

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
2 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
3 MINUTES  
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5 DATE: Tuesday April 3, 2007  
6 TIME: 9:00 a.m.  
7 PLACE: CCMPO Offices, 30 Kimball Avenue, Suite 206, South Burlington, VT  
8 Present: George Gerecke, Chair, Williston  
9 Bill McCormick, Inter City Bus Representative  
10 Amy Bell, VTrans  
11 Matt Langham, VTrans  
12 Jane Marvin, Seniors Representative  
13 Jeanne K. Wilson, Vice-Chair Hinesburg  
14 Chris Jolly, FHWA  
15 Gary Estus, Westford  
16 Mike Coates, Business Representative  
17 Meredith Schuft, Institutions Representative  
18 Dennis Lutz, Essex  
19 Bryan Osborne, Colchester  
20 Bernie Gagnon, Shelburne  
21 Aaron Frank, CCTA  
22 Dean Bloch, Charlotte  
23 Dan Bradley, Burlington  
24 Ed Wildman, Huntington  
25 Steve Palmer, Winooski  
26 Jeff Arango, Essex Junction  
27 Dave Spitz, Jericho  
28 MPO Staff: Susan Smichenko, Senior Planner  
29 Christine Forde, Senior Planner  
30 Peter Keating, Senior Planner  
31 Michelle Mraz, Staff Planner  
32 Eleni Churchill, Senior Planner  
33 Daryl Benoit, Staff Planner  
34 Dave Roberts, Senior Planner  
35 Scott Johnstone, Executive Director  
36

37 Chair George Gerecke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The agenda was amended to add  
38 item #4A – Minor TIP amendments.  
39

40 **1. Consent Agenda**

41 Four minor FY07 TIP amendments adding Enhancement projects were unanimously approved.  
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43 **2. Approval of Minutes**

44 The minutes of March 7, 2007 were approved without changes.  
45

46 **3. Public Comments**

47 No members of the public were present.  
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49 **4. Project Prioritization**

50 Christine Forde reported that this was the third round of project prioritization that VTrans has  
51 asked from each of the regions. Like last year, projects are to be scored according to VTrans

1 program categories. These are: Roadway, Traffic Operations and Safety, Paving, Interstate  
2 Bridge, State Bridge, Town Highway Bridge, Bike and Pedestrian Facilities, and Park-and-Ride  
3 Facilities. The CCMPO priorities will be a component of VTrans overall priority determination.  
4 VTrans prioritization is considering technical factors such as traffic volumes, cost, sufficiency  
5 ratings and pavement condition. The regional scores make up approximately 20 percent of the  
6 overall VTrans score. Christine noted that the methodology is a refinement of that we first used  
7 in 2005. It captures factors that are not part of VTrans methodology which are more technical.  
8 Our factors include: Economic Vitality; Safety and Security; Accessibility, Mobility and  
9 Connectivity; Environment, Energy and Quality of Life; Preservation of Existing System; and,  
10 Efficient System Management. Christine pointed to the table accompanying the meeting memo  
11 that identified the project ranking. Following discussion, DENNIS LUTZ MADE A MOTION  
12 TO APPROVE THE PRIORITIZATION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DAN  
13 BRADLEY AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 14 15 **4A. FY 07 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment**

16 Christine passed out a list of minor FY07 TIP amendments relating to CCTA and the Champlain  
17 Parkway. One would take \$1.4 million from the Champlain Parkway, not ready for obligation this  
18 year, and transfer it to CCTA for buses, facilities and equipment. The other adds \$4.4 million in  
19 FY10 for CCTA bus replacement. Mike Coates requested the amendment be split into two. DAN  
20 BRADLEY MADE A MOTION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE CHAMPLAIN  
21 PARKWAY TO CCTA TRANSFER AMENDMENT. JANE MARVIN SECONDED THE  
22 MOTION WHICH PASSED WITH ONE DISSENT FROM MIKE COATES. AARON FRANK  
23 MADE A MOTION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE \$4.4 MILLION FOR CCTA  
24 BUSES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DAN BRADLEY AND PASSED  
25 UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 26 27 **5. UPWP Update**

28 Scott Johnstone reported that allocating budgets to potential tasks is underway, the UPWP  
29 committee is scheduled to meet next week and that staff will return to the TAC with a draft  
30 document next month.

