

4 September 2009

Memo to: Transportation Study committee  
From: Kate Rader  
Subject: Interview with Steve Gladcjuk, Central VT Regional Planning Commission

On Wednesday, September 2, I met with Steve Gladcjuk, Transportation Planner for the CVRPC. In that capacity, he is responsible for the creation of the Regional Transportation Plan, staff to the Region's Transportation Advisory Committee, develops multi-modal project priorities, conducts special transportation studies, and coordinates regional input to the VTrans project development process.

The CVRPC was established in 1967. Enabling legislation for the establishment of the commissions was passed in the early '60's, and over the next few years, twelve commissions were formed by local governments. Links to all of them can be found at [www.VAPDA.org](http://www.VAPDA.org).

The commissions act as a form for local communities, and aid communication between those communities and the state. They provide technical aid to towns and make sure that town plans are in compliance with state regulations. A focus on transportation issues came in the early '90's, under a federal program.

Gladczuk told me that since last year's high gas prices, vehicle miles are down and the use of Park and Ride is up. This has not been reversed in response to this year's lower prices.

There are plans for a commuter route along Rte 2, connecting East Montpelier, Plainfield and Marshfield. This is under a federal CMAC program (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality). Local contact for more information on that is Dave Grundy, of East Montpelier. The Plainfield Health Center is working on daily trips to Montpelier and Barre for their patients. There are plans for a bus link for NECI students between downtown and their offices and dormitories on College Hill. I was also given the name of another East Montpelierite, Steve Jerome, who is working on the Vermont Local Roads Program.

I asked about freight traffic. The question of differing state and federal weight standards came up at Sen. Sanders transportation "town hall" meeting at the State House in February. Gladczuk gave me a summary of the Vermont Freight Plan, by Costa Pappis at VTrans. He also provided me with a printout of a presentation on transportation funding by Neil Schickner of the Joint Fiscal Office.

Finally, Gladczuk gave me a disc of the current Regional Transportation Plan, which was completed in Dec. 2008. It can also be found on their website at <http://www.centralvtplanning.org/Publications.html>.

I think it will be worthwhile to talk to each of the planning commissions, to get the kind of information given above about local efforts. Doing so may give us an overall picture, and maybe some ideas for coordination.