

1 Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization
2 Regular Meeting & Public Hearing
3 Minutes
4

5 Date: Wednesday, July 19, 2006
6 Time: 7:00 p.m.
7 Place: CCMPO Offices, 30 Kimball Avenue, Suite 206, So. Burlington, VT 05403
8 Present: Andy Montroll, Burlington Marc Landry, Colchester
9 Jeff Carr, Essex (Sec.-Treas.) Dale Arango, Essex Junction
10 Andrea Morgante, Hinesburg Bob Penniman, Jericho (Chair)
11 Ken Nolan, Milton Virginia Clarke, Richmond
12 Jim Dudley, Shelburne Jim Condos, South Burlington
13 Marc Maheux, Underhill Tom Buckley, Westford
14 George Gerecke, Williston Mike O'Brien, Winooski (Vice-Chair)
15 Dawn Terrill, VTrans Secretary Polly McMurtry, VTrans Plan. Coordinator
16 Ex-Officio: Chris Jolly, FHWA Ernie Blais, FHWA Division Adm.
17 Chris Cole, CCTA
18 Others: Matthew Langham Chapin Spencer, Local Motion
19 Rep. Sonny Audette
20 Staff: Scott Johnstone, Exec. Director Peter Keating, Sr. Trans. Planner
21 Christine Forde, Sr. Trans. Planner Dave Roberts, Sr. Trans. Planner
22 Susan Smichenko, Sr. Trans. Plan. Bernadette Ferenc, Exec. Assistant
23

24 The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the chair, Bob Penniman.
25

26 1. Changes to the Agenda: There were none.
27

28 2. Public Comment Period for items not on the agenda. Chapin Spencer let members know he
29 just came back from a Sustainable Transit Conference in Portland, Oregon and he's very
30 enthusiastic. He then highlighted a real partnership between several organizations: Local
31 Motion, Burlington Public Works, CCMPO, CATMA and Vermont Bike & Pedestrian Coalition.
32 They have put signs on buses and provided a \$6 coupon for purchase of safety equipment and
33 they already had 600 people use them. He distributed coupons for members.
34

35 Bob Penniman acknowledged Ernie Blais, FHWA Division Administrator. He also announced
36 that Dawn Terrill has resigned as Secretary of VTrans as of August 4th and the Governor has
37 appointed Neale Lunderville as the new secretary, effective August 7th. He noted the board will
38 miss her because she was always willing to discuss the issues. Sec. Terrill feels Neale
39 Lunderville is a good replacement and has been VTrans liaison with the Governor's office and
40 she's feels it'll be a smooth transition.
41

42 3. Action on Consent Agenda. There were no items on the consent agenda.
43

44 4. Approval of Minutes. JEFF CARR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF
45 JUNE 21, 2006 WITH CORRECTIONS. JIM DUDLEY SECONDED. The following
46 corrections were noted: page 4, line 30, "documents" should be "documented." Page 5, line 14,
47 change "in June" to "by June 1st". MOTION CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS
48 CORRECTED. JEFF CARR AND TOM BUCKLEY ABSTAINED.

1
2 5. Executive Director's Report. This was sent electronically on July 14th.

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4 6. FY07-10 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) PUBLIC HEARING.
5 Bob Penniman opened the public hearing at 7:15 p.m. There were no members of the public
6 present, so JIM CONDOS MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:16
7 P.M. JEFF CARR SECONDED.

8
9 The chair noted that we discussed the TIP at the last meeting. Scott Johnstone noted that there
10 are a couple of items we and VTrans don't agree on but suggested members not lose sight of the
11 fact that we do agree on many issues. The Burlington Essex Passenger Rail project is resolved
12 easily by adding "for illustrative purposes" which we intended to do. The Williston Park and
13 Ride is one item we can't agree on. The TAC felt we should move ROW and CON into FY07 –
14 they took this action out of frustration at the amount of time this project has taken. The last item
15 is Exit 12b – VTrans has been nothing but consistent not to have dollars in the TIP until we have
16 construction dollars identified. We continue to show funding in FY08, FY09 and FY10 to
17 advance the EIS. From our perspective, we have to identify the problem in order to know how
18 much money to put in the TIP. VTrans would like us to identify a mix of funding because they
19 feel that public funding for the entire project is not available anytime soon. So, in order to
20 advance the project we need to identify private funding. He feels it may be a catch 22 situation.
21 The other question is because it's interstate shouldn't it be built with public dollars. Shouldn't
22 the MPO be able to advance projects that we think are important that we feel should go through
23 the environmental process? VOTE ON MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING
24 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

25
26 Sec. Terrill explained that her driving motive is to work as hard as we can to develop a document
27 with as much credibility as possible. The best case scenario for the Williston Park and Ride is
28 what they have suggested. She is concerned that the document itself will not change the process
29 and the steps they have to go through, so she feels it sets up a false expectation to the public.

