

## Richmond Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes – January 24, 2023

Committee members present at Town Center: Chris Cole (Chair), Cathleen Gent (Vice Chair), Jon Kart  
Members attending remotely: Keith Jennings, Allen Knowles, Cameron Wong

Others present: Susan Wells (Cochran Road resident)

A quorum was reached and the meeting convened at 5:31 PM by the Chair

Abbreviations used in these 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; SB = Selectboard; TAP=Transportation Alternatives Program; UPWP = Unified Planning Work Program; VTRANS=Vermont Agency of Transportation; RVC=Riverview Commons

**1. Revisions to the Agenda:** Gent added the Official Map UPWP status in the Town Report and update on VT requirements in person meetings to General Updates (see 7c and 7d below).

**2. Approval of Minutes from January 10, 2023:** There were no corrections or additions to the minutes. **Motion by Gent, seconded by Jennings, to approve minutes. Approved unanimously.**

**3. ARPA Committee Meeting Update:** Cole and Gent attended the January 11, 2023 ARPA Committee meeting and Cole presented the RTC recommendations for use of ARPA funds. The ARPA Committee requested cost estimates. RTC discussed what estimates existed from the Bridge Street Complete Streets Corridor Study, the Richmond Village Sidewalks Scoping Study, and prior grant applications. Cole estimated from these that the total cost for proposed Bridge Street improvements was \$575,000. This does not include the Bridge/Huntington/Thompson/Cochran intersection. It was noted that we do have a TAP Grant application in for \$320,000 for Bridge St improvements. It was questioned what the final recommendation for the intersection was. Susan Wells commented on the need to slow traffic through the intersection traveling from Huntington Rd onto Cochran Rd. The ARPA Committee agenda for January 25, 2023 includes discussion of RTC cost estimates, but that may be deferred until a later meeting. Cole will compile the cost estimates into a memo for the ARPA Committee. (further action, Cole)

**4. Walkability Study Report Update:** Wong is working on adding pictures and formatting. Jennings has provided an Executive Summary for comment. Kart will do a final proofreading and review when all is complete. Gent has received some comments from volunteers who participated and will incorporate them as appropriate. Gent is working on a matrix of deficiencies and recommendations.

**5. Update on FY23 UPWP projects:**

**a. Richmond Western Gateway Scoping Study:** Knowles reported that the first focus group, the cemetery commissioners, meets Feb. 8. Gent noted that a public survey will be forthcoming.

**b. GMT Scope of Work:** This was expanded to include a service that would connect the village of Richmond and Riverview Commons with the Richmond Park & Ride lot to provide improved access to the regional transit system for residents who do not have access to cars.

**c. Cochran Road Traffic Calming Study:** Cole reported that this project by the SB and CCRPC is in progress. The consultant is D&K. Speed studies are planned for May, and temporary speed humps are being considered. Susan Wells noted that speed data may also be obtained from planned radar carts or permanent installations. The SB discussed possible placements these at their January 17, 2023 meeting.

**6. FY24 UPWP Cochran Road Corridor Study application Update:** The application was submitted last week. We should know by May if it is approved and funds awarded. A description of the project is in the January 10, 2023 RTC minutes.

**7. General Updates:**

**a. Town Planner:** Two candidates have been interviewed. No hire has been announced.

**b. Dialogue with railroad about future projects:** No action to report.

**c. Town Report and Official Map:** Gent reported that the RTC submission for the Town Report was corrected to remove reference to the "Official Map" project as an active project, as it is currently on hold.

**d. Status of requirements for meetings:** Cole and Gent reported that the VT legislature has passed a new bill that would remove the requirement for in person meetings, but it is not signed yet by the governor.

**Motion by Cole, seconded by Kart: If the governor signs the bill and in-person meetings are again not required, then the RTC will return to virtual-only meetings, unless we are holding a public meeting or discussion something of significant public interest. Passed unanimously.**

**8. Agenda items for the next meeting:**

- **Walkability Audit Report**
- **ARPA update**
- **Gateway Scoping Study update**
- **Town Planner update**
- **Railroad update**
- **Virtual vs in-person meetings update**

**9. Adjournment: There being no further business, Motion by Kart, second by Wong to adjourn. Approved by acclamation. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM**

Minutes by Allen Knowles

**Items for further action:**

Cole will compile the cost estimates into a memo for the ARPA Committee. See 3 above