

January 31, 2012

Michele Boomhower
Chittenden Co. Regional Planning Commission
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202
Winooski, VT 05404

RE: Proposed Projects for FY'13 UPWP

Dear Ms. Boomhower,

I am pleased to present the attached list of projects and ideas for consideration as part of the CCRPC's FY'13 Unified Planning Work Program. Local Motion values the ongoing partnership with the CCMPO -- now the CCRPC. Together, we have been successful at improving transportation options for area residents.

Local Motion's proposed FY'13 workplan has been formed from a number of sources, including:

- A public walk-bike forum organized by Local Motion on January 24, 2013, which was attended by 19 individuals from around the county (notes from the meeting attached)
- One-on-one conversations and meetings between Local Motion staff and key partners around the county, many of them municipal employees or municipal walk-bike committees
- A review of the County's 2008 bike/pedestrian plan

This proposed workplan is an exciting mix of planning, education and outreach activities that together will continue to increase walking and bicycling in Chittenden County.

While we've incorporated many ideas from our walk-bike forum and our one-on-one meetings, there are other promising planning projects that are either for other partners to lead or for us to tackle in future years. We look forward to discussing these opportunities with you.

Please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss this proposal in detail. Thank you for the opportunity!

Yours in Motion,



Chapin Spencer
Executive Director

NOTES FROM LOCAL MOTION WALK-BIKE PUBLIC STRATEGY MEETING

January 24, 2012

OBSTACLES:

- Not enough money for construction
- Failure to think outside the box
- Paperwork/administrative burdens
- Inflexible construction standards

SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS:

- Establish partnerships
- Identify champions and build top-down political will
- Push for participation
- Look for a convergence of Interests

WHAT WOULD HELP?

- Establish regional connection committees
- Adopt new terminology: Emphasis on transportation more than on recreation
- Provide secure bike parking for both recreational & transport bicyclists
- Educate both the public & political leaders through multi-modal tours
- Provide education & legal support for implementing “complete streets:” inform towns and provide expert support

FY2013 IDEAS

- Improve access to UVM Campus from surrounding areas
- Get a state mandate to repaint crosswalks and fog lines regularly
- Tune loop detectors for bicycles
- Evaluate sidewalk and path plowing policies to ensure they are high priority
- Implement Spear Street corridor study for continuous bike facilities
- Explore “Bike Boulevard” concept in appropriate areas
- Evaluate parking ordinances for consistency with smart growth development

REGIONAL ROUTES

Top Priorities:

- Connect Essex Junction to anywhere, particularly along Route 15
- Improve Spear Street corridor from Shelburne to Burlington
- Connect South Burlington Rec Path to Burlington Lakeshore Path

Other Suggested Routes:

- Produce a Regional Bike Map
- Find a route from Milton Village to Colchester
- Improve bridge to Winooski from Burlington (US 2 & 7)
- Connect UVM to St. Mike's
- Connect bike routes within Burlington (i.e., Willard St)
- Explore "Road Diet" for Williston Road
- Connect UVM to U-Mall in South Burlington and to Dorset Street generally

WHAT CAN WE DO?:

- Promote secure bike parking
- Improve bike parking at BTV airport
- Establish small Park & Ride locations
- Employer Transportation Demand Management
- Ensure bike-ped representation at CCMPO/CCRPC meetings
- Promote replication of Colchester Ave "diet" in other locations
- Establish alliances with members of Planning Commissions
- Provide technical info as a resource to keep town planners up to date
- Work to include "Complete Streets" and multi-modal language in town plans
- Promote Education such as "Bike Smart" for both kids and parents
- Bring "Safe Streets" program to all towns
- Recruit college students to teach bike safety
- Get each town to include multi-modal language in town plans
- Advocate for retention of school crossing guards

PARTICIPANTS IN WALK-BIKE PUBLIC STRATEGY MEETING

January 24, 2012

First	Last	Affiliation 1	Affiliation 2
Stu	Lindsay	BWBC.	Other Local
Phil	Hammerslough	BWBC	Bike Cluster
Diane	Orr	Essex Chips	
Stacy	Jordan	FAHC Injury Prevention	
Lucy	Perutz	UVM Bike Users' Group	
Jim	Barr	UVM Dir of Transport & Parking Svcs	
Lani	Ravin	UVM	
Will	Flender	BWBC	BPTF
Rob	Donahue	Shelburne Bike & Pedestrian Paths Committee Chair	
Jens	Pharr	UVM Bike Users' Group	
Mark	Hitchcox	Milton Ad Hoc Rec Path Comm.	
Jefe	Bratspis	Outdoor Gear Exchange	
Luis	Vivanco	UVM Faculty	Local Motion
Isabel	Vivanco	Edmunds Elem Student	Child of Luis & Peggy age 10
Felipe	Vivanco	Edmunds Elem Student	Child of Luis & Peggy age 6.5
Peggy	O'Neill-Vivanco	Edmunds PTO	
Camila	Vivanco		Child of Luis & Peggy age 3
Judy	Bond	VBPC	
Scott	Luria	FAHC	