30
31 Exit 12b – is a similar challenge but two different components. You've heard discussions of
32 providing private funds. If you rely on public funds (which she feels is appropriate because it is
33 the interstate) it just won't be done too quickly. She feels there would be state or federal dollars
34 but in order to move it along it would require private funds. We do have a work item in the
35 UPWP for innovative financing and she feels we all need to work together to see what we can
36 do. Relative to the EIS, the MPO region has experienced the issue of doing an EIS and then
37 finding it takes so long that we have to throw it out because we didn't have construction dollars
38 and it's too old. She has a compromise position – she feels there is an opportunity to see what
39 innovative funding might be available. She suggested we split funding over the last two years of
40 the TIP with a notation that it is contingent on the UPWP innovative funding item. Scott
41 Johnstone asked if that means \$450,000 in each of the last two years of the TIP (09 and 10). Jim
42 Condos said this is the first he heard of this. He asked if we are able to come up with innovative
43 funding would we be able to amend the TIP to move this up. He said they've had several
44 meetings over the past year on this issue and the concern we have is the appearance that
45 Chittenden County is wealthy and we can afford it. There is no criteria in VTrans and all of a
46 sudden it's this project, one in Middlebury and one is Waterbury that are being required to come
47 up with innovative funding. When we ask for criteria, we hear "we'll know it when we see it,"
48 which he finds a concern. He feels the earmarks have been a concern for VTrans and the

1 Governor. They haven't been happy with cities and towns going to Congressional delegation for
2 the funding and bypassing them. We do that because it doesn't happen any other way. With
3 regard to what the Secretary proposed today, he thinks he could support that (split between 09 &
4 10). He would like to see it added that should the funding be identified, the project could move
5 forward. Bob Penniman feels further discussion should probably be under a motion.
6

7 Scott Johnstone said staff did not agree with TAC position on Williston Park and Ride as
8 realistic. Christine Forde said the TAC had voted to have ROW and CON in FY07 and we feel it
9 can't be done. She feels we could move CON to FY08. Scott Johnstone said staff understands
10 concern of VTrans about moving PE and CON quickly, but also understands TAC position, so
11 we are suggesting \$150,000 for PE and \$150,000 for ROW in FY07 and \$750,000 for CON in
12 FY08. State suggests ROW in FY08 and CON in FY09. When asked if this would affect other
13 projects, Christine said if we approve this draft we need to move \$850,000 in 07 from other
14 projects because we're over constraint. Members expressed concern about voting on a TIP that
15 is \$850,000 out of constraint. When asked if having \$150,000 in FY07, \$150,000 in FY08 and
16 \$850,000 in FY09 would be in constraint, Christine said yes..
17

18 7. FY07-10 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – ACTION ITEM.
19

20 JEFF CARR MADE A MOTION THAT WE ADOPT THE FY07-10 TRANSPORTATION
21 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AS PRESENTED IN THE PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT WITH
22 THREE SUGGESTED CHANGES:

- 23 1. WILLISTON PARK AND RIDE INCLUDE FUNDING \$150,000 FOR PE IN FY07,
24 \$150,000 IN ROW IN FY08 AND \$850,000 IN CON IN FY09.
- 25 2. THAT THE BURLINGTON ESSEX PASSENGER RAIL AND FEEDER BUS SERVICE
26 BE LISTED AS A PROJECT FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY.
- 27 3. THAT WE AMEND THE I-89, (EXIT) 12B EIS ITEM BY MOVING \$300,000 FROM
28 FY08 TO FY09 AND REDUCE FY09 BY \$150,000 AND MOVE THAT TO FY10 TO
29 MAKE FY10 \$450,000; AND ADD COMMENT THAT IF THE UPWP WORK ITEM
30 THAT CALLS FOR INNOVATIVE FUNDING IS MET THAT THERE IS POTENTIAL
31 TO AMEND THE TIP TO PUT THE EIS FUNDING EARLIER IN THE TIP.

