



MEETING MINUTES:

Northwest Regional Planning Commission
 Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
 Hampton Inn Conference Room, 43 Lake Street, St. Albans, VT 05478
 Thursday November 13, 2025 – 6:00 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	John Dasaro	X	Enosburgh Town	Joey Clark		Fairfax	Brent Sheets	
Fairfield	Dr. Lynda Ulrich Cathy Ainsworth (alt)	X	Fletcher	Matt Gillian		Franklin	Yvon Dandurand	X
Georgia	Suzanna Brown	X	Grand Isle	Barclay Morris	X	Highgate	Fredi Hayes	
Isle La Motte	Vacant		Montgomery	Mark Brouillette		Richford	Wally Steinhour	
Sheldon	Gregory Stebbins		South Hero	Bob Buermann	X	St. Albans City	Vacant	
St. Albans Town	David Allerton John Montagne (alt)		Swanton Town	Earl Fournier	X	Swanton Village	Heidi Britch-Valenta Bill Sheets (alt)	X (Bill Sheets)
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), Catherine Dimitruk (NRPC), Bethany Remmers (NRPC), Mike Winslow (ACRPC), Matthew Arancio (VTrans), Senator Robert Norris, Representative Joe Luneau, Representative James Gregoire, Representative Matt Walker, Representative Lisa Hango, Representative Thomas Oliver

Chair, Barclay Morris called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

1. Adjustments to the Agenda

No adjustments were made to the agenda.

2. Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks

B. Morris welcomed and thanked local senators, representatives and other guests for joining the meeting.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was made.

29 **4. Biennial Regional Transportation Roundtable with Local Legislators**

30 Every other year, Franklin and Grand Isle County legislators are invited to a TAC meeting to discuss priority
31 and/or emerging regional transportation issues. Tonight’s discussion centered around the following three
32 areas: Transportation Funding (Federal and Local), Regional Transportation Priorities, and Cross-border and
33 International Travel.

- 34
- 35 • Representative Walker provided a big picture overview of federal transportation funding and potential funding
36 gaps.
- 37 • The group discussed the impacts of declining revenues from the gas tax and its impacts to the overall
38 transportation budget. It was noted that improved fuel efficiency for pick-up trucks is driving at least some of
39 the impacts to the gas tax revenues.
- 40 • The group discussed inflation’s impact on both state and municipal transportation budgets. TAC members
41 expressed concern that the Town Highway and Town Bridge funding is not keeping up with rising costs and
42 towns are having to reduce the number of miles they pave each year and defer other maintenance activities.
- 43 • TAC members asked if the legislators will be looking at increasing the gas tax. It was noted that increasing the
44 gas tax does not appear to have support in the legislature or the administration.
- 45 • The group discussed indexing motor vehicle fees to the Consumer Price Index rather than having large price
46 jumps in fees every five years or so. It was noted that the State of Vermont currently pays the credit card
47 swipe fees for these transactions which total approximately \$1.4 million annually.
- 48 • The group discussed the friction between the state’s goal of fostering new growth, especially new housing, and
49 the strain on municipal budgets to build and maintain the transportation infrastructure needed to support that
50 growth.
- 51 • TAC members raised concerns about bicycle safety, especially in Grant Isle County. While there can be
52 challenges to accommodating both vehicles and bicycles on roadways, the positive economic benefits were
53 also offered.
- 54 • TAC members asked about a new proposed Franklin County/International/189 welcome center in Swanton. C.
55 Dimitruk noted that VTrans submitted a Northern Borders Regional Commission grant application to do a study
56 on the proposed center.
- 57
- 58

59 **5. Minutes of the October 9, 2025 Meeting**

60 *Y. Dandurand motioned to approve the October 9, 2025 meeting minutes. B. Buermann seconded. The motion*
61 *carried with one abstention.*

62

63 **6. TAC Member and Staff Updates**

64 No updates were provided.

65

66 **7. Other Business**

67 *E. Fournier motioned that the TAC prepares a summary of the municipal-level transportation needs and*
68 *projects that are anticipated over the next five years. Y. Dandurand seconded. The motion carried.*

69

70 *Dr. Ulrich motioned to adjourn the meeting. Y. Dandurand seconded. The motion carried. The meeting*
71 *adjourned at 7:40 PM*