FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 18, 2023

Contact: Andrea Wright, Agency of Transportation 802-917-1586, <u>Andrea.Wright@vermont.gov</u>

Agency of Transportation Carbon Reduction Strategy Public Meetings Rescheduled

Barre, VT – Due to the flooding and ongoing recovery work statewide, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) is postponing the public meetings that were planned for tomorrow, July 19. The virtual meetings have been rescheduled for Wednesday, August 2 at 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Zoom links for the revised dates are available on the project website.

The online survey remains active until the end of this month and is on the project website: <u>https://vtrans.vermont.gov/form/carbon-reduction-strategy</u>. We encourage Vermonters to participate, as public input is a critical component of the process.

The Agency is undertaking the Carbon Reduction Strategy with two primary objectives. The first is to support meeting the State's requirements for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction, including a requirement for transportation to contribute 40 percent of the overall needed reduction of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. The second objective is to support federal requirements for each state to develop a Carbon Reduction Strategy pursuant to the <u>U.S.</u> <u>Department of Transportation Carbon Reduction Program</u> which provides dedicated funding for GHG-reducing transportation projects. This work includes outreach to the public and a series of focus groups, including business, freight, environmental, community, and equity-focused interests.

After completing an evaluation of the AOT Capital Plan and modeling the impact of potential strategies, the project team will incorporate public feedback to develop a cost-effective and inclusive Carbon Reduction Strategy that aligns with the goals and values of Vermonters.

###