

Mendon TAP TA22(17)
Local Concerns Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2023 @ 5:00 pm

VHB's meeting presentation is attached for reference.

Attendees: Jenn Conley (VHB), Elisabeth Sundberg (VHB), Rose O'Brien (VHB), Sara Tully (Mendon), Larry Courcelle (Mendon), Patti Lancaster (Mendon), Fred Bagley (Mendon), Seth Bridge (Mendon), Lisa Brooks (Mendon), Teri Corsones (Mendon), Steffanie Bourque (RRPC), Susan Feenick, Dennis Charles, George Brant, Dennis O'Connell, Ed Allen, John McCann, Sisco Lellos (sign in sheet for in-person attendees attached)

Welcome and Introductions: Jenn Conley, the project's lead consultant, opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda for the meeting (see slide 2). She then introduced the project team members from VHB, the Rutland Regional Planning Commission, Town of Mendon, and Vermont Agency of Transportation (see slide 4).

Draft Project Purpose & Need: Jenn C. reviewed the draft project purpose and need statement and explained how this will guide the development of project alternatives (see slides 6-7). Input on the project purpose included suggestions to address aesthetic improvements within the corridor study area. Input on the project needs was highly focused on lowering the speed limit within the corridor study area, many concerns expressed about excessive speed leading to unsafe conditions for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians traveling along US Route 4 and at various intersections (e.g., Journey's End, Meadow Lake Drive, new Forest Service Headquarters). In general, attendees agreed with and supported the draft project purpose and need statement as presented.

Project Schedule: Jenn C. reviewed the scoping study development milestones (see slide 9). Next key opportunity for public input will be at the Alternatives Presentation targeted for September 2023. Completion of the project and presentation of the final scoping study is targeted for April 2024.

Existing Conditions: Jenn C. described the 6-mile project area along US Route 4 in the Town of Mendon from the Rutland Town to Killington town lines (see slides 12-16). Environmental resources (deer wintering areas, streams, wetlands); traffic and safety (annual average daily traffic counts, crash data); bicycle and pedestrian facilities (none existing, proximity to several recreational resources); and previous studies (Mendon on the Move, Rutland Regional Plan, Mendon Town Plan) were highlighted.

Public Input: Jenn C. led a discussion of concerns in several discrete segments along the 6-mile long project area, starting at the (see slides 18-23). Highlights of concerns/input received include:

- Pedestrian crossing at the Best Western/pilates studio near intersection with Town Line Road
- No designated bus stops along the corridor, on demand stop locations can be dangerous
- Unsafe conditions for tractor trailer delivery trucks to stop at business along Route 4
- Park Lane intersection has no turn lane, so vehicles pass in the breakdown lane
- Lack of road markings lead to vehicles passing or traveling in the breakdown lane
- Unsafe for conditions for pedestrians, bicyclists, snowmobiles traveling along or crossing Route 4

- Meadow Lake Drive intersection (in the designated Village Center) is a high volume traffic area of concern with Sugar and Spice and the Mini Golf/Snack Bar in the vicinity
- Wheelerville Road, Journey's End Road, Woodward Road intersections – multitude of safety concerns
- Difficult to determine future re-use of properties in the former hotel zone, 50 mph speed limit in this zone viewed as an impediment to new commercial business
- Safety concerns about access to new forest service headquarters building and increase in visitors to this destination
- Crossings and safety of on demand bus stops in the vicinity of Vista Senior Living and Mendon Mountainview Lodge
- Unsafe snowmobile trail crossing in vicinity of former Snow Angel restaurant

Next Steps: Jenn C. described the next steps in the development of the scoping study (see slide 25). Additional input following the meeting can be submitted by email to Steffanie Bourque, Project Manager, at sbourque@rutlandrpc.org

Mendon Route 4 Corridor Scoping Study

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Name	Organization	Email
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