



## MEETING NOTICE:

Northwest Regional Planning Commission

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

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

Thursday February 8, 2024 - 6:30-8:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting Format: in person and remote (remote details below)

1. **Adjustments to the Agenda**
2. **Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks**
3. **Opportunity for Public Comment**
4. **Roads and Water Quality (upcoming meeting) - Dean Pierce, NRPC Staff**
5. **VTrans Project Selection and Project Prioritization (VPSP2) Update**
6. **Minutes of the October 12, 2023 Meeting (enclosed)**
7. **Minutes of the January 11, 2023 Meeting (enclosed)**
8. **TAC Member and Staff Updates**
9. **Other Business**
  - Next meeting: March 14, 2024

***If you cannot attend the meeting, please notify Kyle Grenier at [kgrenier@nrpcvt.com](mailto:kgrenier@nrpcvt.com) or 802-524-5958, ext. 23. In accordance with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the NRPC will ensure public meeting sites are accessible to all people or provide an opportunity for individuals to request special accommodations. Requests for free interpretive or translation services, assistive devices, or other requested accommodations should be made to Amy Adams, NRPC Title VI Coordinator, at 802-524-5958 or [aadams@nrpcvt.com](mailto:aadams@nrpcvt.com), no later than 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.***

### **Information on how to attend the meeting remotely:**

- By computer, smartphone, tablet, or other device: Click on the Zoom meeting invite- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82541157068> You may be prompted to enter a meeting ID: **825 4115 7068**
- By telephone: Dial + 1 646 558 8656. When prompted enter the meeting ID: **825 4115 7068**. Regular toll call/cell phone charges may apply.
- If you have difficulty accessing the meeting, please email [kgrenier@nrpcvt.com](mailto:kgrenier@nrpcvt.com).

# NRPC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

## Meeting Minutes from Thursday October 12, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Hybrid Meeting Format- Physical Location: NRPC 75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans, VT 05478

### Attendance

Municipality	Rep.	Present	Municipality	Rep.	Present	Municipality	Rep.	Present
Alburgh Town	Vacant		Alburgh Village	Jason Beaulac		Bakersfield	Vacant	
Enosburg Falls	Gary Denton		Enosburg Town	Joey Clark		Fairfax	Shaw Lafountain	
Fairfield	Maurice Jettie Cathy Ainsworth (alt)		Fletcher	Vacant		Franklin	Peter Magnant	X
Georgia	Suzanna Brown	X	Grand Isle	Barclay Morris	O	Highgate	Sharon Bousquet	O
Isle La Motte	Vacant		Montgomery	Mark Brouillette		Richford	Wally Steinhour	
Sheldon	Seth Hungerford		South Hero	Bob Buermann	O	St. Albans City	Vacant	
St. Albans Town	David Allerton John Montagne (alt)		Swanton Town	Harold Garrett	X	Swanton Village	Reginald Beliveau	
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), in person; Matthew Arancio (VTrans), online.

X = In person

O = Online

*Chair, Harold Garrett called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.*

#### 1. Adjustments to the Agenda – None

#### 2. Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks

#### 3. Opportunity for Public Comment – None

#### 4. Planning for Bi-Annual Regional Transportation Roundtable with Local Legislators:

Every other year, legislators have been invited to a TAC meeting to discuss priority and/or emerging regional issues. The TAC will confirm the date of the roundtable this year, and will identify a list of topics for discussion. Attached is a list of proposed topics for discussion, along with a list of previously discussed topics from past roundtable events.

- TAC discussed the date of the event. Due to a number of conflicts, the date has been set as Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 6:30. Location to be determined and communicated by K. Grenier

- Topics for discussion:
  - Discussion surrounding Electric Vehicles (EV)
    - What are some priorities for EV infrastructure on a regional and statewide scale?
    - Are there budgetary concerns for fewer gasoline tax dollars statewide?
  - Review project priorities as outlined in the current Regional Plan
    - What priorities and concerns are the legislators hearing about?
  - Speed & Safety concerns throughout the region
    - Do the legislators know about the VT 105 RSAR? How does this information impact decisions that are being made at the statehouse?
    - Work zone speeding and safety concerns and enforcement.
    - Bike/Ped safety & infrastructure standards – how are these being factored into reconstructions and safety laws for the protection of all roadway users?
    - Size of new, larger agriculture vehicles and the long distances they are traveling as farms become sprawl further across communities and municipalities.
    - Difficulties facing municipal road crews to hire and retain skilled labor.
    - Difficulties facing municipal road crews with limited ability and high cost to stripe newly and repaved roads.
  - Public Transit
    - Microtransit pilot with GMT opportunities.
- Points of appreciation:
  - Towns have expressed their thanks for the following annual programs: Grants In Aid, Better Back Roads, Structures Grants
  - VTrans mowing schedules during 2023 season- the amount of brush cutback has greatly increased the clear zone in some areas. Also appears to have reduce wild parsnip in some locations.

