

# Addison County Regional Planning Commission

14 Seminary Street Middlebury, VT 05753

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## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

**Location:** REMOTE MEETING conducted through the **Zoom** remote meeting on-line platform.

Addison:	Orwell:
Bridport:	Panton: David Raphael
Bristol:	Ripton: Norm Tjossem
Cornwall:	Salisbury: Tom Scanlon
Ferrisburgh: Steve Huffaker	Shoreham: Karen Shacket
Goshen:	Starksboro:
Leicester:	Vergennes: Brent Rakowski – vice-chair
Lincoln: Will Sipsey - chair	Waltham:
Middlebury:	Weybridge:
Monkton:	Whiting:
New Haven: Mike Audy	

**Staff:** Mike Winslow **Guests:** Mary Claire Crogan (TVT), Shannon Haggett (alt.-Vergennes), Katharine Otto (VTrans)

### MINUTES

- Call to Order: 6:30PM
- Approval of October 21, 2020 TAC Meeting Minutes – Moved by Norm; Second by Karen. All in favor
- Public Transportation and Covid – Mary-Claire Crogan – Tri-Valley Transit.
  - Mary Claire discussed TVT’s crisis response that has been on-going since March. Initially, they maintained only critical rides – health care workers, and the most vulnerable. They are still operating at limited seating capacity. The Dial-a-Ride Program (for Medicaid and volunteer drivers for the elderly and people with disabilities) was no longer able to batch multiple rides with one driver so they shifted to buses and cut back on routes. Volunteer drivers have returned as restraints have loosened. Drivers have received extensive training and personal protective equipment. TVT does need to recruit more volunteer drivers (this is a state-wide problem). TVT has stocked a three-month supply of PPE and sanitizers.
  - Re-branding. ACTR merged with Stagecoach and they both now share the Tri-Valley Transit brand. The merger has produced many economies of scale. The new logo joins elements from both of the previous entities. Re-branding has been phased in as busses are up-dated. The last piece will be redesigning the website.
  - Will asked about the Transit App which can provide real-time tracking of buses. Mary Claire noted it is being used for Addison County. Go Vermont invested in it so that all transit providers in the state can use it.

Cancellations due to weather will be made for winter storm warnings pursuant to ACRPC’s Meeting Cancellation Policy (available on ACRPC’s website) and will be posted on the homepage of ACRPC’s website at: <http://www.acrpc.org>

- Mary Claire mentioned that recent rider surveys have returned very positive reviews for the service.
- Karen asked if TVT was considering ride requests beyond designated routes. Mary Claire noted that they have seen mild interest in a run along the 22A corridor. They worked with a Middlebury College class to investigate but demand was lukewarm. They have tried van pools but there is no low hanging fruit to provide such service. Towns would need to contribute substantial match to make it work. They get more requests for additional service to Burlington. Conversations are on-going to shift service from CCTA to TVT.
- Norm asked if migrant farmworkers used TVT. Mary Claire answered that few do. They've conducted extensive outreach, but have not broken into that market.
- Transportation Updates from Mike
  - Open Grant Opportunities
    - [Transportation Alternatives Grants](#) – Due November 27
    - [Better Roads Grants](#) – Due December 18
    - ACRPC is available to assist with applications
  - Report from Road Foremen Meeting – There has been renewed interest in developing formal mutual aid agreements between town road crews to prepare for Covid hitting a crew.
  - Vergennes PEL Study up-date – VTrans presented to the Vergennes City Council and shared a draft scope of work for the study with a small group that included Shannon and David. Both agreed it was a good meeting with an opportunity to raise questions and concerns. They are looking forward to a robust public process for the study.
- Other Business/Roundtable
  - Pantou – David shared that he has been asked to consider what trees can be removed from a legal trail. The Town is in the midst of reviewing the status of such a trail in town. Mike noted that he had done some research on the Pantou legal trail and offered to share it with David.
- Adjourn 7:17 Moved Karen; Second David

**Note:** adopted meeting minutes are also available online at the ACRPC website under agendas and minutes. For your convenience, the latest version of the TAC Bylaws are linked here also: <http://www.acrpc.org/tac/>

## 2020 REMAINING TAC MEETING SCHEDULE

December No Meeting
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