32 MIKE O'BRIEN SECONDED.
33

34 Andrea Morgante knows it's important to South Burlington and is not against the Exit 12b
35 project, but feels it should follow the process. There may be an opportunity to study the regional
36 impacts to study what the problem is this project would solve. It's a huge amount of money to
37 do an interstate interchange and if we don't think there is funding, she'd hate to see this take a
38 life of its own. . ANDREA MORGANTE MADE A MOTION TO AMEND THE MAIN
39 MOTION TO REMOVE THE I-89 12 B PROJECT. VIRGINIA CLARKE SECONDED IT
40 FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES. A lengthy discussion ensued with some noting that this
41 project is in the MTP and all projects (Route 2 corridor study, circ EIS, etc.) assume this project
42 is built within the 2025 window. Andrea Morgante agreed it is in there as a project, but she has
43 not heard a discussion or seen the problem. She thinks there are some steps that might be done
44 before an EIS. Chris Jolly said in 2001 and 2002 there was discussion of needs in the I-89
45 corridor and we talked about Exits 13 and 14. FHWA said we needed to study the corridor as a
46 whole and DuBois and King began an EIS for the corridor and individual projects started to fall
47 out. That EIS was stopped and then projects, such as safety issue at Exit 14 and Exit 12
48 widening came out. There is some history there. As to how much of a public process was done,

1 he'd have to research it. He noted that because we're doing an EIS it doesn't guarantee a project
 2 will be built. Andrea Morgante is not speaking against 12b, but has a problem with us
 3 identifying a project as an interstate interchange, rather than a problem. VOTE ON
 4 AMENDMENT TO MAIN MOTION: MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

5
 6 GEORGE GERECKE MADE A MOTION TO AMEND THE MAIN MOTION REGARDING
 7 THE WILLISTON PARK AND RIDE PROJECT TO PUT \$150,000 IN FY07, AND MOVE
 8 THE \$150,000 FOR ROW INTO FY07 AND CON INTO FY08 (WHICH HE UNDERSTANDS
 9 WAS THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUGGESTION AND IF THE AGENCY
 10 DISAGREES, AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CCMPO TO GO INTO
 11 CONFLICT RESOLUTION PER THE MOU. MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF A SECOND.

12
 13 Main motion. Sec. Terrill would like to clarify what she heard for a motion was to move
 14 \$450,000 each year into FY09 and FY10. She said the intent was to be able to support funding in
 15 those years contingent upon success of the UPWP task on innovative financing. In addition, she
 16 heard suggestion that if funding was identified sooner that it would be possible to move forward.
 17 She wanted to be clear that this is contingent on innovative funding. Jim Condos feels the
 18 money may appear from another project that slips. Bob Penniman said in order to advance the
 19 money we have to go through the process of amending the TIP and we'd have to identify the
 20 source. Discussion ensued about the meaning of "success in the innovative funding." When it
 21 comes for the first \$450,000 to be spent in FY09, what are VTrans criteria to determine the
 22 success? Sec. Terrill feels that's to be identified – it could be the percentage of funding from
 23 federal/state/etc. The Sec. said one question was how you determine these types of projects. She
 24 feels it depends how quickly you want to see them completed. Ken Nolan asked what the
 25 innovative funding task was in the UPWP. Jeff Carr read the task products for completion in
 26 FY07. VOTE:

27	Bolton	absent	Burlington	yes	Charlotte	absent
28	Colchester	yes	Essex Jct.	yes	Essex town	yes
29	Hinesburg	yes	Huntington	absent	Jericho	yes
30	Milton	yes	Richmond	yes	St. George	absent
31	Shelburne	yes	So. Burlington	yes	Underhill	yes
32	Westford	yes	Williston	yes	Winooski	yes
33	VTrans	yes				

34 MOTION CARRIED WITH 20 OF 24 VOTES PRESENT AND VOTING; AND 15 OF 18
 35 COMMUNITIES VOTING IN FAVOR.

36
 37 7.b. Certification of the Planning Process. Along with submittal of the TIP each year, we are
 38 required to certify that our planning process meets federal regs. We forgot to put it on the
 39 agenda for tonight. JEFF CARR MADE A MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO TAKE
 40 UP THE AUTHORIZATION OF RATIFICATION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS USED IN
 41 PREPARING THE TIP. JIM DUDLEY SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED
 42 UNANIMOUSLY.

