



FY2023 UPWP Committee - Meeting 2 (Virtual Meeting via Zoom) **February 22, 2022**

Members Present:

Chris Shaw, Board, Committee Chair
Michael Bissonnette, Board
Jaqueline Murphy, Board
Amy Bell, VTrans
Chris Jolly, FHWA
David Wheeler, CWAC
Chelsea Mandigo, CWAC
Robin Pierce, TAC
Barbara Elliot, TAC
Cathynn LaRose, PAC

Staff:

Charlie Baker, CCRPC
Eleni Churchill, CCRPC
Amy Irvin Witham, CCRPC
Forest Cohen, CCRPC
Regina Mahony, CCRPC
Marshall Distel, CCRPC

Others:

Richard Watts, UVM
Jack Hanson, UVM

1. Welcome & Introductions

Marshall Distel opened the meeting shortly after 5:30 p.m.

2. Review and approval of UPWP Committee Minutes – Meeting #1 (Action)

Barbara Elliot made a motion, seconded by Michael Bissonnette to approve the January 26, 2022 UPWP Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Overview of UVM Proposal for Chittenden County SOV Commuter Reduction Program

Marshall welcomed Richard Watts and Jack Hanson to the meeting. Richard and Jack provided an overview of the proposal for the Chittenden County SOV Commuter Reduction Program. Through a combination of one-time incentives, student labor and commuter-oriented marketing, the goal of the program would be to reduce single-occupancy vehicle commuting within Chittenden County at least two days a week for a period of six months.

Richard and Jack referenced that the proposed project would build upon work previously conducted as part of a VTrans MTI-funded project in which 98 commuters switched commute days to non-SOV options during the study. The overall aim of the project would be long-term behavior change away from SOV commuting.

Chris Shaw asked a question about partnering with employers or large population centers like Winooski. Richard explained that a strategy would be developed in the first few months of the project in partnership with CATMA, CCRPC and other organizations to determine the best strategy for outreach to both employers and the general public. Jack added that project participants would be recruited both through employers and organically through communities.

Jacki Murphy asked about the goal for this UPWP request. Richard clarified that the goal would be to recruit 200 participants.

Chris asked about outreach to underserved populations. Richard confirmed that this will be important and will be designed into the study during the initial phase. Jack mentioned that the target as well is on a behavior shift, which means targeting individuals who currently commute via SOV.

Chris asked about future phases of the project if this were to be successful in Chittenden County. Richard replied that he would like to take this program statewide on a much larger scale if success is shown in Chittenden County.

David Wheeler asked about enforcement of the program rules. Jack replied that statements of intent were used in the MTI-funded project, which were then affirmed by employee supervisors. No supervisors indicated that abuse of the program had taken place.

4. Review of FY23 Project Applications, Comments and Updates with a Focus on PL-Funded (Transportation) Projects

Eleni Churchill shared an updated version of the UPWP project spreadsheet. She summarized UPWP-related work that CCRPC staff has been engaged in since the first UPWP Committee meeting. Eleni started with updates to the regional projects, which included an increase in the budget from \$30,000 to \$60,000 for the Update of the Chittenden County Active Trans Plan, a reduction in the budget for the Technical Assistance to Advance ECOS/MTP/TIP Implementation task from \$100,000 to \$70,000 and the addition of Public Transportation Technical Assistance task, with a budget of \$30,000.

Eleni then shared updates related to the municipal project requests.

Regina Mahony noted that all land use projects are tentative until she can confirm CCRPC staff availability and municipal funding commitments.

For the PlanBTV New North End project, CCRPC reached out to Burlington staff to better understand the transportation nexus on this project. More communication on this will be conducted prior to the next meeting. More coordination is also needed for the Burlington Racial Equity Analysis project.

The Burlington Engineering Standards Technical Review has been removed as a separate line item and moved under the transportation technical assistance task.

CCRPC staff deleted the reference to engineering work in the title and summary for the Essex Phosphorus Control Plan Treatment Practices project. The Town confirmed locations will address transportation-related runoff.

CCRPC staff reviewed the budget for the Hinesburg Route 116 Crosswalk Scoping project with the Town. Crosswalk locations to be studied has been pared down to the top 3 sites to accommodate budget constraints.

The budget for the Hinesburg Town Bridge Scoping increased from \$10,000 to \$50,000 to better reflect to cost of scoping these two bridges.

For the Huntington Village Wastewater Facility Planning project, the reference to preliminary planning for a shared-use path was removed and has been put under the transportation technical assistance task.

More discussion is needed with Milton for the Downtown Core Development Design Charrette. CCRPC staff await a reply from the Town.

For the Richmond Gateway Feasibility Study, the title was changed to feasibility in place of scoping. CCRPC staff confirmed with the Town that the existing \$25,000 budget should be sufficient for this work.

CCRPC staff are awaiting on a response from South Burlington with regards to clarifying how the Study of Bike/Pedestrian Bridge over I-89 relates to the RAISE grant timing.

CCRPC staff confirmed with Shelburne that the Stormwater Plan Update and Conceptual Designs work will only address runoff from municipal transportation system. Similarly, CCRPC staff confirmed with Williston that the Stormwater Asset Data Update will also only address transportation runoff.

The Taft Corners Stormwater Feasibility Study was removed as a separate task and included under the transportation technical assistance task.

Partner requests were then reviewed.

CCRPC received more information from CarShare VT describing the Be Car Conscious calculator.

Eleni outlined the budget-related coordination for the Net Zero Vermont work. Marshall noted they are also still working to ensure CCRPC procurement policies will be followed.

Jacki asked about a definition of PL funds. Chris Jolly explained that these funds are specific to MPOs.

Chris Shaw asked about the public comments and how they will be incorporated into the process. Marshall provided a brief overview of the public comments received and outlined how they were forwarded to the appropriate parties.

Chris responded to the comment sent in from the South Burlington resident. Chris outlined that the City has been doing work to redesign the City Center, but expressed concerns about the continuation of car-centric development and the lack of bike/ped connectivity. Chris highlighted that the RAISE grant for the South Burlington Bike/Pedestrian Bridge over I-89 should be seen as an excellent opportunity to counter the auto-oriented I-89 study with new thinking to create a bikeable community with accessible cycle tracks and other infrastructure to support an active transportation network. If the CCRPC is a driving force for change, this represents an opportunity for creating a walkable and bikeable area that has been monopolized by cars for the past 50 years. Overall, Chris applauded the public comment that pointed out opportunities to create a

more bike-centric future. Jacki expressed her support for Chris' comments.

5. Next Steps & Adjourn

Marshall provided a brief overview of the next steps, which will include an evaluation of staff availability. The CCRPC will then work to assemble a full draft of the FY23 UPWP to be reviewed at the final UPWP Committee meeting. Charlie recommended that the next meeting be moved from 3/23 to 3/30. The Committee agreed on the date change. Marshall will send updated calendar invites to reflect the change.

The meeting was adjourned shortly before 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall Distel