

Vergennes Transportation Task Force – Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting #11, April 22, 2015 7:00pm

Vergennes Fire Station

Attendees: Shannon Haggett, Margaret Lowe, Steve Lowe, Greg Edwards

As a follow up from the March meeting, Steve presented a downtown parking study he had executed between noon and 1:00 pm on April 22, 2015. The study consisted of counting the number of available and open spots at 21 locations in the downtown area. Of the 281 possible parking spots, 144 of them were open. This represents a fill rate of approximately 49%. Steve said that he would continue the survey on different days and times and report the information back to the group. He also stated that as the weather improves he will conduct a traffic study at Addison Four Corners and in downtown Vergennes to better gauge truck traffic on Main Street/Route 22A.

Greg reported that he had planned to get some guidance for the group to help with the sidewalk inventory and assessment as discussed in March, but that he hadn't had the opportunity to obtain the information. He said he would reach out to some contacts he has to get the information for the next meeting.

As a follow up from the March Meeting, Shannon said that he attended the most recent meeting of the Basin and Riverside Task Force and provided that group with an overview of activities from the Transportation Task Force.

Shannon reported that the Request for Proposals for the Downtown-Basin Master Plan project through the Strong Connections, Better Connections program was now closed and the selection committee was in the process of reviewing the proposals and would announce a project leader by May 6th, 2015. The selection committee consists of Mayor Bill Benton, Mike Winslow (representing the Basin and Riverside Task Force as well as the Planning Commission), Shannon Haggett (representing the Transportation Task Force as well as the Planning Commission), Adam Lougee – Executive Director of Addison County Regional Planning Commission, Josh Donabedian – Transportation Planner for Addison County Regional Planning Commission, and Richard Amore – Planning Coordinator Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development.

Shannon passed around copies of the six proposals for review. Margaret asked if residents will be included in the process. Shannon and Greg both responded that public engagement will be a very big part of the project.

Greg said that he had been in contact with Jon Kaplan regarding the denied 2014 Vergennes grant application to extend sidewalk from the redemption center to Champlain Discount Foods. He said that Mr. Kaplan provided notes that might make the application stronger and Greg wondered if the City should pursue the grant again this year – or any others under the Transportation Alternatives of Bike/Pedestrian programs. Shannon said he would ask City Manager Hawley about the possibility. Greg said he would assist with the application if appropriate.

The group agreed to schedule the next meeting of the Transportation Task force for May 27, 2015 7:00pm at the Vergennes Fire Station. Margaret volunteered to reserve the space and pick up the key.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.