

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

5 DATE: Tuesday August 7, 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 Meredith Schuft, Institutions Representative

15 Dennis Lutz, Essex

16 Bernie Gagnon, Shelburne

17 Ed Wildman, Huntington

18 Jeff Arango, Essex Junction

19 Sonny Audette, South Burlington

20 David Spitz, Jericho

21 Bryan Osborne, Colchester

22 Murray Benner, SSTA

23 MPO Staff: Christine Forde, Senior Planner

24 Peter Keating, Senior Planner

25 Daryl Benoit, Transportation Planner

26 Dave Roberts, Senior Planner

27 Bryan Davis, Staff Planner

28 Jason Charest, Transportation Engineer

29 Scott Johnstone, Executive Director

30 Others: Marci Ryan

31 Scott Bascom, VTrans

32 Aimee Pope, VTrans
33

34 Chair George Gerecke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
35

36 **1. Consent Agenda**

37 A minor TIP amendment related to the Circ Highway and Champlain parkway was moved to the
38 deliberative agenda as item 3A.
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40 **2. Approval of Minutes**

41 The minutes of June 5, 2007 were approved with one word correction.
42

43 **3. Public Comments**

44 No members of the public were present.
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46 **3A. FY07 TIP Amendment**

47 Christine Forde explained that \$2 million of Circ Williston construction funding is recommended to
48 go to Circ EIS (\$1,000,000) and Circ contractor settlement costs (\$1,000,000). \$600,000 in
49 Champlain Parkway construction funding is also proposed to shift to the Circ contractor settlement
50 costs. Following discussion, SONNY AUDETTE MADE A MOTION RECOMMENDING

1 APPROVAL OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY
2 MURRAY BENNER AND UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

3
4 **4. VTrans Long Range Transportation Business Plan**

5 Scott Bascom and Aimee Pope of VTrans presented the development process and status of the
6 State's long range transportation plan. Several tasks have been completed, including: a statewide
7 public opinion survey; and working papers dealing with policy reviews, peer agency consultations,
8 financial analysis, demographic/economic analyses, and vision and goals. Panels of national and
9 state leaders and local focus groups were also employed for feedback on transportation related
10 issues. The most recent step was the development of future scenarios. The scenarios came out of a
11 well-attended session held in Montpelier in early June. Scenarios selected were: existing trends
12 continue, significant environmental changes occur, energy supplies are tightly curtailed, and
13 there's a significant increase in population in-migration focusing on a few hop spots. The next step
14 in the process will be assembling a draft plan and presenting it to various constituencies.

15
16 **5. Innovative Financing**

17 Scott Johnstone briefed the TAC on next steps following the Innovative Finance workshop held in
18 early June. Scot first presented the likely impacts of VTrans' Road to Affordability policy –
19 growing congestion and the need for funding to both sustain the current system and expand it as
20 needed. The choices confronting the region were: maintain the status quo, make the case for
21 regional equity, find a new way, or some combination of these. Scot briefly described the workshop
22 then the strategy to move the discussion forward. The MPO will establish a Blue Ribbon
23 Commission on innovative finance, set up several subcommittees to the commission to tackle
24 specific issues, then have the Commission report back to the MPO before the end of the year.

25
26 **6. Scoping Consultant Addition**

27 Christine Forde explained that the TAC had previously approved three consultants for our scoping
28 retainer list but that current circumstances suggested that we add a fourth. The MPO has had four
29 consultants on retainer in the past so this was not a precedent. Christine recommended that
30 McFarland-Johnson be added as the fourth. Bryan Osborne noted that Colchester has had problems
31 with that firm in the past. Following brief discussion, DAVE SPITZ MADE A MOTION TO
32 APPROVE ADDING McFARLAND-JOHNSON TO THE LIST OF SCOPING CONSULTANTS
33 ON RETAINER. SONNY AUDETTE SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED WITH
34 COLCHESTER VOTING NO.

35
36 **7. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports**

37 Dave Roberts reported on the status of the Dorset Street signal optimization project and the Circ
38 EIS. Scott solicited TAC members' interests for positions on Blue Ribbon Commission and MPO
39 subcommittees. Christine gave a scoping activity report and Peter reported on Hinesburg public
40 transportation efforts.

41
42 **8. CCMPO June and July Board Meetings Report**

43 Peter mentioned UPWP, TIP and Bylaws approvals; the decision to cease the MTP update; sidewalk
44 grant selections; elections of new MPO officers; and the Innovative Finance presentation.

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46 The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

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48 Respectfully submitted,
49 Peter Keating