23 Williston. Awards will be announced in three to five months.

24 **11d. Construction Alert:** Vermont Route 15 in Winooski at the East Allen/Hood Street railroad crossing
25 will be closed beginning Thursday at 6:00PM and ending Monday evening for rail reconstruction.
26

27 **12. Committee/Liaison Activities & Reports:** Included in the Board packet.
28

29 **13. Members' Items/Other Business**

30 Jim Donovan suggested that staff revisit the bylaws regarding the development of recommendations to
31 be sure there isn't a repeat of a deadline curtailing our process (like the TMDL work). He also suggested
32 that electronic voting be researched to see if it is allowed under the new Public Meeting Law.
33

34 Chris Shaw, the South Burlington alternate, introduced himself; Pam McKenzie, the South Burlington
35 CCRPC Representative has resigned.
36

37 **15. Adjourn**

38 DON MEALS MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY MARC LANDRY, TO ADJOURN AT 7:54PM. THE
39 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
40

41 Respectfully submitted,

42 Diane Meyerhoff
43
44