BACKGROUND

Vermont’s Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is a framework to guide transportation decision-making and investments over the next 20 years. All Vermonters have a stake in the continuing evolution of the State’s transportation system. Over the course of the next year, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) will develop the 2040 LRTP and will reach out to stakeholders and regional partners for input. You can also participate in the development of the plan through the website: vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/long-range-plan.

METHODS

VTrans Policy, Planning and Research Bureau staff will update the Vermont Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) over the next 12 months. Two summary documents will serve as the foundation for the update. The first is the 2016 Statewide Transportation Public Opinion Survey, which provides insight into travel behaviors, and public opinion of Vermont’s transportation infrastructure and services. The second is an Existing Conditions and Future Trends report, covering a range of topics including a State and National policy review, energy and climate change, population and demographics, funding and finance, land-use and transportation, and technological change. Together, these reports will serve as the basis for kickoff of the plan update process and inform the Stakeholder and Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

**Summer 2017**
- Stakeholders Mtg #1 and visit RPC Transportation Advisory Committees to review Draft Existing Conditions & Future Trends Report

**Fall 2017**
- Stakeholders Mtg #2 to review regional TAC input & develop Priorities and Policies

**December 2017**
- Publish Draft Priorities and Policies summary for comment

**Spring 2018**
- Publish draft LRTP for comment and adopt upon completion

**Winter 2018**
- Stakeholders Mtg #3 and visit RPC Transportation Advisory Committees to review Draft Priorities and Policies summary
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Role: VTrans Planning Section
VTrans planning staff will develop the work products for stakeholder consideration and public comment. Work products will include the 2016 Statewide Transportation Public Opinion Survey, Existing Conditions and Future Trends report, presentation materials, summary of public outreach sessions with the Regional Planning Commissions, drafts of the LRTP, and a final LRTP.

Role: VTrans Stakeholder Group
VTrans will convene an internal stakeholder group to gain input from subject matter experts within the Agency and to ensure awareness and understanding of the Plan’s purpose and content throughout the Agency. This group will meet three times throughout the process, in parallel with the External Stakeholder Group.

Role: External Stakeholder Group
A broad range of External Stakeholders will guide the development of the Plan. These will include State Agencies and Departments including Natural Resources, Human Services, Economic Development, Public Safety, and Public Service, representatives of public transit, representatives of users of pedestrian and bicycle facilities, economic development organizations, and representatives of Vermont’s most vulnerable populations including elders and persons with disabilities. Stakeholders will meet three times to review and comment on 1) the purpose of the LRTP and the Existing Conditions & Future Trends report; 2) to develop priorities and policies to address the identified long-term issues; and, 3) to review a draft priorities and policies summary.

Role: RPC Transportation Advisory Committees (TAC)
VTrans will consult the Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committees in all regions of the state twice during the development of the Plan. The first set of TAC visits will take place over the summer of 2017 to present the Statewide Survey and Existing Conditions & Future Trends findings, solicit feedback regarding current and projected conditions and trends in transportation, and hear about regional issues and priorities. The second round of TAC visits will take place in early winter of 2017/18 to review draft priorities and policies.