#### 31 32 **6. CCMPO Strategic Plan**

33 Scott reported that the Strategic Plan committee had agreed to some modest changes in committee  
34 structure. They recommend six standing committee, the only new one a Regional Initiatives  
35 Committee. The TAC name would change to Transportation Advisory Committee and a Board  
36 member would be added to the roster. At the CCMPO Board there would be more active reporting  
37 of TAC activities. The Strategic Plan committee also discussed weighted voting at Board level and  
38 recommends this issue not be looked at until after the next decennial census in 2010. A draft of  
39 new CCMPO bylaws will be available for review by towns and others in upcoming months prior to  
40 the Board considering them for adoption. There was brief discussion on the role and responsibilities  
41 of the newly proposed Regional Initiatives Committee.

#### 42 43 **7. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports**

44 Susan Smichenko mentioned that a US RT 2 Corridor meeting to review the draft plan is coming  
45 up on April 30<sup>th</sup>. She also reported that a signal optimization RFP would be going out this week.  
46 Eleni Churchill spoke about a VT RT 15 stakeholders meeting to discuss future conditions and  
47 improvement strategies. She noted that the Western Corridor RFP had been issued and proposals  
48 due April 13<sup>th</sup>. Scott reported that the House Transportation Committee was holding a hearing that  
49 night on public transit. He also mentioned that the Circ EIS missed the March release date and it  
50 looked like it might be another few months before a draft was issued. Chris Jolly said that there  
51 was internal FHWA reviews underway involving attorneys that could be slowing down the process.

1 A wider discussion of the Circ EIS followed where it was suggested that the draft EIS might be  
2 issued without a preferred alternative identified. Scott said that the MPO Board would be seeking  
3 answers from VTrans at its next Board meeting. Chris Jolly reported that the EIS must have a  
4 preferred alternative identified but perhaps that could wait until after the public comment period  
5 ended. Dave Roberts gave an update on the technical assistance program mentioning the Richmond  
6 Village parking study, Huntington speeding issues, Severance Corners bike/ped and traffic studies,  
7 a Shelburne bridge project, and Underhill sidewalk rehabilitation and extension project. He also  
8 noted locally managed planning projects on East Hill Road between Richmond and Williston,  
9 Jericho's Dickenson Street project and the Burlington Transportation Plan. Dave suggested this last  
10 project should be on a future TAC agenda for presentation. Dave is also performing some scenario  
11 planning using our transportation model. Daryl reported that two summer interns had been hired to  
12 perform traffic counts and road inventories. The parking inventory database project is still under  
13 development with a fall 07 expected release. Christine handed out a memo on the status of current  
14 and future scoping which lead to discussion. Dennis Lutz felt that more scoping projects – three or  
15 four per year – should be undertaken to have projects ready for the implementation phase. Christine  
16 also reported that the FY08 TIP development was underway and a draft would be available next  
17 month. Peter Keating gave updates on Way to Go, VTrans Safe Routes to School infrastructure  
18 grant program, scoping an expansion of the Richmond park and ride and the Metropolitan  
19 Transportation Plan. Scott reported that the CCMPO would be hosting an innovative financing  
20 workshop in June and a bike/pedestrian summit on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

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#### 22 **8. CCMPO March Board Meeting Report**

23 Peter mentioned VTrans Secretary Lunderville's introduction, presentation, and question and  
24 answer session; an update on the FY 08 work program; Way to Go Week discussion; legislative  
25 update; and discussion of project prioritization. Scott added that the conversation with Secretary  
26 Lunderville was open and informative.

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#### 28 **9. Chairman's/Members' Items**

29 Mike Coates asked that the TAC invite Tom Moreau of the Chittenden Solid Waste District to come  
30 to a future meeting and present the transportation impacts of trash hauling. Chris Jolly noted that as  
31 the fiscal year winds down there is still \$3 million in un-obligated funds in the current TIP.

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33 The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

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35 Respectfully submitted,

36 Peter Keating