

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
2 TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES
3

4 DATE: Tuesday April 2, 2019
5 TIME: 9:00 a.m.
6 PLACE: CCRPC Offices, 110 West Canal St. Winooski, VT
7

8 **Members Present**

9 Bruce Hoar, Williston
10 Brian Bigelow, Underhill
11 Jon Rauscher, Winooski
12 Elizabeth Gohringer, Burlington
13 Richard Watts, Hinesburg
14 Chris Jolly, FHWA
15 David Allerton, Milton
16 Dennis Lutz, Essex
17 Mary Anne Michaels, Rail
18 Dean Bloch, Charlotte
19 Josh Arneson, Richmond
20 Bob Henneberger, Seniors
21 Justin Rabidoux, South Burlington
22 Barbara Elliot, Huntington
23 Joss Besse, Bolton
24 Dean Pierce, Shelburne
25 Ashley Bishop, VTrans D5
26

Staff Present

Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager
Bryan Davis, Senior Transportation Planner
Charlie Baker, Executive Director
Chris Dubin, Transportation Planner
Jason Charest, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer
Peter Keating, Senior Transportation Planner
Christine Forde, Senior Transportation Planner
Marshall Distel, Transportation Planner

Others

Chapin Kaynor, GMT Board
Katie Martin, CATMA
Andrea Hamre, CATMA
Karen Adams, Colchester
Kathryn Koberna, CCRPC Intern
Jim Ryan, VTANR/DEC

27 Peter Keating called the meeting to order at 9:03AM, calling for a round of introductions.
28

29 **1. Approval of Minutes**

30 DEAN BLOCH MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY RICHARD WATTS, TO APPROVE THE
31 MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2019. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
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33 **2. Public Comments**

34 None.
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36 **3. GMT's NextGEN Plan (Information Item)**

37 Rachel Kennedy from GMT provided a presentation on GMT's NextGen Plan. This included routes that
38 are proposed to be eliminated, route headway changes, explanation of "interlining" routes, proposed route
39 maps, a proposed fare increase from \$1.25 to \$1.50 and an updated cellphone app that includes mobile
40 ticketing. She concluded by noting the following next steps:

- 41 • Municipal Staff and Stakeholder Meetings
- 42 • Public Hearings (late March into mid-April)
- 43 • GMT Board Approval (April 16th)
- 44 • Service and Fare Change Implementation **June 17th**

45 Richard Watts expressed his appreciation of the positive service and other transit changes Rachel
46 described. Chapin Kaynor discussed the Williston 1V loss and how there is still a need for that first/last
47 mile transit trip. Joss Besse asked about the status of the Williston Park & Ride (P&R) and if there are
48 further expansions planned for the Richmond P&R. The Williston P&R is moving forward but there is no
49 firm construction date of the facility and there are no plans to expand the Richmond P&R. Dennis Lutz
50 asked about new signage for new stops. Rachel explained there are no new stops planned or new signage
51 at this point. Andrea Hamre talked about a meeting that CATMA had with three rural communities
52 (Cambridge, Jericho and Underhill) and their interest for intra-regional transit services. Chris Jolly asked

1 if the changes would have an effect to CMAQ funding. Rachel explained that none of the routes changed
2 are funded through CMAQ.

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4 **4. FY20 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Update (Information Item)**

5 Marshall Distel spoke to the memo in the TAC packet on the draft FY20 UPWP. In order to fit the
6 budget, some staff-generated regional projects were removed and the budget of some municipal requests
7 reduced but the UPWP committee did not fully remove any municipal or partner project requests. The
8 biggest portion of the FY20 budget for new consultant projects is going towards water quality/
9 transportation projects. The Executive Committee will be reviewing the draft on 4/3 and from there it will
10 go before the Board on 4/17 for review and warning of a public hearing. After the 4/17 Board meeting the
11 draft will become a final draft. The Finance Committee reviews the final draft on 4/24. In May it will
12 come back to the Executive Committee, PAC, TAC, QWAC and CCRPC Board as a final draft UPWP.
13 At the May CCRPC Board meeting there will be a public hearing and a final action on the FY20 UPWP
14 and Budget. Responding to a specific question, Charlie Baker confirmed that this will be an action item at
15 the May TAC meeting.