43
 44 JEFF CARR MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF THE
 45 CCMPO TO SIGN THE CERTIFICATION THAT WE FOLLOWED THE FEDERAL
 46 PLANNING PROCESS IN DEVELOPING AND APPROVING THE FY 07-10 TIP. JIM
 47 DUDLEY SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

1 8. Transportation Survey Results. Peter Keating introduced Tom Miller from the National
2 Research Center in Boulder, Colorado, who reviewed the results of the public transportation
3 survey for the 2030 MTP. Mr. Miller said with the survey put to adult residents in the area it
4 allows us to hear from people we don't normally hear from. Usually less than 20% of
5 respondents have ever attended public hearings. He reviewed highlights of the survey. Topics
6 covered include transportation quality, modes, behavior and priorities. About 2000 surveys were
7 mailed to residents in Chittenden County and 455 (or 24%) were completed. Mr. Miller
8 answered various questions and reviewed his Powerpoint presentation. Copies of the survey
9 report were distributed to members.

10
11 9. Prioritization of Projects. Christine Forde focused on what she did to change the
12 prioritization. Following the last board meeting she added TIP status giving projects 10 points
13 for those with CON; 8 points for ROW and 6 points for PE. We gave the highest point for the
14 highest phase. We did not add points together. She showed how the new prioritization
15 compared to the first one. The list we get from VTrans is everything in the Capital Program and
16 it does include all projects that are in our TIP. Christine Forde noted that some projects that are
17 important, but not really defined were not included. KEN NOLAN MADE A MOTION TO
18 APPROVE THE PRIORITIZATION LIST AS PRESENTED THIS EVENING. JEFF CARR
19 SECONDED. Ken Nolan said this issue did come up in Milton and his comments were raised by
20 several others. He feels staff has done what they can, but that we need to continue working on
21 this. Scott Johnstone said from the staff's perspective, we don't think it's perfect, but we need
22 the policy statements that go with it. We can keep tweaking numbers but we really need to
23 address the question of core, urban and suburban. VOTE: MOTION CARRIED
24 UNANIMOUSLY.

25
26 10. Way to Go Week Results. We asked Deb Sachs to come back to another meeting, since it
27 was so late.

28
29 11. Safe Routes to Schools Pilot Program Results. We asked Karen Akins to come back to
30 another meeting since it was so late.

31
32 12. Committee Reports.

- 33 a. Executive Committee. Draft minutes from July 11, 2006 were in the meeting packet.
34 b. Technical Advisory Committee. Report from July 5, 2006 meeting was in the packet.
35 c. Strategic Plannign Committee. Nothing new to report.
36 d. Public Transportation Committee. No report
37 e. Finance Committee. Jeff Carr reported that almost half of the local match for FY07 has been
38 to date.
39 f. CCRPC. No report.
40 g. Regional Plan Review Committee. Bob Penniman feels we need to reconvene because there
41 is a second public hearing in August.
42 h. MTP Committee. Ken Nolan reported that they met and had a report on the survey results.
43 There will be a public meeting on September 7th.

44
45 13. CCMPO FY07 Meeting Schedule. Scott Johnstone reviewed agendas over the past couple
46 of years and noted that we meet a lot and some of the agendas are sparse. As the committee
47 structure develops we would like every member to participate on at least one committee. We
48 would then reduce the number of board meetings to use your time better. He suggested not

1 meeting in August, December or February because of timing and light agendas. Members agreed
2 to the 9 meeting schedule that Scott had presented, so we will not have a meeting in August.
3

4 14. Members' Items:

5 a. Andy Montroll noted that there is an issue coming up in Burlington over the fact that weight
6 limits for trucks are lower on I-89 than they are on Route 7, so trucks have been traveling
7 through residential areas along Route 7 in Burlington and causing major damage to homes. It
8 was noted that the federal government sets the weight limits on interstates. When asked
9 whether we could change weight limits on state roads to be lower, Scott Johnstone said he
10 will look to see options in Vermont law. Staff will put together a white paper to tell folks
11 what they have to do. A brief discussion continued.
12

13 b. Andrea Morgante again asked whether the MPO could work with villages and the state for
14 what is rural arterial roads vs. village, etc. and whether we have pedestrian-friendly villages.
15 The issue is to deal with all villages and downtowns, not jut designated.
16

17 JIM CONDOS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 9:35 P.M. GEORGE GERECKE
18 SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
19

20 Respectfully submitted,
21
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23
24 Bernadette Ferenc, Executive Assistant
25
26