

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
2 TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES
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4 DATE: Tuesday November 6, 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 Matt Langham, VTrans
9 Jeanne K. Wilson, Vice-Chair Hinesburg
10 Bill McCormick, Intercity Transit Representative
11 Dennis Lutz, Essex
12 Bernie Gagnon, Shelburne
13 Ed Wildman, Huntington
14 Jeff Arango, Essex Junction
15 Mike Coates, Business Representative
16 Aaron Frank, CCTA
17 Dan Bradley, Burlington
18 Chris Jolly, FHWA
19 David Spitz, Jericho
20 Sonny Audette, South Burlington
21 Paul Craven, Rail Representative
22 Marci Ryan, Disabled Community Representative
23 MPO Staff: Christine Forde, Senior Planner
24 Peter Keating, Senior Planner
25 Bryan Davis, Staff Planner
26 Jason Charest, Transportation Engineer
27 Others: Amy Gamble, VTrans
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29 Chair George Gerecke called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
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31 **1. Consent Agenda**

32 There were no consent agenda items this month.
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34 **2. Approval of Minutes**

35 The minutes of October 2, 2007 were approved without changes.
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37 **3. Public Comments**

38 No members of the public were present.
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40 **4. VTrans' Safety Program Update**

41 Amy Gamble presented the state's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) – the development process, its
42 content, current status, and implementation steps and challenges. She also distributed copies of the SHSP's
43 Executive Summary. The plan identifies the safety problem areas and identifies seven emphasis areas: 1)
44 Young drivers, 2) Alcohol related crashes, 3) Driver inattention, 4) Safety belts, 5) Run-Off road crashes, 6)
45 Aggressive driving, and 7) Intersections. To address these, the plan focuses action in the following areas:
46 Outreach and education, legislative attention, enforcement, infrastructure improvements, and
47 data/performance measurement. Amy revealed crash data from Chittenden County and identified their
48 significant costs – up to ten percent of which is borne directly by municipalities. One component of the
49 implementation strategy is the SHSP Infrastructure Team that is currently looking at high risk rural roads,
50 providing training to municipalities, and making low cost safety improvements. Amy illustrated several
51 examples of these low cost improvements, including Fays Corner in Richmond. There are still challenges
52 facing the program which include local acceptance, project selection/prioritization, safety related data
53 availability, and implementation funding. Discussion that followed included “good driver” behavior, older
54 driver concerns, the role of trucks in road safety, problems with speed limits and their enforcement, accident
55 reporting and changes to improve location information, and safety issues related to wheel chair transport.
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5. CCMPO Safety Program

Eleni Churchill and Jason Charest outlined the MPO's nascent low cost safety solutions program. Eleni explained the program's goals and objectives and Jason then took the committee through the proposed implementation tasks. In addition to crash research and data collection, implementation steps will include development of evaluation criteria to establish site priorities with the intent to focus on the top ten high crash locations that aren't part of VTrans' safety programs. Dennis Lutz cautioned that some of these top ten may already be identified as TIP projects and therefore safety fixes should already be designed.

6. Enhancement Grant Priorities

Peter Keating explained the Enhancement review process in place at the CCMPO for nearly a decade. This year there were fewer applications than in the past – only four whereas previously we had seen between five and ten. The projects were the Johnnie Brook Road Path in Richmond, the VT RT 2A shared use path in Williston, VT RT 116 sidewalk in Hinesburg, and bike/pedestrian scoping for the approaches to the Bridge Street Bridge in Richmond. The evaluation subcommittee consisted of Peter, Bryan Davis, Amy Bell, Sonny Audette, and Jane Marvin. Peter noted that the subcommittee evaluation scores revealed Hinesburg and Williston projects scored first and second and the two Richmond projects a more distant third and fourth. Following discussion the subcommittee recommended the following priority:

1. Hinesburg VT RT 116 sidewalk
2. Williston VT RT 2A shared use path
3. Richmond, Bridge Street bike/pedestrian scoping
4. Richmond Johnnie Brook Road path

MIKE COATES MADE A MOTION THE TAC APPROVE THE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY AARON FRANK AND PASSED WITH DAVE SPITZ ABSTAINING.

7. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports

Dave Roberts reported that VTrans had extended the deadline for comments on the draft Circ EIS. He also remarked on the Colchester Severance Corners traffic study, a recently held meeting with Huntington on Main Road speeding, the Dorset Street signal retiming project, the CCMPO's joining with FHWA and the UVM UTC on the National Household travel survey, and a peer review of TransSim – a new transportation computer model. Eleni spoke about the VT RT 15 implementation plan workshop and an upcoming stakeholders group meeting. She also reported on the status of the Western Corridor study and the Burlington Shelburne Street rotary safety study. Christine Forde provided an update on current scoping projects and other projects about to start, including: The Queen City Park Road Bridge, the Bridge Street ridge in Richmond, the North Williston Road/US RT 2 intersection and the James Brown Drive/VT RT 2A intersections in Williston, and VT RT 15/East Fort Ethan Allen intersection in Essex. Bryan Davis reported that the Active Communities resolution had been signed and returned by two thirds of our member municipalities. He also noted: The Pedestrian/Bicycle committee had met and agreed a scope of work for the Ped/Bike plan update, the interview status for the public participation plan update, Safe Routes to School infrastructure grant announcements and an upcoming site visit to Bolton related to pavement condition. Jason Charest reported that the signs from the Jericho road safety audit were on order and recent pavement conditions work in Huntington. Peter Keating noted that four schools were signed on to the MPO's Safe Routes to Schools Lite program – Barnes, Champlain and Edmunds Elementary in Burlington and Chamberlin in South Burlington. He also mentioned the scenario planning workshop coming up this Friday, enhancements to the Way to Go website underway, and distributed an updated copy of the TAC roster.

8. CCMPO October Board Meeting Report

George Gerecke reported on the annual meeting at UVM with guest speaker Senator Bernie Sanders.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Keating