Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2017
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: CCRPC Offices; 110 W. Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT 05404

Members Present:

9 Bolton, Sharon Murray (6:18pm)
10 Buels Gore, Absent
11 Burlington, Colin Robinson
12 Charlotte, Marty Illick
13 Colchester, Jacki Murphy
14 Essex, Jeff Carr
15 Essex Junction, Jeff Carr
16 Hinesburg, Andrea Morgante
17 Huntington, Barbara Elliott
18 Jericho, Catherine McMains
19 Milton, Tony Micklus
20 Richmond, Bard Hill
21 St. George, Absent
22 Shelburne, John Zicconi
23 S. Burlington, Chris Shaw
24 Underhill, Brian Bigelow
25 Westford, Absent
26 Williston, Absent
27 Winooski, Mike O’Brien
28 VTrans, Secretary Joe Flynn & Amy Bell
29 Socio/Econ/Housing, Justin Dextradeur
30 Conservation/Environment, Absent
31 Industrial/Business, Tim Baechle (6:26PM)

Ex-Officio (non-voting):

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

Others:

40 Diane Meyerhoff, Third Sector Assoc.
41 Scott Moody, CCTV
42 Michael Bissonette, Hinesburg Alternate
43

Staff:

45 Charlie Baker, Executive Director
47 Forest Cohen, Business Manager
48 Bryan Davis, Sr. Transportation Planner
49 Melanie Needle, Senior Planner
50 Christine Forde, Senior Trans. Planner
51 Emily Nosse-Leirer, Planner
52 Regina Mahony, Planning Prog. Mgr.
53 Jason Charest, Senior Trans. Engineer
54 Marshall Distel, Transportation Planner
55 Dan Albrecht, Senior Planner

1. Call to Order; Changes to the Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by the Acting Chair, Vice-Chair Mike O’Brien. There was one change to the agenda by Charlie Baker to add an item 12d) Comments on the ANR Secretary’s Report on Water Quality Funding. Jeff Carr noted that he is acting as the Village of Essex Junction representative in addition to the representative from Essex.

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

3. Action on Consent Agenda (MPO Business). There was no consent agenda.

4. Approve Minutes of September 20, 2017 Meeting
CATHHERINE MCMAINS MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY JEFF CARR, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2017 WITH CORRECTIONS. There were no corrections. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TWO ABSTENTIONS BY JACKI MURPHY AND MARTY ILLICK.

5. Approval of 2017 Hinesburg Town Plan and Confirmation Process
Emily Nosse-Leirer of the CCRPC staff explained that the Hinesburg Town Plan is consistent with statutory requirements and has been reviewed by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC). JOHN ZICCONI MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY ANDREA MORGANTE, TO APPROVE THE 2017 HINESBURG TOWN PLAN AND CONFIRM THE TOWN OF HINESBURG’S MUNICIPAL PLANNING PROCESS. There was no discussion. ONLY THE MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVES VOTED AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Secretary Joe Flynn, Vermont Agency of Transportation
Secretary Flynn discussed the Administration’s interest in growing the economy, increasing affordability, and taking care of the most vulnerable. “6-3-1” refers to the fact that every day there are 6 fewer people in the workforce, 3 fewer in the education system, and 1 child born to a family struggling with opiate addiction. In 8 years, we’ll have 1 working Vermonter for each Vermonter relying on that worker; 5:1 is an appropriate balance. There is a sense of urgency to do things more efficiently; he discussed the various VTrans efforts underway. He discussed the opportunities for Vermont to take advantage of possible new federal infrastructure dollars if the state is able to match these funds.

In response to questions, the Secretary updated the group on the Middlebury Surface Bridge and Tunnel Project, which has been approved for FHWA funding. It is a $50 million project that will take three more years and hopefully lead to Amtrak coming to Burlington. There was discussion of disinvestment of transportation infrastructure and the mowing of highway medians. The Secretary is optimistic that the Montrealer will return to Vermont.

7. ECOS Plan Update
a. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Scenarios
Jason Charest of the CCRPC Staff made a presentation about the results of the various scenario modeling. In November he will have a draft MTP Scenario for board review and in January Staff will ask to warn a public hearing for the full ECOS Plan update. He reviewed the four scenarios and the model results. There was discussion about the funding for the implementation of the chosen scenario. There was additional discussion about the scenarios, types of connected and autonomous vehicles expected in the future, and how to stimulate economic growth.

