CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, June 6, 2023
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members Present
Bryan Osborne, Colchester
Amy Bell, VTrans
Chris Jolly, FHWA
Jacqui DeMent, FHWA
Barbara Elliott, Huntington
Bob Henneberger, Seniors
Dayton Crites, Burlington
Ravi Venkataraman, Burlington
Deirdre Holmes, Charlotte
Bruce Hoar, Williston
Jonathon Weber, Local Motion
Chris Damiani, GMT
Adam Lawrence, SSTA
Aaron Martin, Essex
Josh Arneson, Richmond
Kurt Johnson, Underhill
Sandy Thibault, CATMA
Chris Yuen, Essex Junction
Lisa Schaeffler, Milton
Tom Dipietro, South Burlington
Jon Rauscher, Winooski

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

Guests
Matthew Arancio, VTrans
Katharine Otto, VTrans

1. Bryan Osborne called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

2. Consent Agenda
BARBARA ELLIOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY JONATHON WEBER. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Approval of May 2, 2023 Minutes
BARBARA ELLIOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2023, SECONDED BY BOB HENNEBERGER. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Public Comments
No comments from the public.

5. FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Christine Forde, CCRPC, reviewed the process to develop the draft FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), as outlined in the TAC agenda packet memo. The presentation is posted on the TAC webpage. The TIP is a prioritized, fiscally constrained, multi-year list of federally funded transportation projects and operations in the metropolitan planning organization region. Projects must have completed or nearly completed the planning process and be ready for design, they must have funding, and they must be listed in the state's capital program. The information in the TAC packet is the "meat" of the TIP with front and end matter still being updated.

This is a large four-year TIP with a total of $278.5 million (does not include airport funds) due to some large projects including I-89 Exits 16 and 17, large paving projects, Champlain Parkway and others. These are part of a "bubble" of projects and when they are complete, the annual TIP funding levels will return to more common historical amounts.

Project categories include: new sidewalks and paths (17 projects), bridge preservation (9 projects), intermodal (1 project), new facility/major roadway upgrade (3 projects), interstate/interchange (3 projects), paving (10 projects), roadway corridor improvements (5 projects), safety/traffic operations/ITS (16 projects), transit (these are Federal Transit Administration formula funds), and stormwater/environmental (8 projects).

Christine reviewed the status of CIRC Alternative projects which are included in the TIP. Bryan Osborne commented that Circ phase 3 projects were to be determined years ago during the Circ Alternatives process, and he thanked VTrans for getting so many of those in progress. He asked if the VT2A Improvements project, with preliminary engineering (PE) in FY25, is based on the previous scoping report? Amy Bell will find out. Bruce Hoar commented that he also appreciates those projects moving forward and would like to see projects move faster.

BARBARA ELLIOTT MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD, AT THEIR JUNE MEETING, WARN A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE DRAFT FY2024–2027 TIP FOR THEIR JULY MEETING, AND THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE TIP IN JULY. MOTION SECONDED BY BRUCE HOAR. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Results of Active Transportation Survey

This presentation is postponed until a later date due to illness. All of the data, analysis, and reports of the Chittenden County Active Transportation survey, commissioned with support from CCRPC, can be accessed via the link at the top of this page.

7. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports

See bulleted list at the end of the agenda for current CCRPC projects. TAC members are encouraged to ask staff for more information on the status of any of these ongoing or recently completed projects.

8. CCRPC Board Meeting Report

In May the Board held a public hearing for and voted to approve the FY24 UPWP and Budget, held a public hearing for and voted to approve the metropolitan transportation plan, voted to accept the Infrastructure and National Highway System Reliability and Freight Movement Performance Targets for the metropolitan planning area, voted to approve the proposed federal urban area boundary map, and heard updates on CCRPC equity work, staffing, and legislative updates.

9. Chair/Members' Items

- **VTrans Bike/Ped Grant Program:** VTrans is seeking grant applications for new infrastructure projects that improve access and safety for bicyclists and pedestrians. **Applications must be received by June 9**. For more information and grant materials visit https://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped.
- **Highway Safety Improvement Program Small Scale Grants:** The state has initiated a new Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant-for small scale projects on TOWN roads. Funding for these grants will be 100% from the State and is to cover construction only (from $5,000-$35,000). **Applications are due June 16**. Find more info here and here.
- **2023 Tier 2 Roads and Rivers Trainings:**
  - Tier 1 slideshow discusses river terms and concepts to provide a background for the Tier 2 class. The slide show may take 30 minutes to an hour to review and includes some quick quizzes that are not recorded but provide immediate feedback for the user.
  - Tier 2 two-day training at VTrans Training Center (VTTC) in Berlin:
    - May 17th & 18th @ 1716 Route 302 in Berlin
    - October 11th & 12th @ 1716 Route 302 in Berlin
  - Sign up: Non-state staff sign up through our new registration page. State/municipal staff: SOV LINC (look at the events calendar for the "Rivers and Roads Tier II).
  - Contact Staci Pomeroy, staci.pomeroy@vermont.gov, 802-490-6191.

- **2023 Green Your Fleet event:** This is the biggest Alternative Fuel (AF) and Electric Vehicle (EV) event hosted at the NH Motor Speedway on Friday, **June 9**. GYF spotlights diverse vehicle, equipment, fuel, technology, and infrastructure alternatives: biodiesel, electric, hydrogen, natural gas, and propane for commercial and municipal LD/MD/HD onroad and offroad, vehicles and equipment, as well as other fuel efficiency strategies in transportation. Register here. Contact Peggy O'Neill-Vivanco, poneillv@uvm.edu, (802) 656-9123.
- **Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program funding:** Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FHWA Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program is now available for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 in the amount of $111.85 million. The program helps carry out projects by certain Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments, including municipalities, counties, and others that reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and improve habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. **Deadline for applications is 11:59 PM EST on August 1**. Grant applications must be submitted through Grants.gov. Please check the webpage for future webinars and more information. Contact: wildlifecrossings@dot.gov.
- **2023 Clean School Bus Grant Program**: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Clean School Bus Grant Program includes two sub-programs, one for school district and Tribal applicants (School District Sub-program) and one for third-party applicants (Third-Party Sub-program). EPA is providing two separate competitions under this single NOFO to address the unique needs and concerns of diverse recipients and encourage participation in the CSB grants program. EPA is prioritizing applications that will replace buses serving high-need local education agencies, rural areas, Tribal school districts funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and public school districts receiving basic support payments for students living on Tribal land, and rural areas. In addition, EPA is committed to ensuring the CSB Program delivers on the Biden-Harris Administration's Justice40 Initiative that at least 40% of the benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities. **Grant applications submitted to Grants.gov by Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 11:59PM ET.**

Chris Damiani, GMT, is looking to resume transit fares starting in January 2024. there is an in-person public meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 15, 6:00-7:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington Community Room, 152 Pearl St, Burlington.

The next TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 11. It is anticipated to be virtual and short, with two action items.

LISA SCHAEFFLER MOVED TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY BARBARA ELLIOTT, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 9:27.

Respectfully submitted, Bryan Davis