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VTrans Seeks Statewide Public Participation In On-Road Bicycle Plan

MONTPELIER, Vt.—December 4, 2014--To help meet the growing demand for bicycling facilities on Vermont's highways, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) has announced an innovative initiative to assess how bicyclists use Vermont's roads. As part of the development of the new VTrans On-Road Bicycle Plan, the agency will be using a WikiMap to gather information from the public about where they ride, and where they want to ride on State highways. VTrans will also be holding a statewide public meeting on December 9, 2014, from 6-8 pm, using Vermont Interactive Technologies (VIT) to explain the process and hear from the public.

"This mapping project will gather the data that we need to work effectively with our partners in the bicycling community to broaden our collective understanding of issues necessary to maintain a safe and reliable network for bicyclists," said VTrans Deputy Chief Engineer, Kevin Marshia. "VTrans is committed to this important mode of transportation and this input from our customers will allow us to better assess where the needs are and help us to prioritize investments."

Many other states have adopted statewide bicycle plans including: Oregon, Washington, North Carolina, and Colorado. In 2008, Vermont adopted the Pedestrian and Bicycle Policy Plan, which focused mainly on bicycle and pedestrian vision and policies. This new information will be used to help identify and prioritize bicycle corridors most desirable for bicycling. Creating a plan that categorizes corridors by desirability and use will help VTrans better focus funding on needed transportation improvements.

To participate, find out more about the project or for details on how to attend the statewide public meeting visit: <http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/bikeplan>