

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

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

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 20, 2024

Addison:	Jeff Nelson	Orwell:	Andra Treadway - v. chair
Bridport:	Andrew Manning	Panton:	
Bristol:		Ripton:	Norm Tjossem
Cornwall:		Salisbury:	
Ferrisburgh:	Steve Huffaker	Shoreham:	Karen Shackett
Goshen:		Starksboro:	
Leicester:		Vergennes:	Shannon Haggett
Lincoln:	Bill Finger	Waltham:	Jeff Glassberg
Middlebury:	Hugh McLaughlin	Weybridge:	
Monkton:	Debra Sprague	Whiting:	
New Haven:			
Staff: Mike Winslow		Public:	

AGENDA

- Call to Order: 6:30PM
- Amendments to the Agenda - none.
- Approval of [January 17, 2024 TAC Meeting Minutes](#) Moved by Norm. Second by Karen. All in favor. Shannon and Jeff G. abstained.
- [Regional Plan Updates](#)
 - o Review Recommended Actions Throughout
 - o Hugh volunteered to update traffic count data
 - o Jeff N. noted that the status of Vergennes PELS needs to be included
 - o Andrea noted that work on the rail tunnel needs to be updated. She also suggested the discussion about changing 22A from a minor arterial to a principal arterial as suggested in the current plan be revived. Karen agreed.
 - o Mike will review pavement condition reports from around the county for a future TAC meeting
 - o Air - Recommended Actions - no changes
 - o Rail - Recommended Actions
 - Delete bullet about OMYA rail spur. Hugh will check with Middlebury to see if they have any objections to this change.
 - Acknowledge safety improvements at crossings
 - Update to include information about Ethan Allen Express and to indicate the Middlebury Bridge project has been completed.

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- o Bridges in the region that need attention. This section of the plan needs an update as many of the bridges identified in 2018 have been worked on since then. Mike went through the spreadsheet ACRPC has put together on bridges in the county and asked if TAC members felt they needed additional information. No suggestions were made. Mike will share the spreadsheet with members so they can think about priority bridges for a future meeting.
- o US Route 7 - Recommended Actions
 - The Monroe St. study has been done. Planning is on-going
 - The Foote St./Middle Rd. study remains a priority
 - The Old Hollow Rd. intersection in Ferrisburgh has been addressed
- o VT Route 22A - Recommended Actions
 - Traffic, safety, traffic calming, and the addition of passing lanes remain priorities
 - The intersection with Rt. 73 in Orwell needs attention
 - The intersection with Rt. 17 in Addison needs attention
 - The telecommunications dead zone near the Orwell/Benson border should be mentioned as it may be a cause of some of the accidents in that area
 - Information about the PEL Study should be added to this section in lieu of the first bullet
- o VT Route 17 - Recommended Actions
 - The second bullet on page 23 needs to be reworded in light of the on-going PEL Study
 - Work on East St/Sawyer Rd. in New Haven has been completed
 - Paving in Bristol and New Haven has been completed
 - The Quaker Village Rd/Hallock Rd. intersection needs to be addressed
 - The bridge over the Otter Creek has been addressed
- o VT Route 30 Recommended Actions
 - Pavement upgrades are needed, particularly in the swamp at the Cornwall/Whiting border
- o VT Route 116 - Recommended Actions - no changes identified
- o Bill mentioned that bike traffic over the Lincoln Gap has increased dramatically. He also identified River Rd. in Bristol as a challenge due to traffic, parking, and pedestrians drawn by the falls.

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- o The TAC will continue review starting at VT125 at a future meeting
- Transportation Updates from Mike
 - o Vergennes PELS update - land use visioning workshops have been completed and the report on this section will be posted soon. The Technical and Policy Committees have met and voted to advance all current options forward for final screening. The next step is refining the screening criteria and applying them to the different routes. The project will have a new VTrans manager moving forward.
 - o Triangle Bike Loop signs have been purchased and are available for towns along the loop to post once the ground thaws
 - o [AARP Community Challenge Grants](#) are due March 6. These are a good source of funding for smaller projects as they're often easier to implement than VTrans grants.
- Other Business/Roundtable
 - o Lincoln - the road system on the eastern portion of the county is used to access the National Forest which does not generate property taxes. Lincoln has been working with USFS to address access issues and winter parking. They have had some success and got a \$160k grant to address parking at the top of the Lincoln Gap. The funding requires Lincoln to give the USFS authority to manage the road from the Gap to Garland Bridge.
 - o Waltham will have a town meeting day vote to borrow money to complete construction of a culvert at the intersection of Middlebrook Rd. and Green St. The town has a \$250k grant but the overall project cost is in excess of \$400k
 - o Ripton - Last week there was some tree removal in the gorge, but the work seems to have been completed and there are no longer delays
- Adjourn - Moved by Karen Second by Bill. Adjourned 19:19

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:

- [AARP Community Challenge Grants](#) - due March 6

2024 TAC MEETING SCHEDULE

March 20	April 17
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Addison	Bridport	Bristol	Cornwall	Ferrisburgh	Goshen	Leicester
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May 15	June 19
July - no meeting	August 21
September 18	October 16
November 20	December - no meeting

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