

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
2 REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC FORUM
3 MINUTES
4

5 DATE: Wednesday, January 17, 2018

6 TIME: 6:00 p.m.

7 PLACE: CCRPC offices; 110 W. Canal Street, Suite 202; Winooski, VT 05404

8 PRESENT: Bolton: Sharon Murray (6:08) Buel's Gore: Garret Mott
9 Burlington: Andy Montroll Charlotte: Jim Donovan
10 Colchester: Jeff Bartley Essex: Jeff Carr
11 Essex Junction: Jeff Carr, Alternate Hinesburg: Andrea Morgante
12 Huntington: Absent Jericho: Catherine McMains
13 Milton: Tony Micklus Richmond: Bard Hill (6:20)
14 St. George: Absent Shelburne: John Zicconi
15 So. Burlington: Chris Shaw Underhill: Brian Bigelow
16 Westford: Vacant Williston: Chris Roy
17 Winooski: Mike O'Brien VTrans: Amy Bell
18 Bus/Industry: Absent Cons/Environ.: Don Meals
19 Socio/Econ/Housing: Justin Dextrateur

20 OTHERS: Scott Moody, CCTV cameraman Michael Bissonette, Hinesburg Alternate
21 Matthew Langham, VTrans Larry Lackey, VTrans
22 Rob Fish, Burlington Alternate

23 STAFF: Charlie Baker, Executive Director Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Mgr.
24 Forest Cohen, Senior Business Mgr. Bryan Davis, Sr. Transportation Planner
25 Chris Dubin, Transportation Planner Bernadette Ferenc, Trans. Business Mgr.
26 Christine Forde, Sr. Trans. Planner Peter Keating, Sr. Trans. Planner
27 Regina Mahony, Planning Prog. Mgr. Melanie Needle, Sr. Planner
28

- 29 1. Call to Order; Changes to the Agenda. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by the Chair, Chris
30 Roy. There were no changes to the agenda.
31
32 2. Public Comment Period for items NOT on the Agenda. There were none.
33
34 3. Action on the Consent Agenda. There were no items on the consent agenda.
35
36 4. Approve Minutes of November 15, 2017 Meeting. MIKE O'BRIEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE
37 THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2017 WITH CORRECTIONS IF ANY. CATHERINE MCMAINS
38 SECONDED. Jim Donovan requested that Bernie clarify the "we" references in the ECOS plan
39 discussion so we know whether it means "staff" or "board." MOTION CARRIED TO APPROVE THE
40 MINUTES AS CORRECTED, WITH ABSTENTIONS FROM GARRET MOTT AND JEFF BARTLEY.
41
42 5. FY19 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Public Forum. Bryan Davis noted that Friday is the
43 deadline for project submissions from the municipalities and partners. Staff has been meeting with
44 town staff to discuss possible projects. The first UPWP Committee meeting will be held on
45 Thursday, January 25. That committee will meet three times to develop the FY19 UPWP, which will
46 go to public hearing in May.
47

- 1 6. FY18 Mid-Year UPWP & Budget Adjustment. Charlie Baker noted there is a memo in the board
2 packet and separate attachments for the work program and budget. Every year at this time we look
3 at where we are in the work program and budget and make adjustments to reflect reality. There are
4 several changes that were not in the Dec. 20th draft that the Executive Committee reviewed that are
5 listed in the memo:
- 6 • **All Pages** - Column AR should read GMT instead of CCTA, and on **Pg. 15**, the Task Name
7 for Task #2.3.4.1 (row 48) should be updated the same way.
 - 8 • **Pg. 15** - Deliverable #3 in Task #2.3.4.1 (row 48) should be deleted.
 - 9 • **Pg. 22** - The Consultant Costs should be increased to \$56,000 from \$50,000 for Task
10 #2.3.16.13 (row 90).
 - 11 • **Pg. 26** – The Consultant Costs should be increased to \$120,896 from \$118,896 for Task #3.2.3
12 (row 108).
- 13 Since the memo was written a couple of other changes were discovered:
- 14 • Pg. 26 – the Consultant Costs should actually be increased to \$123,896 for Task 3.2.3
 - 15 • Pg. 13 – We will add funding to the Way To Go task (2.3.3.5) to allow the expenditure of state
16 SPR funds and match for the statewide portion of the WTG program.
 - 17 • (Bernie also changed CCTA to GMT in Task 8.2.1 to be consistent with changes noted earlier.)

