CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC
Communities Planning Together

Federal Adjusted Urban Area Boundary

TAC Presentation

4/4/2023

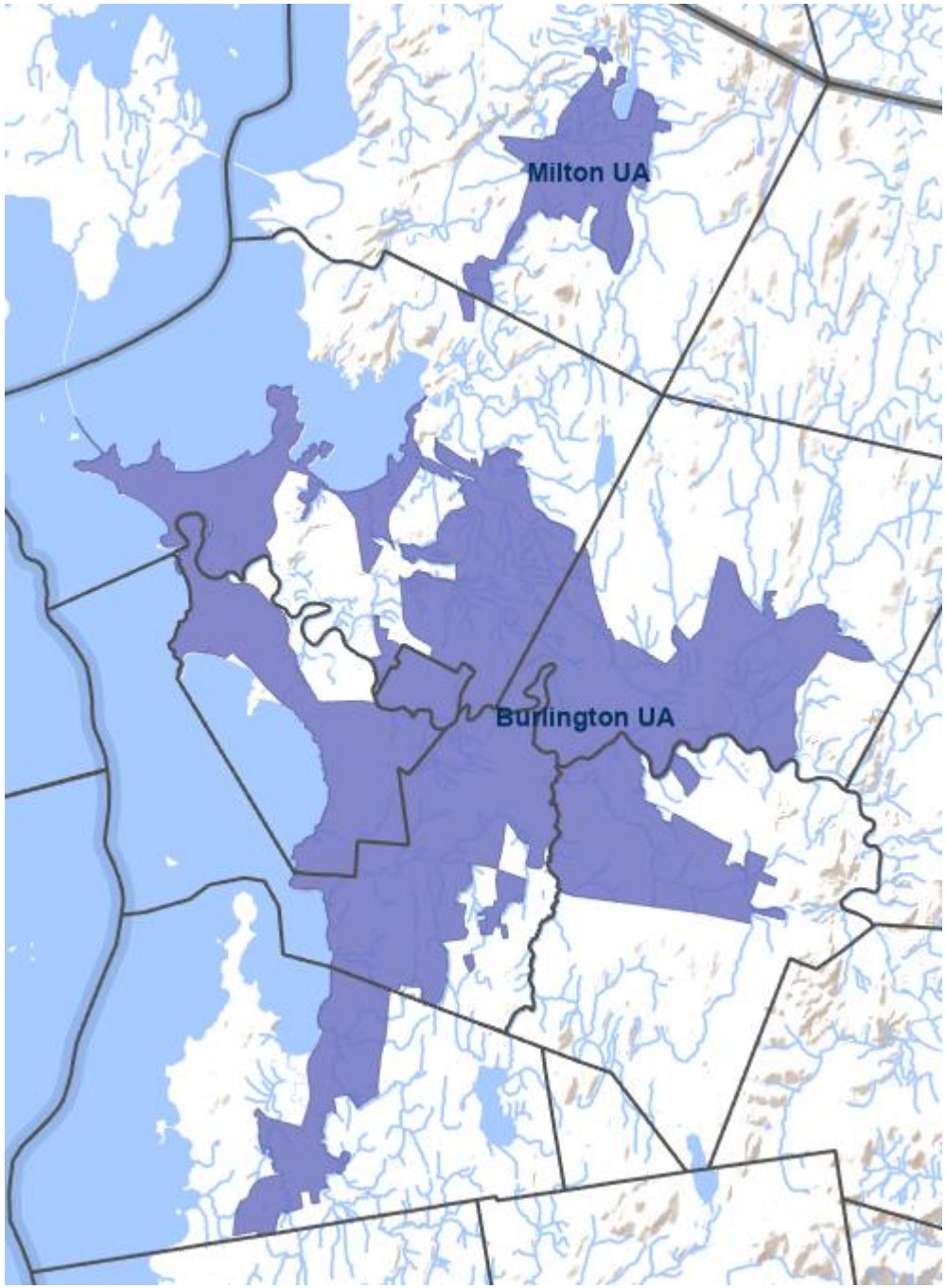
What is an Urban Area?

Census Definition

- At least 2,000 housing units or 5,000 people
- Meet minimum density thresholds (block level)

FHWA Definition

- Urbanized Area (≥ 50,000 people)
  – MPO Designation
- Small Urban Area(5,000 – 49,999 people)



2020 Census

- Milton Urban Area
  - 6,417 people
  - 2,701 housing units
- Burlington Urban Area
  - 118,032 people
  - 52,015 housing units

2020 Census Urban Areas

Urban Area	Population	Housing
Burlington, VT	118,032	52,015
Lebanon, NH--VT	30,299	13,383
Barre--Montpelier, VT	20,014	10,096
Rutland, VT	19,550	10,162
Bennington, VT	13,759	6,140
St. Albans, VT	11,368	5,232
Brattleboro, VT	10,285	5,500
Milton, VT	6,417	2,701
Middlebury, VT	6,154	1,939
Springfield, VT	5,140	2,660
St. Johnsbury, VT	4,883	2,472
Bellows Falls, VT--NH	3,978	2,072

Why is it important?

