

## **RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

# RUTLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025, 5:30 PM** 

#### **MEETING DETAILS**

Virtual: Teams Meeting, ID: 226 664 661 864, Pass: qCPd89 I Call: 1-802-440-1368, ID: 485 980 535#

#### **ATTENDANCE**

(X = in person) (V = virtual attendance)

TOWN	NAME		TOWN	NAME	
Benson	Cheryl Murray		Pawlet	John Sabotka	
Brandon	Jeremy Disorda	V	Pittsford	Alicia Malay	V
Castleton	Jeff Davidson		Poultney	Sarah Pelkey	Х
	Michael Jones	V		Joel Roberts	V
Chittenden	Jan Sotirakis	V	Proctor	Bruce Baccei	
Clarendon	Dave Potter	Х	Rutland City	Kiana McClure	
Danby	John Mykleburst		Rutland Town	Dave Sears	
Fair Haven			Shrewsbury	Marc Cimonetti	
Hubbardton	Janet Morey		Sudbury		
Ira	Larry Tagart		Tinmouth	Judy Gilmore	V
Killington	Abbie Sherman		Wallingford	Bruce Dobbins	V
Mendon	Larry Courcelle	V	Wells		
Middletown	William Reed		West Haven	John Garrison	
Springs					
Mount Holly	Clinton Wooley		West Rutland	Sean Barrows	Х

Staff: Ethan Pepin - RRPC, Faith Dall - VTrans

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

1. INTRODUCTIONS Introductions were made.

- 2. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 27TH AGENDA Motion made by Pelkey. Second by Sotirakis. Approved by voice vote.
- 3. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 30TH MINUTES
  Motion by Potter. Second by Sotirakis. Approved by voice vote.

### RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

OPEN TO PUBLIC None present.

#### 5. TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

Pepin noted that numerous towns had received Better Roads Category A grants, and that the RRPC was reaching out to offer inventory services and get contracts in place ahead of summer field season. Pepin also stated that the Vermont Arts Council had an <u>"Animating Infrastructure" grant</u> which provides fund for public art projects on transportation infrastructure. Sotirakis noted that Class 2 paving grants were also open from VTrans District 3.

6. REGIONAL PROJECT PRIORITIZATION – Pepin stated that State Representatives McCoy and Keyser, who sit on the House Transportation Committee had agree to attend and hear about regional priorities, but McCoy cancelled last minute. Pepin gave an overview of the bridges and culverts that were in the worst condition. Pepin noted that prioritization combined both the condition of the asset and it's importance to the road network. Structures that would cause significant disruption to daily life, emergency response and freight are prioritized. Dobbins stated that he was frustrated with the decision by VTrans to close the 103-Village St bridge and upgrade the 103-104 intersection. Dobbins stated that he did not think that the intersection upgrade made it a suitable alternative to the bridge for trucks. Pepin gave an overview of the worst condition bridge and large culverts in the Region, and the two highest priority projects, bridge 0059 in Wallingford and culvert 0004 in Fair Haven. Both structures are in very poor condition and if they were to fail would cause substantial disruption for local residents. Culvert 0004 in Fair Haven was identified as the highest priority since it's location on 22A at the northern on/off ramps for US-4 makes it the largest concern for disrupting the network if it were to fail. Pepin then gave an overview of webtools VTrans has developed for looking up bridge inspection reports.

#### 7. TOWN UPDATES

Potter reported just regular winter maintenance. Barrows reported that gravel/dirt roads had finally frozen and there were some issues with Grants in Aid reimbursement. Pelkey reported Poultney was preparing a culvert replacement project for the spring that would shut down 140. Pelkey also stated Poultney kicked off a feasibility study to look at a new highway garage. Pelkey also noted concerns around securing salt. Many other TAC members said they had similar concerns. Gilmore noted that a dirt route had been damaged substantially by freezing and thaw cycles. Sotirakis reported that the budget was much higher than anticipated due to overtime stemming from plowing. Sotirakis also raised concerns about a Federal BRIC grant being impacted by the current policies in Washington DC. Jones also raised concerns about the Castleton Main Street sidewalk improvements federal grant. Malay reported that Pittsford has adequate salt, and the US-7 bridge project will resume in Spring and wrap up this construction season. Disorda echoed concerns about salt and dirt/gravel roads getting beat up by the weather. Dobbins noted the ongoing concerns about several bridges in town.

8. ADJOURN Adjourned at 6:36 PM.

Respectively submitted by Ethan Pepin