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**Strategy Committee Meeting Agenda**  
**August 8, 2022 8:30 AM**  
**101 Queen City Road, Burlington VT 05401**  
**Meeting held virtually via Zoom Meetings**

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*The mission of GMT is to promote and operate safe, convenient, accessible, innovative, and sustainable public transportation services in northwest and central Vermont that reduce congestion and pollution, encourage transit oriented development, and enhance the quality of life for all.*

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**Present:**

- Chris Damiani, Senior Transit Planner
- Commissioner Phil Pouech, Hinesburg
- Commissioner Bob Buermann, Grand Isle County
- Jamie Smith, Director of Marketing & Planning
- Ashley LaBombard, Marketing & Outreach Coordinator
- Jon Moore, General Manager
- Connie Englert, Director of Transportation
- Alt. Commissioner Tom Derenthal, Burlington
- Alt. Commissioner Marcie Gallagher, Burlington

**Open Meeting**

Chair Buermann opened the meeting at 8:30AM.

**Adjustment of the Agenda**

None

**Public Comment**

None

**Approval of Committee Minutes**

Commissioner Pouech made a motion to approve the minutes with edits, Commissioner Derenthal seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Microtransit Prioritization Conversation**

Planning staff has been working with VTRANS and VPTA and have conducted a feasibility study for Barre. We have been approached that there is funding for a second feasibility study in the GMT service area. We think that there St Albans is a good choice, but we would like to hear from the Strategy



40 committee. The feasibility studies are only for the rural communities. To date  
41 the communities interested are Franklin County and the Mad River Valley.  
42  
43 Commissioner Buermann asked about possibly serving the islands. Director  
44 Smith stated that currently MyRide services act as a replacement for fixed  
45 route service in Montpelier, however if we are looking to expand service and  
46 the Islands show interest we are happy to have that conversation.  
47 Commissioner Buermann will reach out to Commissioner Dimitruk about  
48 getting a letter of interest from Franklin County.  
49  
50 Director Smith Stated that GMT has also received letters of interest from our  
51 urban communities including Williston and Winooski.  
52  
53 Commissioner Buermann asked if Jeffersonville, Cambridge, Underhill and  
54 Jericho were a part of our rural system. GM Moore clarified that the services  
55 in these areas come from our urban budget.  
56  
57 Commissioner Buermann asked if there was a possibility to make the study  
58 broader and look at Franklin and Grand Isle counties as a whole. Director  
59 Smith commented that we provided different options for barre and we could  
60 do something similar with this area.  
61  
62 Commissioner Pouech asked what criteria we would use to look at the  
63 proposals and decide which one gets the funding? Director Smith stated that  
64 they will look at demographic factors, who would the route be serving, and  
65 the number of vehicles needed among other factors.  
66  
67 GM Moore commented that the feasibility study is only the first step and that  
68 VTRANS would still have to agree to fund the service. If they decline to fund it,  
69 the GMT board could look at moving forward with implementing it with local  
70 and federal funding.  
71  
72 Commissioner Derenthal asked what would be considered a figure of merit  
73 for cost per ride for microtransit. GM Moore responded that it is hard to say  
74 due to COVID and decreased ridership. Senior Transit Planner stated that  
75 VTRANS considers 30 dollars acceptable, and that there is some leeway as  
76 MyRide came in at 32 dollars.

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## **Transit Strategic Plan**



79 Director Smith explained the process the planning department would like to  
80 use moving forward. A rough outline of this process would be surveying  
81 passengers annually in the fall, analyzing the data in early winter and basing  
82 our annual transit plan off this data. In spring we would go through a public  
83 engagement process and then implement the service plan in the summer.

84

85 Director Smith is hoping to come to strategy committee with policy and staff  
86 ideas to help those policies. We will also bring a new outline of the TSP to the  
87 board in September.

88

### 89 **Commissioner Items**

90 Commissioner Derenthal will be moving over to the Operations Committee  
91 starting in September, but may still occasionally listen in.

92

93 Commissioner Pouech was curious if anyone knew that with the new  
94 electrification bill if there was anything related to public transportation in  
95 there. GM Moore said there was possibly capital funds for fleet electrification.

96

97 Director Englert stated that we should hear from the Low/No Grant in late  
98 August if we received the funds for 5 New Flyer electric busses and charging  
99 infrastructure.

100

101 Commissioner Buermann will also be on the Leadership Committee starting  
102 this month.

103

### 104 **Adjourn**

105 Commissioner Bob adjourned the meeting at 9:15am