



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY AND
UTILITIES COMMITTEE

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Minutes of 8/31/2009 meeting of the City Council Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee

Members present: Chair, Karen Paul, Bill Keogh, Marissa Caldwell
City Staff Dan Bradley, DPW
Sandrine Thibaut, Planning and Zoning
Others Jared Wood
Chris Cole, Aaron Frank, CCTA

Chair Paul called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Public Forum

Jared Wood indicated he wished to speak to an item on the agenda: The Transportation Plan.

Minutes

Minutes of 8/3/09 were approved as presented.

CCTA Discussion of Downtown Transit Center

Bradley noted that the DPW Commission and staff were working with CCTA to improve conditions at the CCTA terminal on Cherry Street and that certain of the improvements - the addition of temporary shelters on Cherry and Saint Paul Streets - would require approval of the City Council License Committee.

Chris Cole explained that CCTA was awaiting Congressional language authorizing the CCTA to expend funds on the design of a new Downtown Transit Center in Burlington. Prior authorizations to the City had either been expended or have expired. Once funds become available, CCTA will pick-up with the site selection process completed by the City in 2008. Discussion ensued on the site recommended by this process – 59 Pearl Street and the concerns of adjacent residents.

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Cole advised that it would be five years before a facility would be built and that in the meantime CCTA continues to grow and out-grow the Cherry Street terminal area. The temporary measures CCTA is suggesting include the addition of shelters and expansion of curb side space used by CCTA to the southwest corner of Saint Paul Street where the Public Works Commission has agreed to remove parking meters to accommodate two buses.

Transportation Plan

Bradley presented and the committee discussed:

Project prioritization
Progress indicators
Street Design Guidelines

The committee reviewed a list of streets (Battery Street, Colchester Ave, North Avenue, Pearl Street, Pine Street, Shelburne Street, and the Northern Connector) not affected by the recommendation to institute a city wide 25 mph limit on neighborhood streets. The Northern Connector would remain at 50mph, while the limit on the remaining streets would be addressed when the studies or projects involving them are undertaken. By example, a Colchester Avenue corridor study that begins this fall will develop speed limit recommendations. The other streets are either identified in the plan for similar work or involved in a process that will result in a speed limit recommendation.

The committee asked Bradley to demonstrate how the project prioritization matrix would work with a few examples such as the Rte 127 North Intersection or other existing project.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday September 10 at 7PM in the main conference room at 645 Pine Street. The committee will complete its review of the Transportation Plan and make its recommendations to the Planning Commission. The committee asked Bradley to contact Tom Buckley BED to give an update on the Clean Energy Assessment District.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.