VTEN | Local & Regional Transportation Demand Management Initiatives (2016)

Let us know if you have something to fill in!

Go Chittenden County

- CCTA and GMTA merged, forming Green Mountain Transit (Contact: Karen Walton, kwalton@ctctride.org)
- CATMA: Membership available to businesses in Chittenden Co. and continued expansion of regional Employee Transportation Coordinator Network. Implementation of Chittenden County Sustainable Transportation Map. (Contact: Sandy Thibault, sandy@catnavt.org)
- Local Motion: Developed first-ever active transportation map for Chittenden County. Trained 12 trainers in eight regions to hold “Everyday Bicycling” workshops; over 300 attendees at 34 workshops to date. (Contact: Jason Von Driesche, jason@localmotion.org)
- CarShare Vermont: now serves Burlington, Winooski, and Montpelier; launched Be Car Conscious, a campaign to promote awareness about the financial cost of driving and owning a vehicle (carconscious.org) and LetsShareVT.org, a social media campaign targeting millennials (lesosharevt.org). (Contact Annie Bourdon, annie@carsharevt.org)
- CCRPC: coordinating Go! Chittenden County. (Contact: Bryan Davis, bdaavis@ccrpvt.org)

Addison & Rutland Cos. ★

- Go! Vermont partnerships with many town energy committees in both counties.
- Developing targeted commute trip reduction program using Go! Vermont tools for large employers to support retention and recruitment of low-income service sector jobs.
- Regional Planning Commission is developing an Advisory Group to support improvements to bike/ped infrastructure.
- ACTR is promoting guaranteed ride home and has launched a new website.
- RRPC has developed a regional bike suitability map and is working on the 2016 Walk/Bike Summit in Rutland. See walkbikesummitvt.com
- MVVRTD is active with employers and colleges through its Unlimited Access Program (UAP) (Contact: Nadine Barnicle, canterbarnicle@gmail.com; Susan Schreibman, susan@rutlandrpc.org; Minda Dana, minda@thebus.com; Mary-Claire Grogan, mary@actrvt.org; Josh Donabedian, jdonabedian@ccrpvt.org)

Cross-Region Work ★

- Clean Cities Coalition: Working with fleets to identify efficiency opportunities; expanding workplace EV charging through outreach and education; creating Sustainable Transportation Action Toolkit for VT colleges; providing educational brown bags on petroleum-reduction topics; working on the Northeast Transportation Workforce Center to ID gaps in the alt fuel workforce. (Contact: Abby Blything, amattaro@uvm.edu)
- VEIC: VEIC is working to promote Go! Vermont programming to employers across the state. Efforts are being taken to work with low-income employers to see how Go! Vermont programming can support them in finding and retaining employment. (Contact: Michelle McCutcheon-Schour, mmschour@veic.org)
- Idle-Free VT: Vermont Idle-Free Schools project funded for 2015-2016; UVM idling study report: Idling Matters!; VT DEC launches vehicle idling webpage: BeidleFree.Vermont.gov; Fleet idling reduction certification program by the American Lung Assoc. of the Northeast/UVM (Contact: Wayne Michaud, info@idlefreevt.org; Rebecca Ryan, ryan@alungne.org)
- VNRC: Transportation and Inclusive Communities Project in partnership with the Champlain Office of Economic Opportunity, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Northwest Regional Planning Commission, VEIC, and AARP VT. (Contact: Kate McCarthy, kmccarthy@vnrc.org)

Southern Windsor Co.

