

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
2 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
3 MINUTES
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5 DATE: Tuesday, February 3, 2004
6 TIME: 9:00 a.m.
7 PLACE: CCMPO Offices, 30 Kimball Avenue, Suite 102, South Burlington, VT
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9 Present: Dan Bradley, Chair, Burlington
10 Gary Estus, Westford
11 Polly McMurtry, VTrans
12 Matt Langham, VTrans
13 Jeanne K. Wilson, Hinesburg
14 Garrett Mott, CCRPC
15 Dennis Lutz, Essex
16 George Gerecke, Williston
17 Dean Pierce, Shelburne
18 Jane Marvin, Senior Representative
19 Aaron Frank, CCTA
20 Cyndi Humphrey, Jericho
21 Jeff Arango, Essex Junction
22 Steve Palmer, Winooski
23 Bryan Osborne, Colchester
24 Chris Jolly, FHWA
25 Stan Hamlet, Underhill
26 MPO Staff: Peter Keating, Senior Planner
27 Dave Roberts, Senior Planner
28 Susan Smichenko, Senior Planner
29 Daryl Benoit, Transportation Planner
30 Bill Knight, Executive Director
31 Christine Forde, Senior Planner
32 Paul Craven, Project Manager
33 Others: Greg Brown, CCRPC
34 Glenn Ravdin, Paul Kaza Associates
35

36 Chair Dan Bradley called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
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38 **1. Consent Agenda**

39 Two minor FY04 TIP amendments were recommended for approval: Adding funds for ROW
40 (\$8,108) and construction (\$151,366) to VT RT 15/Old Stage Road intersection in Essex, and
41 moving PE (\$240,000) and ROW (\$200,000) funding for VT RT 2A reconstruction out a year to
42 FY05 and FY06 respectively.
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44 **2. Approval of Minutes**

45 The minutes of December 2, 2003 were approved without changes.
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47 **3. Public Comments**

48 No members of the public were present.
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4. VTrans Access Management Public Outreach

Glenn Ravdin of consultant Paul Kaza Associates presented the results of their research for VTrans on best practices for marketing access management statewide. Much of their work focused on stakeholders' and the public's reactions, pro and con, to access management. With little knowledge about and mixed perceptions of access management, VTrans wants to identify effective ways to communicate the concept to affected parties and the public. VTrans therefore has Kaza Associates working on a public outreach project focusing on educating and advocating for local land use policies and decisions that will further the state's access management goals. The goals of this project are to achieve public support from target audiences for an access management program, to educate citizens on the positive attributes of access management – even when it affects their own property, and to develop additional tools for local officials to implement good access management policies. With their research complete Kaza will next develop the access management education and training tools for VTrans. When the project is completed VTrans will be set up training sessions around the state using the tools developed by this consultant.

1. Revisit Consent Agenda

The TAC agreed to reconsider the minor TIP amendment approved earlier under the consent agenda line item. After discussion the TAC approved the following change: Moving \$160,000 in federal funds for PE for VT RT 2A reconstruction from FY04 to 05 and keeping \$80,000 for PE in FY04. VTrans has agreed to advance the PE for this project over the next three years.

5. Park and Ride Prioritization Report

Peter Keating presented a revised version of the report presented to the TAC and Board in October 2003. The presentation focused on the changes made from the last draft as a result of comments from TAC, Board and the Park and Ride Subcommittee. Since October the following have occurred:

- South Burlington has reviewed and commented on the I-189/US 7 proposed site.
- VTrans staff has reviewed the draft.
- The Heineberg Bridge site has been separated from Circ. construction and is now identified as a scoping priority.
- Two types of facilities are now identified and evaluated separately – Intercept vs. Park and Ride.
- Two new recommendations to use the CCMPO's technical assistance task to evaluate sites in the US 7 South Corridor and expansion areas for the Richmond lot have been added.
- Discussion related to facilities outside the region and text supporting VTrans efforts to expand these have been added.
- Evaluation criteria have been modified – the committee ranking criterion eliminated and the weight assigned the AADT criterion cut in half.

