

NRPC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Thursday March 9, 2023 at 6:30 PM Meeting

NRPC Conference Room, 75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans VT 05478

Hybrid Meeting Format

Attendance

Municipality	Rep.	Present	Municipality	Rep.	Present	Municipality	Rep.	Present
Alburgh Town	Vacant		Alburgh Village	Jason Beaulac		Bakersfield	Vacant	
Enosburg Falls	Gary Denton		Enosburgh Town	Joey Clark		Fairfax	Tim Germaine	
Fairfield	Maurice Jettie Cathy Ainsworth (alt)		Fletcher	Vacant		Franklin	Peter Magnant	X
Georgia	Vacant		Grand Isle	Barclay Morris	X	Highgate	Heidi Britch-Valenta	
Isle La Motte	Vacant		Montgomery	Mark Brouillette		Richford	Tim Green Wally Steinhour (alt)	
Sheldon	Seth Hungerford	X	South Hero	Bob Buermann	X	St. Albans City	Rep. Mike McCarthy	
St. Albans Town	Jonathan Giroux		Swanton Town	Harold Garrett	X	Swanton Village	Elisabeth Nance	
GMT (Transit)	Chris Damiani		NECR (Rail)	Charles Hunter		MVRT (Bike/Ped)	Vacant	
Air Rep.	Vacant		Berkshire	Vacant		North Hero	Vacant	

Other Participants: Kyle Grenier (NRPC), Matthew Arancio (VTrans)

- 1. Adjustments to the Agenda** – Transportation planner hiring update was moved to agenda item #4.
- 2. Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks** –Chair, H. Garrett called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM followed by introductions.
- 3. Opportunity for Public Comment** – None
- 4. Regional Plan Update- Transportation Chapter (materials enclosed)**
 - Goals and Policies updates were tabled from January meeting.
 - TAC members will review existing goals and policies and recommend edits.
 - TAC members will review full Transportation Chapter and recommend edits.
 - Regional Plan Schedule:
 - April 2023: Full Draft Review by Regional Plan Committee
 - May 2023: First Hearing at NRPC Board Meeting (5/31/23)
 - June 2023: Revised Draft and Final Revisions
 - July 2023: Final Hearing at NRPC Board Meeting & planned Adoption (7/26/23)

Updates to the following areas were discussed:

Pg. 3: "Bridges at a Glance" Table – There are 3 pedestrian bridges in the Region, MVRT & LVRT in Swanton (2). Historic Highgate Falls Lenticular Truss Bridge. Currently, only 2 are indicated on the plan.

29 Pg. 4: "Freight" – add statement regarding RT 2/RT 78 traffic diversion concerns.

30 Add statement regarding Federal designation for RT 78 (Swanton to Alburgh) and RT 2 (Alburgh to NY)
31 as part of the National Highway System.

32 Pg. 5: "Ferry" – Add statement indicating that the Cumberland Head Ferry currently operates 24/7/365.

33 Pg. 5: "Ferry" – Add statement regarding the Bike/Pedestrian traffic concerns on RT 314, specifically
34 between RT 2 and the Ferry landing. It was mentioned that portions of this route could see as many as
35 40K cyclists annually.

36 Pg. 7: "Active Transportation – Local Trails" – only trails in Swanton, Fairfax and South Hero are listed.
37 Add a more inclusive statement: i.e. "Many municipalities within the region host some sort of local and
38 recreational trails. Some well-known examples are: Swanton Fit & Healthy Recreation Path (1 mile),
39 Fairfax Recreation Path (0.8 miles) and South Hero Recreation and Marsh Trails (4 miles out-and-
40 back)."

41 Pg. 17: "Goal 2. Use creative approaches to maintain, improve and expand the region's transportation
42 network; and ensure it is resilient to the impacts of climate change." Add statement indicating culvert
43 system and storm water updates.
44

45 5. VPSP2 Updates

46 Together, K. Grenier and M. Arancio provided narrative regarding the recently communicated Vermont
47 Project Selection and Project Prioritization Process (VPSP2) update. The VTrans Asset Management
48 Bureau has indicated that RPCs and TAC committees will not be asked to complete the 2023 VPSP2
49 exercises, citing needs to regroup and rebound from unforeseen economic challenges and scheduling
50 delays. A formal update is expected in late March 2023.

51 TAC members indicated concerns regarding already lagging projects (primarily bridge related) and a
52 possible lack of opportunity to elevate issues as they arise. M. Arancio indicated that both he and K.
53 Grenier will have the ability to communicate relevant concerns outside of the projects that are in the
54 works. K. Grenier provided the group with a current list of VTrans projects within the NRPC region and
55 their anticipated construction time periods.

