

# Addison County Regional Planning Commission

14 Seminary Street Middlebury, VT 05753 • www.acrpc.org • Phone: 802.388.3141

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Addison: Jeff Nelson	Orwell: Andrea Ochs
Bridport: Andrew Manning	Panton:
Bristol:	Ripton: Norm Tjossem
Cornwall:	Salisbury: Tom Scanlon
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: Mike Winslow Guests: Andres Torizzo (WCA), Thomas Adler (WCA), Jenny Austin (D&K), Tom Audet (Orwell), and Bill Goddard (Orwell)	

### Minutes

- Call to Order: 6:30PM
- Approval August 18, 2021 TAC Meeting Minutes. Moved by Norm, Second by Andrea. All in favor
- Presentation - [Orwell Salt Shed Runoff](#) - FY21 TAC Grant - Watershed Consulting Associates. Thomas Adler and Andres Torizzo gave an overview of their work for the Town of Orwell on planning to reduce stormwater runoff from the town garage and improve salt and sand storage. The presentation is linked above. Mike noted that funding is available through the Stormwater Mitigation Grants if Orwell would like to put together an application.
- Presentation - [Bristol Intersection Study](#) - FY21 TAC Grant - Dubois & King - Jenny Austin summarized her work for the town of Bristol in identifying solutions for sight line issues at the VT116 Lincoln Road intersection, parking issues along Lincoln Road, and slope and angle issues at the Briggs Hill Road/Lincoln Road intersection. She identified some potential low cost improvements for VT 116 Lincoln Rd. as well as a much more expensive realignment of the intersection. For the parking issues, signage and new designated parking areas were considered. The Briggs Hill intersection presented a more difficult problem, and the only viable solution was full or partial closure of the road, an option that was not supported by a public survey.
- Preliminary Review - FY22 TAC Grants

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- o TAC to identify requests for additional information - voting in October
- o Mike will reach out to the applicants and ask them to be available to take questions at the October meeting. If any TAC members identify additional information they would like to see before deciding, please contact Mike so he can inform the towns.
- o Jeff asked if any of the applicants had shown a better propensity for implementing projects after funding. Following discussion from TAC members, the sense was that all suggested projects were likely to move forward in some form following funding.
- Transportation Updates from Mike
  - o New Haven train station - the town has hired a project manager and put out bids for moving services. They received two proposals, both of which exceeded the budgeted cost but also included items that should not have been in the proposals. The town will re-release the RFP and still anticipates being able to move the station prior to the spring 2022 initiation of Amtrak services.
  - o Vergennes PELS update - meetings have been scheduled with the Selectboards of all affected municipalities between September and October, a public meeting is scheduled for November 4 at the Vergennes Opera House, and the project [website is now live](#).
    - Jeff asked what is the expected outcome of the Selectboard meetings. Mike noted that the meetings are to inform the municipalities that the study is occurring, establish a line of communication, get a sense of the sentiments of the communities, and inform the communities that some options that had seemed 'dead' previously would, by necessity, be reconsidered during this process.
  - o October 20 Road Foremen Meeting - ACRPC intends to host a road foremen's meeting to assist in updating the Road Erosion Inventories. Towns are required to report any changes to their initial REIs as part of the 2022 annual reporting.
  - o [Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Grants](#) - Grant applications are due October 1.
  - o [Road Usage Charge Study](#) - The increasing popularity of electric and fuel-efficient vehicles has meant less revenue from the gas tax to fund road maintenance. VTrans is exploring alternative funding streams and has set up a survey to gauge public perception of the alternatives. All are invited to participate.
  - o State Project Prioritization - As part of the project prioritization process, the ACRPC TAC identified three potential projects to add to the VTrans list. All three are expected to move into the VTrans pipeline, in addition to potential projects

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identified by VTrans including paving on 22A between Orwell and Addison. The timeline for all these projects is still unclear.

- Other Business/Roundtable
  - Norm shared that Ripton's longtime road foreman and Selectboard member passed unexpectedly. There have been emergency meetings over the last week to identify a path forward.
  - Mike A. shared that the bridge joints on Rt. 7 over the New Haven River were in bad shape. Work was completed on the bridge just last summer. The north approach joint was particularly bad and has deteriorated over the last twelve months.
  - Tom reported that former ACRPC Commissioner and TAC member Carl Noyes has passed away.
  - Tom also indicated that he had had difficulty logging in to the August TAC meeting. This prompted Mike to mention to the TAC that future meetings would be conducted via Google Meets rather than Zoom.
- Adjourn 7:41PM

**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/>

## Grant Opportunities:

- [Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Grants](#) - Due October 1
- [Municipal Planning Grants](#) - Due November 1
- [Transportation Alternatives Program Grants](#) - Due November 24

## 2021 REMAINING TAC MEETING SCHEDULE

October 20	November 17
	December No Meeting

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