

Vergennes Transportation Task Force – Meeting Notes
Task Force Meeting #13, June 30, 2015 7:00pm
150 Green Street

Attendees: Shannon Haggett, Margaret Lowe, Steve Lowe, Greg Edwards, Joe Klopfenstein,
Carrie MacFarlane

Greg presented his initial ideas for a grant application to extend sidewalk from the redemption center to Champlain Discount Foods through the VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. He showed an aerial photo of the area with notes of the project plan and said that he had been in contact with staff of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission about providing a better map/photo of the area to include with the grant application. He stated he would go over the entire application with City Manager Hawley later in the week. He asked if Shannon would provide a letter of support as Chair of the Planning Commission. Shannon agreed. Steve showed everyone street-level photos along the proposed project area. Greg will include some of the photos in the application. Greg asked everyone who could, to attend the City Council meeting scheduled for July 14. He will formally ask the City Council to support the grant application and to commit to any matching funds at that meeting.

Shannon shared the notes from the kickoff meeting for the Downtown-Basin Master Plan project through the Strong Connections, Better Connections program which was held on June 3rd. The next steps for that project will be a public meeting in late July or early August.

Shannon then shared the notes from the Weeks School Property Master Plan project kickoff meeting which was held on May 27th. While this project is not directly tied to the Transportation Task Force and its mission, Shannon wanted to keep everyone updated on the progress.

Carrie talked to the group about the possibility of developing a bike path in and around Vergennes. This led to a lengthy discussion of what efforts have already been done, and what could be possible for the future. Ultimately, it was decided that any ideas should be presented at the upcoming SCBC public meeting for further brainstorming and public input.

Joe reported that the City Council is seeking someone to be the Vergennes representative for the Transportation Advisory Committee. Greg has been the delegate, but has expressed an interest in stepping down. The City Council is asking if it makes sense to appoint someone from the Transportation Task Force in this role.

Steve stated that as his schedule permits, he will conduct a traffic study at Addison Four Corners and in downtown Vergennes to better gauge truck traffic on Main Street/Route 22A.

The group agreed to schedule the next meeting of the Transportation Task force for August 4, 2015 7:00pm at the Vergennes Fire Station. Margaret volunteered to reserve the space and pick up the key.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.