

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

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TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Addison:	Orwell:
Bridport: Andrew Manning	Panton: David Raphael
Bristol:	Ripton:
Cornwall:	Salisbury:
Ferrisburgh: Steve Huffaker	Shoreham: Karen Shacket
Goshen:	Starksboro:
Leicester:	Vergennes: Brent Rakowski
Lincoln: Will Sipse, Chair	Waltham:
Middlebury: Jilly dos Santos	Weybridge:
Monkton:	Whiting:
New Haven:	

Staff: Mike Winslow **Guest:** Katharine Otto (VTrans), Shannon Haggett (Vergennes alt.)

Minutes

- Call to Order: 6:30PM
- Approval of January 20, 2021 TAC Meeting Minutes. Moved by Karen; Second by Steve. All in favor.
- New Project Prioritization Process – VPSP2 – ([Presentation posted on website](#)) Mike went over the new project prioritization process VTrans is piloting this year. The process is for new projects that do not yet have momentum in the VTrans planning process. The TAC should anticipate having projects to review at the March meeting. The TAC will be scoring Asset Driven projects identified by VTrans based on Economic Impact to the Region, the project's ability to increase Health Access both to medical facilities and by promoting a more active population, and Community or conformance to regional goals and plans. VTrans will provide scores on other elements. In addition, the TAC has the opportunity to bring forward Regionally Driven projects. We anticipate that VTrans will be providing more guidance on the types of projects that might be brought forward, and how the scoring systems will work. The pilot program in FY21 will work with Roadway, Highway Safety, and Paving projects. In FY22 the pilot will be expanded to bridges.
- Transportation Updates from Mike
 - [Vermont State Rail Plan](#) – comments due March 22, 2021
 - New Haven train station – VTrans and Amtrack have determined that the historic train station on Route 7 in New Haven needs to be moved to accommodate future passenger rail service. The station has twice been struck by trains and inhibits sight lines for south bound trains and northbound traffic. Adjacent wetlands prohibit an on-site move. VTrans, Vermont Dept. of Historic Preservation (the building owner), and the town of New Haven are all interested in preserving the building on a new site, but cost, ability to find a host site, and timing are all

impediments. A committee has been formed to seek solutions. John van Housen, our new GIS person, will be representing ACRPC on the committee.

- Walk Bike Summit – After consultation with VTrans and the Town Hall Theater, the event has been postponed until May 6, 2022.
- Public Works Mutual Aid update – 11 towns have signed on to the agreement: Addison, Bridport, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Vergennes, and Weybridge.
- Vergennes PEL Study up-date – the request for proposals has closed. Three proposals were received and selection is expected within the next month.
- [AARP Place-making meet ups](#) – next event Feb. 19. AARP VT has teamed up with Community Workshop to provide monthly Placemaking Meet-Ups for anyone working on placemaking or interested in getting started. Each month will feature a different theme, and will be a chance to explore placemaking examples, resources and tools. These meet-ups are a place to share knowledge, problem solve together, get inspired by the work happening across the state, and walk away with actionable projects and ideas.
- Grants in Aid update – final award amounts have been shared with towns. The deadline for construction for this fiscal year is October 31, 2021
- Ideas for Future Topics
 - Jon Kaplan to discuss making towns safer for biking and walking
 - A presenter on creative path and board walk design - perhaps Josh Ryan of [Timber and Stone](#)
 - Place-making -perhaps build off the AARP talks
 - County-wide bike planning – Jason Rasmussen, Mt. Ascutney RPC
- Other Business/Roundtable
 - Will reported that Lincoln has been donated a parcel of land between the village center and the elementary school. They are beginning to consider opportunities for the parcel that may include walking trails.
 - Shannon reported that the Vergennes Recreation Committee applied for a Vermont Outdoor Recreation Grant to work on a trail around Vergennes
- Adjourn

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/>

2021 REMAINING TAC MEETING SCHEDULE

March 17	August 18
April 21	September 15
May 19	October 20
June 16	November 17
July No Meeting	December No Meeting