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*Vermont*



*Governor's Commission on Climate Change*

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## **Transportation & Land Use Technical Work Group**

### **Meeting Summary, Call #6**

February 27, 2007, 3:00PM-4:30 PM

#### **Attendance**

##### **• TWG Members**

Meredith Birkett (for Chris Cole)

Gina Campoli

Elizabeth Courtney

Chuck Gallagher

Scott Johnstone

David Lewis

Polly McMurtry

James Moore

Brian Searles

##### **• VT DEC Staff**

Jeff Merrell

##### **• CCS Staff**

Will Schroeer

Wendy Messenger

Tiffany Batac

##### **• Public/Friends**

David O'Brian

Charley Mark

TJ Poor

Elaine Wang

## **Introductions**

- Will Schroeer conducted roll call.
- VNRC would like to add Steve Holmes to the group as a resource.
- Charley Mark and TJ Poor need to be added to the distribution list.
- Will Schroeer reviewed the agenda and purpose of the call.

## **Review and Discussion of Call 5 Summary**

- Elaine Wang needs to be added as member of public
- Charley Mark and TJ Poor are not TWG members, but rather “friends” of the TWG
- Polly McMurtry’s name needs to be spelled correctly

## **Review and discussion on Catalog of State Actions and process to advance**

Will Schroeer recommended a deadline for an annotated outline of policy language by March 6. The goal is for brief outlines of approaches / language for the straw proposals, to keep the process moving. Those drafts would then be distributed by email.

TWG members noted that March 6 is holiday – town meeting day – which may suggest another date should be selected. Will Schroeer clarified that milestones are not meeting dates, but rather deadlines for distribution of materials to the TWG.

Others noted travel as a potential barrier to making the milestone, and so the TWG discussed some flexibility for work groups that needed it.

TLU-1:

- Will Schroeer recognized that Vermont has made a lot of progress, so the straw proposal will need to be specific to be useful. He tasked the group to think about specific directions to take. And asked for ideas, or suggestions?
- The TLU-1 lead stated that the group has started to think about the issues, reflecting on NC examples. She supported the need to set a deadline to meet and come up with some language by March 6, perhaps accomplished by divvying up and discussing via emails. WG is taking a template with mitigation option descriptions – mitigation option design and parties involved – and talking about tools we have to get there.
- ACTION ITEM – WG will generate tools list of smart growth initiatives in VT.
- ACTION ITEM – CCS to send around template

- Question: clarification on how existing tools are going to help move along analysis.  
Response: looking at existing tools and programs will allow analysis to build upon these, look to fully implement or expand, etc. Will Schroeer supported this explanation.
- The remaining details on TLU-1 will be determined via email.

TLU-2:

- Leader suggested the group for TLU-2 should do the same thing as TLU-2.
- ACTION ITEM - Chuck Gallagher and Elizabeth Birkett will create the tool kit.
- Gina Campoli suggested Vermont may not be at the forefront in this arena, and the group may need to look elsewhere for examples and tools.
- ACTION ITEM - Chuck Gallagher will provide a link to Oregon Plan.

TLU-3:

- James Moore is the lead, but was unable to attend the meeting due to a testimony obligation

TLU-4:

- Charley Mark shared that several states have laws that allowing pay-as-you –drive insurance, which is a big movement in England. He has done preliminary research and will write up several different models.
- Will Schroeer offered that the debate on the policy comes down whether it is allowed or required; the straw proposal will need some kind of goal to work towards. He advised that this is considered when drafting the language.
- Charley Mark asked for clarification on whether the policy is intended as revenue-neutral or are you trying to reduce payments for those who drive less. Will Schroeer responded that was a good question, and typically an aspect of big debate around the issues, but it is likely to be former, some pay more some pay less; however, until there is a full scale implementation of the policy, it is hard to determine for certain.

TLU-5:

- Will Schroeer talked to Nataka White from the Agriculture and Forestry TWG, who is working on the production side of alternative fuels. He kindly agreed to take lead on this policy option as well.

- Will Schroeer has sent the working group NC's draft policy option as a starting point. Nataka White will take a first stab at crafting it to be VT specific.
- ACTION ITEM - Will Schroeer will resend to TJ Poor, as his mailbox was full.

TLU-6:

- Brian Searles suggested the group have an outline by March 9' due to his travel schedule, and compress the timeline for the next deliverable.
- VTrans has done a lot of work on policy option 4.1, however integration of systems might take more time.
- ACTION ITEM – TLU-6 working group members will generate email with their thoughts by March 8, and the group will then decide what needs to be done to pull the thoughts together.
- Polly McMurtry inquired whether the repetition of 4.2 again in TLU-6 was intentional. Will Schroeer explained that the Plenary Group did this intentionally.
- Polly McMurtry asked for clarification if issues are things such as funding for Amtrak. Brian Searles offered the western corridor as an example.
- Gina Campoli might bring in someone else – Scott Baskman – who works more directly with such issues,
- CCTA was also mentioned as needing to be involved, as well as Dartmouth Coach.
- Will Schroeer as if a volunteer would call David Wolfsun to get him involved. Brian Searles suggested a meeting to bring everyone together – March 9 at 9:00AM.

TLU-7:

- ACTION ITEM - Polly McMurtry will email Will Schroeer a good time to call Friday or Monday

TLU-8:

- ACTION ITEM – Scott Johnstone will put language into the template - it should be fairly straightforward - and send something around tomorrow.

TLU-9:

- Will Schroeer explained that the Plenary Group wants fuel tax to be examined only as it relates to fund other things at relatively low level, not to change behavior.

- No lead was identified previously, and Will Schroeer will take the lead.
- ACTION ITEM – Will Schroeer will send around language from another state as starting point
- Gina Campoli clarified that she is participating to keep an eye on things, but not going to be actively participating.
- Scott Johnstone expressed dissatisfaction with not conducting full analysis, due to the Plenary Group's request for narrowing the approach.

### **Next Steps for VT TLU Working Group**

- Future TLU TWG meetings:
  - April 10, 2007: 3:00 pm–4:30 pm
  - April 24, 2007: 3:00 pm–4:30 pm
  - June 5, 2007: 3:00 pm–4:30 pm
  - June 26, 2007: 3:00 pm–4:30 pm
- Plenary Group Meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- The policy language will circulate via email to the TWG prior to being submitted to Plenary Group.

### **Public Input**

- None