AREA OF WORK 1: TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR COMPLETE STREETS

The purpose of the “Technical Support for Complete Streets” area of work (formerly known as “Close the Gaps”) is to provide regional leadership in support of the development of a comprehensive network of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. By providing this service as part of the UPWP, Local Motion enhances and supports the capacity of CCRPC member towns to make their transportation networks more bike- and pedestrian-friendly. Beginning this year, we propose to focus on five key areas that, in our assessment, are of greatest strategic value for advancing the relevant goals in the Regional Bike-Ped Plan:

1. **BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY:** Provide town and regional walk-bike committees with technical assistance and enhance staff capacity to provide support
2. **ADVANCING REGIONAL CONNECTIONS:** Help lead the emergence of a regional bicycle network in collaboration with municipal and regional partners
3. **STRENGTHENING LOCAL POLICIES:** Work with municipalities to change local ordinances to better support walking and biking
4. **PLANNING FOR INCREASED BIKE PARKING:** Develop and manage a regional bike rack and bike parking program
5. **CULTIVATING DIVERSE FUNDING SOURCES:** Identify and pursue creative ways to get bike-ped improvements funded

Area of Work	Outcomes Promised for FY2012	Proposed Outcomes for FY2013
<p>BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY: Provide town and regional walk-bike committees with technical assistance and enhance staff capacity to provide support</p>	<p>Provide technical assistance at 25 committee meetings; and send two staff people to national trainings and four to regional or local trainings to learn about best practices in advocacy, project development and bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure design</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance at 25 committee meetings and work with at least six different towns • Actively support and facilitate collaboration and information-sharing across town committees • Participate on regional bike-ped committee as needed • Send two staff people to national trainings or conferences and two to regional or local trainings to learn about best practices in advocacy, project development and bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure design • Share findings and expertise from trainings both formally and informally with partners on walk-bike committees
<p>ADVANCING REGIONAL CONNECTIONS: Lead the emergence of a regional bicycle network in collaboration with municipal partners</p>	<p>Lead/facilitate community dialogue about development of solutions to at least six gaps in the regional network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and map priority regional bicycle corridors connecting community centers and other key destinations • Conduct a comprehensive assessment to identify segments of these corridors that are completed, segments that are planned, and segments that have not yet been addressed <p><i>See Appendix A for details.</i></p>

<p>STRENGTHENING LOCAL POLICIES: Work with municipalities to change local ordinances to better support walking and biking</p>	<p>[New addition to workplan in 2013 scope]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with at least two municipalities to conduct an in-depth review of their plans and ordinances to identify elements that either support or hinder walking and biking • Write a detailed report for each municipality identifying specific action items that will make its plans and ordinances more bike/ped-friendly
<p>PLANNING FOR INCREASED BIKE PARKING: Develop and manage a regional bike rack and bike parking program</p>	<p>[New addition to workplan in 2013 scope]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify priority areas for siting bike racks based on density of bicycle usage, potential future usage (based on land use patterns and other factors), and relevant zoning and designations (such as growth centers) • Target major employers and community facilities in identified areas and work with them to site and install racks <p><i>NOTE: Private funding will be secured to purchase and install all racks. UPWP funds will be used only for program planning.</i></p>
<p>CULTIVATING DIVERSE FUNDING SOURCES: Identify and pursue creative ways to get bike-ped improvements funded</p>	<p>Assist four Chittenden County Communities in seeking creative funding for their projects; continue to work in collaboration with regional leaders on a plan to re-develop the Burlington Bike Path</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist two Chittenden County Communities in cultivating diverse funding sources for high-profile, high-cost bike-ped projects • Continue our leadership role in implementation of the plan to re-develop the Burlington Bike Path, with a focus on building support for public-private funding of the project
<p>Administer contract</p>	<p>Provide monthly reports of activities and tasks accomplished</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide monthly reports of activities and tasks accomplished • Compile financial reports and reimbursement requests
<p><i>NOTE: Two elements included in last year’s “Close the Gaps” scope are not included as stand-alone tasks for FY2013. The first – participating on the regional bike/ped committee – has been folded into the “Building Local Capacity” task . The second – educating the region regarding gaps in network and ways to address them – is essentially covered by the “Walk-Bike Promotion & Outreach” section of this workplan and has been removed from this section so as to eliminate duplication.</i></p>		

