

Montpelier Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, May 10th, 2016
City Hall – City Manager’s Room

Attendees: Anthony Mennona (Montpelier Bicycle Advisory Committee), Harris Webster (Pedestrian Advisory Committee), Chris Loyer (Green Mountain Transit), Greg Western (Cross Vermont Trail), Bill Merrylees (Cross Vermont Trail), Mark Provost (Pedestrian Advisory Committee), Dan Costin (Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee), Dan Jones (Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee), Dona Bate (City Council representative), Laura Biren (AmeriCorps VISTA)

Acronyms: MBAC: Montpelier Bicycle Advisory Committee; MTAC: Montpelier Transportation Advisory Committee; ATF: Alternative Transportation Fund; SCBC: Strong Communities Better Connections Grant; DPW: Department of Public Works; PAC: Pedestrian Advisory Committee; MEAC: Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee; GMT: Green Mountain Transit

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Greg from Cross VT Trail moved to number 5 in the agenda. Anthony added Committee Structure & Communication to agenda
- 3) No public comment
- 4) Fix memo link in meeting minutes. Anthony made motion to approve prior meeting minutes. MTAC unanimously approved minutes.
- 5) Greg from Cross Vermont Trail presented Cross Vermont Trail asks of funds out of the Alternative Transportation Fund (ATF). Cross VT has \$1.3 million in committed Federal funds – needs 20% match of local money: 10% town, 10% state. State won’t donate to Cross VT Trail because it’s a non-profit. This section being discussed passes through 4 municipalities: Montpelier, East Montpelier, Barre Town and Berlin. Cross VT board recommended to Greg to go to towns and ask for funding due to the Cross VT trail having the ability to connect the towns. East Montpelier has contributed to Cross VT Trail projects, but not this one yet. Came to Montpelier first because of unique Montpelier Bicycle Advisory Committee and looking for advice. There was discussion on grants Cross VT Trail could apply for that towns could join in on – such as the Buildings and General Services grant with East Montpelier. Discussion of volunteers that could attend City Council meeting on Wednesday 5/11 to show support for Cross Vermont Trail. Anthony of MBAC will attend. Economic development aspect of trail was discussed and will be presented to City Council. Clarified MTAC committed \$5,000 to Cross Vermont Trail from ATF and is asking Council to match with additional \$5,000. Emphasize shared-use path, connecting pieces, mentioning of path in Montpelier in Motion and adding value to Montpelier projects. Section of Cross VT project being discussed is seen [here](#)
- 6) Anthony discussed MBAC Barre St. proposal changing parking ordinances from Main Street, Barre Street and how the City replied to proposal by saying “wait for SCBC Policy Changes.” Discussion of efficiency/efficacy of MBAC currently and whether or not it would make more sense to restructure committees to only have MTAC rather than MBAC, PAC, etc. Group discussed need for Steering Committee for Strong Communities Better Connections (SCBC) & Complete Streets Typology and who would make it up. Harris emphasized the importance of Complete Streets Policy and that John Snell is asking DPW for metrics related to pedestrian issues. Dona had sent out Bike/Program to MTAC, but Corey had already used program in DPW work plan. This led to the idea of needing to give specific names to identify actions plans in Budget spreadsheet as well as reviewing Corey/Staff memos to make more user-friendly have better baselines measure of reaching goals. Continued discussion of Steering Committee framework. Anthony proposed that MTAC would focus on SCBC Steering Committee to cut down on additional meetings and

ask DPW to give framework to tell what the SCBC plan is supposed to accomplish by explaining the typology study details more.

7) Presentation of work plans:

- a. PAC: John and Erin are going to council in June to present about Open Streets event for Way-to-Go Week. Laura and PAC are working on developing Walking Maps of Montpelier. Harris presented the sidewalk monitoring report to PAC and DPW: 16% decrease in fall hazard. Laura needs to check in on the Request Tracker with Corey and Seth. Street Scramble is planned for 2017 as solely a PAC event as a pilot.
- b. MEAC: Alternative Transportation Event is set for Saturday, July 16 from 10 AM to 2 PM on the Statehouse Lawn. Hope to set up bike valet. Chris from GMT confirmed that GMT will attend. Needing volunteer help and education on sharrows and additional educational opportunities on what's happening
- c. MBAC: Bike Valet was a huge success. 2 constraints for having bike valet as a commonplace event:
 - 1) more and consistent volunteers
 - 2) set place for bike valetDiscussion of closing down State Street section from 8 AM to 1 PM consistently. Montpelier Business Association should be approached as well as Montpelier Alive. Barre Street and traffic calming policy discussion – usually comes from neighbors signing petitions for policies, but no reason why MBAC couldn't pursue. MTAC asked for clarification on whether or not SCBC will be focusing on policies.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Next MTAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14th from 6:00 – 7:00 PM.