RPC adopted regional transportation plan (swcrp.org/publications) and is engaging TAC in conversations about unmet transportation needs in region, particularly for medical transportation. (Contact: Katherine Otto, kotto@swcrp.org)

Montpelier

350+ state employees are participating in the Capital Commutes program. (Contact Deb Sachs, dsachs@ecostategiesllc.com or Ross MacDonald, ross.macdonald@state.vt.us)

Vermont Community Alliance for Public Transportation (VCAPT) seeks to represent a broad public advocacy group for promoting and improving public transportation options across Vermont. (Contact vermontCAPT@gmail.com)

Windham County

- Brattleboro Climate Protection – Way-to-Go in May and September, quarterly business roundtable, Smart Commute Brattleboro
- Bike suitability map and Regional Mobility Study.
- Human services providers trained in transportation resources outreach. (Contact: Matt Mann, mmann@saover.net or Paul Cameron, pcameron@brattleboro.org)

Northeast Kingdom ★

- Development around the Jay Peak area is a huge opportunity.
- St. Johnsbury, Danville, Lyndonville, and Newport City each pursuing bike/pedestrian infrastructure planning and/or development.
- NVDA released final NEK Transportation Infrastructure Plan.

Washington & Caledonia Cos.

Sugarbush added a vanpool from Barre to accommodate those who want jobs but lack transportation.

CCTA now running two additional Montpelier Link Express trips.

Upper Valley ★

- Vital Communities/UVIMA: Smart Commute “Home Edition” in twelve towns to improve transportation for residents. Also targeting staff and students at local schools through Smart Commute program for workplaces. (Contact: Aaron Brown, aaron@vitalcommunities.org)
- Advance Transit: Green Route expansion through Hartford to Hanover & Lebanon, NH. Launch of pilot real-time bus tracker. (Contact: Van Chesnut, vchesnut@advancetransit.com)
- Stagecoach Transportation Services: Launched “circulator” route around Bradford/Woodsville, NH area and improved River Route commuter bus from Wells River to White River Junction/Hanover & Lebanon, NH. (Contact: Aaron Little, alittle@stagecoach-rides.org)

Our map is filling up!

Please see attached appendix for more details on some of the programs listed here.
As you can see, our TDM map is filling up. Below are some programs’ details that did not fit onto the map.

**Addison County**

**Go! Vermont:** In partnership with town energy committees, Go! Vermont is conducting transportation surveys in Middlebury, Bristol and Monkton to gather public opinion, measure awareness of transportation alternatives and establish benchmarks for adapting Go! VERMONT commuter programs.

To follow up on the pilot survey in Weybridge, Go! Vermont, in partnership with the town energy committee, is designing a pilot promotion to encourage carpooling in two target populations - school families and commuters. Using a neighbor-to-neighbor approach the goal will be to encourage people to commit to incremental steps towards creating new transportation habits.

Partnering with local and regional agencies to develop targeted commute trip reduction program utilizing Go! Vermont tools for large employers in Addison County to support retention and recruitment of low-income service sector jobs.

*Contact: Nadine Barnicle, canterbarnicle@gmail.com*

**Addison Co. Regional Planning Commission** is developing an Advisory Group to support improvements to bike/ped infrastructure county-wide.

*Contact: Josh Donabedian, jdonabed@acrpc.org*

**Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR)** is promoting guaranteed ride home to help commuters curb their SOV; they have launched new website with expanded information on SOV reduction resources including Go! Vermont.

*Contact: Mary-Claire Grogan, mary@actr-vt.org*

Middlebury now has six EV charging stations - two municipal; two RPC; two Middlebury College.

There were 19 all electric vehicles and 38 hybrid vehicles registered in Addison County as of October 2015.
Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA)

- Now running 2 additional Montpelier Link Express trips.
- Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the Green Mountain Transit Agency (GMTA) will soon rebrand to become Green Mountain Transit (GMT), after becoming one legal entity in 2011. Projects for 2016:
  - Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) system that will provide passengers with real-time bus tracking information straight to their cellphones, improving service reliability and allowing CCTA to communicate changes more efficiently.
  - The CCTA Board of Commissioners approved a recommendation from staff to go out to bid for a mobile ticketing system. A mobile ticketing app would allow passengers to purchase fare media directly on their cellphones prior to taking their bus trip. This app will provide convenience for the riders, eliminates the need to carry exact cash fare, and is one step closer to making CCTA/GMTA a paperless system.
  - Downtown Transit Center in Burlington is expected to be complete in the fall of 2016.