**5. Minutes of the July 13, 2023 Meeting**

B. Morris moved to approve September 14, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. P. Maqnant seconded. The motion carried.

**7. TAC Member and Staff Updates**

STP FPAV(66) Fairfax paving project (VT 104); updated to include the creation of an additional exit turning lane at I-89 N, Exit 19.

- K. Grenier gave a brief update regarding the above listed paving project and intersection project.
- B. Buermann thanked M. Arancio for his presentation of Class 1 Town Highway details at the South Hero Planning Commission meeting in September.
- B. Morris thanked M. Arancio for elevating sight line issues due to overgrowing vegetation on US 2 near the South Hero / Grand Isle town line.

**6. Other Business**

Next meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2023. TAC members will host the local legislators to discuss priority and emerging regional transportation topics. Location to be determined.

P. Maqnant motioned to adjourn the meeting. S. Brown seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM



**MEETING MINUTES:**

Northwest Regional Planning Commission  
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)  
NRPC Conference Room, 75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans, VT 05478  
Thursday January 11, 2024 - 6:30-8:00 PM  
Hybrid Meeting Format: in person and remote

**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	Shaw Lafountain	
Fairfield	Maurice Jettie Cathy Ainsworth (alt)		Fletcher	Vacant		Franklin	Peter Magnant	X
Georgia	Suzanna Brown		Grand Isle	Barclay Morris	O	Highgate	Sharon Bousquet	O
Isle La Motte	Vacant		Montgomery	Mark Brouillette		Richford	Wally Steinhour	
Sheldon	Seth Hungerford	O	South Hero	Bob Buermann	O	St. Albans City	Vacant	
St. Albans Town	David Allerton John Montagne (alt)		Swanton Town	Harold Garrett	O	Swanton Village	Reginald Beliveau	
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), Bethany Remmers (NRPC) in person; Matthew Arancio (VTrans), Representative Matt Walker, Lyle Poirier (VT 207/Swanton Resident) online.

X = In person

O = Online

*Chair, Harold Garrett called the meeting to order at 6:32PM*

**1. Adjustments to the Agenda**

**2. Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks**

**3. Opportunity for Public Comment**

**4. Recap/Follow up: 2023 Legislative Roundtable Discussion-** meeting notes are included for review.

- TAC members provided positive feedback about the Roundtable. Rep. Walker added that November is a busy time for legislators due to many invites to meetings, noting that he was pleased with the turnout. TAC will consider holding the next discussion a bit earlier in the season.
- Rep. Walker gave a brief legislative update.

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- Rep. Walker recounted a conversation he had with a Swanton resident on VT 207 and concerns about an area that has seen an uptick in crashes over the past 4 months.
  - Lyle Poirier joined the meeting a bit late and gave his account of the crashes that have occurred close to his home on VT 207 in Swanton, near Ceres Circle.
  - Further discussion was had regarding the intersection of VT 207 and Woods Hill Rd. in Swanton. Local residents view this as a higher-than-average crash site.
  - K. Grenier will follow up with M. Arancio about the two areas noted on VT 207 for elevation to VTrans.

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- 5. 2023 season data collection review-** including traffic counts, rail trail bike/pedestrian counts.
- K. Grenier shared slides with the TAC highlighting transportation data collection efforts made by NRPC staff during 2023. Slides are attached to these minutes.
  - B. Morris requested more information about the opportunities to ped/bike traffic on the trail trails, especially at Sheldon Junction (starting/ending/turning movement type data)
  - B. Morris requested that K. Grenier request data regarding usage of the Island Line Trail and Bike Ferry.

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- 6. TAC Member and Staff Updates**
- K. Grenier highlighted to the TAC that the NRPC logo has changed
  - K. Grenier noted that changes to VPSP2 (VTrans Project Selection and Project Prioritization Process) will be retuning for the FY24. More info will be shared at the Feb. TAC meeting in regard to the role the TAC will play this year.
  - P. Magnant requested that information be sent to towns who have no/inactive TAC representatives ahead of Town Meeting in an effort to fill spaces. K. Grenier to come up with a communication mailing and/or poster.

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- 7. Other Business**
- Next meeting: February 8, 2024
  - October 2023 TAC meeting minutes will be brought to the February 8 meeting for approval.

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*P. Magnant motioned to adjourn the meeting. S. Bousquet seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:48PM*