

**SOUTHERN WINDSOR COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2021

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; John Saydek, Cavendish; Eric Bye (at-large), Springfield; Tom Kenyon, West Windsor.

Others present: Jason Rasmussen and Otis Munroe, MARC; Zoe Neaderland and Dave Pelletier (VTrans)

Kristi Morris opened the meeting at 6:05 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 November 24, 2020 meeting minutes. Second by Sharon Bixby. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on Vermont Rail and Freight Plans –

Zoe Neaderland presented on the VT State Rail Plan :Update. She reviewed the plan update, modeling, initiative scoring, and public comment processes.

COVID impacts were discussed. Freight is largely unchanged. Passenger is a complex process to restart. Question of influx of new residents and potential increase in demand for passenger rail service and intermodal connections. Increasing speeds to 79 mph (where feasible) is expensive but could have a large impact on ridership. Gap in advertising from Amtrak. Rail with trail opportunities?

Bikes on trains? (JR)

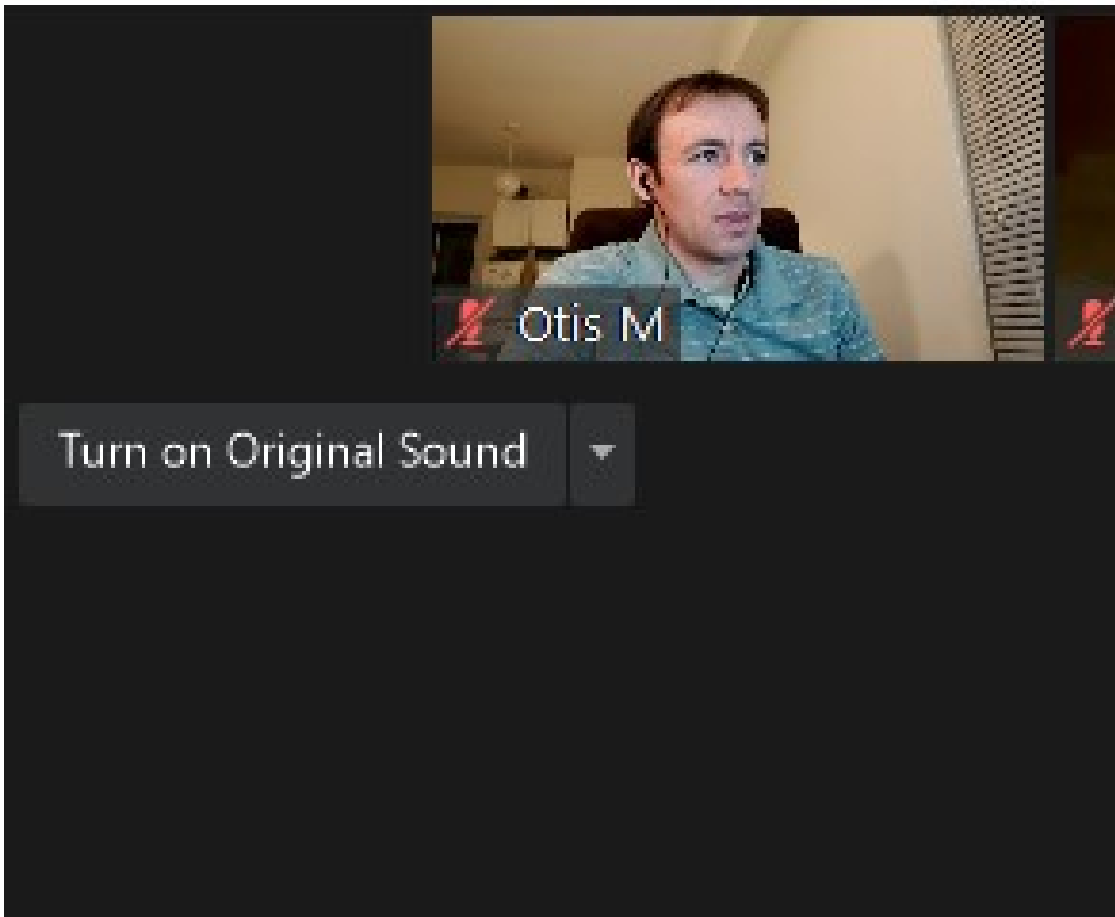
Potential future comments – COVID impacts and in-migration, rail with trail projects

A lot of effort went into making the plan approachable to a wide audience

More information to Zoe & Dave on Ludlow transit hub

Lessons learned from Middlebury – territorial, expensive to reroute trains, stringent safety protocols

Draft Plan out next week or so



Descender Rail Me

5. Regional Transportation Needs

6. Updates and Announcements

- a. Project Prioritization and Selection Process – new process, delayed until March

8. Adjourn

Wayne Wheelock made a motion to adjourn. Second by Gordy Eastman. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

Tyson Rd rebuilt, 4-5 bridges in.