

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
2 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
3 MINUTES
4

5 DATE: Tuesday, October 5, 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 Meredith Shuft, Institutions Representative

16 Bryan Osborne, Colchester

17 Mike Coates, Business Representative

18 Stan Hamlet, Underhill

19 Matt Langham, VTrans

20 Ed Wildman, Huntington

21 Dennis Lutz, Essex

22 Jeff Arango, Essex Junction

23 Andy Legg, Milton

24 Richard Watts, Environmental Representative

25 MPO Staff: Peter Keating, Senior Planner

26 Susan Smichenko, Senior Planner

27 Daryl Benoit, Transportation Planner

28 Christine Forde, Senior Planner

29 Dave Roberts, Senior Planner

30 Bill Knight, Executive Director

31
32 Chair George Gerecke called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

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34 **1. Consent Agenda**

35 There was no consent agenda this month.

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37 **2. Approval of Minutes**

38 The minutes of September 7, 2004 were approved without changes.

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40 **3. Public Comments**

41 No members of the public were present.

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43 **4. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update**

44 Peter Keating briefly described some of the contents of the new draft document – Background,

45 Vision & Goals, Existing Conditions, Financial Analysis, and Alternatives Analysis. He then

46 described in more detail the new MTP sections – Transportation Corridors and Implementation.

47 The map of the Metropolitan Transportation System (MTS) was introduced identifying the elements

48 of the system over which the MPO has jurisdiction. Peter then reviewed the MTP elements that

49 were approved by the MPO Board in December 2002 stressing the assumption that the existing

50 systems remains maintained and TIP projects are completed. A pie chart showed the share of MTP

51 funds recommended for system preservation, TIP projects, transit, bike/pedestrian, etc. The new

1 transportation corridors chapter describes each corridors' primary travel movements, its existing
2 and planned land uses, assesses the transportation infrastructure, identifies the projects and
3 strategies proposed for the corridor, and reveals outstanding planning issues that will need further
4 exploration in future studies. Peter used the Regional Core as a corridor example, citing the
5 different project types recommended here and the outstanding planning issues that will remain. The
6 implementation chapter has new content: Stressing the importance of land use planning as a means
7 to achieve a better performing transportation system, the MTP role in Act 250, impacts on adjoining
8 regions, the possible expansion to the CCMPO area, and an evaluation method to measure MTP
9 progress. Peter then mentioned the differences between this draft and the fall 2003 version and
10 concluded with a description of the process to get this to completion. He also reported on some of
11 the comments received so far from the Steering Committee. Bill Knight reported that when a new
12 draft becomes available in November it will be reviewed concurrently by the Board and member
13 municipalities. Discussion included the difficulty of this time of year to review the MTP when
14 other local priorities conflict, and the consequence if reduced federal funding for transportation
15 becomes a reality.

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17 **5. Transportation Model Update**

18 Dave Roberts began with the historic development of regional transportation models, describing the
19 geographic structure and followed this with a primer on transportation modeling that highlighted
20 and explained by example the four steps – trip generation, trip distribution, mode split and network
21 assignment. He then provided details on the model update currently undertaken by RSG Inc. the
22 MPO's contractor. This entails trip generation updates, converting to new software (TransCAD),
23 including a freight component, and "peak spreading." Dave reported that final model delivery will
24 be in February, staff, municipality, and consultant training will follow. The new model will be used
25 in corridor studies, traffic impact reports and the next version of the MTP. Dave then briefly
26 reported that the orthoimagery project was moving along and that sample images were received
27 from the contractor. He displayed some of these images to reveal the improved detail and
28 resolution over previous orthophotos.

29

30 **6. Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program Update**

31 Peter Keating reported that Karen Akins, the TAC approved SR2S coordinator had been hired and
32 would be working soon with three selected schools. The school selection process had been recently
33 concluded with the following schools chosen: Richmond Middle, Hinesburg Community, and CP
34 Smith Elementary in Burlington. Peter described the school evaluation process, the schools that had
35 applied, and the rationale for selecting the final three. Discussion followed related to the
36 importance of fog line striping of roadways to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety.

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38 **7. VT RT 15 Jericho to Hardwick Corridor Study**

39 Updating a previous TAC presentation, Dave Roberts went back over this study's background,
40 reviewed existing conditions and projected future conditions, then revealed the project
41 recommendations that were contained in a recently issued draft report. These related to rural road
42 segments, village centers and transitional areas. Specific to Jericho and Underhill, Dave noted the
43 following: new sidewalks and a shared use path in Jericho, improved access management, historic
44 district signage and traffic calming in Jericho Village, intersection improvements at Lawrence
45 Heights, Lee River Road, Browns Trace and River Road, and a new Underhill Flats park and ride.
46 This project will be completed following two public meetings in October/November and final
47 revisions to follow. Dave will provide a link on the MPO's web site to the final report.

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49 **8. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports**

50 Susan Smichenko discussed the Access Management Manual that was presented at the last TAC
51 and was the subject of a recent CCRPC Planner's Lunch. The manual offers a method to present

1 and educate local boards on the topic. Susan also suggested that VTrans come back to the TAC for
2 another access management presentation with a focus on how it is regulated. She also updated the
3 TAC on the I-89 Exit 14 southbound west ramp and the signal preemption meeting recently held at
4 the MPO office. Bill Knight told the TAC about the Board's decision to release \$1 million from the
5 FY04 TIP to VTrans at the last Board meeting and that future discussions will address the possible
6 release of another \$13 million in Circ money in FY05 to VTrans.

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8 **9. CCMPO September Board Meeting Report**

9 Peter Keating mentioned the Board had approved the TAC recommendations on the Enhancement
10 and Bicycle/Pedestrian Program project priorities along with adding the Campus Connector Road to
11 the Federal Aid System. In addition the Board discussed their role in the Circ EIS.

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13 **10. Chairman's/Members' Items**

14 A request to move the November TAC date from Tuesday to the following day (due to elections)
15 was discussed and concurred with. The November TAC meeting will take place on Wednesday
16 11/3.

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18 The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

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20 Respectfully submitted,
21 Peter Keating