

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 3, 2012

Contact: Jon Kaplan  
(802) 828-0059

**VTRANS TO HOST PUBLIC MEETINGS TO GATHER FEEDBACK ON  
STUDY OF ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF WALKING AND BICYCLING IN VERMONT**

MONTPELIER – The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) will hold a public meeting via VT Interactive Television on March 15<sup>th</sup>, regarding the draft report on the Economic Impacts of Walking and Bicycling in Vermont.

The study is the first of its kind in Vermont in that it estimates how bicycling and walking impact the state economy. The draft report will be presented at this meeting for public review to receive input and comments.

The public meeting times and locations are:

**March 15, 2012**

**7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.** Vermont Interactive Television – 8 sites (Brattleboro, Middlebury, Randolph Center, White River Junction, Williston, Montpelier, Newport, and Springfield) across the state, see [www.vitlink.org](http://www.vitlink.org) for info. and directions to the sites.

The Vermont Pedestrian and Bicycle Policy Plan identified the need for this study to determine the overall economic and environmental benefits of bicycling and walking on the State's economy. This study is meant to be a one year "snapshot" of the total economic and environmental benefit - including direct, secondary and spin-off benefits - of bicycle and pedestrian facilities and activities, including tourism, environmental, improved air quality and reduced green house gas emissions, real estate values, health, reduction in demand on the transportation systems, and other economic benefits.

All members of the Vermont public are invited to attend and provide their input on the draft report. The draft report will be available on the project website in March. To view the draft report and additional information please visit the project website, <http://www.localmotion.org/reports>, or contact Jon Kaplan at VTrans by email at [jon.kaplan@state.vt.us](mailto:jon.kaplan@state.vt.us) or by phone at (802) 828-0059.