Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES:

Wednesday, February 18th - 2015 at 4:30 PM

Burlington Public Works Department – Front Conference Room
645 Pine Street – Burlington, VT

Members present:
Chair, Maxwell Tracy (TEUC)
Tom Ayres (TEUC)
Chip Mason (TEUC)

Others present:
Chapin Spencer, DPW
Norm Baldwin, DPW
Nicole Losch, DPW
Damian Roy, DPW
Kelly Devine, BBA

Chair Tracy called the meeting to order at 4:45 pm.

1. Agenda

Chair Tracy moved to approve the agenda.

All in favor

2. Public Forum

3. Minutes of 01/13/15

Motion to approve the minutes from the 01/13/15 TEUC Meeting.

All in favor
4. Residential Parking Management Study – Nicole Losch, DPW

Ms. Losch began by introducing the RPMS by defining its methods of study by area, by demographics, neighborhood characteristics, and comparisons with similar cities to help identify new strategies in evaluating residential parking and to best understand the changing dynamics that may impact residential parking. Three areas were specified representing a variety of characteristics. These characteristics range from land use, on-street and off-street available parking, rental properties vs. owner-occupied, etc. Various public outreach were conducted to obtain residents perspectives on the existing residential parking program. More public outreaches are planned for March to help structure the RPMSs strategies based on how to balance the different parking needs, how to consider the limited land resources, to balance the different needs in different neighborhoods, applying data to help inform those decisions, develop a program that’s fair and transparent and a program that can be responsive to the changing environment.

5. Downtown Parking Study – Chapin Spencer, DPW; Kelly Devine, BBA

Mr. Spencer and Ms. Devine addresses Task 5 to recommend a parking management plan and lists it’s objectives. States that Desmond has recommended the addition of a new entity called “GO! Burlington”. Mr. Spencer lists its goals as improving public and private participation with a focus on mobility and parking in the downtown. The data found thus far shows the greatest vacancies in the downtown area are in privately owned lots and garages. Desmond suggests looking at ways to structure bringing in outside expertise to help study and broker ways to tap into the private parking resources. Desmond also suggests looking into increased automation in city garages. Next steps: getting initial input on the parking district concept, going to city council in March to give an update and request more time, second round of public input to form recommendations. CEDO has received a grant to bring in parking experts around the country to help open up private lots.

6. Champlain Parkway Safety Enhancements Memo – Chapin Spencer, DPW

Spencer: First official update on the Champlain Parkway since November city council. The design for the Pine Street portion has been largely a repaving project with the addition of a parallel shared-use path. In 2013 DPW was able to install the RRFB, crosswalks and sidewalks. The project received it’s Act 250 permit in August 2014. Mayor Weinberger would like to look at the Pine Street section as more than a repaving project and would like to start the process of looking at design improvements with regards to increasing biking and walking. VTrans stated it was open to design enhancements if they were safety related. Mr. Spencer stresses that design enhancements must be feasible within the permit conditions. Recommendations for these design enhancements are listed as: bump outs, speed tables, on-road bike lanes,
reducing curb radii, making crosswalks shorter, lighting for the shared-use path. Most of the improvements from the Lakeside to Kilburn are pedestrian oriented by nature.

7. Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan – Nicole Losch, DPW

Max Tracy to Nicole Losch: What entities have been engaged?
NL: I have not received the final resolution so no outreach has been done yet. The RFP has not been sent out, awaiting one insurance related question to be answered. Once answered then the RFP will be released and outreach to the identified stakeholders.

8. Toter Ordinance – Max Tracy, TEUC

Max Tracy: Would like to drop the threshold expand the program to include a greater number of households. The program has received positive feedback from the public.

9. Councilor’s Updates

None given.

10. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM