

TO: Richmond Transportation Committee

FROM: Ravi Venkataraman, Town Planner

DATE: September 9, 2022

SUBJECT: Staff Report – September 13, 2022 Transportation Committee Meeting

The next Transportation Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 5:30 pm. This meeting will be online via Zoom only. Meeting details are enclosed in the agenda.

Below is an overview of the meeting agenda.

Phase 2: Ped & Bicycle Master Plan – South End

During the check-in meeting on Tuesday, Dubois & King reviewed the draft Walk, Bike, and Trails Plan. The draft plan is attached. Steering committee members have provided comments this week to the consultant team.

The consultant team is making revisions at the moment. They will send me a final draft next Thursday, September 15th, for distribution to the Selectboard and the public. The team will be presenting the final draft of the Walk, Bike, and Trails Plan during the September 19th Selectboard meeting. I'll send you the meeting details once I receive them next Friday.

Richmond Sidewalks Scoping Study

Stantec has finished the Richmond Sidewalks Scoping Study. The final report is enclosed.

Review progress on Project Pipeline document and Selectboard presentation

So far I've put together a general outline for the Selectboard presentation in the form of a slide deck: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1A5Es4zEGHUHFQ0vSaeL5wB7_oYMf3QCQEpMR829rb24/edit?usp=sharing. Currently, the slides are fairly plain. Send me your comments and suggestions. I aim to finalize this slide deck by Thursday, September 15th, and give it to Josh for distribution next Friday, September 16th.

About the conclusion of the presentation—the last slide(s)—I have a couple key questions that the committee needs to address during the next Transportation Committee meeting:

- Does the committee want to make a direct, explicit pitch for funding/support for particular projects?
- And if so, what projects?

Cathleen has put together an updated project pipeline document, and Cameron has converted the spreadsheet into a graphic visualization. The project pipeline document will be provided to the Selectboard with the slide deck on September 16th. Both items are enclosed.

Review FY23 Gateway Scoping Study Draft Scope

Dubois & King have sent me a revised draft scope. The document is attached. Feel free to let me know if you have any comments or concerns and I'll pass it on to the consultant team.

If the Transportation Committee is satisfied with the scope, you should give me indication of it during the next meeting. This does not need to be a formal motion. But a general consensus would let me know that I can give a notice to proceed to the consultant team.

Update on Walkability Study Report

Here's a link to the draft report: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F3nMJ2ym-nvezPWhp4EGMZ-Hly1d-92ZnYQQiZaKh5U/edit?usp=sharing>. The report is (still) text only. I'll need to insert maps and photos. Let me know if you have any edits and suggestions on this document.

Review committee recommendations for use of ARPA funds

During the last meeting, the committee discussed how it wanted to engage with the ARPA public engagement process. The committee recommended collating a list of scoped projects from the project pipeline document, reviewing this list as possible projects ARPA funds could support, and coming to a conclusion on the project the committee should pitch to the ARPA committee to consider supporting.

Possible projects that have been scoped whose reports have been acknowledged by the Selectboard include:

- The Bridge Street Complete Streets Corridor Study – This includes pedestrian safety enhancements on the Bridge Street block portion of Bridge Street, a sidewalk on the east side of Bridge Street from the current end of the sidewalk to Jolina Court, and improvements to the Bridge Street/Huntington Road intersection.
- A sidewalk on the east side of Bridge Street from Jolina Court to Esplanade Street
- A sidewalk on the west side of Jericho Road from School Street to Valley View Road

A bicycle/pedestrian facility along Route 2 from the village to Riverview Commons via the Park and Ride is an option, as long as the Gateway study is finished in time. ARPA funds have to be appropriated to projects by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026.

Follow up on discussions regarding the Bridge Street/Railroad Street/Jolina Court intersection

Jason Charest (CCRPC) and I had a conversation about investigating the Bridge Street/Railroad Street/Jolina Court intersection. A summary of my conversation with Jason—which was provided to you on August 25th—is enclosed.

Other business

- The Planning Commission is very, very close to finalizing the draft amendments to the Gateway District, the Village Residential/Commercial District, and a number of other standards. The drafts reviewed during the September 7, 2022 Planning Commission meeting are on the Town website: https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Planning_Commission/Meetings/9-7-22_MeetingMaterials.pdf. The commission aims to hold a public hearing on the proposed amendments during its October 19, 2022 meeting. These proposed changes are transportation-related. The overall purpose for the proposed amendments is to encourage more housing within the Gateway area, and Route 2, Bridge Street, and Jericho Road corridors within the village.

- The Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association (CATMA) is holding a Transportation Summit on October 18th. More information can be found here: [CATMA Transportation Summit 2022 | CATMA - Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association \(catmavt.org\)](#)
- The Burlington Walk/Bike Council with CATMA's support is putting together a World Car Free Day event on September 22nd at City Hall Park in Burlington. More information about free ice cream can be found here: [2022 World Car Free Day | CATMA - Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association \(catmavt.org\)](#)