18 Charlie reviewed the changes from the original UPWP that are highlighted in blue. There are a
19 couple of small projects for town zoning assistance, we amended consultant dollar amounts to be
20 more accurate, as carryover amounts were estimated before the fiscal year end. We added a new
21 task for Winooski Main St. Revitalization project.

22 Forest Cohen then reviewed the Budget sheet showing Revenue/Expenses. We have removed
23 Chittenden County Opioid Alliance funds going forward since that program has moved to United
24 Way. That also reduces our expenses. There will still be a budget deficit (as predicted when this
25 budget was adopted) because of the lower indirect rate for this fiscal year. Jim Donovan noted that
26 lines 21 and 22 show a negative 100% change, so that needs to be corrected. MIKE O'BRIEN MADE
27 A MOTION, SECONDED BY JIM DONOVAN, TO APPROVE THE FY18 MID-YEAR UPWP AND BUDGET
28 ADJUSTMENT WITH THE CHANGES IN THE MEMO AND THOSE NOTED TONIGHT. MOTION CARRIED
29 UNANIMOUSLY.

- 30 7. UPWP Committee Appointments. Chris Roy noted the bylaws allow the Chair to appoint
31 committees with board approval. Unless the board disagrees, he will appoint Mike O'Brien
32 (Winooski) as chair, John Zicconi (Shelburne), Michael Bissonette (Hinesburg Alternate), Jeff Bartley
33 (Colchester) and Bard Hill (Richmond) to the FY19 UPWP Committee. Board members did not
34 disagree with the appointments.
35
- 36 8. Draft ECOS Plan Presentation and Warn Public Hearing #1 for February board meeting. Regina
37 thanked all of the staff and board members who worked very hard over the past several months on
38 updating the MTP, CEDS and enhanced energy planning element of the ECOS Plan. We have been
39 working on this for 18 months and since September staff and committees have been finalizing the
40 drafts and put them out for public comment. Our hope is to have the first public hearing on
41 February 21st, the second public hearing on May 16th, and adopt it at the June 20th Annual Meeting.
42 Staff is hoping to get any edits done by the March 21st meeting to be able to warn the second public
43 hearing. If not, the Executive Committee may have to warn it at its April meeting. Regina reviewed
44 the Top 10 Actions – there is a greater emphasis in recent statutory updates on local and regional
45 plans to follow-up on implementation items in those plans. This list will help us to report back in the

- 1 next plan update as to what we've accomplished. The full implementation program includes all of
2 the Strategies, full list of Actions, and the Project Lists. These actions are elevated so as to provide
3 more focus over the next five years. They will help inform the development of CCRPC'S annual
4 UPWP. The CCRPC's Top 10 Actions suggested by staff (and input from Executive Committee)
5 include:
- 6 a. Support smart, multi-modal development in our areas planned for growth, and protection of our
7 rural planning areas through municipal plan and bylaw assistance, Act 250 Next 50 Years,
8 Brownfields
 - 9 b. Invest in our transportation system – maintain existing system, address safety & congestion,
10 improve ITS, expand bike & pedestrian facilities and transit service, & TDM
 - 11 c. Support housing development
 - 12 d. Assist municipalities with enhanced energy planning
 - 13 e. Implement the Lake Champlain TMDL program
 - 14 f. Emergency management through AHMP (All Hazard Mitigation Plans), LEPC (Local Emergency
15 Planning Committee), LEOPs (Local Emergency Operations Plans), regional dispatch support
 - 16 g. Support municipal efforts to improve populations health
 - 17 h. Monitor advancement of autonomous vehicles
 - 18 i. Annual coordination with municipalities and partners on ECOS Annual Report and the Scorecard
 - 19 j. Support workforce development through actions above and continue monitoring demographic
20 shifts.

