DATE: Thursday, January 11, 2017
TIME: 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: CCRPC Offices, 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT

Members Present
- Ken Belliveau, Williston – PAC Rep
- Heather Danis – ECOS Steering Committee Rep
- Justin Rabidoux, South Burlington – TAC Rep
- Alex Weinhagen, Hinesburg – PAC Rep
- Edmund Booth – ECOS Steering Committee Rep

Staff
- Regina Mahony, Planning Program Manager
- Melanie Needle, Senior Planner
- Emily Nosse-Leirer, Planner
- Christine Forde, Senior Transportation Planner
- Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager

Dana from DPH (observing)

1. Welcome and Introductions
Regina Mahony called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

2. Approve Minutes
Justin made a motion, seconded by Jim to approve the minutes of December 14, 2017. No further discussion.
MOTION PASSED. Abstain Jim.

3. Overview of the Draft 2018 ECOS Plan
Agreement on concept of hybrid. Good to pull out what we haven’t gathered. Heather - AHS Profiles are under development and some social community stuff could be up there. Sub-state data should exist. Up and finished, so we could point people to those profiles. Melanie suggested that we can link to AHS on the Scorecard. Not from the Plan.

Top Actions – like them. Question about how it informs the UPWP? Inform v. educate (denotes a relationship of unequals). Consensus with inform. Conversation about economic development - our role in economic development is smart growth development and housing. Essentially be more explicit that it is CCRPC focus. Alex very general, are they actually measurable? How do we know if we’ve met these? Melanie - there is a mixed bag between performance measures and the community level outcomes. Many focus more on actual projects.

Discussion about actual success and implementation of previous plan. Regina explained that we added success at the end. Also add that we complete our UPWP every year.

With the format add “Assist & inform; then list all the stuff.” And keep stuff separate from what we actually do.

Heather – support municipal efforts to support population health.

4. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Draft
Eleni Churchill provided an overview of the MTP – Supplement 5. There was a question about what the performance measures are – road fatalities are an example of the federally required performance measures. These are different from the ECOS Plan indicators – Driving alone to work is an example. Eleni quickly moved through the Plan and explained the different sections: Performance Measures, Existing Conditions, Financial Plan, Scenario Planning & Future Conditions. Eleni explained the 2050 MTP Scenario. Then Eleni explained how we identified what is in the MTP Project List – started from the old list, used the model to help us determine the projects that help us address future needs, and talked with each municipality. Take a look at the list and let us know if there are any issues. The final section of the MTP is the Environmental Consultation and Mitigation section.

Jim – because the primary plan has been reorganized, can we also do that in the MTP? Can we put the recommendations in the front?
Heather – Chittenden County Active Transportation Plan – it is adopted as part of the MTP. Will it be an appendix? Not sure yet how it will be referenced or connected. We do draw some out of that Plan into the

Discussion about the Climate Coalition explained it. Jim, sounds like if there isn’t any change in the Plan that it isn’t our role. Alex – not an issue for us. Justin – a lot of it makes more sense at the local level.

9:33am Justin left.

5. Energy Plan Public Comments
Melanie Needle explained that last time we met we went over the energy comments, and most of those have been addressed. But we did have another discussion at the Energy Sub-committee that we didn’t talk about here regarding the stretch energy code. Alex – seems like the State should just go to the state stretch energy code. Most development is covered by Act 250, but there is no enforcement. Or do we say, “advocate at the state level to go to a stretch energy code, but only if there is real enforcement and a system in place.” Single sufficient standard that is consistent across the state to avoid un-intended consequences. But the enforcement component is huge.

Towns and leaders should be leaders in doing this – and we can address this in the Town Plans. So just make sure the leading by example concept is still in the other action, but okay to delete v.

6. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Comments
Emily Nosse-Leirer described the industrial zoned land issue – changed the issue language to better reflect the concept that there is a need for industrial land but we aren’t looking to develop greenfields.

Jim – existing condition v. future. Any way to resolve this?
Heather – explained that the way it reads is we disagree with GBIC. So if we are okay with that. Vacancy rate only about existing buildings, and not about land at all. So we can add the A&B’s data but make it clear that this isn’t talking about the potential.

Emily explained that we also make the connection to downtown/village development and the addition of freight. Add NECR acronym. Any actual data to support the first sentence? The big bulky commodities are moving by rail, so yes – salt as an example. And it keeps more trucks off the road. Have state data but less in the County. Change “fundamental” to “important” and add some examples here.

7. Act 171, Forest Integrity
Lots of discussion, look at agenda. Want a specific forest integrity map and want to include some local resources that we know about – because the purpose of the constraint ask wasn’t intended for forest integrity, it was just intended for renewable energy.

8. Recommendation to the Board
Alex motion, Jim second to recommend that the Board accept this as the first public hearing draft and to warn the first public hearing for February 21, 2018. No further discussion. MOTION PASSED.

9. Next Meeting
The next meeting will be on February 8, 2018 or March 8, 2018 from 8:30am to 10:00am. Not likely that we’ll need a meeting on February 8, 2018, but Staff will let you know as it gets closer.

11. Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Regina Mahony