

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
2 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
3 MINUTES  
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5 DATE: Tuesday, September 7, 2004

6 TIME: 9:00 a.m.

7 PLACE: CCMPO Offices, 30 Kimball Avenue, Suite 102, South Burlington, VT

8 Present: George Gerecke, Chair, Williston

9 Polly McMurtry, VTrans

10 Jeanne K. Wilson, Hinesburg

11 Dean Pierce, Shelburne

12 Jane Marvin, Senior Representative

13 Dan Bradley, Burlington

14 Lew Wetzel, CCRPC

15 Cyndi Humphrey, Jericho

16 Bryan Osborne, Colchester

17 Steve Palmer, Winooski

18 Chris Jolly, FHWA

19 Matt Langham, VTrans

20 Aaron Frank, CCTA

21 Murray Benner, SSTA

22 Bill McCormick, Intercity Bus Representative

23 Andy Legg, Milton

24 MPO Staff: Susan Smichenko, Senior Planner

25 Daryl Benoit, Transportation Planner

26 Paul Craven, Project Manager

27 Christine Forde, Senior Planner

28 Dave Roberts, Senior Planner  
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30 Chair George Gerecke called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.  
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32 1. **Consent Agenda** The consent agenda was approved.  
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34 2. **Approval of Minutes** The minutes of August 3, 2004 were approved without changes.  
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36 3. **Public Comments** No members of the public were present.  
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38 4. **Access Management**

39 Susan Smichenko reported on the VTrans' Access Management Public Outreach project and, along  
40 with Polly McMurtry of VTrans, gave a presentation summarizing the materials available through  
41 the project. Susan described the purpose of the project which is to educate municipalities (planners,  
42 planning commissions and development review boards), developers and consultants on the benefits  
43 of using good access management principles when designing a new project or retrofitting an  
44 existing development. Dan Bradley asked whether the presentation will be available for local use  
45 by towns and cities. Susan indicated that a more detailed presentation will be made at the VT  
46 Planners' Lunch at the end of September, and that meeting will provide the initial training for  
47 planners. If a municipality would like their own presentation, they are encouraged to contact the  
48 MPO to schedule an appropriate time.  
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**5. Enhancement Program Recommendations**

Susan Smichenko reported that the Enhancement Subcommittee (Peter Keating, Sonny Audette, Lew Wetzel and Jane Marvin) had reviewed eight projects submitted for CCMPO prioritization for the Transportation Enhancement Program and recommended the projects in Hinesburg and Burlington as the top priorities for Chittenden County. George Gerecke asked if VTrans actually follows these priorities when selecting projects. Polly McMurtry indicated that Mel Adams of VTrans does take the MPO's priorities into consideration; however there is no guarantee that they will impact project selection because VTrans looks at all the projects, not just the priorities. Chris Jolly requested a listing of the projects' requested funds which Susan provided. Dan Bradley asked if all of the projects are close to implementation and was informed by the committee that this is a requirement for the application to be accepted. Dan recommended that we keep the projects that are not selected as "shelf projects" to be reactivated if money becomes available in the TIP. There was also a discussion about the fact that applications for some of the projects were submitted for both the enhancement programs and the bicycle/pedestrian program. Dean Pierce indicated that Amy Bell of VTrans recommended applying to both programs if the project is applicable. George mentioned that bike/ped projects stand less of a chance getting funding in the enhancement program since they only address one purpose. Polly disagreed saying that bike/ped projects also encourage economic development. DAN BRADLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE CCMPO RECOMMEND THE HINESBURG AND BURLINGTON PROJECTS FOR THE VTRANS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JANE MARVIN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**6. Bicycle/Pedestrian Program Recommendations**

Susan Smichenko reported that the Bike/Ped review committee (Peter Keating, Sonny Audette, Lew Wetzel, Andy Legg and Jane Marvin) had reviewed six projects submitted for CCMPO's prioritization for the VTrans' Bike/Ped Program and recommended the projects in Colchester as the first priority and Milton for the second priority for Chittenden County. Chris Jolly asked if all the projects are consistent with the CCMPO's bike/ped plan and was assured that this is the case. There was discussion on the criteria used for project selection, and Dan Bradley again encouraged the TAC to keep all of these projects available as "shelf projects" in the event that money becomes available in the TIP. BRYAN OSBOURNE MADE A MOTION THAT THE CCMPO RECOMMEND THE COLCHESTER PROJECT AS ITS FIRST PRIORITY AND THE MILTON PROJECT AS ITS SECOND PRIORITY FOR THE VTRANS BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PROGRAM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JANE MARVIN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**7. Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program Coordinator Recommendation**

