

**SOUTHERN WINDSOR COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2020

A virtual meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) was held via Zoom at 6pm.

Attendance

TAC members present: Kristi Morris, Springfield; Wayne Wheelock, Baltimore; Sharon Bixby, Ludlow; Gordy Eastman, Reading; Arne Jonynas, Chester; John Saydek, Cavendish.

Others present: Jason Rasmussen and Otis Munroe, SWCRPC; Amy Bell, VTrans.

Kristi Morris opened the meeting at 6:01 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kristi Morris welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Changes to the Agenda

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

Gordy Eastman made a motion to approve the September 30, 2020 meeting minutes. Second by Arne Jonynas. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Transportation Resilience Planning Tool

Otis Munroe provided an overview of the online transportation resilience planning tool. The RPC worked with VTrans to add the Williams River Watershed into the online tool. It assesses the vulnerability and criticality of road segments to flood damages, and provides planning-level solution options. The intent is for this information to inform local and regional planning efforts, and it will also be used to evaluate and prioritize needs and projects. VTrans intends to add the remaining watersheds soon, and the RPC will be helping with local outreach.

5. VTrans Transportation Project Selection and Prioritization

Jason Rasmussen gave a presentation on the new project prioritization process. The existing prioritization process has been in place since 2006. Several things have changed since then, such as more of a focus on asset management as well as needing to evaluate resiliency and health. In addition, there was never a clear path to add projects to the capital program. This new process was developed with broad stakeholder input and is designed to address these newer changes. There is a new evaluation process to look at new regional project needs and opportunities to address needs in already programmed projects (i.e. "harmonization"). We will be trying out this new process this winter. There will be an opportunity to make suggestions and modify the process next year based on how it goes. There is likely not much money for new projects next year, but it will be helpful to consider our regional needs as we update our Regional Transportation Plan.

6. Updates and Announcements

- a. Jason indicated that TAP applications are due Nov. 27th. Please let Jason or Otis know if you have questions or want help with an application.
- b. Jason reported that VTrans' old walking and biking design manual has been retired and is not longer in use. Instead the agency has developed a very good online resource page that has the most current design guidance for pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

8. Adjourn

- a. *Arne Jonynas made a motion to adjourn. Second by Sharon Bixby. The motion passed unanimously.*
- b. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.