



# ANNUAL REPORT 2001



**CHITTENDEN COUNTY  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING  
ORGANIZATION**

100 Dorset Street, Suite 22  
South Burlington, Vermont 05403  
(802) 660-4071 / (802) 660-4079 (fax)  
[www.ccmppo.org](http://www.ccmppo.org) / [info@ccmppo.org](mailto:info@ccmppo.org)

**Communities working together  
to meet Chittenden County's  
transportation needs**



# WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

---



*Bill Keogh, Chair*



*Bill Knight, Executive Director*

Exciting is the operative phrase of this Annual Report of the CCMPO. The demand for transportation services increases every year in an effort to keep pace with growth in Chittenden County. The CCMPO continues to hone its process in selecting projects for the annual Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) so it coincides with the State's program as well as the County's Regional Plan.

The relationship among the CCMPO, the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission and the Vermont Agency of Transportation is becoming closer and more cooperative than ever. This is happening more and more as we emphasize multimodal transportation alternatives.

The CCMPO is a grassroots organization made up of volunteer and dedicated citizens from each of the 18 communities, all of whom spend hours attending meetings and reading supporting materials. The CCMPO is successful because of that community-based involvement.

Another valuable part of that team is the staff, coordinated by Executive Director Bill Knight. Bill, an experienced transportation planner from Toledo, replaced Peter Plumeau. The CCMPO staff is both dedicated and professional. We are lucky they are so good!

Thank you for all the cooperation we enjoy. For the year ahead, the more we accomplish working together, the better we become. It is a privilege to serve.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W. Keogh".

William Keogh  
Chair

# WHO WE ARE

---



*Staff Photo: (clockwise from top left) Peter Keating, Paul Craven, Dave Roberts, Bernadette Ferenc, Joe Segale, Christine Forde, Bill Knight.*

The Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization (CCMPO) plans for transportation in Chittenden County. Federal law requires the formation of a "metropolitan planning organization" (MPO) for any urbanized area with a population of more than 50,000. In 1983, the Governor of Vermont created the CCMPO to plan and budget the use of federal transportation dollars in the urban part of the County. In 1998, the CCMPO expanded to cover all 18 communities in Chittenden County.

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The CCMPO staff was busy this year with a wide variety of studies. Our major efforts included the Burlington-Essex Corridor Study, the Transportation Improvement Program, and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

## Additional highlights include:

- Conducted Land Use Analysis in conjunction with the Regional Planning Commission to strengthen the link between transportation and land use.
- Participated in a Short Range Transit Plan for CCTA.
- Began a new Regional Bike/Pedestrian Plan to incorporate the entire County.
- Preliminary development of a Decision Support System to improve our ability to understand the land use transportation connection for local communities.
- Completed a corridor study for Route 7 in Milton.
- Completed a comprehensive Freight Movement Study.
- Completed Project Development Studies for Route 116, Route 127, Bostwick Road Bridge, and a Winooski River Bike Bridge.
- Development of the Burlington International Airport Access Plan to assure reliable future access for people and air cargo.
- Awarded \$44,000 to municipalities through the Transportation for Livable Communities Grant Program.
- Continued the traffic count program for municipalities to assist them in better planning.
- Assisted the Village of Essex Junction to construct a new train switch in the Village to reduce traffic delays.
- Completed twenty-one technical assistance projects.

## METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

This year, the CCMPO began a two-year process to revise our Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). This Plan will identify the

vision, goals, and policies that will guide all public decisions affecting transportation facilities and services in Chittenden County over the next twenty-five years. The current MTP, adopted in 1997, will expire in 2002. The draft vision statement was completed this year: *"In 2025, our transportation system enhances and connects healthy, vibrant communities. It is safe, efficient, multi-modal and accessible to all. It supports economic vitality, and is designed and operated to complement and respect our cherished natural resources and cultural heritage."*

Milestones of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan completed this year included:

- Public Opinion Survey.
- Assessment of existing conditions.
- Extensive public outreach.

Wilbur Smith Associates was hired in FY2000. Regional indicators were completed in FY2000.

## PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

This year, we utilized a portion of Project Development Program funds to help two Chittenden County municipalities maintain their town character in areas where major highways cut through village centers. The municipalities were challenged by how to slow traffic down and encourage pedestrian travel while keeping vehicles moving through town and improving vehicle and pedestrian flow at problem intersections. The project development process allowed citizens and town officials to explore traffic calming techniques, such as narrowing roads, to improve village character and encourage pedestrian travel. Other techniques, especially access management (limiting curb cuts and installing medians) were also examined. The Town of Colchester hopes to incorporate some of these ideas on Route 127 and Route 2A, and the Town of Hinesburg will utilize these ideas on Route 116.



