

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CIRC ALTERNATIVES TASK FORCE REQUESTS FUNDING FOR  
\$13.9 MILLION IN PROJECTS**

Winooski, VT - The CIRC Alternatives Task Force met on November 29<sup>th</sup> to prioritize and prepare a list of immediate recommendations for Phase II projects and activities that address the purpose and need of the original CIRC highway.

The package of projects represents a \$13.9 million infrastructure and program investment, and include (in no particular order):

- US2/Trader Lane Traffic Signal, Williston, estimated project cost - \$550,000
- Severance Corners Improvements, Colchester, estimated project cost - \$6,000,000
- VT15/Sand Hill Road Intersection, Essex, estimated project cost - \$1,600,000
- VT15 Improvements – Post Office Square to 5-Corners, Essex Junction, estimated project cost - \$2,300,000
- VT15 Multiuse Path, Winooski, Colchester, Essex, and Essex Junction, estimated project cost – \$2,000,000
- Transportation Demand Management, Region-wide, *Adaptive Signal Control, Go! Chittenden County Program Expansion, CCTA Commuter Service* – estimated project cost -- \$1,476,000

Since Governor Shumlin's May 20, 2011 Press Conference announcing that the Circumferential Highway – as originally conceived – would not be built, the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) staff have been busy coordinating with VTtrans and the "CIRC Communities" (Colchester, Essex, Essex Junction, and Williston). The Governor asked that the MPO coordinate a process to identify projects and planning activities which would aid in meeting the original Purpose and Need of

the CIRC Highway Project, which broadly stated are mobility, congestion, transportation demand, safety, livability, and economic development.

“The package embraces the guiding principles transportation planning - increasing safety and supporting designated growth areas,” explains Michelle Boomhower, Assistant Director of the CCRPC, and lead on the CIRC Alternatives Task Force. “By combining safety, accessibility, connectivity, and system preservation, these projects will begin to address identified problem areas in the CIRC study area.”

The Task Force will continue to work on identifying projects to inform the mid-term implementation project list. The Task Force anticipates completion of the mid-term planning studies by the fall of 2013, and will prioritize the next round of implementation projects for consideration of inclusion in the FY15 Transportation Capital Program.

The above project recommendations were submitted to Secretary of Transportation Brian Searles, on November 30<sup>th</sup>, and will be presented to the Legislature in January. A February meeting to present the package to the public is anticipated.

For a more detailed description of each of the projects listed above, in the full funding request letter to Secretary of Transportation Brian Searles, please visit: [www.circtaskforce.org](http://www.circtaskforce.org), and click on Documents and Maps.

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