



Two Rivers-Ottauquechee RPC Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday Nov. 10, 2022

9:30AM – 11:00AM

Zoom Conference Call and Bethel Town Hall

Meeting Summary

Town	Representative	Present	Town	Representative	Present	Town	Representative	Present
Barnard	Rob Ramrath Jerry Fredrickson	X X	Hancock	Dan Perera		Royalton	Victoria Paquin	X
Bethel	Bill Hall	X	Hartford	Jeremy Delisle Matt Osborn	X	Sharon	Nicola Shipman	X
Bradford	Nancy Jones Phil Page	X	Hartland	Dave Ormiston		Stockbridge	-	
Braintree	Bob Moyer	X	Newbury	Bob Beaulieu		Strafford	Lisa Bragg	
Bridgewater			Norwich			Thetford	Bryan Gazda	
Brookfield			Pittsfield	George Deblon		Topsham	Jim Bulger	
Chelsea	Doug Lyford	X	Plymouth			Tunbridge	Michael Sacca	
Corinth	Joe Blodgett		Pomfret			Vershire	-	
Fairlee	Smith Reed Tad Nunez	X	Randolph			West Fairlee	-	
Granville	-		Rochester	Doon Hinderyckx		Woodstock	Steven Bauer	
At-Large Members								
Advance Transit	Adams Carroll			VTrans Planning Coordinator		Matthew Arancio		X
Tri-Valley Transit	Jim Moulton Jade McClallen Mike Reiderer			VTrans D4 VTrans D7		Chris Bump/Mike Blakslee Shauna Clifford		
Vital Communities	Ellen Hender John Haffner			Vermont Local Roads		Todd Eaton		

Guests: Peter Gregory, TRORC; Pat Ross, ANR RME; Karl Kemintzer, Sierra Club

- 1. Introductions** – Smith called meeting to order 9:31 am. Rita roll called attendance.
- Additions to Agenda and Public Comments – none
- Approval of Sept. 8 minutes – Jerry Fredrickson moved to approve. Nancy Jones seconded. Unanimous approval.
- 4. VPSP2 Bridge Selection Review** – Rita
With the VTrans list, we'll review the State and Town Highway bridges that were selected recently for the capital program and next steps. Rita reviewed the VPSP2 list of state and town highway bridges that TRORC submitted for VTrans consideration. Rita then reviewed the list of state and town highway bridges currently in the Capital Program and the VPSP2 selected



state and town highway bridges state-wide. Rita discussed bridges will be reviewed again in 2024 and VTrans's current list is fairly conservative based on the inflation costs. TRORC TAC will review roadway and paving projects for the upcoming March round. Doug from Chelsea noted the need to continue pursuing town highway bridge 45 on Maple Ave that may help improve property appraisal values.

5. **DEC MRGP 2.0 Permit Comments** – Rita

Rita presented the comments that VAPDA (the 11 RPCs) collectively pulled together on the MRGP 2.0 version. Key comments include:

- Defining dedicated funding for re-assessments of road erosion inventories (previously funded through VTrans Better Roads Cat A) – unsure of funding for next round of permit cycle.
- Recommend producing a report about how the permit process worked for the first five years, and then summarize how the proposed changes address those lessons learned.
- How is the funding raised by permit fees (administrative processing fee, annual operating fee) being used?
- ANR has not issued a synthesis of the proposed changes to the permit. This requires painstaking cross referencing between the current permit and the draft permit in order to get a sense of what changes are proposed. A synthesis of the proposed changes would be helpful for evaluating the draft permit.
- The new requirement about intermittent stream culverts will require training for road crews on identifying and sizing intermittent stream culverts to be compliant with the permit.
- How will the transition from the current permit to the reissued permit work?
- Gully erosion on class 4 roads – recommend an exemption option.

Rita also reviewed the timeline deadlines comparing Permit 1.0 vs. 2.0 and what fees towns should incorporate this year into town budget.

6. **FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grants discussion** – Rita

Rita had a discussion on the FEMA BRIC grant and how to maximize the grant to towns efforts – like Brookfield and Bethel getting awarded BRIC scoping for a large culvert design. The resulting product of a design and cost estimate will assist town applications for construction. Towns need to consider the Benefit-Cost Analysis which can be challenging to be eligible for BRIC construction funds.

7. Other business

- RT4 Corridor Study Public Survey update – Matthew Arancio, VTrans
Matthew presented the RT4 survey is now open and is soliciting comments.
<https://vtrans.vermont.gov/corridor/US4-Hartford-Woodstock>
- 2022 VTrans Transportation Alternatives Grant – **due Dec. 14, 2022**



- VTrans Better Roads Grant – **Dec. 16, 2022**
- VTCulverts.org – mobile training update for towns – Rita reported 1/3 towns have been trained on mobile app to update culvert inventory.
- Town garages – what are other towns doing? Rita pointed out Town of Vershire website has good information on their engineering design, process and cost estimates if other towns are considering new town garages.
- Bike Ped survey recap – Rita noted only a few towns filled out the bike ped survey. Rita may reach out individually to towns to gauge bike ped needs to form a regional assessment.

Meeting adjourned 10:45am

Next meeting on Thursday January 12, 2023

2023 TRORC TAC Meeting Dates:

Jan 12 / Mar 9 / May 11 / July 13 / Sept 14 / Nov 9