

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
2 LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE - MINUTES
3

4 DATE: Tuesday, December 13, 2022
5 TIME: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
6 PLACE: Virtual Meeting via Zoom with link as published on the agenda
7

Members Present:

Eric Vorwald, PAC Rep from Winooski
Andrew Watts, Board Rep from Williston
Dana Hanley, CCRPC Alternate from Charlotte
Abby Bleything, CCRPC Alternative from
Winooski
Bob Henneberger, TAC Rep

Staff:

Taylor Newton, Planning Program Manager
Melanie Needle, Senior Planner
Darren Schibler, Senior Planner
Charlie Baker, Executive Director
Christine Forde, Senior Transportation Planner
Marshall Distell, Senior Transportation Planner
Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager

8
9
10 **1. Welcome and Introductions**

11 T. Newton welcomed everyone at 7:02pm.

12
13 **2. Approve November 8, 2022 Minutes**

14 *E. Vorwald. motioned to approve the November meeting minutes. B. Henneberger seconded. All in favor.*

15
16 *A. Watts motioned to approve the September meeting minutes. E. Vorwald seconded. All in favor.*

17
18 **3. Review draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)**

19 E. Churchill began a page-by-page review of the MTP.

20
21 Population and Diversity

22 E. Vorwald requested that this section provide more information about the location of diverse populations within the
23 Region.

24
25 Vision

26 E. Vorwald requested that the word “reliable” be added to the first sentence.

27
28 Land Use Goal

29 E. Vorwald requested that this section highlight that growth in the county is being focused in areas planned for
30 growth, yet not meeting goal of 90% of new housing units in areas planned for growth.

31
32 System Map

33 E. Vorwald requested that staff confirmed that there aren’t any facilities located in Huntington.

34
35 Active Transportation Plan

36 E. Vorwald asked if the map could include information about the locations of shared use paths and other facilities
37 that connect communities or at least have the plan mention in text the location of those facilities. C. Baker noted that
38 we could identify the number of homes with a certain distance of shared-use facilities. M. Needle can show those
39 facilities on map or the plan could direct folks to the ECOS Map Viewer.

40
41 Public Transit Ridership

42 The Committee discussed public transit ridership. A. Bleything stated that an edit is needed in text because buses do
43 not have 15 minute headways anymore. E. Vorwald requested additional information about the context related to
44 dropping public transit ridership before the pandemic.

45
46 Park and Ride Facilities

1 E. Vorwald asked for more explanation within the plan about the differences between park-and-ride lots versus
2 intercept facilities

3
4 Transportation Demand Management Programs

5 E. Churchill stated that the definition of TDM was changed based on feedback from Sandy Thibault. The definition is
6 now based on a proposed change to the definition of TDM in Federal law. E. Vorwald said it made sense to
7 differentiate Go Vermont! as a program instead of an organization within this section

8
9 Regional Travel Characteristics

10 D. Schibler questioned if it would be worth tracking where Chittenden County residents are going to work outside of
11 the County in this section. Discussion about the validity of LEHD On the Map data followed.

12
13 A. Bleything asked if the plan could more fully discuss GMT ridership trends over time. E. Churchill stated that the
14 plan could discuss trends, but J. Charest suggested that much of what we know is anecdotal and without much data to
15 support.

16
17 A. Bleything asked about VMT trends. She stated that nationally VMT is rising post-pandemic due to telecommuting
18 and less trip chaining. J. Charest said VTrans just uploaded their 2021 data and that that data will be in next draft in
19 spring.

20
21 Safety

22 E. Churchill stated that the graph was changed to include death and injuries of people instead of just counting the
23 number of crashes. A. Bleything noted that the Y-axis title needs to be updated.

24
25 Capacity and Congestion

26 The committee discussed congestion. E. Churchill stated that the text should better explain intersection delays. A.
27 Bleything asked staff to highlight what intersections are of concern and what are not of concern within text. The
28 Committee discussed the high prevalence of asthma rates in Vermont.

29
30 Transportation Equity

31 B. Henneberger suggested including programs to purchase electric vehicles and ebikes that are targeted at low- and
32 moderate-income Vermonters.

33
34 Financial Plan

35 C. Forde walked through the fiscal constraints related to future federal transportation funding allocated to Chittenden
36 County.

37
38 MTP Scenarios

39 J. Charest reviewed the MTP Scenario. J. Charest asked for specific help reviewing MTP Scenario Results paragraph
40 and maps showing congestion and delay reductions based on the TDM scenario. C. Baker highlighted that the TDM
41 scenario in the model is very aggressive and aspirational scenario that seeks to triple transit ridership. E. Churchill
42 talked about an upcoming study next year that will help CCRPC to understand what TDM strategies will provide the
43 best opportunity to meet our goals.

44
45 D. Hanley commented that any future TDM strategies need to assess local zoning and land use patterns.

46
47 MTP Investment, Policies, and Projects

48 E. Churchill noted that this section is still a work-in-progress and the Committee did not review. The Committee
49 flagged talking more about transition to EVs in this section. The section may also refer to the enhanced energy plan
50 and strategies that come out of that effort.

51
52 MTP Project List

1 C. Forde said there may be some future tweaks to this list in the future. She explained that the list differentiates
2 between projects with committed funding via the TIP and projects without committed funding.

3
4 Environmental Consultation and Mitigation

5 E. Churchill stated that this section will be completed for full review by the Committee in April 2023.

6
7 E. Churchill reviewed the schedule moving forward. She stated that a full MTP draft will be completed in January.
8 The MTP will then go to the EAC and PAC in January. The MTP will then go to back to LRPC and TAC in April.
9 Staff will ask the Board to warn a public hearing in May and the Board is anticipated to adopt the MTP in June.

10
11 **6. Adjourn**

12 *B. Henneberger made a motion, seconded by A. Bleything, to adjourn. T. Newton adjourned the meeting at 8:32 pm.*

13
14 Respectfully submitted, Taylor Newton

