

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

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

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Addison:		Orwell:	Andrea Treadway (v. chair)
Bridport:	Andrew Manning	Panton:	
Bristol:		Ripton:	Norm Tjossem
Cornwall:		Salisbury:	
Ferrisburgh:	Keilani Lime	Shoreham:	
Goshen:		Starksboro:	
Leicester:		Vergennes:	Brent Rakowski (chair)
Lincoln:	Bill Finger	Waltham:	
Middlebury:	Hugh McLaughlin	Weybridge:	
Monkton:		Whiting:	
New Haven:			
Staff: Mike Winslow		Public: Otis Ellms-Monroe (VTrans), Faith Dall (VTrans)	

AGENDA

- Call to Order: 6:30PM
- Amendments to the Agenda
- Approval of [Minutes](#) from November meeting. Moved by Andrea. Second by Norm. All in favor.
- Regional Transportation Network Flood Vulnerability - Otis Monroe, VTrans
 - VTrans resilience program includes components for Emergency Response, Planning, Design and Engineering, and Infrastructure Investments.
 - Brent asked about coordination of Emergency Response with Districts. The District Techs are the main contacts for recording damage during events.
 - Transportation Resilience Planning Tool (TRPT) was rolled out about 18 months ago. Focuses on flood vulnerability. Developed after Irene.
 - Reducing Repeat Damages Tool covers every road in the state within 100' of the valley top in the Federal Highway system. Comes out of a Federal Highway requirement. Focuses on areas that have been damaged multiple times.
 - Keilani asked if the TRPT considered more than environmental conditions, such as crash data. Answer: no - just covers issues that would

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- o be tied to natural disasters. There are other tools in the traffic and safety realm.
- o The toll rates asset vulnerability and criticality, which are combined to give a risk score.
- o Uses: resilience improvement planning, local and state hazard mitigation planning, project identification and prioritization, and funding proposals.
- o Next steps for TRPT: updates and establish an update process, incorporate new information, better account for freight, expand analysis to the rail system.
- o Resilience Improvement Plan: federally funded and can lead to higher federal contribution to project funding.
- o The RIP is less robust for municipal system because repeat damage information is less formalized and coordinated.
- o In the future, RIP will be used to inform project prioritization and design. Sites identified by the plan are eligible for greater federal funding percentage, and don't require a Benefit Cost Analysis.
- o VTrans is working on a handful of research projects to inform resilience: 1. nature based solutions, 2. landslide hazard identification, and 3. cost/benefit of MRGP resilience.
 - Hugh asked about the reevaluation of flood event frequency. Otis described some work that is happening at the state level to adapt to the climatic changes that are occurring.
- Environmental Assessment for new terminal building - Middlebury Airport
 - o Mike gave an overview of the proposal and draft letter that was included with the agenda and sought feedback.
 - o Andrea mentioned the need for more space and supported moving forward.
 - o Anrea moved to approve the draft letter from the RPC. Hugh seconded. All in favor.
- Transportation Updates from Mike
 - o PEL Study Vergennes. Brent provided a review of the Policy Committee meeting. Consultants recommended removing three of the five options for not meeting the Purpose and Need statement. The committee voted to move those two forward and added back in the VT17 option. The Policy Committee also recommended moving into the NEPA process.
 - Hugh asked about the existing bridge. Mike noted the bridge would be replaced or repaired before any new roads are constructed.
 - o Complete Streets
- Other Business/Roundtable

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- o Orwell - working on ditching projects. Almost done. Possibly buying a wheeled excavator if approved by voters
- o Ripton - rusted guardrails have been removed from the Flower Bridge gaining a little bit in width.
- Adjourn. Moved Andrea adjourned 7:21

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 Fund -due February 17
- Better Connections Program - Due January 24
- [2025 AARP Community Challenge](#) - Due March 5 - quick-action projects that help communities become more livable by improving public places, transportation, housing, digital connections, and more. Max. \$25k.

2025 TAC MEETING SCHEDULE

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

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