Meeting convened at 4:10 p.m.

**Introductions:** Introductions were made.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019 meeting was made by George, seconded by Prudence. The minutes were approved.

**Vermont Public Transit Policy Plan Update:** Jackie Cassino, VTrans Planning Coordinator, was present to provide a review of the update of the Vermont Public Transit Policy Plan and the related process. She reviewed the underlying statutory requirements, noting that this is the first major update in 10 years. She then reviewed transit use trends, summarized public input and stakeholder themes, reviewed the elderly and disabled elements, summarized transit policy goals, and identified primary needs in the short and long-term. A public draft will be released in early November for review and comments will be taken through December.

**Greenfield Rail Pilot Update:** Chris distributed the rail pilot timetable and a description of the Greenfield train platform. He noted the pilot is up and running and that the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) will be hosting a marketing meeting and that he had suggested they include representatives from the Brattleboro Chamber of Commerce and the downtown association. The biggest challenge for southeastern Vermont is getting passengers from Greenfield to Brattleboro (and other local destinations). Chris indicated he would check with the local organizations and FRCOG about the marketing meeting.

**Class 4 Town Roads & Legal Trails:** GIS Senior GIS Technician, Jeff Nugent, was present to discuss a WRC project that will have multiple objectives and benefits. The WRC will inventory all town Class 4 and legal trails to confirm to VTrans that they are located on the ground where they are on maps, whether they are passable or impassable, and whether or not they might be a good recreational or non-motorized pathway. The review process will begin using GIS, LiDAR and other mapping tools to identify where the roads are and their relative state of maintenance, which will be followed by ground-truthing. Towns will be informed of the work but likely won’t be asked to do anything.
Transportation Climate Initiative: Chris explained that WRC had participated with Bennington County Regional Commission in hosting a local stakeholder meeting to discuss the question, if funding was available to invest in reducing greenhouse gas emissions related to transportation, what might those investments be? The information from this session was used at a meeting on October 2nd at Vermont Law School where representatives from Vermont, Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire discussed transportation investment priorities. Funding would come from the northeast region transportation climate initiative (TCI), which would cap and trade transportation related greenhouse gas emissions. Transportation fuel providers would obtain an allowance for every ton of carbon dioxide resulting from fuel they sell through an auction. States will decide this spring whether or not they will join and participate in the TCI, likely through legislative processes.

Recap of Route 9 Traffic Safety Meeting with VTrans: Representative Mollie Burke briefly summarized the outcome of a meeting held in Marlboro on Friday, October 4th about commercial truck traffic safety on Route 9. The Vermont Secretary of Transportation was in attendance along with 5 other senior staff. Participants shared their concerns and VTrans indicated they would give serious considerations to those concerns. Brattleboro is moving quickly to determine what improvements might be made in West Brattleboro. Enforcement of commercial carrier laws is an issue, including chaining up during winter weather conditions.

The committee was reminded that Transportation Alternatives Grant applications are due to VTrans by November 22nd.

Next Meeting Scheduled: Monday, December 9th at 4 p.m. or as needed at the WRC

Meeting adjourned 6:00 p.m. on a motion by Joel, seconded by George.
Respectfully submitted, Chris Campany, Staff