

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

4 DATE: Tuesday October 2, 2007
5 TIME: 9:00 a.m.
6 PLACE: CCMPO Offices, 30 Kimball Avenue, Suite 206, South Burlington, VT
7 Present: George Gerecke, Chair, Williston
8 Amy Bell, VTrans
9 Matt Langham, VTrans
10 Jane Marvin, Seniors Representative
11 Jeanne K. Wilson, Vice-Chair Hinesburg
12 Meredith Schuft, Institutions Representative
13 Dennis Lutz, Essex
14 Bernie Gagnon, Shelburne
15 Ed Wildman, Huntington
16 Jeff Arango, Essex Junction
17 Murray Benner, SSTA
18 Gary Estus, Westford
19 Dan Bradley, Burlington
20 Chris Jolly, FHWA
21 David Spitz, Jericho
22 Steve Palmer, Winooski
23 Stan Hamlet, Underhill
24 Dean Bloch, Charlotte
25 Marci Ryan, Disabled Community Representative
26 MPO Staff: Christine Forde, Senior Planner
27 Peter Keating, Senior Planner
28 Bryan Davis, Staff Planner
29 Jason Charest, Transportation Engineer
30 Scott Johnstone, Executive Director
31 Daryl Benoit, Transportation Planner
32

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

35 **1. Consent Agenda**

36 There were no consent agenda items this month.
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38 **2. Approval of Minutes**

39 The minutes of September 4, 2007 were approved without changes.
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41 **3. Public Comments**

42 No members of the public were present.
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44 **4. Burlington Transportation Plan**

45 Dan Bradley introduced this project by noting the city hadn't done a comprehensive transportation plan since
46 the early nineties. This one builds on other community efforts including the Legacy Action Plan, the Climate
47 Action Plan and the Municipal Development Plan. The document reaffirms the City's transportation vision,
48 included an extensive public outreach process and focuses on three primary themes: 1) A strong and healthy
49 City, 2) transportation choices, and 3) great streets. The most common themes heard from the public were:
50 Truck traffic concerns, vehicle speeds, pedestrian crossings issues, and system maintenance. Due to the few
51 primary access routes into the City, there was a desire to focus on travel demand management similar to the
52 programs CATMA operates at the Hill institutions. Dan also explained the concepts of complete streets,
53 transit streets, bicycle streets and slow streets, noting where they are recommended and the design elements
54 of each. The Plan also identifies the currently funded capital projects, other projects that need scoping and/or
55 funding, and new and on-going transportation policy initiatives (such as a downtown TMA and a car sharing
56 program). The draft Plan has gone before the Neighborhood Planning Assemblies and will also go to the
57 Public Works and Planning Commissions before heading to City Council for action. Once approved, the

1 Plan will become the transportation section of the City's Municipal Development Plan. A discussion
2 that elaborated further on complete streets, parking issues and speeding followed Dan's presentation.
3

4 **5. 2010 Campaign for Active Transportation Resolution**

5 Bryan Davis reported that this resolution, approved two weeks ago by the CCMPO Board, relates to an effort
6 led by the Rails to Trails Conservancy to expand a pilot program launched in SAFETEA-LU. In that
7 transportation authorization law, four communities were selected to receive significant financial investments
8 in non-motorized transportation projects over several years in order to demonstrate the extent to which
9 walking and bicycling can carry a significant share of trips. In anticipation of a new transportation
10 reauthorization law, the Rails to Trails Conservancy is leading an effort to expand the program from four to
11 forty areas. The Burlington area has been identified as one of those forty and the purpose of the resolution is
12 to let them, and others, know of our interest in participating. George Gerecke suggested that removing the
13 Rails to Trails Conservancy's name from the resolution title might reduce some confusion.
14

15 **6. Pedestrian/Bicycle Plan Update Consultant Selection**

16 Peter Keating explained that the RFP for this project was issued in late August and due in late September.
17 Despite several calls from consultants expressing interest, only one proposal was received – from Wilbur
18 Smith Associates (WSA) teamed with Alta Planning and Design. A review committee of Amy Bell, Peter,
19 Bryan Davis, Nicole Losch of Burlington, and Sonny Audette reviewed the proposals (although comments
20 had not been received from Sonny) and the committee consensus was that this team could do the work and
21 we should negotiate an agreement with them. DENNIS LUTZ MADE A MOTION THE CCMPO
22 NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH WSA FOR THE PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE PLAN UPDATE.
23 THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY AMY BELL AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
24

25 **7. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports**

26 Christine Forde referred to the TIP handouts she distributed at the start of the meeting. She mentioned that,
27 in contrast to previous years, there was less likelihood that projects would slip allowing programming of
28 projects not already identified in the first year to move up. Bryan Davis reported on road foremen workshop
29 discussion ideas he had with Local Roads. Jason Charest talked about the VTrans Strategic Highway Safety
30 Plan and a safety plan the MPO is developing for Chittenden County. He also mentioned that road safety
31 audit reports for Milton and Colchester would soon be completed and described safety improvements
32 recently made at the Airport Parkway, Lime Kiln Road, and Ethan Allen Drive intersection north of the
33 airport in South Burlington. Dennis Lutz suggested a potentially valuable training for local officials would be
34 fixes to problem areas such as the road safety audits mentioned by Jason. Scott Johnstone spoke about the
35 CIRC EIS public meetings coming up this Thursday at the Champlain Valley Exposition in the afternoon and
36 Williston Central School in the evening. Public comments on the EIS will be accepted until November 8th.
37 Daryl Benoit reported on the Short Haul Railroad conference he'd recently attended and suggested that
38 meetings like this could be a way to engage rail interests as opposed to our unsuccessful attempts to get that
39 representation on the TAC. Peter spoke about the Safe Routes to Schools open house recently held for
40 schools interested in our SR2S Lite program. He also mentioned the just beginning Hinesburg public
41 transportation plan and the upcoming scenario planning workshop. In Eleni's absence, he also noted that the
42 Western Corridor project is underway with the project goals and objectives and steering committee being put
43 together. On the VT RT 15 corridor project, final public workshop was scheduled for October 10th at St.
44 Michaels College. Scott reported that, as opposed to years past, it looked like virtually all of the CCMPO's
45 UPWP budget would be allocated to projects this year with no money carrying forward to FY09. It looks
46 like the budget fluidity that we've been accustomed to in the past will be gone and the flexibility to fund a
47 new project that arises at mid-year much less likely to happen.
48

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

50 George Gerecke reported that the VTrans presentation by Amy Gamble sparked interest and discussion and
51 that she should be invited to the TAC to do the same. The Board also received an update from Bryan on the
52 Small Communities Initiative and approved the 2010 Active Campaign for Active Transportation resolution.
53

54 The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.
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56 Respectfully submitted,
57 Peter Keating