

# CCMPO Pedestrian/Bicycle Committee Meeting Notes – October 28, 2010

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Thursday, December 9, 8 a.m., CCMPO offices**

## **ATTENDEES:**

Lou Bresee, Michael Hechmer, Peter Keating, Bryan Davis, Chapin Spencer, Christine Forde

Staff gave a brief overview of topics covered at recent walking/biking conferences at the national and regional level. Major topics at those events were federal legislation and funding updates (SAFETEA-LU will likely continue to be extended; new bill not yet on the horizon), the bike/ped link to health and obesity, innovative projects and programs in other cities, and successes in rural communities.

There was discussion about how bicycle/pedestrian projects could be included as standalone projects in the TIP (they currently aren't included as such). The CCMPO could consider having more of these included, but we'll have to work with the State on this issue since our projects feed into their statewide TIP. **CCMPO staff will begin an internal discussion on this topic.**

## **PROJECT PRIORITIZING UPDATE**

Staff and committee members discussed a general approach in moving specific projects forward. Below is a brief update on **A-list projects** and next steps:

### **Burlington Bike Path Rehabilitation**

A task force has been convened and will be meeting for one year beginning November 5 to come up with a feasibility study and funding mechanism recommendation to rehabilitate the bike path. **No action for the committee.**

### **Muddy Brook Crossing**

The CCMPO update of the 2003 is complete and a public presentation to Williston/South Burlington is being scheduled. CCMPO staff should convene a meeting with Williston and South Burlington staff to gauge their interest (i.e., are they willing to providing matching funds for the next step).

**CCMPO staff will convene a meeting with Williston and South Burlington town managers and public works directors.**

*UPDATE: CCMPO staff will talk with Williston and South Burlington public works directors on Tuesday, December 7*

### **Williston Bike Path Overpass (over CIRC)**

Nothing new to report. **No action for the committee.**

### **Route 2A – Taft Corners to Essex Junction**

This is a 3-phase project with funding secured for two phases. Town has applied for Transportation Enhancement funds to complete the project. Discussion about connections south of Taft Corners and to Mountain View.

**Bryan will discuss with the town where they intend to focus next.**

*UPDATE: Bryan provided Williston town staff with information about existing facilities at their request is awaiting a response.*

### **Route 7 in Shelburne Village (paved shoulders)**

CCMPO is working with the Town on a Harbor Road study and will ask about the town's interest in paving Route 7. There is an advocacy role to see paving project to fruition.

#### **Bryan will talk to State about paving status of Route 7 through Shelburne.**

*UPDATE: VTrans staff has indicated that there will be a major repaving of Route 7 in 2012 that will include Shelburne. VTrans is currently collecting data and will then be able to determine if paving shoulders is a possibility. Bernie Gagnon from Shelburne has been in contact with VTrans staff about this project.*

### **Severance Corners (Route 7 and Blakely)**

This is not a regional project and the town seems to be moving this forward on their own.

**No action for the committee.**

### **US 2 Richmond Iron Truss Bridge**

Project is underway by the state. **No action for the committee.**

### **US 2 Williston Rd Exit 14**

Project has been designed and it's in the right-of-way process. **No action for the committee.**

*UPDATE: According to Justin Rabidoux from South Burlington, the project is in preliminary design, not ROW.*

### **Route 2/7 Exit 16**

Colchester has been piecing together funds for this project.

#### **Bryan to check on status of the project.**

*UPDATE: Colchester is currently waiting to see what happens with house at the corner of US 7/Lower Mt View. MPO staff's understanding is that the Hampton Inn will purchase the house under their expansion plan after they get their Act 250 permit which they have not gotten yet (but they might be close). The Hampton Inn has agreed to provide the Town with the ROW needed to construct the sidewalk and all other future improvements needed at that intersection (see Exit 16 Circulation & Scoping Study).*

### **Island Line Trail – Causeway Rehabilitation**

This is a good candidate project for the TIP or an earmark. Ferry improvements would include resurfacing the causeway.

