WRC Transportation Committee Minutes
November 14, 2016
WRC Conference Room

Members Present: Lew Sorenson (Chair), Dick Clark, Lou Bruso, Rebecca Gagnon, Prudence MacKinney

Guests: Chris Clow (VTrans), Jackie Cassino (VTrans), Eric Foster (VTrans)

WRC Staff: Chris Campany

- WRC Transportation Planning Staffing Update: WRC Executive Director, Chris Campany, announced that Erica Roper had been hired as the new transportation planner. Emily Davis, who was hired in October, will also be working on transportation planning with an emphasis on the road erosion inventory and other stream/river/road issues.
- Introduction of Chris Clow, VTrans Transportation Engineer with the Policy, Planning and Research Bureau: Chris will be involved with the VTrans review of Act 250 applications as well as corridor planning. Chris provided a brief overview of the new VTrans approach to corridor planning, which will be more streamlined, will build upon planning work that has already been done, and which will integrate a broader spectrum of issues, including maintenance and project development, into the process.
- I-91 Bridge Update with Eric Foster, VTrans Resident Engineer: Eric provided an update on the state of construction of the bridge. The final segment will be poured and then much of the work will move into the interior of the bridge. The goal is to open the bridge in June, 2017. Demolition of the remaining old bridge will begin thereafter.
- Route 30 (Brattleboro) Mini-Corridor Plan Update: Chris provided an update on the status of this project with the Town of Brattleboro. The final draft of the plan is being completed and will be presented to the Selectboard in December.
- Summary of Transportation Alternatives grant applications: Chris explained that the WRC assisted the towns of Dover and Brookline with applications. Dover is seeking funding for further development of its trail network. Brookline is seeking funding to rebuild its salt shed to avoid salt intrusion into adjacent Grassy Brook.
- Road Erosion Inventory Update – lessons learned from our pilot effort in Weston: Chris provided an overview of how many road segments were identified as having road erosion issues and what staff learned about the inventory process. Determining which road segments are “connected” – those road segments that are directly connected to streams or intermittent streams – is not always straightforward as the presence of erosion (i.e., sediment signatures, etc.) is not always apparent. Draft Municipal Road General Permit standards provide the guidelines for the inventory.
- Southeast Vermont Transit Update - Route 30 Transit CMAQ Proposal Status & Rockingham Park and Ride Status: Southeast Vermont Transit provided an update on the Rockingham
Park and Ride. They hope to have it open before Christmas. This is a town-owned Park and
Ride that will be operated and maintained by the Town of Rockingham. The lot is fully
paved, the bus shelter is in place and striping was scheduled for that Saturday. They are
waiting for the installation of the light poles, which are due to ship the beginning of
December. This is a 47 space Park and Ride with (3) Level one charging stations. A
Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) application has been submitted to VTrans
for transit service in the Route 30 corridor. There was no CMAQ funding available for this
year so this was an unsolicited application, but it should be at the top for consideration
when funding is again available. VTrans supports the application.

- Introduction to Transportation Element of Energy Planning Standards: Chris provided a
  brief overview of the transportation sector energy standards established by the Public
  Service Department as a part of the regional and municipal energy planning provisions of
  Act 174.