Route 116 Corridor Study Steering Committee Meeting

August 15,2013 6:00 PM
Hinesburg, VT Town Office

Attendees:
Tyler Billingsley
Schuyler Jackson
Rolf Kielman
Frank Koss
Andrea Morgante
Dennis Place
John Roos
Cathy Ryan
Alex Weinhagen
Christine Forde
Sai Sarepalli
Lucy Gibson
Paul Greilich
Absent: Rob Bast

The meeting began with introductions, and Alex provided some background for the study. Lucy Gibson went through a powerpoint on project goals and an assessment of existing conditions. The following were points of discussion during this presentation.

Project Goals

- Change transportation planning terminology in project goals
  i.e. 'multi modal' and 'arterial'

- Differentiate 116 corridor study from Hinesburg as a whole

- "Plans and strategies that will provide for planned growth"
  Several steering committee members expressed concerns that "planned growth" may give the public the impression that the town is actively promoting development, which is not the case

- Revised goal: Provide for a set of goals and strategies that *will accommodate* for *projected* growth

- Alex: goals should not be too generic, and existing conditions should be mentioned in goals

Project Vision

- Should be worded proactively
  i.e. "Route 116 will provide transportation options…" instead of "Transportation options and choices are available…"

- Explain 'choice of modes' Break down planning/engineering terms for the purposes of the public meeting

Traffic counts

- Include counts/graphics south of study area, especially on 116 and North Rd.

- Safety issues on 116 associated with trucking raised
  Trucks should be included in counts

- Do we have any data on which cars are single occupant vehicles? Would be interesting to see

- Attach numbers to pedestrian volume map

Ongoing and Planned Projects

- Possibly avoid using the term "intersection improvements"; not everyone perceives them as improvements

- 116 resurfacing project: shoulder widths say to be 4-6 feet but are less in places

- Discuss Hannaford project in detail, give a general overview

- Attach specific dates to planned and ongoing projects

- Sidewalks: differentiate between planned and desired sidewalk projects

- Silver street project: Add dates to before and after slides for reference; discuss fixes didn't address congestion issues, just safety

Intersection Conditions

- Consider omitting delay statistics for public meeting

- Left turn into Lantman's issue addressed; mentioned in Hannaford project
- Moving sidewalk to enable right turn out of Lantman's (currently no right on red)
- Some congestion caused by students being dropped off at school rather than taking the bus, intensifies issue
- Add safe routes to school to presentation

Future Growth/Employment in Hinesburg

- Population and employment projections are inflated, should be omitted for public meeting
- Revised projections will be coming from CCRPC – will break central TAZ into 15 sub zones
- Examine population growth around Hinesburg, particularly to the south
- Growth visioning scenario (maximum build out): recently posted to town website, remains to be seen how it has been received, not popular with some already
- Maximum build out not keeping with Hinesburg's character and is not feasible in terms of infrastructure
- 80%/20% growth boundary development split is a County-wide benchmark and does not necessarily apply to Hinesburg alone
- Determine density of Hinesburg's village as a whole for comparison at public meeting

Towards the Public Meeting

- We need to be sure to clearly define the ultimate goal/deliverable for the study
- Outline how the plan will translate to results and how it will be useful rather than never be implemented
- Include case studies to illustrate that the study can feasibly come to fruition

- Public meeting should be informational but also welcome input and ideas from residents

- Current resurfacing project on 116 may complicate public perception of the problem

- Public meeting set for a Thursday in September (19th or 26th); cap at two hours (7-9 PM)

- 2nd meeting should be shortly after, either 9/30 or 10/2

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.