**Public Transit Advisory Council**

Meeting Minutes

**Date:** June 13, 2024

**Time:** 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting and Barre City Place Room 425

**Present(alphabetical):** Stephanie Beck, Rep. Mollie Burke, Sen. Wendy Harrison, Christine Howe, Adams Carroll, Clayton Clark, Dan Currier, Chip Desautels, Tammy Fay, Kelly Fetterman, Elaine Haytko, Lucas Herring, Peter Johnke, Ross MacDonald, Christian Meyer, Jim Moulton, Ken Putnam, Stephanie Reilly, Randy Schoonmaker, Angela Smith-Deary, Monica White and Jeremy Whiting.

**Review of Minutes:** Review and approval of March 14, 2024, PTAC minutes/record. Approved without comment.

**Welcome, Introductions and Announcements:**

Ross MacDonald opens the meeting welcoming everyone. As always, we appreciate the number of virtual attendees and note that we always can have it in person as well. Ross goes over the agenda briefly and moves on to starting the meeting.

**Legislative Reports and Updates: Budget-** $55,540,225, $5.9M for MTI and eSprinters. $8M for LowNo related projects, $9.8 M in State Funds/ Rep Mollie Burke stated we have codified the Better Connections Program, $3.5M for the MTI grants and have helped GMT with the funding to get their fares going. She discussed The Transportation Funding Study ( section 35) and the report on sustainability options ( section 33). She expressed gratitude for the infrastructure investment and Jobs Act which has brought a lot of carbon reduction money. Reports – One-Time Public Transportation Monies; Green MountainTransit; Fare Collection, Evaluation and reorganization, Mobility Service Guide, MTI Grant Program, “Agency of Transportation funded, designed or funded and designed projects shall seek to increase and encourage more pedestrian, bicycle and public transportation trips.

**SFY ’25 Initial Grant Awards and Program Updates**: Initial awards for core operations only. Admin, PM, Ops, O&D, State funds for non-capital items. Carryover Capital- roughly $1M in State funds for capital were obligated but unspent in FY ’24. We are awaiting the announcement for 5339 Competitive grants, awaiting to hear on Carryover State funds from FY’24 to FY’25, final capital awards will be made in August/September, and we are “flexing” Carbon Reduction Funds into the transit program for MTI and eSprinters.

**Agile Mile Presentation**: Kelly Fetterman, senior account manager with Agile Mile, presented the G0Vermont Trip Planner. This planner helps people to discover their rides for getting to different places.

**Mobility and Transportation Innovation Grant Program:** Presented by Dan Currier. This program supports innovative strategies and projects that improve both mobility and access to services for: transit dependent Vermonters, reduces the use of single occupancy vehicles, reduces greenhouse gas emissions and complements existing mobility investments. SFY25 MTI program updates: longer application period, online application and submission, additional focus areas, higher maximum award limit and includes $3M in FHWA carbon reduction funding.

**G0Vermont:** Presented by Dan Currier. Goals: promote accessible, convenient, reliable and affordable options for all Vermonters, serves as a statewide transportation hub for information and evaluation to leverage efficiency in our transportation system and meets transportation climate change targets through trip reduction and environmentally friendly options.

**Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities Summit Recap:** Presented by Ross MacDonald: the agenda included presentations and discussions on public transit policy and human services coordination plan, micro transit updates, recruitment/best retention practices for volunteer drivers, expanded demand response service pilots, O&D rider surveys and roundtable discussions.

**Meeting Adjourned:** No questions or comments.