

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
2 TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
3 MINUTES  
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5 DATE: Tuesday, February 2, 2021  
6 TIME: 9:00 a.m.  
7 PLACE: Meeting held remotely via Zoom  
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9 **Members Present**

10 Bryan Osborne, Colchester  
11 Justin Rabidoux, South Burlington  
12 Nicole Losch, Burlington  
13 Amy Bell, VTrans  
14 Matthew Langham, VTrans  
15 Jonathon Weber, Local Motion  
16 Josh Arneson, Richmond  
17 Bob Henneberger, Seniors  
18 Chris Damiani, GMT  
19 Jon Rauscher, Winooski  
20 Barbara Elliott, Huntington  
21 Robin Pierce, Essex Junction  
22 Sandy Thibault, CATMA  
23 Kirsten Jensen, Milton  
24 Chris Jolly, FHWA  
25 Seth Bowden, GBIC  
26 Ashley Bishop, VTrans  
27

Dave Allerton, Milton  
Mary Anne Michaels, Rail  
Joss Besse, Bolton  
Richard Watts, Environment

28 **Staff**

Charlie Baker, Executive Director  
Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager  
Bryan Davis, Senior Transportation Planner  
Christine Forde, Senior Transportation Planner  
Jason Charest, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer  
Sai Sarepalli, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer  
Marshall Distel, Transportation Planner

29 **Guests**

Kevin Marshia, VTrans  
Susan Hurd, Burlington

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31 1. Bryan Osborne called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. He informed the TAC of new agenda item 4a Expedited TIP Amendment for Rail Crossing Safety Improvements at College Street in Burlington.

32 **2. Consent Agenda**

33 JUSTIN RABIDOUX MADE A MOTION THAT THE TAC APPROVE THE PROPOSED TIP  
34 AMENDMENTS AND SAFETY TARGETS AS PRESENTED IN THE CONSENT AGENDA  
35 MEMOS, SECONDED BY BARBARA ELLIOTT. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

36 **3. Approval of Minutes**

37 Bryan Osborne asked for any changes, which there were none. BARBARA ELLIOTT MADE A  
38 MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 5, 2021, SECONDED BY BOB  
39 HENNEBERGER. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.  
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41 **4. Public Comments**

42 Susan Hurd of Burlington provided comments regarding the CCRPC's comment letter on The Burton  
43 Corporation's Act 250 application for the Higher Ground project on Queen City Park Road. Susan noted  
44 there are lots of facilities at the site with minimal screening, there is a one lane bridge serving 500-600  
45 vehicles, and large trucks entering and exiting. There is no sidewalk, crosswalk, bike lanes, or shoulders.  
46 There is a lot of parking but no plans for additional parking, which is likely needed. People will likely  
47 arrive early before events. She asks that the CCRPC reconsider their comment letter, visit the site in  
48 person, review the traffic analysis, and don't put profit over people. She asks what steps will CCRPC take  
49 to assure that Burton Corporation and the City of Burlington truly comply with Act 250's criterion as it  
50 relates to traffic impact, rather than allowing it to be rubber stamped through? Eleni Churchill, CCRPC  
51 staff, noted that CCRPC is preparing a response to similar comments offered at the recent Board meeting  
52 and will include Susan on the response. Susan will provide her comments by email to CCRPC staff.  
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**4a. FY2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments**

As per the memo sent by email and in the online meeting packet, this is a TIP Amendment to add funds to the Rail Crossing Safety Improvements at College Street in Burlington and meet the October 1, 2021 deadline to use federal TIGER IV funds for the Burlington Train Station Platform. This is considered a minor TIP amendment and funds aren't subject to the CCRPC's fiscal constraint. Even though staff is asking the TAC to approve this amendment in the typical process, this is considered an Expedited TIP Amendment because the Board will be asked to approve this amendment virtually since VTrans wants to bid this project on February 10, which is before the February Commission Meeting. BARBARA ELLIOTT MADE A MOTION THAT THE TAC APPROVE THE PROPOSED TIP AMENDMENT, SECONDED BY JUSTIN RABIDOUX. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**5. VPSP2 Update**

Kevin Marshia, VTrans, gave an [overview and update presentation](#) of the VTrans Project Selection and Project Prioritization Process (VPSP2). In the early 2000s VTrans had more projects than they could deliver, resulting in many delayed projects while still adding more. In 2006 legislation was adopted to establish a project prioritization system to determine which projects were worked on first. This was successful as it established rules and expectations to follow and it allowed us to focus on streamlining and improving our project delivery processes which have been instrumental in establishing an effective asset management program. The current process is now about 12 years old and presents an opportunity within the next few years to accept more community driven projects into the Capital Program. VPSP2 defines a new process for an RPC/Municipality to get a project on to the Capital Program. The vision for VPSP2 is to develop a performance-based, data driven project selection & prioritization framework that maximizes the "transportation value" delivered to Vermont taxpayers. The process has three objectives:

- Identify and utilize criteria that provide "transportation value" within potential and planned VTrans projects.
- Develop a mechanism for RPC and communities to provide input in the selection and prioritization of transportation projects.
- Provide a defined, consistent, and transparent process for selecting and prioritizing the projects that ultimately make up VTrans' Capital Program.

Four workshops were attended by a diverse group of stakeholders representing the five modes (highway, rail, bike/ped/trails, transit, aviation). The 8 criteria (safety, asset condition, mobility/connectivity, community, economic access, environment, resiliency, and health access) resonated with the stakeholders who helped determine the initial weighting of the evaluation criteria. The highway mode is being used as a two-year pilot to review the nine process steps and proposed timeline for potential projects. Selected projects must stay within the fiscal constraint, and geographic equity is also examined in the process. If a project moves higher on the list, then that will bump another project down the list. Bryan Osborne commented that VPSP2 clarifies the project selection process and incorporates transparency, noted that it doesn't seem dissimilar to the previous process, and asked if it will make a difference. Kevin replied that because of the strong asset management program we won't notice a big difference for the paving program, but it does provide more opportunity for regionally driven process to add projects. Christine Forde said that CCRPC is looking at the MTP project list and previously scoped projects to decide which projects in our region to advance. Charlie Baker said we want to get a project list to the TAC by March 1.

**6. TAC Agenda Topics**

Bryan Davis, CCRPC staff, noted that on each agenda is a request for TAC members to provide any topics for future agenda items but wanted to set aside this dedicated time to address the request in more detail. CCRPC staff provided a list of potential future topics in the meeting packet for consideration and asked for other ideas. Nicole Losch and Jonathon Weber could present on winter maintenance and innovative facilities for active transportation. Sandy Thibault suggested that each municipality present on their community's work as it relates to TDM activities, needs, and projects. Bryan Osborne is interested in more emphasis on how TAC members can help with their community's issues by understanding the full range of opportunities and programs through the CCRPC. He suggested the UPWP selection process needs more framework to enhance or refine and make it more transparent and efficient. Richard Watts

1 noted the information and community sharing is useful, and appreciated the previous presentations about  
2 CCRPC funding allocations by program.

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4 **7. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports**

5 See the project list on the back of the agenda. TAC members are encouraged to contact CCRPC staff with  
6 any questions.

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8 **8. CCRPC Board Meeting Report**

9 In January the Board approved the FY21 UPWP mid-year adjustment, held a public forum for the FY22  
10 UPWP, participated in a discussion of municipal powers led by VLCT, reviewed CCRPC's 2021  
11 legislative policy participation, and heard an update on the hiring of a racial equity consultant.

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13 **9. Chairman's/Members' Items:**

14 • **2021 VTrans Small-scale Bicycle and Pedestrian Grants**

15 VTrans is soliciting applications for small-scale projects through the Bicycle and Pedestrian  
16 Program. Complete applications are due by 1:00 PM on Friday, February 19, 2021. The intent of  
17 the Small-scale Bike/Ped grant Program is to improve access and safety for people walking  
18 and/or bicycling through the construction of simple physical improvements. Grants are to  
19 reimburse construction costs only and will be awarded in the range of \$5,000 to \$75,000. The  
20 local share of projects is 50%. For a copy of the VTrans 2021 Small-scale Bicycle and Pedestrian  
21 Grant Guide and to access the application materials, visit the VTrans Bike/Ped Program website:  
22 <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped>.

23 • **Vermont AV-Xchange Forum**

24 VTrans is hosting an online forum on February 8, 2021, 1:00-2:30 PM, to promote and discuss  
25 testing of Automated Vehicles in the State.

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27 **The next TAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 3 due to Town Meeting Day.**

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29 ROBIN PIERCE MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY SANDY THIBAULT,  
30 APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.

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32 Respectfully submitted, Bryan Davis