

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

5 DATE: Tuesday September 4, 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 Amy Bell, VTrans
10 Matt Langham, VTrans
11 Jane Marvin, Seniors Representative
12 Jeanne K. Wilson, Vice-Chair Hinesburg
13 Meredith Schuft, Institutions Representative
14 Dennis Lutz, Essex
15 Bernie Gagnon, Shelburne
16 Ed Wildman, Huntington
17 Jeff Arango, Essex Junction
18 Sonny Audette, South Burlington
19 Murray Benner, SSTA
20 Mike Coates, Business Representative
21 Aaron Frank, CCTA
22 Gary Estus, Westford
23 MPO Staff: Christine Forde, Senior Planner
24 Peter Keating, Senior Planner
25 Dave Roberts, Senior Planner
26 Bryan Davis, Staff Planner
27 Jason Charest, Transportation Engineer
28 Scott Johnstone, Executive Director
29 Daryl Benoit, Transportation Planner
30 Others: Paul Craven
31 Tom Moreau, CSWD
32

33 Chair George Gerecke called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
34

35 **1. Consent Agenda**

36 Two minor TIP amendments were approved along with a new FY08 TIP that shows estimated future year
37 dollar amounts in the years projects are expected to be obligated.
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39 **2. Approval of Minutes**

40 The minutes of August 7, 2007 were approved without changes.
41

42 **3. Public Comments**

43 No members of the public were present.
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45 **4. Chittenden Solid Waste District**

46 [NOTE: This item was moved to later in the agenda following item #6]

47 Tom Moreau, CSWD General Manager, attended to talk about the transportation impacts of trash hauling.
48 After a brief introduction by Mike Coates, Tom addressed the regional landfill in Williston and why that site
49 was selected. He described the current trash hauling system of private haulers and the two transfer locations.
50 Currently all trash is hauled to either Coventry or Moretown. Chittenden County produces 140,000 tons of
51 trash per year. On average there are 26 to 28 tractor trailer trucks hauling trash to Coventry or Moretown
52 every day. Tom referred to the externality costs of hauling trash to those out-of-the-county facilities, putting
53 this at \$900,000 – money that could be saved if the Williston landfill were open. Mike spoke about the
54 efficiencies if trash could be hauled on the rail lines rather than roads while Tom also touched on other issues
55 including: landfill technology improvements to produce energy, increasing recycling efforts and the financial
56 savings if trash hauling were franchised to specific areas. He estimated that the Williston landfill could be in

1 operation in 2011 or 2012. Peter agreed to send the TAC the CSWD memo that documented the externality
2 costs.

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4 **5. Enhancement Application Review and Ped/Bike Plan Update**

5 Peter reported that it was time for the annual review and priority recommendations on Chittenden County
6 Enhancement grant applications. Only four were submitted this year compared to six to eight in previous
7 years. TAC reviewers were needed to help and Sonny Audette, Jane Marvin and Amy Bell agreed to assist
8 staff in this evaluation. An RFP to update the regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan had also just gone out
9 and reviewers were sought to help evaluate those proposals when due later in September. Sonny and Amy
10 will also help in this effort.

11
12 **6. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports**

13 Dave Roberts reported that RSG had been selected (via TAC email confirmation of a review committee's
14 recommendation following last month's TAC meeting) for signal optimization work. The Dorset Street
15 corridor will be the first focus for that work. He also noted that RSG would be looking at the traffic impacts
16 of a signal on VT RT 2A just south of I-89 Exit 12 in Williston in relation to a potential park and ride facility
17 there. The Circ EIS comment meeting is scheduled for October 4th and all public comments on the draft EIS
18 are due by November 8th. Jason Charest mentioned that there were upcoming road safety audits taking place
19 September 11th at high crash locations in Milton and Jericho. Scott suggested a report on these audits might
20 be a worthwhile TAC agenda item. A discussion of the safety issues and project status of I-89 Exit 15
21 improvements in Winooski followed. Bryan Davis spoke about the update to the CCMPO's public
22 involvement plan and the status of the small communities initiative. Christine Forde mentioned the TIP
23 modifications to show future dollar expenditures on projects in the TIP's out years. She also reported on
24 current and soon-to-begin scoping projects, including Bridge Street Bridge in Richmond, Queen City Road
25 Bridge in Burlington, the VT RT 2A/James Brown Drive and Oak Hill Road/US RT 2 intersections in
26 Williston, and the Fort Ethan Allen north gate/VT RT 15 intersection in Essex. Christine also mentioned the
27 I-89 Exit 12B planning study just getting underway. Peter Keating reported on the status of the Hinesburg
28 public transportation plan which had recently gone out to bid. He also mentioned the nearing completion of
29 the Burlington Transportation Plan and that Dan Bradley would present that at the next TAC meeting. Scott
30 Johnstone noted that the UPWP would be amended to include the Hinesburg public transportation plan as
31 that was money coming from a new source – the United We Ride program. He also spoke about the
32 TDM/TMA survey the Burlington Business Association was about to undertake with CCMPO assistance.
33 The Western Corridor budget was recently finalized and PB is the selected consultant for that project. A
34 larger discussion on the status of the Burlington rail tunnel followed that included input from Mike Coates
35 and Paul Craven. Daryl Benoit gave an update on the Dorset Street corridor project noting a focus on
36 East/West connections and his interest in the comments from neighboring communities.

37
38 **7. CCMPO August Board Meeting Report**

39 Peter noted that there was no August Board meeting.

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41 **8. Chairman's/Members' Items**

42 Peter asked the members if there was an interest in getting future TAC meeting packets via email rather than
43 surface mail. While most appeared to prefer this suggestion there were several who did not. Further
44 discussion will be needed before making this change.

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46 The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

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48 Respectfully submitted,
49 Peter Keating