



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

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MEMO

TO: Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee (TEUC)

FROM: Gillian Nanton, Assistant Director, CEDO
Dan Albrecht, CCRPC, Senior Planner & Lake Champlain Byway Council Board Chair

RE: Resolution, 2017 Lake Champlain Byway Chittenden County Corridor Management Plan

CC: Neale Lunderville, Interim Director, CEDO
Chapin Spencer, Director of Public Works

DATE: September 13, 2018

Request:

We respectfully request the Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee to approve and recommend that the City Council approve the accompanying resolution.

Background:

The Lake Champlain Byway is located in the northwest portion of the state. From north to south, the formal designated motor route is 134 miles (215 km) long and consists of U.S. Route 2 through the Grand Isle County, U.S. Route 7 through Chittenden County and then portions of US. 7 and portions of Vermont Routes 22-A, 73 and 74 Addison County. The overarching goal of the Lake Champlain Byway is to undertake and support projects that balance the promotion, preservation, enjoyment and stewardship of the Byway's intrinsic resources.

On January 22, 2002, the Burlington City Council adopted a resolution supporting the designation of the Lake Champlain Byway in the City of Burlington. Subsequently, in May 2002, the State Transportation Board formally designated the Lake Champlain Byway as a Scenic Byway. Also, in 2002, the Lake Champlain Byway: Chittenden County Corridor Management Plan (CMP) was created. Largely exploratory in tone, this CMP presented a wide range of ideas and recommendations and identifies seven other Byway communities as part of the Byway, along with Burlington. These Byway communities are: Milton, Winooski, Shelburne, Colchester, Essex Junction, South Burlington and Charlotte.

On January 7, 2008, the Burlington City Council passed a resolution fully supporting the City's continued participation in the Lake Champlain Byway and the formal recertification of the Byway.

Since 2002 through mid-2017, the City of Burlington has worked with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) and others to implement a variety of projects to develop the Byway and enhance the traveler's experience through improvements to transportation and interpretation of local intrinsic resources. Accomplishments in the County's Byway communities have included:

- ✓ The fabrication and installation of 16 roadside Lake Champlain Byway highway signs and 37 interpretive panels at key sites as well as the design of several improvements to visitor amenities;
- ✓ The production of several informative brochures as well as interpretive cell-phone audio stories, and
- ✓ The operation of a [Byway website](#) and Facebook page.

In addition to these interpretive and informational projects, these communities also supported and helped to implement various small transportation projects which improved the Byway traveler's experience.

In 2017, CCRPC updated the original 2002 Lake Champlain Byway: Chittenden County Corridor Management Plan (CMP). The 2017 Lake Champlain Byway: Chittenden County CMP seeks to document and learn from the experience of the last 15 years. The objectives of this new 2017 CMP are as follows:

- *Transportation Improvements* – To enhance transportation infrastructure and develop programs and projects that improve all travel modes, improve safety and enhance the traveler experience.
- *Intrinsic Resources and Partnerships* – To create and support educational and recreational opportunities for visitors through strong partnerships with organizations, businesses, nonprofit groups and agencies that have an interest in the intrinsic resources of the Byway.
- *Sustainable Tourism and Economic Development* – To promote and enhance tourism opportunities for the region through sustainable economic development and conservation of intrinsic resources.

The new 2017 Lake Champlain Byway: Chittenden County CMP is supportive of the goals and actions of Burlington's Municipal Development Plan. It can be accessed at the following link:

http://www.ccrpcvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/LC_Byway_Chittenden_Corridor_Mgt_Plan_FINAL_May2017.pdf

Thank you for your favorable consideration to this request.

Gillian Nanton and Dan Albrecht will be available at the TEUC meeting on September 13, 2018 to answer any questions.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2017 – Resolution Reaffirming City of Burlington City Council Continued Participation in the Lake Champlain Byway and Adoption of the 2017 Lake Champlain Byway: Chittenden County Corridor Management Plan
- 2008 – City of Burlington City Council Resolution Reaffirming the City's Participation in the Lake Champlain Byway and Supporting Recertification of the Lake Champlain Byway
- 2002 – City of Burlington City Council Resolution Relating to Lake Champlain Byways