

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

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

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Addison:		Orwell:	Andrea Treadway V.Chair
Bridport:	Andrew Manning	Panton:	
Bristol:		Ripton:	Norm Tjossem
Cornwall:		Salisbury:	
Ferrisburgh:		Shoreham:	Karen Shackett
Goshen:		Starksboro:	
Leicester:		Vergennes:	Brent Rakowski - Chair
Lincoln:	Bill Finger	Waltham:	
Middlebury:	Hugh McLaughlin	Weybridge:	
Monkton:	Debra Sprague	Whiting:	
New Haven:	Mike Audy		
Staff: Mike Winslow		Public: Jim Cota (VTrans)	

AGENDA

- Call to Order: 6:31PM
- Amendments to the Agenda - added VPSP2 discussion
- Approval of November 15, 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes. Moved by Mike A. Second by Norm. All in favor. Andrea abstained.
- The Orange Book and Town Annual Financial Plans - Jim Cota, VTrans District 5.
 - o Jim introduced [the Orange Book](#) and gave an [overview](#) on preparing town highway financial reports (TA-60).
 - o TA-60s are used to determine eligibility for emergency funds. Emergency funds become available when a local event causes damage in excess of 10% of a town's non-winter road budget.
 - o TA-60s are required for all towns, even those that have not adopted VTrans Codes and Standards
 - o Brent asked How is an emergency identified? Jim replied that there needs to be a documented storm event that caused damage. It's important to reach out to the District as soon as possible after an event. Documenting damage tied to a location is important.
 - o Based on past experience, towns need a little training in putting together financial plans. Determining the summer/winter expense split is sometimes a challenge. Towns will vary in the winter/summer split based on circumstances specific to the town. Jim offered to meet with town staff to assist in developing their TA-60s

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- o There are differences between Districts as to the degree of scrutiny TA-60s receive
 - o What are the implications of not filing financial reports? There would be no changes in other funding streams (i.e. paving or structures grants); absence of a report would just affect emergency funding.
- Transportation Updates from Mike
 - o Vergennes PELS update - Mike W. reported that the land use visioning workshops were well attended. The Policy Committee will meet on Monday to finalize advancement of options to screening. The next step is development of screening criteria. Hugh praised the visualization developed for the land use visioning workshops. Those [visualizations are available on the project website](#).
 - o VPSP2 - VTrans sent around an email earlier this afternoon reporting that they would not be doing project prioritization again this year. The current pipeline of projects will take more time to get through than originally anticipated due to inflation eating the additional revenue received through IJA. Mike W. suggested that the TAC use the time that would have been spent on project prioritization to make updates to the regional plan, including updating the goals and objectives to reflect work that has been completed.
 - Bill pointed out that accumulation of infrastructure needs continues. The TAC should continue identifying potential projects, even if the process is not as rigid as VPSP2. Mike W. noted that updating the plan is a means to achieve that end.
 - Hugh observed that the recent spate of weather events is also driving the problem.
- Other Business/Roundtable
 - o New Haven - Mike A. expressed concerns about the condition of the Dog Team Rd. Bridge. VTrans posts the weight limit on the bridge, but agricultural equipment routinely ignores it. Jim C. offered to see what guidance the district could provide.
 - o Lincoln's power is back on
 - o Karen asked for an update on the Exchange St. sidewalk project. Mike W. noted that the issues with probate court have been cleared, but he's not sure what has happened since then.
- Next month the guest speaker will be Taylor Sisson, who is the VTrans project manager for a number of projects in the region including the Exchange St. roundabout, the Exchange St. roundabout, the scope refinement for US7/Monroe/Charles Ave intersections, and the VT125 Safety Improvement Scoping Project.
- Adjourn 7:12

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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/transportation/>

Grant Opportunities:

- [Downtown Transportation Funds](#) - 20% match; downtowns and villages; due Feb. 19

2024 TAC MEETING SCHEDULE

	February 21
March 20	April 17
May 15	June 19
July - no meeting	August 21
September 18	October 16
November 20	December - no meeting

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