21 These are all talked about in greater detail in the draft plan and we'll discuss them at the February
22 21st hearing and board meeting. The 2018 ECOS Plan update is largely the same as the 2013 ECOS
23 plan, except for updates to energy, economy and transportation. For the most part the goals are
24 the same, but we were required to do a major update to the Energy Plan. We will be updating the
25 regional plan on a five-year cycle (rather than 8) since the MTP and CEDS are on five-year cycles.
26 Other updates include minor edits to the Future Land Use Plan in rural areas, including Hinesburg,
27 Colchester, and Underhill. Forest integrity is a new requirement to identify forests to protect
28 wildlife and to note the importance of forestry to the region. We did make some changes and there
29 was discussion at the LRPC meeting about perhaps adding a separate map. Health introduction to
30 Strategy 5 – There are no policy changes in this section, but some clarification. The LRPC has not yet
31 reviewed this. Staff did reorganize the contents of the Plan: The main part of the plan is only
32 implementation (goals, strategies, actions – including a Top 10 list, monitoring and reporting and
33 progress on the plan since 2013). Regional analysis – combination of Supplement 2 and online
34 scorecard. The MTP and CEDS can stand on their own, though they are components of the larger
35 plan. Regional plan, Enhanced Energy Plan – supplements include extra information.

36 Regina then reviewed the Enhanced Energy Summary. We need to meet the state energy goals and
37 by having an enhanced energy plan we will get more status in Section 248 hearings. Bottom line is
38 we need to use less energy and 90% of energy needs to come from renewable sources by 2050. In
39 order to reach that target Chittenden County needs to generate 756,250 Mwh of energy to meet the
40 low target (or 51% increase) and 1,265,134 Mwh to meet the high target (or 153% increase). We've
41 done some analysis work to see if we can meet those goals at the county level and at the municipal
42 level. We have a target of 89% electric passenger cars. Currently there are 106,936 passenger cars
43 in Chittenden County and only 601 (less than 1%) are electric/plug-in hybrid. Regina then reviewed
44 Enhanced Energy comments and edits. We received 40 comments from 20 individuals. Themes
45 include: Technical in nature and addressed; municipal siting constraints added, natural gas vs. 90%

1 renewable; weakness of suitability language, goals unrealistic without market changes, consistent
2 and enforceable energy code.

3 Regina then reviewed the CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy). GBIC is our
4 partner in this document for economic development. Chittenden County is the economic engine of
5 Vermont. It makes up over 25% of Vermont's population, gross domestic product (GDP), tax
6 revenue and private businesses. Median Household Income in Chittenden County has increased
7 from \$60,713 in 2009 to \$68,843 in 2015. There are opportunities for improvement. In 2002 73% of
8 employees were living in Chittenden County vs. 68% in 2015. Chittenden County is experiencing a
9 decline in workforce population and an increase in over 60 age group. Jeff Carr noted that the state
10 saw an increase in population in 2017. We received 55 comments from 15 individuals on the CEDS
11 plan. Themes include: industrial lands, better broadband, smart growth as an economic
12 development strategy, freight rail and permitting being burdensome. Regina noted that there is a
13 lot of land zoned industrial, but not developed for companies to move in. It was also noted that
14 housing costs in Franklin County are cheaper.

15 The MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan) summary: looks out to 2050, includes a financial plan
16 identifying how it will be paid for, recommends a mix of multi-modal projects and strategies,
17 measures transportation performance by establishing baseline data and comparing it to set targets,
18 discusses environmental mitigation due to transportation project impacts. This document is fiscally
19 constrained so we can't do everything we want. We have to strike a balance between reducing
20 congestion, fixing high-crash locations, enhancing walking, biking and transit, and increasing
21 livability by investing in areas planned for growth. There were approximately 70 comments from 20
22 individuals on the MTP. Themes included: more transit, including rail; consider autonomous
23 vehicles; adopt climate action goals that correspond with UN Paris agreement; no new roads;
24 reconsider Champlain Parkway and interstate expansion; more roundabouts, fewer signalized
25 intersections; more and better bike facilities; more ambitious safety targets; adopt Vision Zero.

