

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2007, NRPC CONFERENCE ROOM**

**Attendance:** Raymond Larose, Paul Hansen, John Whitney, Colleen Steen, Joyce Tuck, Jim Tomlinson, John Roy, Richard Roberge, Georgette Johnson, Cynthia Scott, Warren Fournier, David Borthwick-Leslie, Bill Rose (Staff)

Chair R. Larose called the meeting to order at 7:07pm

## **INTRODUCTIONS**

### **2007 ROAD SAFETY AUDIT REVIEW SITE SELECTION**

B. Rose explained the process for conducting road safety audit reviews was going to be handled differently this year. The focus of VTrans efforts on the RSAR program was being shifted to further the aims and goals of the Highway Safety Policy Plan. Rose explained that VTrans had not yet fully explained how the new program would be run with the RPC's, however Rose did share the limited program details that he did have. Rose distributed information from VTrans regarding the new High Risk Rural Roads program (HRRR) that would be taking the place of the RSAR program this year. Rose explained that VTrans and VT Local Roads were conducting workshops to educate local officials on road safety issues. Rose also explained that VTrans had already begun working with local officials on intersections and segments of road classified as High Crash Locations, and that VTrans was providing signs and other low cost improvements. Rose reported that he would provide additional updates at the next TAC meeting.

### **PROJECT PRIORITIZATION**

B. Rose re-distributed the project list that VTrans had requested NRPC to prioritize. Rose explained that given the fact that all of the projects presented for prioritization had been prioritized by the TAC last year, and no conditions had changed relative to the priority placement – other than some projects being constructed, resulting in upward movement of lower ranked projects. Rose also pointed out a potential opportunity for Bridge 10 on VT 104 in Fairfax to move up to the number 1 state highway bridge project ranking, given the stalled status of the Grand Isle – North Hero Bridge project. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the merits of priority shifting.

*W. Fournier motioned to approve the proposed priorities, changing Bridge 10 on VT 104 in Fairfax to the number one priority under the state highway bridges category in order to take advantage of the stalled status of the North Hero-Grand Isle Drawbridge project. P. Hansen seconded. Motion carried.*

## **UPDATES**

### **Missisquoi Bay Bridge**

R. Larose reported on the ribbon cutting bridge opening ceremony. P. Hansen updated the TAC on the status of the causeway removal – reporting that there were issues with the removal of the rocks due to the presence of steel rebar in the rocks. Hansen explained that this will cause substantial delays in the removal process.

### **Safe Routes to School**

B. Rose reported that the program schools were continuing preparations to apply for infrastructure funding in August.

### **US 7 Corridor Study Update**

Rose reported that a draft of the study had been delayed due to some issues related to the consultant staying within the scope of work. Rose reported that a draft was expected by early July.

### **LVRT**

B. Rose had nothing to add to the previous report earlier in the meeting.

### **Grand Isle – North Hero Drawbridge**

B. Rose had nothing new to report.

## **MINUTES**

*J. Tomlinson motioned to approve the May 2007 meeting minutes as presented. J. Roy seconded. The motion carried.*

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

W. Fournier stated that the state should have a program to widen the town highways to provide better facilities to bicyclists and pedestrians. A brief discussion followed, with staff pledging to conduct a follow-up for a future meeting.

B. Rose distributed a draft and then discussed the proposed FY 2008 VTrans work program. Rose explained that since the work program wasn't on the June agenda, a vote by the TAC would take place at the July meeting. Rose also explained that due to the lack of a July Board of Commissioners meeting, the Board would be voting on approval of the work program before the TAC had done so.

*W. Fournier motioned to adjourn the meeting, J. Roy seconded. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm.*