16
17 Dean Bloch asked what the Municipal Energy Planning and Assistance line item consists of. Eleni
18 Churchill responded this is a task that VEIC works together with CCRPC staff to assist with Energy and
19 Electric Vehicle (EV) planning in the county. The VEIC scope of work for FY20 has not been finalized
20 yet but staff will work on that in the near future.

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22 **5. Road and Bridge Standard Synchronization (Information Item)**

23 Jim Ryan gave a presentation on the Draft Vermont Road and Bridge Standards and their relation to the
24 municipal roads general permit and stream encroachment permit. Some towns have chosen not to adopt
25 these in the past due to pieces of the standards such as the guardrail standard or driveway access. New
26 version pulls these pieces apart into seven sections and allows towns to choose what pieces they are going
27 to adopt. April 26 is the deadline for comments on draft standards.

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29 Bruce Hoar and Dennis Lutz asked questions about the Class 4 roadways as it pertains to a FEMA event.
30 Jim clarified that the FEMA event would cover the cost of the damages, not rebuilding the road. Dean
31 Bloch asked about driveway standard and its available flexibility for an adopted standard. Jim responded
32 that it was intentionally written that way. Dennis Lutz asked whether the new draft Road standards
33 released about a month ago will be used this construction season, once finalized in May. Dennis also
34 asked about the status of the ERAF grants as it pertains to these draft standards. Ashley Bishop clarified
35 for FY20 grants they are based on the 2013 road and bridge standards. Dennis wondered if there had been
36 any discussion with FEMA about these draft changes and potential events this season. A discussion
37 ensued about whether or not there is a grace period between when the draft standards are adopted by
38 VTrans and ANR in May and when the towns adopt them. Ashley explained this discussion is ongoing
39 and this very concern has been previously raised at the table and the state agencies are aware of and
40 working to resolve it. To qualify for the highest level of State cost share in the event of a disaster, these
41 standards must be adopted and used by the municipality. Ashley highlighted a piece to the draft standard
42 where values are underlined and where towns could insert their own values if they so desire.

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44 **6. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports (Information Item)**

45 Richard Watts asked about adding capacity to I-89 with regard to the I-89 Study. He raised the issue of
46 how expensive it is to fund Interstate expansions. Eleni Churchill explained that expansion of the
47 Interstate is something that will be considered as part of the I-89 Study along with other options for
48 addressing congestion. The study and its advisory committee will determine how best to address
49 congestion on I-89 into the future.

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51 **7. CCRPC March Board Meetings Report**

52 Peter noted that the Board met on March 20th. There was a presentation on GMT's NextGEN Plan and
53 Project Prioritization was approved.

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8. Chairman's/Members' Items

Bryan Davis passed out flyers for a regional bikeshare update and GOTCHA survey. Dean Pierce asked about a rural transit meeting and if he could be added to the invite list. Peter Keating spoke about the Transportation Alternatives (TA) grant updates. Dennis Lutz let everyone know that the intersection of Susie Wilson and Kellogg Road is about to be reconstructed. Starbucks is about to be approved at the corner of VT-15/Susie Wilson Road. Radar detection will be installed at both signals as part of the reconstruction/development. Ashley Bishop mentioned that Class 2 paving grants are due April 15th. A general discussion amongst TAC members ensued. Burlington has been looking at parklets in various areas. Elizabeth Gohringer explained what these are and where they are planned (Drifters, Archives, El Cortijo, and 55 Main St). Bob Henneberger added that AARP is assisting with these efforts.

DENNIS LUTZ MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY RICHARD WATTS, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Jason Charest

DRAFT