WRC TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 12, 2012
WRC Brattleboro

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM.

ATTENDANCE
Jack Cunningham  Kendall Gifford  Lew Sorenson  Gary Fox
Lou Brusso       Matt Mann (staff)  Fred Bullock  Rep. Mollie Burke
Dominique Haynes Dora Bouboulis  Sue Clark - VTrans

Regrets: Mary Habig

MINUTES APPROVAL
A motion to accept as submitted the minutes of the February 13, 2012 passed on a unanimous voice vote.

BUSINESS

Representative Mollie Burke
Rep. Burke discussed some of the relevant issues in the 2013 Transportation bill.
  a) Enhancement Grant Program Priorities – preferential weighting to projects when a municipality implements eligible environmental mitigation projects.
  b) Scott Bridge in Townshend put on the D&E list for 2013, but only if expenditures do not delay other programmed D&E expenditures.
  c) Transportation Funding Study Committee – Annual gas and diesel tax revenues at the same level since 1999, while VMT has increased by 13.2%. Investigate options like a VMT tax and/or alternative financing mechanisms.
  d) State Aid for Emergencies
  e) State Aid for Town Highway Structures – Maintenance grants available (in the Bill draft 5.1 p.14).
  f) Local Highway Match, Exceptions – Highway and bridge match is typically 10% except: on any bridge replacement project in the TH bridge program when bridge is closed and no temporary bridge is available, the Town pay 5%. And on any rehab bridge project the Federal and state pays 95% of the cost and 97.5% if the town closes the bridge and doesn’t construct a temporary bridge.

Other issues Rep Burke is working on: Bike/Ped safety, Transportation funding options, specifically green tax policy.

Town Highway Bridge Pre-Candidate list
The Windham Regional Transportation Committee considered 38 long structures, in 15 different towns, to be prioritized. The VTrans list included 5 long structures. Six (6) towns
and WRC staff involvement included 33 additional long structures to be reviewed. The Committee used project prioritization criteria that included measures below. The Committee considered including the cost estimates for each project as a criterion, but this information was not available for each project. Given the commitment to town highway long structures, the Committee did not rank bridges that are on the state highway network or that are already in the FY2013 Transportation Program, Capital Projects.

The Committee ranked each long structure based on criteria that included:

- **AADT criteria** - low = < 200 vehicles, medium = 200 to 1,000, and high = > 1,000
- **Sufficiency Rating** - low = 40 to 97, medium = 25 to 39, and high = 17 to 24

Other criteria included the role of each bridge:

- In the regional economy (connecting roads, Town/Village Centers)
- Importance of the bridge to the community
- Length of the detour and congestion associated with a bridge closing

Below is the prioritized bridge list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Route Carried</th>
<th>Bridge Number</th>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Brattleboro</td>
<td>VT9</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Whetstone Brook</td>
<td>0.9 MI W JCT. I91 EX. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Newfane</td>
<td>FAS106 TH2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Rock River</td>
<td>1.9 mi W Jct. VT.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>C3019</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>West River</td>
<td>0.1 MI JCT TH 17 &amp; TH 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Readsboro</td>
<td>FAS 0105</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>W. Br. Deerfield River</td>
<td>0.2 MI S JCT. VT.100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Guilford</td>
<td>C3017</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Watsons Brook</td>
<td>0.15 mi to Jct W C3 TH12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Wardsboro</td>
<td>C3026</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Wardsboro Brook</td>
<td>@ JCT W VT100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Westminster</td>
<td>C3035</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Stratton Hill Brook</td>
<td>0.15 mi to Jct W CL2 TH 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Next meeting will be on April 9th.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10