

# Richmond Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes – October 10, 2023

Committee members present: Cathleen Gent (Vice Chair), Keith Jennings, Jon Kart, Allen Knowles, Susan Wells, Cameron Wong

Others present: Keith Osborne (Town Planner), Lisa Miller (SB member)

All attended remotely.

A quorum was reached and the Vice Chair convened the meeting at 5:32 PM.

Abbreviations used in RTC minutes: ARPA = American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; CCRPC = Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission; D&K = Dubois and King; GMT=Green Mountain Transit; PPL = Project Pipeline Document; RTC = Richmond Transportation Committee; RVC=Riverview Commons; SB = Selectboard; TAP=Transportation Alternatives Program; THBC = intersection of Thompson Rd, Huntington Rd, Bridge St, and Cochran Rd; UPWP = Unified Planning Work Program; VDH = VT Dept. of Health; VPSP2=Vermont Project Selection and Project Prioritization; VTRANS=Vermont Agency of Transportation;

**1. Welcome and Public Comments:** No public comments for items not on the agenda.

**2. Revisions to Agenda:** None.

**3. Approve Minutes from September 26, 2023, meeting:** There were no corrections or additions. **Motion by Wells, seconded by Jennings, to approve the minutes. Passed unanimously.**

**4. In-Progress Projects:** Gent noted that the revised Cochran Rd. project scope has not been received from WSP, and so is not on the agenda for this meeting.

## **a) THBC Intersection:**

**Design alternative designation for Selectboard:** See THBC Pros and Cons

[https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Transportation\\_Committee/Meetings/2023/10/THBC\\_Proc\\_and\\_Cons.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Transportation_Committee/Meetings/2023/10/THBC_Proc_and_Cons.pdf) in related documents for this meeting. Wells reported that another Cochran Rd.

resident spoke with her favoring a 4-way stop. Wells queried whether bumpouts for crosswalks are part of the 4-way stop plan. Osborne said that the 4-way stop plan does tighten turning radii, but does not include specific bumpouts. Kart questioned the sense of con #4 under the 4-way stop and Jennings said that he mis-wrote it, and to just delete it. There was discussion of whether a 4-way stop would be too much of an imposition on drivers. There was discussion as to why the “VHB Alternative” was estimated to be less expensive than the 4-way stop, and it was felt those estimates were soft and approximate. Under VHB Alternative Pros #5, it was felt that the term “multi-modal infrastructure” should be replaced by more specific terms.

Gent did a straw poll, the result being that within the committee, no consensus exists for recommending either the 4-way stop or the “VHB Alternative” plan to the SB.

**Discussion on the inclusion of speed tables and sidewalks for project:** There was discussion of speed tables, raised crosswalks, bumpouts, and a sidewalk on the west side of Huntington Rd. extending from Thompson Rd. west to the commercial complex. There was consensus that all of these could be useful.

The speedtables, raised crosswalks and bumpouts would be needed more with the “VHB Alternative”, as that plan would not otherwise reliably slow traffic sufficiently for pedestrian safety. Osborne is to seek cost information from Jason Charest of CCRCP.

**b) Bridge Bike/Ped:** Osborne is working on procedures for project management, RFPs’ and funding status. Gent reported that regarding the lower east side sidewalk project (Jolina Ct. to Esplanade), a meeting is scheduled for 10-16-2023 between Gent, Cole, Osborne, and Jason Charest. Regarding upper Bridge St. (Jolina Ct. to US2), a meeting needs to be scheduled between Gent, Cole, Osborne and Josh Arneson.

## 5. General Updates:

**a) Share the Road update:** Wells reported the subcommittee is making progress, including working on a document to explain the rules for the proposed contest for signs, working on a Front Post Forum post, soliciting prizes from local businesses (\$100 from Northfield Savings Bank and a \$20 gift certificate from Sweet Simone’s), and reaching out to the schools to see if they will participate. Gent questioned whether Josh Arneson has been briefed, as our conduit to the SB, from which the directive to pursue the project came. Osborne said he was waiting until plans coalesced. Wells said she hoped to have the contest this fall, around Halloween, but it may be next spring.

**b) Route 2 Pinch Point Study:** Osborne reported that due to scheduling difficulties with Jason Charest of CCRPC, this has not yet made it onto the SB agenda. He is hoping for the 11-6-2023 SB agenda. Gent noted that now that the new pavement is down, the pinch points are more visibly obvious and prioritization could be revisited. Jennings said he will try to get some photos of the pinch points.

**c) Jericho Road Sidewalk grant denial – Questions and comments:** See Jericho Rd. Denial Input in related documents  
[https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Transportation\\_Committee/Meetings/2023/10/Jericho\\_Rd\\_Denial\\_input.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Transportation_Committee/Meetings/2023/10/Jericho_Rd_Denial_input.pdf)

Issues were reviewed. Gent said that the results of the grant application should be communicated to the community and Osborne said he would do a Front Porch Forum post.

**d) Schedule adjustment discussion – Move or cancel December 26 meeting.** The December 26, 2023 RTC meeting is cancelled by consensus.

## 6. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- Gateway Scoping Study presentation
- Cochran Rd. Scoping and Corridor Study: Revised scope of work from WSP
- Share the Road update
- THBC if new cost information available
- US2 Pinch Points study: Any updates before SB presentation?
- Master list of projects?

**7. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Knowles, seconded by Kart. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM.**

**Minutes by Allen Knowles**