Planning purposes	• Highway/traffic statistics • AADT, DHV, VTrans Redbook, HPMS
Functional Classification	• Urban vs. Rural
Funding	• Urban Minor Collectors

Federal Aid System

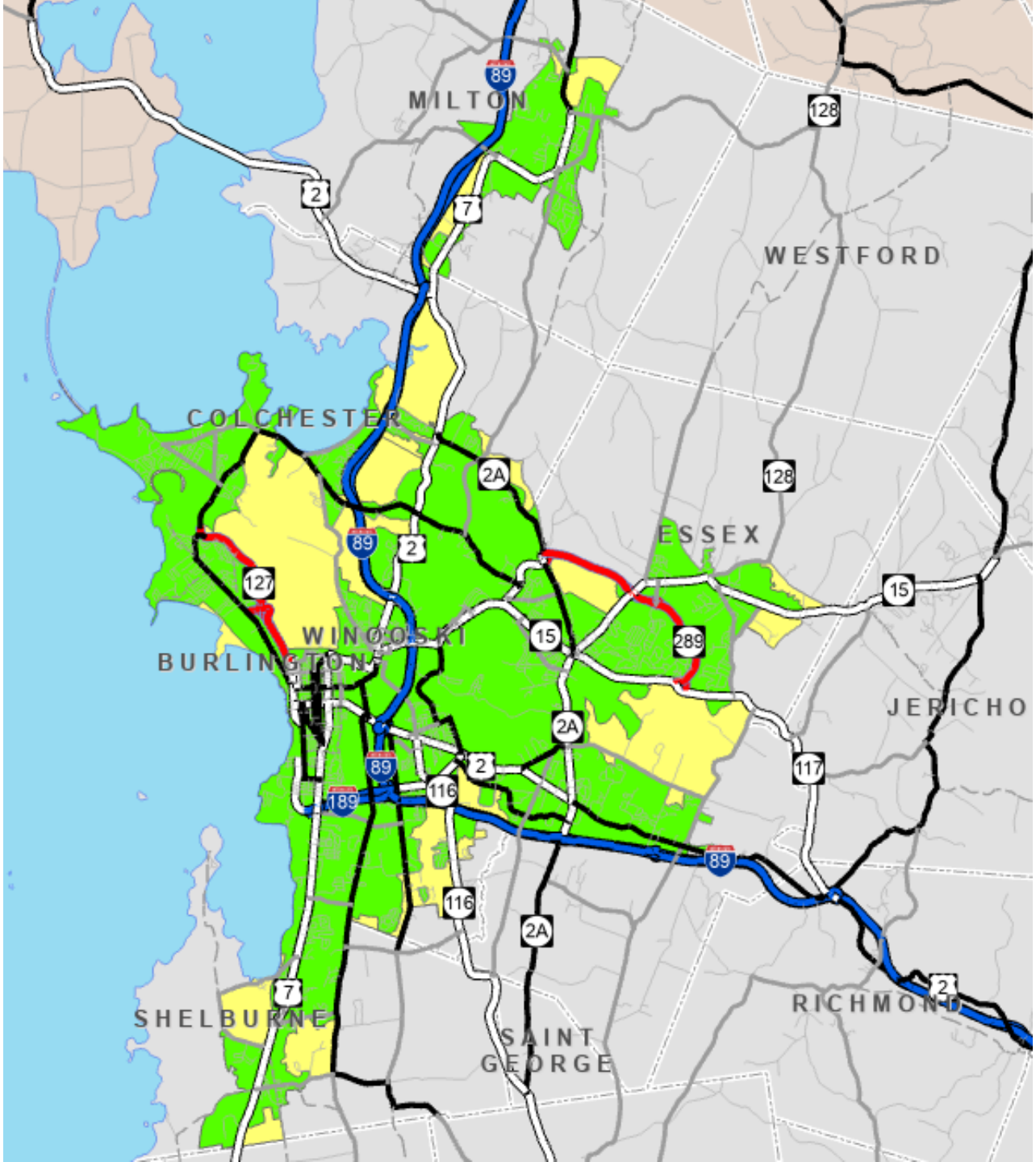
Urban/Rural

- Interstate
- Freeways & Expressways
- Principal Arterials
- Minor Arterials
- Major Collectors

Urban Minor Collectors

Adjusted Urban Area Boundary

- Smooth boundaries based on geographical features
  - Roadways, Water bodies, Municipal Boundaries
- Adjustments do not affect funding tied to population.
  - Reverts back to Census.
- Urban/Rural Changes
  - No changes in functionality
    - Federal Aid System remains the same


MILTON
WESTFORD
COLCHESTER
ESSEX
WINOOSKI
BURLINGTON
JERICHO
SHELBURNE
SAINT GEORGE
RICHMOND
89
2
7
128
2A
127
15
289
116
189
117

Proposed Next Steps

- TAC Comments
- Distribute Draft Map
- Follow up with municipalities
- Seek approval at May TAC Meeting
- Seek approval at May Board Meeting
- Send approved boundary to VTrans

Possible TAC Motion

Recommend the TAC approves the Federal Urban Area Boundary Adjustments and send to the CCRPC Board for approval and submission to VTrans.