AREA OF WORK 2: WALK-BIKE PROMOTION & OUTREACH

The purpose of the “Walk-Bike Promotion & Outreach” area of work (incorporating elements of what was formerly known as “Bike-Ped Education & Safety” and “Bike-Ped Outreach & Staff Training”) is to support a mode shift towards walking and bicycling through development and dissemination of information and resources that support active transportation. By providing this service as part of the UPWP, Local Motion accelerates the mode shift away from single-occupant vehicles that is already underway in Chittenden County and increases support for the CCRPC’s bike-ped work. Beginning this year, we propose to focus on three key areas that, in our assessment, are of greatest strategic value for advancing the relevant goals in the Regional Bike-Ped Plan:

1. **INTEGRATING ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION AND WORKPLACE WELLNESS:** Promote regular walking and biking through expansion of the regional bicycle commuter training program and the Vermont Bike Challenge
2. **CREATING RESOURCES FOR ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION:** Develop a regional walk-bike commuter map
3. **EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT WALKING AND BICYCLING:** Raise the profile of walking and biking through a coordinated series of outreach events

Area of Work	Outcomes Promised for FY2012	Proposed Outcomes for FY2013
<p>INTEGRATING ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION AND WORKPLACE WELLNESS: Promote regular walking and biking through expansion of the regional bicycle commuter training program and the Vermont Bike Challenge</p>	<p>Conduct initial networking and planning to launch the program; offer program fee rebates to employers who meet targets for increased bike commuting; and provide additional incentives for employee participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refine outreach strategies & training materials for efficient program delivery • Identify companies and organization with an interest in promoting bicycling and build relationships with appropriate contacts within each entity • Begin recruiting and training a network of volunteer trainers • Collaborate with the National Bike Challenge sponsor organizations to plan and execute enhancements to the Challenge for 2013, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inclusion of walking as well as bicycling as an option for participants ○ Opening up the Challenge to minors so as to allow kids to participate ○ Adding more options for affiliations, such that people can compete on behalf of their school, town, nonprofit organization, and so on <p><i>NOTES:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Delivery of trainings themselves will continue to be funded by fees paid by employers, with the goal of working with eight employers and training 150 individuals. UPWP funds will be used only for program planning and development as outlined above.</i> • <i>UPWP funds will be used only for working with National Bike Challenge sponsor organizations to expand and enhance the Challenge for <u>2013</u> as outlined above. Management of the <u>2012</u> Vermont Bike Challenge will be paid for with Chittenden County TDM project funds, with a goal of 150,000 miles biked in 2012.</i>

<p>CREATING RESOURCES FOR ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION: Develop a regional walk-bike commuter map</p>	<p>[New addition to workplan in 2013 scope]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with Burlington DPW and the CCRPC to initiate development of a regional walk-bike map modeled on Burlington’s city bike map, to include walking infrastructure, bicycling routes, and transit stops and routes • Identify and begin to pursue funding for printing and distribution of the map
<p>EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT WALKING & BIKING: Raise the profile of walking and biking through a coordinated series of outreach events</p>	<p>Publish articles regularly in Local Motion’s electronic newsletter about the benefits of walking and biking and maintain related resources on Local Motion’s website; attend five community events with outreach materials about the benefits of walking and biking; and organize at least three high-profile public events that highlight the benefits and the pleasures of walking and biking</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish articles regularly in Local Motion’s electronic newsletter about the benefits and pleasures of walking and biking • Maintain related resources on Local Motion’s website • Develop an enhanced outreach system that incorporates interactive experiences to draw people in and engage them in a conversation about the benefits of walking and biking • Conduct interactive outreach at 10 major community events • Work with municipalities and other partners to organize a county-wide series of events for Bike Month (May 2013), with the goal of bringing together people of all backgrounds who have an interest in walking or bicycling and encouraging them to get involved in the walk-bike movement • Lead or provide substantial support and guidance for at least two other high-profile walk-bike events, with the same goal of encouraging engagement in walk-bike advocacy
<p>Administer contract</p>	<p>Provide monthly reports of activities and tasks accomplished</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide monthly reports of activities and tasks accomplished • Compile financial reports and reimbursement requests

NOTE: Three elements included in last year’s “Bike-Ped Education & Safety” scope are not included for FY2013. The first – piloting a walkability assessment – has been dropped because it proved to be infeasible. The second – assessing the feasibility of establishing a countywide online stolen bike registry – will have been completed by the end of FY2012. The third – expanding the PHAT initiative to include teen bike helmet use – is now supported by other funding sources.