**No action for the committee.**

### **Island Line Cut**

Local Motion has applied for Transportation Enhancement funding for more of the project and is working to secure the remaining funds. All permits are now in place and the project is awaiting right-of-way approval from the state.

**No action for the committee.**

## **PROJECT PRIORITIZING UPDATE**

Below is a brief update on **B-list projects** and next steps:

### **Rt 7/Queen City Park Road Crossing**

CCMPO will be meeting with South Burlington staff about a Route 7 corridor study, which could include this intersection. In the meantime, CCMPO staff will follow up with VTrans staff about any improvements the City could do without state approval.

**Bryan to talk to VTrans about the feasibility of any changes to the intersection.**

*UPDATE: This will be included in the Shelburne Road Corridor Study to begin in December. The City, CCMPO, VTrans and others will be involved.*

### **Rt 7/ Queen City Park Road Striping; Spear St – Allen Rd to Quarry Hill Rd/jughandle; Spear St – I-189 Underpass**

**CCMPO will meet with City staff to discuss restriping these roads with bike lanes.**

**CCMPO will coordinate these and other projects with South Burlington Rec Path Committee.**

*UPDATE: CCMPO staff met with Justin Rabidoux and Paul Conner who indicated that the South Burlington Rec Path Committee is developing a city-wide striping plan, which will include these roads. As repaving projects come online, the city will refer to the committees plan for bike/ped improvements.*

### **Webster Road – Path to School**

CCMPO is working on a Technical Assistance project for Harbor Road to determine if additional improvements could be made for bicyclists and pedestrians between the Athletic Club and the school. There is still interest to have shoulders on Route 7 but funding is needed. Pavement on Route 7 along that stretch is in poor condition.

**Bryan will find out paving schedule for Route 7 between LaPlatte bridge and Harbor Rd.**

*UPDATE: Bernie Gagnon has been in contact with VTrans staff about this project. VTrans is currently collecting data and will then be able to determine if paving shoulders is a possibility.*

### **Route 15 shoulders - CVE to Five Corners**

New bike lanes have been installed from Champlain Valley Expo to Summit St so this project would now be Summit St to Five Corners.

**Bryan is following up with Village staff about installation of sharrows, as well as any projects to improve Rt 15 between Five Corners north to Essex Center.**

*UPDATE: Route 15 seems to have functioned very well during the Fair. At one point there was discussion of widening Route 15 close to the Five Corners to accommodate more than sharrows. That potential modification has not been explored far enough to have a decision made. There has been talk of closing the 'gap' between the finished work at the Five Corners and the Complete Street section. No word on where funding would come from to complete the work. Village staff haven't yet considered improvements to Route 15 between Five Corners north to Essex Center. There is parking along that section of Route 15 in the Village Center. Further out there may be potential for striping the sides of the existing road.*

### **Colchester Avenue Corridor**

CCMPO corridor study is underway. Complete Streets treatment will continue through the winter. **No action for the committee.**

### **US Rt 2/7, Winooski Main St Bridge**

Focus from Winooski and Burlington is on the auto bridge at this time and they are working with VTrans regarding a new bridge inspection. Another meeting is scheduled soon which will provide more information about that bridge, as well as any new information about bicycle/pedestrian improvements. There is potential for a scoping project for a bicycle/pedestrian connection but CCMPO staff would like to see commitment from the two cities. This could qualify for a 3% match rather than 20% because it is a regional project.

**Chapin will follow up with the two cities about committing funds to a new bicycle/pedestrian scoping project. CCMPO staff will continue to be involved in the bridge discussions.**

### **Essex Junction Rt 15 Corridor path (Village to West St); Essex Rt 15 Corridor Path**

Discussion about challenges along Route 15 and recent project impacts to walking and biking in the corridor.

**Bryan will convene a fall meeting with Winooski, Colchester, Essex and Essex Junction town staff to talk about coordinating path projects along Route 15.**

### **Essex Town Path Along Existing Circ**

This project likely will not happen this fiscal year since the town does not have match and the CCMPO does not have adequate funds to cover the cost.

**No action for the committee.**

### **Sidewalks Along Industrial Ave**

Nothing new to report.

**No action for the committee.**