Following discussion, GEORGE GERECKE MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY AARON FRANK TO RECOMMEND THE CCMPO BOARD APPROVE THE PARK AND RIDE PRIORITIZATION REPORT WITH THE FOLLOWING REVISIONS: CHANGE THE SCOPING RECOMMENDATIONS OF FIVE SITES TO "CCMPO SCOPING PRIORITY" AND ADD THE RICHMOND I-89 EXIT 11 SITE TO THIS LIST. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Staff agreed to make other minor revisions as suggested by George Gerecke.

6. Orthoimagery Consultant Selection

Dave Roberts noted that an RFP was issued in October 2003 to develop high resolution orthoimagery for several towns in Chittenden County. A selection committee with representation from the TAC, VT Mapping Program, CCRPC, and local users met several times and interviewed two firms out of the six proposals submitted. That committee now recommended the TAC select EarthData as the contractor to produce the digital orthoimagery and digital terrain models in 2004.

1 DENNIS LUTZ MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CONTRACTING WITH EARTHDATA.
2 THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY GARRETT MOTT AND PASSD UNANIMOUSLY.

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4 **7. Discussion on Fiscal Constraint**

5 Christine Forde reported that VTrans and the MPO Executive Committee are requesting an
6 evaluation of the definition of "fiscal constraint" and whether other projects in the TIP should be
7 classified as outside the fiscal constraint level. Christine noted that VTrans currently determines the
8 TIP's fiscal constraint level and the following categories lie outside this: Airport funds,
9 congressional earmarks, FTA funds, Interstate maintenance, and the smaller grant programs such as
10 Enhancements, Recreational Trails, and the bike/pedestrian program. There has been the suggestion
11 that larger projects such as the Circumferential Highway, US RT 7 reconstruction, and the
12 Champlain Parkway be reclassified as outside the fiscal constraint. The following points were made
13 and discussed: Polly McMurtry clarified that VTrans sees this policy applying to Non-Parallel
14 Primary Roads. Garret Mott stressed the desire for the MPO to maintain control over projects on
15 Shelburne Road because it serves local needs. Chris Jolly stated that this policy would provide
16 more flexibility to the state to keep large projects moving forward. The policy could be defined to
17 include specific "mega" projects rather than roadways. That way, smaller projects on the same road
18 would not be excluded from the constraint. Dennis Lutz felt that some projects such as VT15/Old
19 Stage Road would never happen if the locals didn't push them because VTrans has too much on
20 their plate. He doesn't think that VTrans would advocate as strongly for projects. He also thinks
21 Chittenden County would loose control in the political process – for example would VTrans
22 advocate for the rest of the Circ as strongly as Chittenden County communities would? Bill Knight
23 noted that if not for the fiscal constraint, VTrans could use funds outside of Chittenden County if
24 they wanted to. The constraint allows Chittenden County the opportunity to substitute other CC
25 projects. Bill noted this discussion would help the Executive Committee as they deliberate over this
26 issue.

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28 **8. Project Review and Update Committees**

29 Bill Knight, noting that all TIP parties agreed the need to improve TIP project status
30 communications, reported that the CCMPO would be establishing a project review committee.
31 Members would include Board members serving in the state legislature, two other Board members
32 and two TAC members. Bill mentioned that Bryan Osborne had already volunteered and he was
33 seeking another. Dan Bradley agreed to serve. In addition, Bill noted that it was time to start
34 development of the FY05 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and that volunteers for this
35 subcommittee were sought as well. The following volunteered to help: Dan Bradley, Jane Marvin,
36 Aaron Frank, Chris Jolly, Polly McMurtry, and Stan Hamlet.

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38 **9. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports**

39 Dave Roberts reported on the start of the VT RT 15 Corridor study between Jericho and Hardwick
40 and that the RFP to update the Transportation Demand Model had gone out. Christine Forde said
41 that the US RT 7 bike/pedestrian crossing in South Burlington had its kick off meeting this past
42 Monday. Peter Keating gave an update on Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) status.

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44 **10. CCMPO January Board Meeting Report**

45 Peter Keating noted the following from the January Board meeting: VTrans Secretary MacDonald's
46 presentation on public transportation policy, Matt Sternberg of the Rutland Development
47 Association's proposal on US RT 7 corridor improvements, and MTP discussion and approval of
48 the Plan's outline and development schedule.

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50 The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

51 Respectfully submitted,

Peter Keating