RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION



COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2024, 5:30 PM

MEETING DETAILS

Virtual: <u>Teams Meeting</u>, ID: 226 664 661 864, Pass: qCPd89 I Call: 1-802-440-1368, ID: 485 980 535# In-Person: The Opera House, 3rd Floor, 67 Merchants Row, Rutland, VT 05701

ATTENDANCE

(X = in person) (V = virtual attendance)

TOWN	NAME		TOWN	NAME	
Benson	Cheryl Murray		Pawlet	John Sabotka &	V
				Harley Cudey	
Brandon	Mike Jones	V	Pittsford	David Atherton	V
Castleton	Michael Jones	V	Poultney	Sarah Pelkey	
Chittenden	Jan Sotirakis	V	Proctor	Bruce Baccei	
Clarendon	Dave Potter	Х	Rutland City	Kiana McClure	
Danby	John Mykleburst		Rutland Town	Dave Sears	
Fair Haven			Shrewsbury	Marc Cimonetti	
Hubbardton	Janet Morey		Sudbury		
Ira	Larry Tagart		Tinmouth	Judy Gilmore	V
Killington	Abby Sherman	V	Wallingford	Bruce Dobbins	
Mendon	Larry Courcelle	V	Wells		
Middletown	William Reed		West Haven	John Garrison	
Springs					
Mount Holly	Clinton Wooley		West Rutland	Sean Barrows	Х

Guests: Faith Dall (VTrans), Matthew Arancio (VTrans), Abe Koffman (VTrans), Christopher Taft (VTrans) Staff: Ethan Pepin

MEETING MINUTES

- 1. INTRODUCTIONS Introductions were made.
- APPROVAL OF MARCH 28TH AGENDA Chair Barrows made a request to amend the agenda and add an item regarding the Fair Haven Park & Ride project. Motion made by Potter. Second by Coucelle. Approved by voice vote.

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- 3. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 29TH MINUTES Motion by Potter to approve the minutes. Second by Sabotka. Approved by voice vote.
- 4. OPEN TO PUBLIC No public comments.

5. VTRANS DISTRICT 3 – CHRISTOPHER TAFT

Taft introduced his background and role as District 1 & 3 Administrator. Barrows asked about Taft's fixed office location. Taft explained he split his time between an office in Mendon and an office in Bennington. Taft then showed maps of the boundaries of District 1 & 3. Pepin requested Taft explain the Town Highway Structures & Resurfacing grant programs. Taft explained how the town highway classification system works. Taft explained the Class 2 Surfacing grant program. Barrows requested information about scheduling. Taft noted that districts start soliciting in spring and that allocation is based on previous grants and total class 2 highway mileage. Pepin showed a custom ArcGIS map of the Region's highway classifications. Pepin then showed the VTrans website where the specific town highway maps could be downloaded and used Benson as an example. Taft then explained the Town Highway Structure grant program. Potter asked if additional money was allocated by the legislature as a result of District 3 expanding to include Middlebury. Taft said additional money was allocated since allocation are based on total District mileage. Atherton requested information about when Town Highway Surfacing grants were announced. Taft said mid-May was the expectation. Taft then went over the Town Highway Emergency grant program. Barrows asked about district level paving programs. Taft explained that they were run through Asset Management, but the Districts gave input. Barrows asked about what projects were potentially going to be advanced in the future. Taft did not have any plans to share at the moment. Barrows asked about funding for guardrails. Taft explained how guardrail funding was allocated noting that retaining walls could also qualify under the program. Potter asked about the pace of the US-7 segment projects and if Taft could assist in keeping them moving. Taft said he would do his part, but the overall process is slow due to a variety of factors. Barrows asked what role Taft had in those major projects. Taft said the District commented on plans and gave input. Gilmore noted that she didn't think the Districts had much chance for input. Taft noted that such projects were always a balancing act between stakeholders. Barrows thanked Taft for taking the time to meet with the TAC. Taft thanked the TAC for adjusting to a Wednesday time.

6. FAIR HAVEN PARK & RIDE

Pepin showed the plans for the Fair Haven Park & Ride project currently under construction, explaining all of the project elements. Pepin then showed the project in the larger context of the downtown, along with another project currently being planned to revitalize the Downtown Block.

7. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Pepin announced that the VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program was now open with applications due on June 14th. Pepin highlighted some Regional Projects that had used the funding.



Pepin explained that scoping & planning studies, small scale projects and large-scale projects were all eligible.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pepin announced Larry Taggart would be retiring from TAC. Pepin then announced that the RRPC would be moving offices to Evelyn Street. Barrows asked if the TAC would be interested in an in-person field trip or site visit.

- 9. TOWN UPDATES No updates.
- 10. ADJOURN Adjourned at 6:37 PM.

Respectively submitted by Ethan Pepin