

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

14 Seminary Street Middlebury, VT 05753

www.acrpc.org

Phone: 802.388.3141

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Location: Addison County Regional Planning Commission office, 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, VT

Members Present:

Addison: Jeff Nelson	Orwell:
Bridport: Andrew Manning	Panton:
Bristol:	Ripton: Norm Tjossem
Cornwall:	Salisbury:
Ferrisburgh: Steve Huffaker	Shoreham: Karen Shacket
Goshen:	Starksboro:
Leicester:	Vergennes: Shannon Haggett
Lincoln: Will Sipsey, Chair	Waltham:
Middlebury:	Weybridge:
Monkton:	Whiting:
New Haven: Mike Audy	

Staff: Kevin Behm

Guest: Valerie Capels, Bill Finger, Alison Joseph Dickinson, Paul Vaczy, Martha Evans-Mongeon

Call to Order 6:30

Minutes of June 19th – Moved by Jeff, 2nd Norm No changes.

Ripton Old Town Bridge TAC funded study report – Dubois & King, Martha Evans-Mongeon, P.E.

The TAC requested a study to estimate the cost of repair/replacing the bridge to provide an alternate route for VT Rte 125 traffic in the case of an emergency closure. Currently the 27' x 16' bridge serves 20 cars/day and the study looked at maintaining that traffic level as well as alternatives to handle 1500 cars/day as an alternative to Rte 125. A bridge inspection by VTrans in 2018 determined that the bridge's deck was in good condition, superstructure in very good condition, and the substructure is only in fair condition due to damage and inadequate fixes following previous floods. VTrans completed a hydraulic study in 2018 and determined that it met the requirements for a Q25 flood event (4% Exceedance Period), however the span of the current bridge is 27.8 feet which does not meet VTrans and ANR bankfull width standards to allow a large enough opening for debris flow. Bankfull width would require an open span of 44 feet. Due to the substructure issues, replacement bridges were evaluated at the 16' width for 20 cars/day and at the 22' width for 1500 cars/day. Several alternative alignments were evaluated and probable construction costs prepared for each alternative. D & K recommended relocating the alignment slightly upstream to allow for a 90 degree approach angle and constructing a 22' width bridge that is 51 feet long of precast concrete slabs. Conceptual final engineering design would be \$80,000, and construction cost was provided as \$578,000 and administration at \$42,000 for a total estimated cost of \$700,000. The project timeline is estimated at 13 months. D & K will be presenting the study to the Ripton Selectboard within the next 2 weeks for their review.

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TAC study grant applications

A total of \$40,000 is available to be awarded under the FY20 TAC Study allocation. A total of six studies have been submitted for funding. Supporting presentations were offered in the order on the agenda.

Bridport – (represented by Andrew) A study is requested to address high vehicular speeds on Route 22A as well as improve the line-of-sight at identified intersections. The intersections are identified as TH45, TH39 and Route 125 and Route 22A as well as the Bridport School driveway and Route 22A. Andrew Manning presented the study to the TAC pointing out the repeated accidents and fatalities that have occurred. Karen Shackett noted that the towns of Addison and Shoreham have both enacted aggressive speed enforcement utilizing the County Sheriff and State Police. She feels this has resulted in safer speeds and fewer accidents. Jeff Nelson suggested that a VTrans safety grant may be appropriate to review Route 22A within Addison County.

Bristol – (represented by Valerie) Improve pedestrian access along Route 116 between Lover's Lane and Airport Dr./High School driveway. Valerie Capels presented the study to the TAC emphasizing the need for pedestrian/bicycle sidewalk/path along the south side of the road to access the school and village from the Lover's Lane vicinity. Potential future residential development in the Lover's Lane area will create additional safety issues from pedestrians walking to the school and village.

Lincoln – (represented by Bill) New alignment assessment for South Lincoln Rd. Bill Finger presented this study to the TAC requesting funding to evaluate a re-alignment of a dangerous and flood-prone curve on South Lincoln Rd. This opportunity recently presented itself as the result of a transfer of private property to the Town of Lincoln in the vicinity of the re-alignment. The study would identify a conceptual roadway alignment and develop an estimate of probable construction costs. The benefits would be improved roadway safety and flood resiliency. Improved access to a conservation area would also result.

Panton – (not represented) A corridor study of Lake St, Pease Rd., Jersey St., and Panton Rd.

Middlebury – (not represented) Traffic/intersection studies for Rt 7/Boardman St. and Rt. 7/ Middle Rd.

Salisbury – (represented by Paul) Intersection study for Lake Dunmore Rd. /Upper Plains Rd. Paul Vaczy presented the project proposal to undertake an intersection study of the Route 53/Upper Plains Rd intersection. The Selectboard has received a citizen petition in favor of a 4-way stop as well as a petition in favor of keeping the existing 2-way intersection. Last year VTrans briefly reviewed the intersection and noted that neither the crash data nor the traffic volumes warrant a 4-way intersection, however limited sight distance can be used to warrant a multi-way stop. The Selectboard would like an intersection study to make a recommendation on any needed intersection improvements.

The TAC thanked the presenters for excellent proposals and noted that the proposals submitted total \$100,000 and the funds available are \$40,000. In light of this discrepancy the TAC decided to accept additional written information on any of the proposals for consideration prior to next month's vote and proposal representatives may attend a portion of next meeting to be available for questions from the TAC. Verbal presentations on any of the study proposals will not be allowed prior to voting. The TAC would also like an updated list of TAC Study award recipients for the past 5 years.

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Updates from Kevin

Kevin shared VTRAns response to Route 125 safety letter.

The TAC would like the recent VTrans response provided to ACRPC to also be provided to the towns of Middlebury, Cornwall, Bridport and Middlebury College since they were the original parties requesting VTrans to address their safety concerns of State Route 125 in Middlebury. The TAC will follow-up with the towns and College.

Meeting Adjourned 7:55 on motion from Jeff