Connie Livingston from the Burlington Public Works Department reported on activities of the SR2S Steering Committee specifically regarding hiring a program coordinator. She described the evolution of the program and asked for the TAC's support in recommending Karen Akins for the position. Dan Bradley asked for details on Karen's contract, and Connie indicated that she would be contracted with CCMPO, however the Steering Committee would continue to stay in touch with her as well. Lew Wetzel asked if the schools for the program had been selected and Connie described how there is a new deadline for applications (9/17/04) since the first request was in the summer and not successful in attracting schools to the program. Chris Jolly asked about the details of Karen's plans for the position, including how many hours per week she would be working and where her office would be located. DAN BRADLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE CCMPO OFFER KAREN AKINS THE POSITION OF SR2S PROGRAM COORDINATOR. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY LEW WETZEL AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**8. Addition of Campus Connector Road to the Federal Aid System**

Dave Roberts followed up on his report from the July 6, 2004 TAC meeting on the Town of Colchester's request to add the proposed Campus Connector Road to the Federal Aid system as an Urban Collector. The request was initiated because the town will need more funding than the \$1 million already earmarked by Congress to complete the road. Dave indicated that the Colchester Select Board had approved an alternative, and that the request includes adding the Campus Connector, Barnes, Winchester and Johnson Avenues to the FAUS. He also mentioned the two traffic signals that are proposed for Route 15, but indicated that they are not part of this request. Polly McMurtry asked if approval of the signals could impact the project. Bryan Osborne said that the signals have no impact on the project. George Gerecke asked about proposed improvements to Barnes Avenue. Dave indicated that the request does include adding Barnes Avenue to the FAUS, however no improvements are proposed. Lew Wetzel and Chris Jolly asked about the status of the existing road into Camp Johnson. Bryan said that Colchester has no interest in including this road in the FA system and that Camp Johnson will give them an easement for the Campus Connector Road. Dave then explained that once the TAC had approved the request, it then needed to go to the MPO Board, then VTrans and then FHWA for approval. AARON FRANK MADE A MOTION THAT THE TAC RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THAT THE REQUESTED ROADWAY SEGMENTS BE ADDED TO THE FEDERAL AID SYSTEM AS AN URBAN COLLECTOR HIGHWAY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BILL McCORMICK AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**9. FY 04-06 Major TIP Amendments**

Christine Forde reported on the status of the TIP indicating that since a new TIP will not be passed by October 1, 2004, a number of housekeeping items needed to be addressed to deal with the fact that we will kick into FY05 projects in the current FY04-06 TIP. Projects affected by these amendments included: Riverside Avenue – Burlington, Lime Kiln Bridge – South Burlington/Colchester, Kennedy Drive Reconstruction – South Burlington, Champlain Parkway, Contracts 2 & 6 – Burlington, Circumferential Highway I-89/I-289 Interchange, US7/Rebecca Lander Drive – Milton, Williston Park and Ride, US7 Rehabilitation – Charlotte, East Street Bridge – Huntington, and Shelburne Road Reconstruction. Christine also distributed two tables: Table 1: CCMPO FY04-06 TIP Fiscal Constraint Summary and Table 2: CCMPO FY04-06 TIP Revised Costs for Select Projects. Christine indicated that the MPO Board had warned a public hearing in August for the proposed TIP amendments pending the TAC's approval. After Christine's presentation, Polly McMurtry of VTrans informed the TAC that VTrans' administration cannot approve the TIP amendments since the proposed budget is one million dollars over what was allocated in the capital bill. A long discussion then took place with TAC members trying to understand what the impact of VTrans' refusal to approve the TIP amendments might be on Chittenden County projects. Matthew Langham of VTrans distributed a table showing how the money could be reallocated to release \$1 million of funds designated for the Circumferential Highway, as directed by the legislature. There was discussion on how Matthew distributed this money and he indicated that revisions to his proposal were possible. In particular, George Gerecke opposed the delay in funding for the Williston Park and Ride. Chris Jolly brought up the fact that although the STIP shows a budget of \$126 million for FY05, the delay in the passage of the Federal Transportation Bill meant that this budget was reduced to \$119 million. The TAC concluded that there were policy decisions that needed to be addressed by the Board. DAN BRADLEY MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TIP AMENDMENTS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BRYAN OSBORNE AND PASSED WITH ALL IN FAVOR EXCEPT POLLY McMURTRY OF VTRANS WHO VOTED AGAINST THE MOTION.

**10. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports**

Susan Smichenko discussed the September 13, 2004 ITS stakeholders' meeting and encouraged TAC members to respond and participate. Susan also mentioned the upcoming signal pre-emption

1 meeting to be held at the MPO's offices and facilitated by IBI Group. Dave Roberts discussed the  
2 infrastructure management project indicating that updates will continue in the coming months with  
3 training anticipated for February 2005. Dave also indicated that the orthoimagery product delivery  
4 is anticipated for February 2005, and gave the status of the transportation model update.

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6 **11. CCMPO August Board Meeting Report**

7 Bill Knight reported on the discussions regarding the TIP and the presentation on the Regional  
8 Transportation District.

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10 The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Smichenko