

# Addison County Regional Planning Commission

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

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Addison:		Orwell:	Andrea Treadway (v .chair)
Bridport:		Panton:	
Bristol:		Ripton:	Norm Tjossem
Cornwall:		Salisbury:	
Ferrisburgh:	Steve Huffaker	Shoreham:	
Goshen:		Starksboro:	
Leicester:		Vergennes:	Shannon Haggett
Lincoln:	Amanda Allen	Waltham:	
Middlebury:	Hugh McLaughlin	Weybridge:	
Monkton:	Debra Sprague	Whiting:	
New Haven:	Mike Audy		
<b>Staff:</b> Mike Winslow		<b>Public:</b> Dan Currier (VTrans), Faith Dall (VTrans)	

### AGENDA

- Call to Order: 6:30PM
- Amendments to the Agenda
- Approval of [April 17, 2024 Minutes](#). Moved by Mike A. Second by Hugh. All in favor. Shannon abstained.
- [Go! Vermont](#) overview - Dan Currier, VTrans
  - Help people understand transportation options available to them
  - Have programs and resource guides and run marketing campaigns to get people to make small changes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)
  - Provides support for employers and employees
  - Have a team of outreach coordinators to assist in trip planning
  - They have transportation resource guides for each county in the state; translated into seven languages; updated annually
  - Foundation of the program is in public transit: being a conduit for information on their behalf
  - Transit app available for tracking busses; available to anyone in the state
  - Trip planner - goes beyond the information available on Google Maps by taking advantage of flex routes and fixed routes: additional details for commuter trips including carpools and van pools including contact information for joining
  - Q:How to get a Monkton van pool - VTrans has a contract with Commute with Enterprise. They meet monthly, and could set up a meeting with the town.

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- o Park Your Carbon week - one of Go! Vermont's biggest campaigns. Started as Way To Go Week. The pandemic ended the in-person part of the event. Now more about utilizing Go!Vermont tools. They track the campaign (how many impressions, which channels are most productive, etc.). Saw 20% more impressions than they would expect.
- o Q: Has there been promotion or expansion of Park & Rides? Are they successful? VTrans is currently updating a Park & Ride strategic plan. Haven't done a campaign focused on them, but they are seen as important in a multimodal connection system. Mike also has data on Park & Ride usage in the county
- o Go! Vermont completed a Strategic Plan for their program in 2023.
- o Focuses on Transportation Demand Management - a series of tools to reduce Single Occupancy Vehicle trips leading to reduced congestion, GHG, and car trips.
- o Plan includes TDM opportunity scores for all counties in Vermont. Includes demographic, social, economic factors, and how many jobs are available in the county. Addison Co. has a lower opportunity score compared to Chittenden, Rutland, and Windham Counties. Go! Vermont will work with all communities, and target programs to the communities, but prioritizes those with a higher opportunity score.
- o Why did Addison score lower? Low population density, low percentage of population in poverty, lower density of jobs, high median household income, fewer trips per capita, and not particularly long trips (middle of VMT length).
- o Q: Hugh described a spoke and wheel set up with Middlebury, Bristol, Vergennes? Is that typical in other counties too? Dan - they did not do an origin destination model as part of the plan. That would be an opportunity for the regional plan.
- o Go! Vermont opportunities: add partners and increase promotion, expand audience and means of engagement, target specific trip types and modes.
- [Regional Plan Updates](#)
  - o Discuss Bridge Priorities (draft priority list below)
    - Mike A. suggested moving Dog Team Rd. bridge up. Andrea agreed based on the condition of the bridge.
  - o [Comments on most recent version](#)
    - Hugh talked about traffic counts being out of date. He'd like to see more recent data, particularly for Middlebury. Particularly peak times on Rt. 7. Hugh will send Mike W. page references so Mike can check the data
  - o Next steps

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- Provide comments to Mike W. by the end of the month. He will have a draft final version for review and initial approval in June. Because of the importance of the plan, the TAC will have a second chance for final approval in August.
- Transportation Updates from Mike
  - Walk Bike Summit - Thursday June 20 in St. Johnsbury
    - [Registration now open](#)
    - Four will be going from the RPC if people are interested in carpooling
  - [Bike and Ped. Grants](#) due June 14th. Mike W. is aware that Middlebury is considering an application. If other towns are also considering applying he is available to assist.
  - [EZ Trip](#) is now available through TVT as of May 8th. EZ Trip is an on-demand ride service within the Middlebury area. Riders contact TVT through an app or by phone and they can be picked up and dropped off directly at their destination so long as it's within the service area. EZ Trip replaces most of the Middlebury fixed bus routes. Service is available 7AM to 6PM Monday through Friday. A map of the service area is available at TVT's website, but it extends to the Sugarhouse Motel in the north, Lower Foote St. in the south, Quarry Rd. to the east, and the golf course and Bicentennial Hall in the west.
  - Hazard Mitigation money - there is a large pot (\$64-90 million total) of grant funding, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Fund (HMGP), available to municipalities across the entire state (regardless of whether they were damaged last summer). Funding must be committed by January 2025, and initial project [statements of interest are due to VEM by June 21st](#). This is a rare opportunity to fund large-scale, high-impact, high-dollar projects. Grants only cover 75% so a town/private owner match for the other 25% is required. And towns have to have a current Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) to receive money. Projects may include:
    - Property Buyouts
    - Building Elevations
    - Floodproofing (commercial and municipal buildings)
    - Floodplain restoration
    - Bridge or Culvert Upsizing
    - Dam Removal
    - Road resilience (e.g., road relocation, elevation, soil stabilization)
    - Utility resilience
- Other Business/Roundtable
  - Vergennes -

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- The PEL study Technical Committee will meet on June 12 to review the land use visioning component of the project
  - Repair work on the bridge has been completed
- o Lincoln - made an offer to a highway supervisor. He will start after Memorial Day.
- o Faith Dall introduced herself as a VTrans planner
- o New Haven met with Jim Cota from VTrans District 5 about the Dog Team Bridge. They're looking at a replacement and Mike A. will be bringing it up in future meetings
- o Ripton is still looking for a permanent roads manager. They have contractors doing work but not a manager.
- o Orwell
  - Put out an ad looking for a third highway person, but have had no bites.
  - They will be hosting a special hearing on June 6th about allowing ATV/UTVs on town roads
  - Andrea noted that updates on 22A are scheduled for 2028 from Orwell south. It might be time to host another joint TAC meeting with Rutland on that project.
- Adjourn Moved by Mike A. Second by Norm. Adjourn 7:36 PM

**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:

- [Bike and Ped. Grants](#) due June 14th. Application training webinar May 15th.

## 2024 TAC MEETING SCHEDULE

	June 19
July - no meeting	August 21
September 18	October 16
November 20	December - no meeting

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