

## Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee RPC Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday March 18, 2014

Bradford Town Office, Bradford, VT, 9:30am – 11:00am

### Meeting Summary

**Attended:** Bill Hall, Bethel; Phil Dechert, Norwich; Nancy Jones, Bradford; Kent Gilman, Sharon; Matt Osborn, Hartford; Rod Maclay, Strafford; Jennifer Rivers, Bradford; Danielle Robinson, Bradford; Frank Roderick, Corinth; Dee Montie, Brookfield; Jackie Cassino, VTrans; and Rita Seto, TRORC.

**Regrets:** Michael Brands, Woodstock; Rich Menge, Hartford; Bob Stacey, Hartland; Bill Morgan, Randolph; Rose Hemond, Royalton; Bob Moyer, Braintree; Jon Mackinnon, Strafford; Aaron Brown, Vital Communities; Jack Johnson, Chelsea; Phil Page, Bradford; Sam Van Dam, Thetford; Van Chesnut, Advance Transit; George Deblon, Pittsfield; Neil Fulton, Norwich; Norman Martin, Bridgewater; Paul Haskell, Sharon.

1. **Introductions** – Rod called meeting to order at 9:31am. Group made introductions.

2. **Approval of January 9 Minutes** – Motion by Dee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nancy. Minutes approved.

3. **I-91 NB + SB bridge over US 5 replacement** – *Jennifer Fitch, VTrans (via phone)*

Jennifer is a project manager working on this 1966 I-91 twin bridge (BR43N and BR43S) replacement. The construction will replace the 3-span bridge into a single span (100ft) using lateral slide technology and is unique as it will be applied to this large project (first in Vermont of this size). This innovative technique is where the new bridge is built next to the old bridge, and will require the closure of I-91 during a weekend or two where the contractor will demo the old bridge and slide the new bridge in place. Construction is expected in 2015 and the first public meeting is May 20 in Hartford. There will be a website dedicated to this construction project

4. **FY'16 Project Prioritization** – *Rita*

Rita discussed the projects currently on the list and recommended scoring changes to Newbury US5 paving under safety from 25 to 30 points based on the significant feedback from residents/town. There is no set schedule for the next 4 years for paving this section and it's in dire condition. Bill (Bethel) proposed a similar scoring change for the Bethel-Randolph VT12 section under safety from 25 to 30. Bill also noted Bethel BR38 can be removed from the list as it's currently being constructed under FEMA funds. Frank motioned to accept changes, Dee 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved. Rita will present recommendations to Commission on Mar 26 and then submit to VTrans Apr 1.

5. **I-89 Sign Updates** – *Rita*

Rita presented the existing signs on I-89 which are divided into primary and supplementary guide signs. Two destinations are allowed per sign and the region was asked to reflect if destinations have changed and to recommend any updates. The TAC agreed to keep the Welcome Center sign for downtown WRJ as it encourages drivers to explore downtowns (which is what Vermont encourages). The TAC also incorporated changes to include Justin Morrill Historic Site, VT Law School and Joseph Smith Birthplace at Exit 2. After good discussion, the final recommended signs are:

**I-89 Signage from New Hampshire Border**

	<b>Sign Description</b>	<b>Northbound</b>	<b>Southbound</b>	<b>Sign Type</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	Welcome Center for Downtown WRJ	x		Supplemental Guide	existing
<b>Recommendation Exit 1</b>					
2	US4 Woodstock-Rutland	x		Primary Guide	existing
3	Quechee-Killington	x		Supplemental Guide	existing
4	US4 Woodstock-Quechee		x	Primary Guide	existing
5	Welcome Center for Downtown WRJ		x	Supplemental Guide	proposed
<b>Recommendation Exit 2</b>					
6	VT132 to VT14 Sharon - S. Royalton Justin Morrill Historic Site - VT Law	x		Primary Guide	existing
7	School	x		Supplemental Guide	proposed
8	VT132 to VT14 Sharon - Strafford Justin Morrill Historic Site/Joseph Smith		x	Primary Guide	proposed
9	Birthplace		x	Supplemental Guide	proposed
<b>Recommendation Exit 3</b>					
10	VT107 to VT14, VT100 - Bethel - Royalton	x		Primary Guide	proposed
11	Killington - Rutland VT107 to VT14, VT100 - Bethel -	x		Supplemental Guide	proposed
12	Royalton		x	Primary Guide	existing
13	Rutland - VT Law School		x	Supplemental Guide	existing

Rita will present recommendations to Commission on Mar 26 and submit to VTrans Apr 1.

**6. High Risk Rural Roads – Rita**

Rita announced that between last TAC meeting and this TAC meeting, VTrans gave a month notice turnaround to select HRRR locations for this year. Rita had already submitted the recommended locations and VTrans recently picked the two HRRR projects for this year: Brookfield – Ridge Rd from Randolph town line to VT65 and Hartford – Quechee Main St from Waterman Hill to Tichenor Rd and Dewey Mills Rd.

**7. Other business?**

- Rochester/Middlebury/Warren – Rita showed the VTrans website for the bridge projects <http://rmw.vtransprojects.vermont.gov/>.
- Vermont State Rail Plan
- 2014 Way to Go Commute – May 12 – 18, 2014
- Next TAC meeting – Chair and Vice Chair positions up for grabs! Rod and Dee are willing to continue being Chair and Vice Chair if no one else is interested.

Meeting adjourned 11:05 am

Next meeting on Thursday May 8, 2014 – 9:30am – 11am. Tracy Hall, Norwich