26 The Draft MTP includes: 70% of funding invested in preserving the transportation system; land use
27 concentration – with 90% of HH growth in areas planned for growth; All TIP projects; increases in
28 walking/biking; transit enhancements – including new 15 minute headways for four main routes
29 with 20-30 minute headways on the rest, every day and a new Colchester loop; ITS investments;
30 Future I-89 scoping study (Exits 12-16) – for I-89 third lane between 14 & 15 and one interchange
31 improvement – which could be Exit 12B, Exit 14 reconstruction or Exit 14N or another alternative.
32 The transportation model is based on today's travel behavior and that could change in 10-15 years.
33 Since we'll update the MTP every five years, we'll use updated data as well.

34 Once the ECOS Plan updates are adopted the board will need follow-up actions to: update the
35 CCRPC's municipal plan review guidelines for determination of municipal energy compliance; update
36 to CCRPC's Act 250/Section 248 review guidelines for natural resource constraints and preferred
37 sites; and transportation performance measures and targets. Regina reviewed the hearing/adoption
38 schedule again. If members are okay with the first draft plan, we'll get it out for public review. JIM
39 DONOVAN MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY CHRIS SHAW, TO WARN THE FIRST PUBLIC HEARING
40 FOR THE ECOS PLAN AMENDMENTS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M. MOTION
41 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

42 9. Long-Term Water Quality Funding Policy Position. Charlie apologized for not having a staff memo
43 for this item. The board had discussions on water quality funding last year when we developed
44 comments on the Treasurer's report. The Legislature did receive long-term funding

1 recommendations, so this issue is still in front of them. The Secretary of Natural Resources reported
2 in November that we don't need long-term funding right away, but can use existing resources for
3 the next few years. There is also discussion about having a Clean Water Advisory Authority. The
4 CWAC minutes were not included because they were not ready when the packet went out. There is
5 no critical need to vote tonight if you want to take time to review this we can. Charlie reviewed the
6 document noting that the first four paragraphs talk about the great need for this funding. 3 - Our
7 municipalities have indicated that none of these costs include having to operate and maintain these
8 systems in the future. 4 - There is not enough money going into project development. Paragraphs
9 5 and 6 talk about support for generating additional revenue. The comments are similar to what we
10 said last year that it should be statewide funding and cover 80% of the costs. 6 - discusses parcel
11 fee idea. Items 7-9 deal with governance and administration issues. The last items 10-14 deal with
12 statewide collection of any funding. Discussion ensued about #10 - regarding providing credits, it
13 was suggested to add language so that no one is charged twice. When asked if we wait a month to
14 respond will we miss the dance, Charlie said early is always better. When asked how we feel about
15 Clean Water Authority, Charlie said the CWAC (made up of stormwater professionals) would be glad
16 to see a professional organization in charge. Jim Donovan agrees that we should respond early. In
17 looking at #8 - Governance Accountability - he'd rather see more than one municipal
18 representative. Chris Roy stated that representatives from both inside and outside the Champlain
19 basin would make sense. Andrea asked for clarification as her understanding is this funding is to
20 clean up past messes and not a lot in here for preventing pollution in our clean waterways. She
21 would like more language to deal with preventing waterways from being impaired. She feels there
22 is nothing in here for the rural communities to prevent issues and it should not be just MS4
23 communities. The other thing is on the management side. She's been struggling with how to collect
24 it. We want a system around the state that is calculated fairly. Discussion ensued about this being a
25 fee vs. additional taxes. Chris Roy noted that this fee would be paid by all parcels - whether they
26 pay property taxes or not. Andrea feels the management is definitely something that should be
27 done on a statewide basis as well as enforcement. She thinks we need to keep putting on the table
28 that prevention is the most cost-effective way of dealing with this including flood resiliency. Jeff
29 Carr wanted to be sure this would be okay with the MS4 communities. Charlie said most of these
30 ideas came from the MS4 representatives. Lengthy discussion ensued about concern of establishing
31 these authorities that would be taxation without representation. Jeff wondered if we send these
32 comments down and we offer our thoughts and they don't care about double charges or that it's
33 only an issue because it's Chittenden County. Chris Roy said we need to let them know what our
34 position is; and, we should let the Chittenden County delegation as well as municipal officials know
35 that position so they can all be on board with it. Charlie will also be talking to his peers at VAPDA,
36 chambers of commerce, etc. to share our positions. Garret Mott wanted to be sure we include the
37 Addison County representative who covers Buel's Gore. GARRET MOTT MADE A MOTION THAT WE
38 ACCEPT THIS WITH THE MODIFICATIONS SUGGESTED BY THE GROUP AND GIVE STAFF LATITUDE TO
39 ADD LANGUAGE BASED ON OUR CONVERSATION. #8 SHOULD INCLUDE 2-3 MUNICIPAL
40 REPRESENTATIVES. DON MEALS SECONDED. Garret asked if those making suggestions, are ok with
41 staff adding these in. Andrea said if we want it statewide, we need to recognize that prevention
42 needs to be a part of it. Don noted that can pertain to all waters of the state and not just Lake
43 Champlain. Bard Hill said it came up at his town that this might be perceived as tied to Lake
44 Champlain. Discussion continued. Charlie wants to be sure that members want him to distribute
45 this to legislators and municipalities. Members agreed. Chris Roy noted that parts of the state that
46 are not in the Lake Champlain Watershed do benefit by the revenue generated by this watershed.
47 Jim Donovan asked that when staff sends this to legislators and municipalities, that they also send it
48 to the board representatives. VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

