

Montpelier Bicycle Committee Minutes
September 13th at 4:30pm
Memorial Room, City Hall

Members Present: Jenn Gordon, Suzanne Eikenberry, Anthony Mennona, Jonathan Harries, Heather Voisin, John Kaplan (Vtrans), Dona Bate, Rebecca Harris (AmeriCorps VISTA)

John Kaplan presented overview of Vtrans Bike -Pedestrian program

- There are two funding streams which municipalities can apply for. One grant is for bicycle and pedestrian issues- this application cycle comes out in April and selection takes place in July. These tend to be bigger projects that are leveraged or matched.
- Another grant is for transportation alternative projects, which comes out after the bike/ped grant. Transportation Alternatives has other eligible categories such as renovation of historic transportation structures or storm water projects.

Both primarily federal funds - requirements are similar for both programs
Montpelier has submitted scoping study for bike pedestrian board and we should be hearing back by end of the month.

One of the other things John does is general coordination within agency to ensure projects are considering the needs of bikes and pedestrians
Vtrans paving program does not propose eliminating parking- this would have to be a locally driven process. If the city can work with the person in charge of parking we can request Vtrans paving program to implement temporary striping/ a pop up demonstration of parking space removal for the weekend.

- Have to make very clear for contractor
- Need to get support from business owners

The committee would like to see the effect of removal of parking on sales- is there positive or negative impact?

Are there other states that have measured metrics?

- Information can be found by contacting Jason at local motion.
- Smart Growth America also does data collection

Can change speed limit in downtown

John- Vtrans also does safety education with publications, for instance share the road brochures, bike commuters guide etc...

- We might need these resources for open streets event

Vtrans also work with data in terms of bike/ped counts as well as crash data

- There has been a pedestrian counter on Main Street for 10 years

- Vtrans is getting 2 counters that are sensitive to bikes and can be loaned out to municipalities.

Vtrans also helps with general technical assistance and legislature with bike safety laws etc...

Share rows - new design/pavement marking that they don't have a ton of experience with - interim

- NACTO provides guidance on how to use sharerows

Vtrans hopes to use sharerows strategically so they don't get overused and drivers don't listen anymore as well as get consistency throughout state

Jenn wants to come up with small-scale projects to receive non-competitive grant from Vtrans. Supports projects such as road striping etc...

Heather- What is protocol of when bike lanes are created?

- There are engineering standards- 4 feet is minimum
- Tiny bike lanes are not state projects

Meeting adjourned at 5:45PM