

SOUTHERN WINDSOR COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2017

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

Attendance – TAC members present: Kristi Morris, Springfield (Chair); Charlie Golden, Andover; Wayne Wheelock, Baltimore; John Saydek, Cavendish; Arne Jonynas, Chester; and Gordy Eastman, Reading.

Others present: Katharine Otto, SWCRPC; Jackie Cassino, VTrans; Barry Williams, Andover Selectboard

Meeting Opened: The meeting opened at 6:05pm

Welcome and introductions

Changes to the agenda

None

Acceptance of minutes

Wayne Wheelock moved to approve the minutes of January 25, 2017. Seconded by Charlie Golden. Approved unanimously.

Project Prioritization and Town Highway Bridge Pre-Candidates

At the January TAC meeting Katharine Otto gave an overview of the methodology for project prioritization and town highway bridge pre-candidates for this year – including a handout. Katharine distributed the lists to be prioritized by email on 2/15, which will include pre-assigned responses for the regional criteria, as well as input from Town Road Foremen and Town Managers/ Selectboard Chairs.

The TAC established a list of the Region's priority project priorities (listed by category, with additional comments where relevant):

Paving

1. VT-11 from Londonderry to Chester village – roadway is in awful shape and needs urgent attention.
2. VT-131 from VT-103 in Cavendish to VT-106 in Weathersfield
3. VT-10 in Chester and Springfield
4. VT-106 (River St) in Springfield from VT-11 to VT-10
5. VT-44 from VT-106 in Reading to VT-44A in Windsor
6. VT-11 from the class 1 town highway in Chester (approx. VT-103 intersection) to the class 1 town highway in Springfield (Park St)

Roadway

1. Smithville Reconstruction on VT-103 in Cavendish and Ludlow

Safety and Traffic Operations

- No projects to rank this year

State Highway Bridges

1. Chester Bridge 14 on VT-103 near Cavendish Road
2. Chester Bridge 16 on VT-103 near Smokeshire Road

Town Highway Bridges

1. Springfield Bridge 62 (McDonalds) on VT-11
2. Springfield Bridge 82 (Big Culvert) on County Road
3. Cavendish Bridge 58 on Depot St
4. Andover Bridge 9 (High Bridge) on Weston-Andover Road
5. Springfield Bridge 56 (Willard) on Main Street North Springfield
6. Chester Bridge 62 on Thompson Road
7. Ludlow Bridge 57 on Mill St

The TAC established a list of the Region's pre-Candidate Town Highway Bridge project priorities:

1. Ludlow Bridge 26 (Vail) on Main St
2. Windsor Bridge 55 on US-5 next to the American Precision Museum
3. Springfield Bridge 79 on Park St
4. Weathersfield Bridge 63 on Ascutney Basin Road
5. Windsor Bridge 24 on Brook Road

The TAC asked that their comments about the poor shape of VT-11 be passed along to VTrans.

Arne Jonynas moved to recommend these priorities (Project Prioritization and Pre-Candidate Town Highway Bridge List) to the RPC Board for approval prior to submittal to VTrans. Seconded by Gordy Eastman. Approved unanimously.

2016 TAC Annual Report

Katharine handed out the annual summary of the activity of the TAC and the Transportation Planning Initiative (TPI). The TAC found it interesting and useful.

Updates and Announcements

- a) *Construction Updates*
 - a. 2/8 – I-91 bridge in Rockingham near exit 6 – Article in the Eagle Times gives a good summary of what is planned - http://www.eagletimes.com/news/2017-02-10/Front_Page/New_44M_I91_bridge_to_be_built_to_last_100_years.html
 - b. 2/13 – US-5 and VT-11 intersection safety improvements in Springfield – Traffic light due for US-5 and VT-11 intersection. Changes to the southbound I-91 off-ramp had considerable discussion.
- b) *Grant Opportunities* - <http://swcrpc.org/grants/>
 - a. Better Roads Grants – Applications due March 17. <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads>
 - b. Downtown Transportation Grant – Applications due March 6. <http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/downtown-transportation-fund>
 - c. Vermont Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Grants – Applications are due to be announced in late April. <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped>
- c) *Meetings* – See construction updates
- d) *Permit Applications* - No news
- e) *Legislative updates* – No news
- f) *Municipal Roads General Permit* - Draft Permit is available for review <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-information-applications-fees/municipal-roads-program>
Comments on these draft rules are preferred by April 1. Formal rulemaking and public hearings in the summer.
- g) *2016 Vermont Transportation Board Report on Rail* – Now available at <http://tboard.vermont.gov/>
- h) *Other updates*
 - a. On-road bicycling survey – Available online until 3/10 at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VTrans_OnRoad_Bicycle_Plan_PhaseII. More information about the project is available from <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/bikeplan>

Other Business

Update on Gordy's new job.

Katharine handed out the 2017 Quick Facts from VTrans card.

Future agenda items and next meeting date

Next meeting in Ascutney. 3/22 at 6pm.

Agenda item requests – VTrans Long Range Transportation Plan Outreach, Rail meeting (including maintenance practices and train track upgrades), vehicle inspections, highway safety

Gordy Eastman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. Seconded by ArneGordy Eastman. Approved unanimously.