Contact: Karen Walton, kwalton@cctaride.org

Campus Area Transportation Management Association (CATMA) Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association (CATMA) membership and programs available to Chittenden County employers and developers. The regional Employee Transportation Coordinator Network (“ETC Network) continues to expand. Collection of commuter transportation data will be expanded to all CATMA members. Implementation of Chittenden County Sustainable Transportation Map (catmavt.org/travel-mode/chittenden-county-sustainable-transportation-map)

Contact: Sandy Thibault, sandy@catmavt.org

CarShare Vermont:

- Has grown its fleet by 50% (now 15 vehicles) and added its first Winooski location!
- Through the Park It Pledge (PIP) campaign, 78 Burlington households were recruited to park a personal vehicle for six months. A dozen of them went on to permanently get rid of that vehicle. All PIP participants reported driving less and walking and biking more. They also reported financial savings.
- Launching innovative behavior-change campaign targeting millennials. Seeking to increase membership among this cohort alone by 25%.
- Launching an ed campaign about the real costs of driving and vehicle ownership.

Contact: Annie Bourdon, annie@carsharevt.org
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission continues to coordinate the Go! Chittenden County partners including collaboration with Go! Vermont and their partners Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) which oversees Way to Go! Week and Drive Electric Vermont. 

Contact: Bryan Davis, bdavis@ccrpcvt.org

Rural Community Transit riderct.org

- Development around Burke Mountain, Derby Walmart, AnC Bio, downtown Newport, and Jay Peak area are huge opportunities.
- NVDA and RCT are at the table in development conversations – no major transportation conversations yet.
- RCT consistently works on introducing TDM from the employee level rather than through management. Would like to see more transit access and ridership.

Contact Mary Grant, marygrant.rct@gmail.com

Northeast Kingdom

- The Lamoille Valley Rail Trail has opened between St. Johnsbury and Danville. The US 2 commuter between St. Johnsbury and Montpelier has bike racks, so rail trail riders can bring bikes on the bus.
- Danville, Lyndonville, and Newport City are each pursuing bike/pedestrian infrastructure planning and/or development.
- Newport is working with AARP on Age Friendly Communities.
- St. Johnsbury has added an EV charging station downtown.
- NVDA released final NEK Transportation Infrastructure Plan.

Contact Frank Maloney, fmaloney@nvda.net

Checking in on Newport after the 2013 VTEN Meeting

Newport has been designated an Age Friendly Community by AARP. The city is working closely with AARP to make streets more accessible for pedestrians and bikes, to look at the outdoor spaces and the accessibility of bus shelters and benches, as well as six other needs identified by the community.

Rutland County

- There are five EV charging stations in Rutland County including two chargers each at Killington/Pico, Green Mountain College, Castleton University and in the village of Fairhaven, as well as eight chargers in Rutland City at the Hampton Inn.
- There were five all electric vehicles and 27 hybrid vehicles registered in Rutland County as of October 2015.
- Rutland RPC has developed a regional bike suitability map and is working on the 2016 walk Bike Summit in Rutland. Check out the website- walkbikesummitvt.com
- Marble Valley Regional Transit District (“The Bus”) is active with employers and colleges through its Unlimited Access Program (UAP).
• Rutland RPC and Marble Valley Regional Transit District promote the Way to Go! Commuter Challenge each year with advertising and outreach to major employers.
• Go! Vermont is developing partnerships with local energy committees in Rutland Co. Contact Nadine Barnicle, canterbarnicle@gmail.com; Minga Dana, minga@thebus.com; Susan Schreibman, Susan@rutlandrpc.org)

Upper Valley TMA vitalcommunities.org/transportation

The Upper Valley TMA (UVTMA) is finishing its second year of Smart Commute “Home Edition,” which applies the methods of its workplace-based Smart Commute program to towns. We survey residents about their transportation habits and barriers, work with municipal staff and volunteers to market existing options and identify infrastructure changes, and evaluate changes in transportation behavior after programs have been implemented. Participating towns are Barnard, Bradford, Hartford, Hartland, Norwich, Pomfret, Reading, Royalton, Sharon, Windsor, and Woodstock.

