

**SOUTHERN WINDSOR COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2013

A meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at the SWCRPC office in Ascutney at 6pm.

Attendance – TAC members present: Kristi Morris, Springfield (Chair); Tom Kenyon, West Windsor (Vice Chair); Shep Thomas, Baltimore; Michelle Lindberg, Cavendish; Bob Parker, Chester; Sharon Bixby, Ludlow; and Jeff Slade, Weathersfield.

Others present: Katharine Otto and Jason Rasmussen, SWCRPC; Jeff Taft-Dick, Vermont Bicycle and Pedestrian Coalition.

Meeting Opened: Kristi Morris opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

Welcome and introductions

Acceptance of minutes of February 20, 2013 minutes

Shep Thomas moved to approve the minutes of February 20, 2013. Seconded by Tom Kenyon. Approved unanimously.

Letter of Support for CRT's FY2014 Operating and Capital Grant Application

Mary Habig, Executive Director of Connecticut River Transit, requested a letter of support for the FY2014 Operating and Capital Grant Application. CRT is applying for level funding, including the additional amount allocated mid-year for Elderly and Persons with Disabilities clients. They are also applying for CMAQ funds for three day services in the Windsor area – which will be defined following a survey which CRT, the Town and the RPC are currently writing. Following a request from the Town of Weathersfield, CRT is also applying for capital funds for 2 bus shelters. CRT is also applying for operating and capital projects for the Brattleboro and Route 30 areas which are outside of the Region but within their service area.

Sharon Bixby moved to authorize Kristi to sign a letter of support for CRT's FY2014 grant application. Seconded by Jeff Slade. Approved unanimously.

Project Prioritization

Katharine and Jason reviewed the prioritization process for this year, including both prioritizing projects in VTrans' budget as well as identifying new "pre-candidate" needs for the Town Highway Bridge program. In addition to the priorities established in the February meeting, the TAC established the Region's priority project priorities (listed by category):

Paving

1. Chester-Springfield – Resurface VT-10
2. Chester – Class 1 repaving - Resurface VT-11 and VT-103
3. Springfield – Class 1 repaving – Resurface VT-11
- 4= Windsor – Class 1 repaving – US-5 and VT-44
- 4= West Windsor – Resurface VT-44

Did not rank VT-131 repaving projects which are Front of Book and due for construction summer 2013

Town Highway Bridges (just Front of Book and Development & Evaluation projects)

1. Ludlow Bridge 25 (Walker Bridge) on VT-103 (Main St)
2. Cavendish Bridge 58 on Depot St

Pre-Candidate Town Highway Bridge Program Prioritization

Katharine and Jason explained how the prioritizing the Pre-Candidate Bridge list helps VTrans to determine which projects get funded in the future under the Town Highway Bridge Program. The TAC established a list of the Region's pre-Candidate Town Highway Bridge project priorities:

1. Springfield Bridge 62 ("McDs") on VT-11 (Chester Rd)
2. Windsor Bridge 55 on US-5 (Main St)
3. Springfield Bridge 79 on Park St
4. North Springfield Bridge 56 on Main St (N)
5. Chester Bridge 62 on Thompson Rd
6. Ludlow Bridge 17 on Pleasant St Extension
7. Andover Bridge 9 ("High") on Weston-Andover Rd
8. Ludlow Bridge 26 ("Vail") on VT-103 (Main St)
9. Weathersfield Bridge 63 on Ascutney Basin Rd
10. Windsor Bridge 24 on Brook Rd

The TAC did not rank the following bridges in the top 10:

- Chester Bridge 13 on Missing Link Rd
- Chester Bridge 6 on Grafton Rd
- Ludlow Bridge 57 on Mill St
- Ludlow Bridge 31 on Clark Dr
- Ludlow Br 12 on Rod and Fun Club Rd
- Reading Bridge 28 on Town Farm Rd
- Windsor Bridge 22 on Brook Rd

Updates and Announcements

- a) *Way To Go Commuter Challenge – May 13-17, 2013*. Katharine outlined what Way To Go week is all about and how to get involved. More information, including sign up, is available online at www.waytogovt.org and <http://swcrpc.org/wp/programs/transportation>
- b) *Scenic Route 100 Byway* – Last week the Byway had its final hearing in front to the Vermont Transportation Board in order to expand from 6 towns to 20 towns which stretch from Granville Gulf to the Massachusetts border, and include SWC's towns of Ludlow, Cavendish and Andover.
- c) *Legislative update* – Lots of moving pieces so no update.
- d) *Construction projects* – Katharine handed out a spreadsheet with details about upcoming construction projects – for both this summer and in the future. There are several moving pieces and she will continue to keep everyone updated and in the loop where relevant about the upcoming projects through the RPC website.
- e) *Bylaws* – There is potential for 3 people to be interested in the 2 at-large member seats on the TAC. The TAC may wish to amend the Bylaws to allow all three to be members at the next meeting.
- f) *2012 Traffic Count Report* – Katharine handed out the new 2012 Traffic Count Report. Regular counts which are usually carried out every other year were not done in 2012 due to Irene. Six counts were done at the request of the towns and are included in the report. These traffic counts can be useful for a variety of purposes including estimating road maintenance and speed studies. To date we have not received any requests from police departments – only town staff and selectboards – but it could be useful for them. Let Katharine know if you need any counts done this year.
- g) *High Risk Rural Roads (HRRR)* – VTrans selected Okemo Mountain Road in Ludlow and Fairgrounds Road in Springfield for this year's HRRR program.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting will be May 15, 2013, including election of officers and at-large members. Potential Bylaws update.

Shep Thomas moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm. Seconded by Sharon Bixby. Approved unanimously.