*Construction of a bicycle/pedestrian bridge in the vicinity of the "Blue Bridge" was the subject of a project development study.*



*Route 127 in Colchester will benefit from a project development study.*



*The Burlington-Essex Corridor Study recommended a variety of transportation improvements, including expanded passenger rail service.*



*Access management was studied on Route 116 in Hinesburg.*

# SPOTLIGHT ON THE TLC PROGRAM

## Williston Bicycle/Pedestrian Path

In February of 2001, the CCMPO awarded \$44,000 in federal funds to four Chittenden County municipalities through its Transportation for Livable Communities Program (TLC). The TLC program provides funding for planning activities that strengthen the link between transportation and community livability. Projects are encouraged to enhance transit-oriented development and design, pedestrian and bicycle-friendly development and design, and non-single occupant vehicle access to village centers and recreational facilities.

A TLC-funded project from last year was successfully completed this summer. The Town of Williston



*The new bikepath connects to the Elementary School.*

used a \$8,800 TLC grant to deal with design issues and keep a bicycle/pedestrian path moving forward. This new path is the final link in a Class 1 bike route from Williston's Village to the Taft Corners area. The first segment,



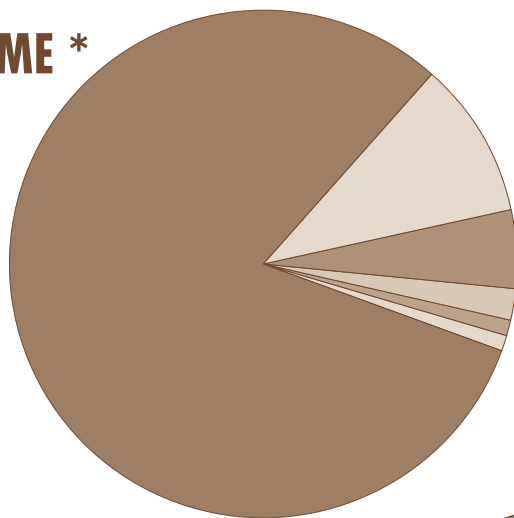
*The path features a rural setting.*

from N. Williston Road to Old Stage Road, was designed and constructed using federal and local funds. The second segment, from Old Stage Road to Allen Brook School, was designed and constructed using local funds.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**FY 2001 (October 1, 2000 – September 30, 2001)**

### INCOME \*



FEDERAL 81%

STATE 10%

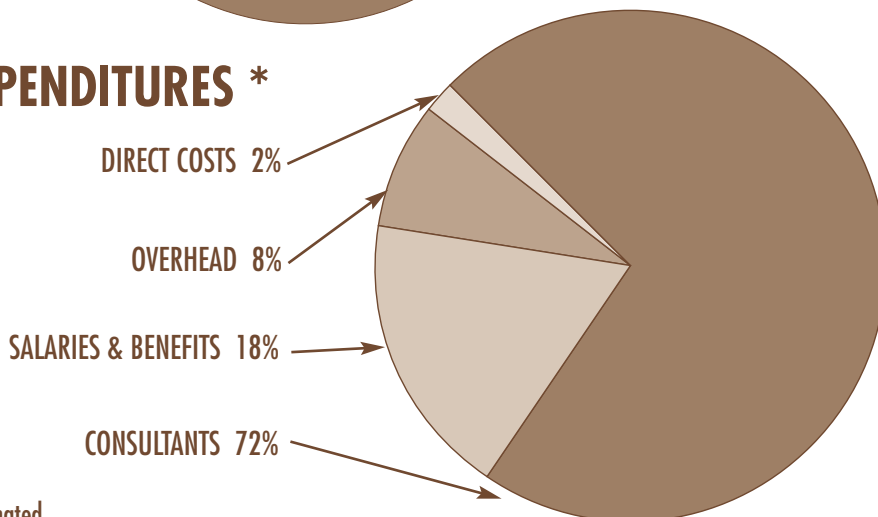
TASK SPECIFIC 5%

LOCAL 2%

CCTA 1%

IN-KIND 1%

### EXPENDITURES \*



DIRECT COSTS 2%

OVERHEAD 8%

SALARIES & BENEFITS 18%

CONSULTANTS 72%

\* Estimated

### Jurisdiction / Member

Bolton / Gerard Mullen

Burlington / William Keogh (*Chair*)

Charlotte / Jeff McDonald

Colchester / Chris Conant

Essex / Martin J. Myers and Jeff Carr

Essex Junction / John T. Booth  
(*Sec.-Treas.*)

Hinesburg / Andrea Morgante

Huntington / Richard Moulton

Jericho / Robert Penniman

Milton / Kenneth Nolan

Richmond / Virginia Clarke

St. George / Wendy Goodrich

Shelburne / Norman Silcox

South Burlington / Jim Condos  
(*Vice-Chair*)

Underhill / Patrick Lamphere

Westford / William Leach

Williston / George Gerecke

Winooski / Michael O'Brien

State of Vermont (Vermont Agency of  
Transportation) / Brian Searles

### Ex-Officio Members

Chittenden County Regional Planning  
Commission / Lewis Wetzel

Chittenden County Transportation  
Authority / Sam Osborne

Burlington Int'l Airport / John J.  
Hamilton

Railroad Industry / Jerome Hebda

Federal Highway Admin. / Christopher  
Jolly

Federal Transit Admin. / Andrew  
Motter