

**Regional Transportation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2011
NRPC Office, 155 Lake Street, St. Albans, VT**

Attendance

TAC Representatives:

Municipality	Representative	Present	Municipality	Representative	Present	Municipality	Representative	Present
Alburgh Town	Douglas Medor		Alburgh Village	Paul Hansen	√	Bakersfield	Brian Westcom	
Enosburg Falls	Richard Roberge		Enosburg Town	Joey Clark	√	Fairfax	Colleen Steen	√
Fairfield	Carl Gleason	√	Fletcher	Terry Riggs		Franklin	Peter Magnant	√
Georgia	Jerry Baitz	√	Grand Isle	David Leslie	√	Highgate	Georgette Johnson	√
Isle La Motte	Robin Gutierrez		Montgomery	Mark Brouillette		Richford	Jim Tomlinson	√
Sheldon	Jack Dufresne		South Hero	John Roy		St. Albans City	Joesph Luneau	
St. Albans Town	John Whitney		Swanton Town	Warren Fournier	√	Swanton Village	Vacant	
GMTA (Transit)	Tim Bradshaw		NECR (Rail)	Charles Hunter		MVRT (Bike/Ped)	Cynthia Scott	√
Air Rep.	George Coy	√						

Alternates and Other Participants: Susan Clark (VTrans, via phone), Steve Beauregard (St. Albans Town) and Bethany Remmers (staff).

Introductions:

The meeting began at 7:06 PM followed by introductions.

Presentation: Feasibility of Using Salt Brine Technology for Winter Road Maintenance in Rural Vermont Towns:

B. Remmers presented the results of her paper on using Salt Brine for winter road maintenance. Salt brine is a liquid mixture of 77% water and 23% salt that can be used for anti-icing and deicing of roads. Other chemicals/products can be added to the brine to make it effective at lower temperatures. By using salt brine, communities may be able to reduce how much solid salt they use, save money and provide a better winter road surface. B. Remmers explained the impact of salt on ground water, surface water and the transportation infrastructure. As part of her research, B. Remmers compiled the salt costs of five Franklin County communities for the last five years. From this, she projected the future costs of using solid and compared it with the cost of using salt brine. For the five towns in the study, the payback period for the initial salt brine equipment ranged from five to nine years.

FY 2012 Transportation Planning Initiative (TPI) Work Program:

The TAC reviewed the draft FY 2012 TPI work program. D. Leslie recommended adding a task to look at emergency traffic circulation issues in the island. This would include identifying key bridges and linkages and planning alternative routes for when US 2 is closed during emergencies such as flooding and traffic accidents.

J. Baitz moved to recommend adoption of the FY 2012 TPI work program by the NRPC Board of Commissioners. C. Steen seconded. The motion carried.

Lamoille Valley Rail Trail Advisory Committee (LAC)

1 The current LAC members from the region are: Nancy Hunt, adjacent landowner representative (Bakersfield),
2 Dick Thompson, municipal representative (Swanton Town), Cynthia Scott, business representative (Missisquoi
3 Valley Rail Trail) and Bethany Remmers, regional planning commission representative (NRPC staff).

4
5 *D. Leslie moved to nominate these current representatives to another year. W. Fournier seconded. The motion*
6 *carried.*

7
8 **Updates and Information:**

9 B. Remmers reported that the Enhancement Grant applications will be due August 19. The NRPC is available to
10 assist communities with the application process. Applicants will be invited to the August TAC meeting to discuss
11 their projects. C. Scott noted that a section of the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail has been closed outside of Enosburg
12 Falls because of a culvert issue. District 8 is working on fixing the trail. The TAC agreed to cancel the July
13 meeting.

14
15 **Minutes:**

16
17 *C. Steen moved to accept the May 12, 2011 meeting minutes. G. Johnson seconded. The motion carried.*

18
19 **Other Business:**

20 C. Steen reported a significant culvert issue across VT 104 (Main Street) just north of Fairfax. S. Clark
21 volunteered to contact District 8 about the issue.

22
23 *D. Roberge moved to adjourn; J. Baitz seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.*