56 After reviewing the current list of VTrans projects, the following questions arose:

- 57 1. RT 207 paving – why is the pavement scheduled to end as stated? Why doesn't it continue to the
58 "Grasshopper" bridge (over the Missisquoi River) or further to the intersection of RT 207 and RT 78?
- 59 2. What is the definition of "Reclaim" on Rt 242 in Montgomery?

60 K. Grenier and/or M. Arancio to investigate.

61 6. Minutes of the January 12, 2023 Meeting (enclosed)

62 No February minutes, as there was no February meeting.

63 B. Morris moved to approve January 12, 2023 meeting minutes as printed. B. Buermann seconded. The
64 motion carried.
65
66

67 7. TAC Member and Staff Updates

68 -General Fund Bridge Program Update, Bridge 11: Motion & successful vote by Sheldon Selectboard.
69 NRPC letter of support sent to VTrans on January 27, Town of Sheldon letter of support sent on
70 February 2.

71 P. Magnant stated that 2 noteworthy items were raised at Franklin Town Meeting:

72 1. Continued concern for the VT 120/VT 235 intersection.

73 2. Franklin is prepared to make sidewalk improvements within the village.

74 K. Grenier stated that NRPC was in current negotiation with a local consultant to get the ball rolling on
75 scoping for the same VT 120 intersection in Franklin. More information to come at a later date.

76 S. Hungerford thanked the TAC for the support of the General Fund Bridge update in Sheldon. S.
77 Hungerford also informed the TAC that he had received and reviewed the draft of the VT 105 Road
78 Safety Audit Review.

79 B. Buermann gave a brief Green Mountain Transit update: rider safety and fare concerns were
80 discussed.

81 H. Garrett informed the TAC that Reginald Beliveau has been appointed to fill the Swanton Village seat,
82 which will be vacated at the end of March 2023 by Elisabeth Nance.

83
84 **8. Other Business – None**

85 P. Magnan moved to adjourn the meeting. S. Hungerford seconded. The motion carried. The meeting
86 adjourned at 7:40 PM.

VTrans Paving, VPSP2 Roadway, and VPSP2 Traffic and Safety Project Lists for the NRPC Area (Feb 2023)

RPC	Project Name	Project Number	Route Name	Project Description	Anticipated Construction Year*	
✓	NRPC	Fairfax-St.Albans	STP FPAV(66)	VT-104	Paving on VT 104 from Fairfax MM 6.859 to St. Albans MM 4.11, and the length of the St. Albans...	2023
	NRPC	St.Albans-Sheldon	STP F2941(1)	VT-105	Resurface VT 105 in St. Albans, Swanton and Sheldon, Beginning at MM 0.0 in St. Albans	2024
✓	NRPC	Sheldon-Enosburg	STP FPAV(68)	VT-105	Paving on VT 105 from Sheldon MM 2.13 to Enosburg MM 0.464	2025
	NRPC	Swanton-Highgate	IM 089-3(81)	I-89	Mill and Fill on I89 NB&SB from MM 117.960 to MM 130.254 including ramps	2025
✓	NRPC	Swanton-Highgate	STP FPAV(77)	VT-207	Paving on VT 207 from Swanton MM 0.0 to Highgate MM 1.991	2025
✓	NRPC	St. Albans Town-Swanton	STP PS25(7)	US-7	Resurfacing on US 7 from St. Albans MM 1.183 to Swanton MM 5.096 including approaches on VT 105	2025
✓	NRPC	Montgomery-Westfield	STP PS24(8)	VT-242	Reclaim on VT 242 from Montgomery MM 0.0 to Westfield MM 2.571	2026
✓	NRPC	Georgia-Fairfax	STP PS26(6)	VT-104A	Resurfacing on VT 104A from Georgia MM 0.0 to Fairfax MM1.165	2026
	CCRPC	Milton-Georgia	STP 0285(17)	US-7	Concrete slab removal along US 7 from Milton MM0.087 to 3.754 and from Milton MM 4.064 to Georgia MM 0.157	2029
	NRPC	Georgia	STP 0285(18)	US-7	Scope refinement for improvements to US 7 from MM 1.1 to MM1.6 in Georgia	Awaiting Solicitation
	NRPC	Fairfax	STP 023-1(8)	VT-104	Scope refinements for improvements to the intersection of VT104/VT128 in Fairfax	Consultant Solicitation
	NRPC	Swanton	IM 089-3(82)	I-89	Scoping refinements for improvements to the NB intersection of Exit 21 and VT 78 in Swanton	Consultant Solicitation

✓ denotes a project generated from the 2021 VPSP2 process

* subject to change, based on best available information

Project Awaiting Solicitation: It is anticipated that these projects will be distributed in March 2023 as part of the final batch of project refinement solicitation and project refinement activities will extend through the summer.

Projects Under Consultatnt Solicitation: The project refinement stage for these projects are anticipated to be completed in early July of 2023