

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
2 LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE - MINUTES
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4 DATE: Tuesday, April 11, 2023
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:

Sandy Thibault, TAC Rep
Dana Hanley, CCRPC Alternate from Charlotte
Abby Bleything, CCRPC Alternative from
Winooski
Annie Costandi, CWAC Rep
B. Henneberger, TAC Rep

Staff:

Taylor Newton, Planning Program Manager
Melanie Needle, Senior Planner
Darren Schibler, Senior Planner
Marshall Distell, Senior Transportation Planner
Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager

8
9 **1. Welcome and Introductions**

10 T. Newton welcomed everyone at 7:06pm.
11

12 **2. Approve December 13, 2022 Minutes**

13 A. Costandi motioned to approve the December meeting minutes. B. Henneberger seconded. All in favor.
14

15 **3. Review draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)**

16 E. Churchill began a presentation regarding the MTP. Eleni stated that the MTP sets the transportation-focused vision
17 and goals for the Region. E. Churchill explained that the MTP project list is fiscally constrained. CCRPC estimates
18 the amount of Federal funds that will come to Chittenden County and the projects identified within the MTP must fit
19 within the estimated budget.
20

21 D. Hanley asked how CCRPC's confidence in the financial estimates in the MTP. E. Churchill said that the estimates
22 for Federal funding is conservative and based on moderate inflation. She stressed that that it is very much an
23 estimate.
24

25 E. Churchill reviewed the changes within the MTP related to land use. The proposed MTP includes a Transit
26 Oriented Development (TOD) Overlay District. This is an advisory overlay district to stress the need to plan for
27 greater residential densities within proximity to transit.
28

29 The MTP is built around a future scenario. The scenario utilized in this MTP is a scenario that was developed as a
30 part of the I-89 Study. This scenario includes concentrating new development in areas planned for growth,
31 electrification of 90% of light duty vehicles, a new DDI at Exit 14, safety improvements at high crash locations, a
32 mileage-based fee instead of a gas tax, and significant transportation demand management (TDM) success. TDM
33 strategies included a 50% increase in teleworking, doubling trips made by bike, and tripling of transit
34 service/frequencies. The Committees discussed teleworking and trends related to VMT. A. Bleything noted some
35 research through the pandemic shows increased VMT because of less trip chaining. E. Churchill and B. Henneberger
36 noted that this issue will really need to be looked at again in 5 years when we know more about post-pandemic
37 conditions. The MTP scenario calls for 95% of future modernization and enhancement projects for bicycle and/or
38 pedestrian projects.
39

40 D. Hanley asked about how realistic it is to achieve 90% of new growth within areas planned for growth. M. Needle
41 stated that the regional planning areas in the ECOS Plan are based on local zoning. The Committee discussed the
42 definition of the TOD Overlay District and residential density within those specific areas.
43

44 A. Bleything asked about the process for identifying a projects listed in the MTP. E. Churchill stated that staff works
45 with the municipalities to identify specific projects for the MTP. She further stated that projects to address emerging
46 needs and safety needs can be incorporated into the transportation improvement plan (TIP) in the 5-year period
47 between the MTPs. A. Bleything asked about project screening. E. Churchill stated that both staff and the TAC

1 screen the projects in the MTP. E. Churchill stated that she'll revisit the Winooski projects in the MTP with
2 Winooski DPW staff.

3
4 *A. Bleything made a motion, seconded by D. Hanley that the LRPC recommends that the Board, at their April 19th*
5 *meeting, warns a Public Hearing for the 2023 MTP on May 17th. All in favor.*

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7 **4. Energy Subcommittee Update**

8 M. Needle reviewed the appointment of members to the energy subcommittee. Several committee members from the
9 previous regional enhanced energy plan process are on the committee again. She noted that the committee has met
10 once and focused on an overview of the enhanced energy plan process. The Committee is meeting again next week to
11 review the ECOS energy goal and related strategies, renewable energy siting policies, and mapping. D. Hanley asked
12 about the success of municipal enhanced energy planning and how that will feed into the ECOS Plan update. The
13 Committee discussed the need to assess project success and progress towards targets in the next ECOS Plan.

14
15 T. Newton noted that LRPC review of the draft ECOS enhanced energy plan, which was planned for June, is likely to
16 be pushed out depending on availability of LEAP data from the state. Therefore, LRPC will likely not meeting in
17 May or in June, but later in summer there will be review other elements of the draft ECOS Plan.

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19 **5. Adjourn**

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

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22 Respectfully submitted, Taylor Newton