b. CEDS Status Update
Emily Nosse-Leirer made a presentation about updates, including new required components, to the CEDS. Chris Shaw asked if there is a way to measure affordability in terms of fees, taxes, etc. Jeff Carr responded that cost of living could be used as a measure, but it would be imprecise because only county level data is available. Jeff suggested considering this measure in a future iteration of the CEDS. Melanie Needle noted that there is a housing and transportation cost indicator in the CEDS. Andrea Morgante suggested tracking the growth of household or individual income by quintile over time. It was noted that the project list is included in the CEDS although it is no longer required by the federal government. Jeff Carr suggested that a list of technology projects be included since they are crucial to the economy and may be able to leverage EDA funding. There was discussion of including Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) districts in the CEDS.
8. Final Draft Rule – Municipal Road General Permit Comments
Dan Albrecht reviewed comments for the Municipal Road General Permit Final Draft Rule. John Zicconi expressed a concern about lowering road shoulders (p. 5, 6.2b) below the road to improve water quality and the conflict this may have with bicyclists using those road shoulders. He wants to ensure the shoulders are safe for bicyclists. He also expressed concern about the wording for deadlines (p. 4, 3c) for road crews to implement water quality improvements. There needs to be a balance between finishing the work in a timely manner and the flexibility to schedule improvements as they make sense. The full extent of the work won’t be known until the road inventories are complete; each municipality has unique concerns, like steep road slopes in some of the rural towns. John doesn’t want to lose momentum on finishing the projects. It was agreed that Charlie and staff will update comments to address the deadline concerns of board members. The Board agreed.

BARBARA ELLIOT MADE A MOTION TO SUBMIT COMMENTS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES REGARDING THE MUNICIPAL ROAD GENERAL PERMIT FINAL DRAFT RULE. JEFF CARR SECONDED THE MOTION WITH A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO ALLOW STAFF TO REWRITE THE COMMENTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD’S CONCERNS. BARBARA ELLIOT ACCEPTED THE AMENDMENT AND THE MOTION WAS PUT TO A VOTE. THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS EXCEPT FOR THE “NO” VOTE OF MARY ILLICK.

9. FY19 Municipal Dues
Charlie presented a recommended zero percent increase in municipal dues. Jeff Carr suggested that we start to consider raising dues to meet future needs for match as federal transportation funds increase. It will be easier to raise funds slowly in the next few years rather than in one lump sum in a future year. JEFF CARR MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY CHRIS SHAW, TO ACCEPT THE ZERO PERCENT INCREASE IN MUNICIPAL DUES WITH THE CAVEAT THAT WE START THE CONVERSATION ABOUT RAISING FUTURE DUES TO PROVIDE MATCH FOR FUTURE FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ONE ABSTENTION FROM AMY BELL.

10. Brownfield Program Update Presentations
Dan Albrecht and Emily Nosse-Leirer made a presentation about the current Brownfield grant and projects that were funded.

11. Legislative Breakfast Topics (December 12th, 7:30-9:00AM, Doubletree in South Burlington)
Charlie offered the following topics for the Legislative Breakfast: transportation investments and the economy, permit reform, water quality funding, housing, and CCRPC as a resource.

12. Chair/Executive Director’s Update
a. Clean Water Initiatives Update: Charlie reported that Dan has been working with towns to identify projects that are ready for construction. ANR has made capital funds available through RPCs ($1.5 to $2.0 million statewide). We have a significant number of projects on DEC’s “go-list” (aka capital eligible list) for possible funding.

b. Regional Dispatch Update: A joint survey committee was formed to create a union municipal district for dispatch in communities that have existing dispatch staff. A draft agreement, including a funding formula MOU, is going before municipal boards in the next few weeks. The municipal elected bodies need to vote as to whether to put this topic on the ballot for Town Meeting Day
vote. There will be a subsequent vote of municipal boards to fund and staff the organization. This could happen as soon as July 2018 and continue through 2019 depending on town votes.

**Executive Director's Report:** The Airport invited Charlie to participate in a technical advisory committee as part of their noise work. More information can be found here: [http://www.btvsound.com/ncp-update/meetings/](http://www.btvsound.com/ncp-update/meetings/).

d. **Comments on the ANR Secretary’s Report on Water Quality Funding:** We provided comments in February to a draft report on water quality funding. The Act 73 Working Group has released a draft report about future funding and has asked for comments in the next two weeks. The board agreed to allow delegation of finalizing the comments to staff and the CWAC/TAC/EC in order to meet the two week deadline. More information can be found here: [http://anr.vermont.gov/about/special-topics/act-73-clean-water-funding](http://anr.vermont.gov/about/special-topics/act-73-clean-water-funding)

13. **Committee/Liaison Activities & Reports.** These are included in the Board packet.

14. **Members’ Items/Other Business:** There were none.

15. **Adjourn**

JEFF CARR MADE A MOTION, DULY SECONDED BY CHRIS SHAW, TO ADJOURN AT 8:58PM. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Meyerhoff