1 Andrea said we are poised here in Chittenden County with MS4 communities. Let's not wait 50
2 years to see this as a regional issue. We could have our own Chittenden County Authority to solve
3 the problem so that instead of having four stormwater utilities, we form a group to talk regionally.
4 Charlie noted that last year when we worked on RSEP and MS4 merging, the committees had a
5 healthy discussion to see if there were other opportunities for regionalizing services. There was also
6 discussion about education being prevention.

7 10. Regional Dispatch Update. Charlie wanted board members to know what's happening. There was a
8 memo in the packet which was sent in November to legislative bodies in eight communities that
9 have paid dispatch staff. This was notice about the proposed formation of the Chittenden County
10 Public Safety Authority, a Union Municipal District to provide regional public safety dispatch and
11 asked municipal officials to consider putting this item on their town meeting day ballot. As of today,
12 Winooski, South Burlington, Colchester, Milton and Burlington have voted in favor of putting this on
13 the March ballot. Shelburne and Williston are discussing it next week and Essex has decided not to
14 put it on the ballot at this time. Also in the meeting packet was an information sheet Emma did for
15 the Joint Survey Committee about what the effort is. Charlie wanted members to know that the
16 Joint Survey Committee came up with a strategic approach to deal with this. The vote at town
17 meeting day is to really set up an entity, but does not commit any funding or staff at this point. The
18 organization's budget will not be developed until they know who will be in the organization, how
19 many staff, salaries and benefits, etc. Municipalities will then have an opportunity to vote once they
20 see what the costs will be. A municipality can vote to join, but is not required to continue if they
21 find the funding is not within their means. This process was set up to have a very deliberate
22 approach to joining. Andrea reiterated that the entity should be for all municipalities since they'll
23 pay a fee one way or another and they'd like to have a vote. Charlie noted that right now Shelburne
24 contracts with many towns in Chittenden County, half of Addison County and all of Grand Isle
25 County for dispatch service.

26
27 11. Executive Director's Update. Clean Water. The state has been asking RPCs to do more clean water
28 work including basin planning work. The state has also asked RPCs to distribute capital dollars, and
29 we have a number of municipalities receiving Grants-in-Aid. There will be another round in the
30 spring to get projects done (\$2 million). There are additional funds available in block grant program
31 that will go to Burlington, Jericho and Williston for higher cost projects. He noted that there isn't
32 enough money to do project development.

33
34 12. Committee/Liaison Activities and Reports. Various committee meeting minutes were included in
35 the board packet. Staff is available to answer any questions.

36
37 13. Members' Items: Mike O'Brien reminded UPWP committee members of the first meeting next
38 Thursday, January 25th.

39
40 14. Adjournment. ANDY MONTROLL MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 7:47 PM. SECONDED BY JEFF
41 CARR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

42 Respectfully submitted,

43 Bernadette Ferenc