CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, July 11, 2023
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members Present
Matthew Arancio, VTrans
Jacqui DeMent, FHWA
Joe Segale, Huntington
Dayton Crites, Burlington
Deirdre Holmes, Charlotte
Jonathon Weber, Local Motion
Sam Andersen, GBIC
Adam Lawrence, SSTA
Kurt Johnson, Underhill
Sandy Thibault, CATMA
Chris Yuen, Essex Junction
Lisa Schaeffler, Milton

Staff
Charlie Baker, Executive Director
Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager
Taylor Newton, Planning Program Manager
Bryan Davis, Senior Transportation Planner
Christine Forde, Senior Transportation Planner
Jason Charest, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer

Guests
Katharine Otto, VTrans

1. Bryan Davis called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

2. Consent Agenda
No consent agenda this month.

3. Approval of June 6, 2023 Minutes
KURT JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2023, SECONDED BY SAM ANDERSEN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Public Comments
No comments from the public.

5. Consultant Selection – Land Use Planning and Development Regulation Services
Taylor Newton, CCRPC, reviewed the process to pre-qualify 8 firms to conduct Land Use Planning and Development Regulation Consultant Services for a range of projects, including the Transit-Oriented Development Plan for Northwest Vermont RAISE Grant and other land use projects, as described in the agenda item memo. Sam asked if these firms have done this kind of work in the past? Taylor replied yes, we have experience working with them or they provided examples of this type of experience. Firms range in size from single employee to national firms.

SAM ANDERSEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SELECTED CONSULTANTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATION SERVICES FOR FY24-FY25, WITH POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS TO FY26 AND FY27. MOTION SECONDED BY JONATHON WEBER. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. 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.

7. CCRPC Board Meeting Report

In June the Board gathered for their annual meeting and warned a public hearing for the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program at the July 19 Board meeting, voted to approve the slate of officers for FY24, voted to approve the FY24 meeting calendar, and approved resolutions recognizing years of service of staff and Board members.

8. Chair/Members' Items

- **Model Bike Parking Ordinance:** Local Motion prepared this model bike parking ordinance for communities to use as the basis for developing their own local policy. The model is based on an extensive review of existing ordinances and grounded in best practices. All of the associated graphics are available and free for any non-commercial use. Including these directly in an ordinance is a good way to prevent non-conforming racks and non-compliant setbacks. For questions and assistance, contact Susan at susan@localmotion.org.
- **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:
    - 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.
- **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.**

Bryan noted these other programs:

- The USDOT released the NOFO for the for the **Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Program**, which combines the two major discretionary grant opportunities: The Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) and Neighborhood Access and Equity (NAE) Programs. The RCN Program will provide up to $3.16 billion for planning activities and capital construction projects that:

    - Prioritize disadvantaged communities,
    - Aim to improve access to daily destinations such as jobs, education, healthcare, food, and recreation,
    - Foster equitable development and restoration, and
    - Reconnect communities by removing, retrofitting, mitigating, or replacing highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity, including to mobility, access, or economic development.
- **Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP)**: BGS is now accepting applications for Building Energy Resilience Assessments. Assessments will recommend energy efficiency and resilience improvements in municipal buildings, such as weatherization, thermal envelope improvements, HVAC upgrades, and are a necessary step in the process of applying for the MERP Implementation Grants of up to $500,000. Visit our program webpage to learn more and apply. Cities, towns, fire districts, and incorporated villages may request assessments for multiple buildings in priority order in their application. Please review the information document comparing the assessment types. Contact Ann Janda (ajanda@ccrpcvt.org) with any questions.

The TAC will not meet in August. The next TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 5.

SAM ANDERSEN MOVED TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY JONATHON WEBER, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 9:11.

Respectfully submitted, Bryan Davis