Our long-running Smart Commute program for workplaces is now targeting school staff and students as well. We organized the first bike & walk to school day at a local middle school with 150 students participating, and produced a toolkit so the school can replicate the event throughout the year.

Contact: Aaron Brown, aaron@vitalcommunities.org or Bethany Fleishman, bethany@vitalcommunities.org

Vermont Natural Resources Council vnrc.org/

My primary transportation project lately has been the Transportation and Inclusive Communities Project. In partnership with the Champlain Office of Economic Opportunity, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Northwest Regional Planning Commission, VEIC, and AARP VT, we’re working on a project to:

a) educate people about how a household’s “affordability” isn’t just about housing costs, but about transportation as well, and
b) give municipalities tools to promote more compact land use patterns that will give people transportation options other than driving, to reduce their transportation budget. As part of the project we developed a map that looks at housing and transportation affordability in Northwest Vermont. The map includes a look at where project-based subsidized housing is located, to reveal whether those housing units are

A question from Kate McCarthy:

In our group we’ve discussed and seen implemented dozens of incredible programs that are making rural transportation choice a reality. And yet, public conversations - and sometimes even state policy documents - tend to default to “…but Vermont is a rural state” which I fear can limit our sense of what’s possible. How do we shift that narrative? At the same time as we innovate to support people in rural areas, how do we shift land use patterns in the long term so that more people can choose to live in compact centers if they choose?
being built in transportation-efficient locations. You can see the map here: map.ccrpcvt.org/LocationAffordability/

Contact: Kate McCarthy, kmccarthy@vnrc.org

Windham County

- Brattleboro Climate Protection – Way-to-Go in May and September, ongoing business roundtable (quarterly) – working to maintain interest/engagement. Launched Smart Commute Brattleboro program with major employers in area in partnership with Brattleboro Energy Committee, Vital Communities, United Way and Windham Regional Commission. Ten businesses distributed an employee survey and received an action plan.
- Active bike/ped – including “kick-ass” bike suitability map: windhamregional.org/bikemap
- Regional Mobility Study published, biggest outcome was broad coalition building – next steps in progress (including stakeholder effort focused on the Rt.30 corridor).
- Partnership with United Way to train human service providers in transportation resources outreach, including utilization of the 2-1-1 call center resource.

Contact: Matt Mann, mmann@sover.net or Paul Cameron, pcameron@brattleboro.org

Other Transit News

- Connecticut River Transit and Deerfield Valley Transit Associates merged into Southeast Vermont Transit (SEVT) and now operate in 36 towns, including Brattleboro.
- SEVT and the Southern Windsor RPC are developing a route study to investigate efficient and/or effective changes.
- Pilot project - new Automated Vehicle Location (AVL) devices are being installed on SEVT’s Moover division buses to allow riders to see when and where their bus is on every route in the region. Using open data/trip planners, this may be the most cost effective means of providing this level of information.
- Concurrently, for Chittenden County, we are also funding a similar service through a private provider using proprietary data. We will gauge the success of each and proceed with the best of the two approaches to provide this service throughout the state.
- Two new inter-city buses (operated by Vermont Translines) now serve:
  - Colchester to Albany (Route 7)
  - Rutland to White River Junction and Hanover, New Hampshire (Route 4)
- Pilot Project – we hope to enter into an agreement with Bridj – the pop-up transit service that currently operates in Boston, D.C. and Denver. Company founder stated that any rural model of this big-data up-and-coming company will be with and within Vermont.

Contact Ross MacDonald, ross.macdonald@state.vt.us