

6. SCOPING, AGENCY COORDINATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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6.1 Scoping, Agency Coordination

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead Federal Agency for this 2009 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS). FHWA, Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and the City of Burlington are funding this project, and the City of Burlington is responsible for implementation of the project.

There is no formal scoping process required for a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. Meetings were held with individual resource agencies throughout the course of this project to obtain input on environmental issues. These have included the following:

Supplemental EIS Meetings:

- Monthly Coordination Meetings with representatives from the City of Burlington, FHWA and VTrans were held from November, 1999, through July, 2007. Monthly Coordination Meetings resumed in March, 2009, through the present.
- A meeting with representatives of the environmental regulatory agencies was held on June 8, 2000, to discuss permitting requirements.
- Discussions with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) were held on June 16, 2003, related to wetland impacts.
- A meeting was held August 21, 2003, with representatives from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR).

Section 106 Coordination:

Coordination with VTrans, the City of Burlington, property owners, and the public, including special interest groups, with respect to the project has been ongoing since 1979. Information on design of alternatives has been shared and VTrans has responded to several requests for review of impacts.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was prepared as part of the 1997 FSEIS to address impacts associated with Build Alternative 1 to historical and archeological resources (refer to Appendix 5).

6.2 Agency Comment Letters

Federal, State and local agency letters were received during the course of the project (Refer to Appendix 1). The issues and concerns expressed have been incorporated in the appropriate sections of this 2009 FSEIS.

6.3 City of Burlington/Public Involvement

6.3.1 Public Meetings

During the early 1990's, while VTrans was responsible for the project, the City of Burlington continued with a wide range of activities aimed at moving the project forward. These included the following:

- Downtown Burlington Development Association Meeting; June 1, 1989; Agenda Item - "Southern Connector/Barge Canal - What's Next?"
- Downtown Burlington Development Association Meeting; November 2, 1989; Agenda Item - "Southern Connector Briefing".
- Downtown Burlington Development Association Meeting; September 6, 1990; Agenda Item - "Champlain Parkway (Southern Connector)".
- Burlington Transportation and Parking Council Meeting; September 19, 1990; Agenda Item - "Main Street Task Force and Southern Connector Information".
- Burlington Transportation and Parking Council Meeting; July 11, 1991; Agenda Item - "Priority of Southern Connector Project".
- Burlington Transportation and Parking Council Meeting; December 11, 1991; Agenda Item - "Southern Connector Update".
- Burlington Transportation and Parking Council Meeting; February 12, 1992; Agenda Item - "Southern Connector Update".
- Burlington Transportation and Parking Council Meeting; April 8, 1992; Agenda Item - "Southern Connector Update".
- Downtown Burlington Development Association Meeting; September 3, 1992; Agenda Item - "Southern Connector Update".
- Joint Meeting of the Burlington Transportation and Parking Council and the Mayor's Transportation Group; September 9, 1992; Agenda Item - "Southern Connector (Champlain Parkway) Update".

- Burlington Transportation and Parking Council; December 9, 1992; Agenda Item - "Southern Connector Update".
- Burlington Transportation and Parking Council; August 11, 1993; Agenda Item - "Southern Connector Update".
- Champlain Parkway Sounding Board Meeting; May 12, 1994; Agenda Item - "Discussion of the Champlain Parkway Project".
- Champlain Parkway Sounding Board Meeting; November 4, 1994; Agenda Item - "Update on the Champlain Parkway Project".
- Champlain Parkway Sounding Board Meeting; February 2, 1995; Agenda Item - "Update on the Champlain Parkway Project".
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; April 28, 1997.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; June 9, 1997.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; June 23, 1997.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; August 11, 1997.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; September 22, 1997.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; November 3, 1997.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; December 8, 1997.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; January 12, 1998.
- Presentation to the Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly; May 21, 1998.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; September 28, 1998.

The City of Burlington participated in numerous public meetings subsequent to assuming responsibility for the Southern Connector/Champlain Parkway project to provide information and receive public input in an effort to expedite construction. These included the following:

- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; November 28, 1998.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; January 27, 1999.
- Presentation to the Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly; March 18, 1999.
- Public Meeting at the DPW Offices on Kilburn Street; April 8, 1999.
- Public Meeting at the DPW Offices on Kilburn Street; April 12, 1999.
- Public Meeting at the DPW Offices on Kilburn Street; April 13, 1999.
- Public Meeting at the DPW Offices on Kilburn Street; April 14, 1999.
- Public Meeting at the DPW Offices on Kilburn Street; April 20, 1999.
- Public Meeting at the Champlain School; June 15, 1999.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; June 28, 1999.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; June 30, 1999.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; July 12, 1999.
- Presentation to the Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly; August 19, 1999.
- Presentation to Burlington City Council Transportation Committee; August 23, 1999.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; September 13, 1999.
- Presentation to Burlington City Council Transportation Committee; November 22, 1999.
- Presentation to Burlington City Council Transportation Committee; December 20, 1999.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; February 10, 2000.

- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; March 13, 2000.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; May 1, 2000.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; May 15, 2000.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; June 21, 2000.
- Public Meeting at Flynn Dog Art Gallery, Flynn Avenue for the South End Arts and Business Association; June 28, 2000.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; July 17, 2000.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; August 14, 2000.
- Presentation to the Burlington Bike Council; October 3, 2000.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; November 15, 2000.
- Presentation to Burlington City Council; November 27, 2000.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; December 6, 2000.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; February 7, 2001.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; February 20, 2001.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; March 26, 2001.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; May 7, 2001.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; June 4, 2001.
- Public Meeting at Gregory Supply, Pine Street, for South End Arts and Business Association; June 19, 2001.
- Public Meeting at St. John's Club, Central Avenue, with the Lakeside Avenue Neighborhood; June 25, 2001.
- Presentation and/or communication to the Burlington City Council; July 16, 2001.

- Public Meeting with Preservation Burlington in the Fletcher Free Library; December 12, 2001.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; March 11, 2002.
- Presentation to the Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly; April 18, 2002.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; April 22, 2002.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; May 1, 2002.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; May 20, 2002.
- Presentation to the Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly; July 18, 2002.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; August 7, 2002.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; October 8, 2002.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; November 7, 2002.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; November 18, 2002.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; December 10, 2002.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; March 10, 2003.
- Presentation to the Burlington Bike Council; March 12, 2003.
- Public Meeting at Speeder & Earls, Pine Street, for the South End Arts and Business Association; April 2, 2003.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; April 8, 2003.
- Presentation and/or Communication to the Burlington City Council; April 14, 2003.
- Public Meeting at the Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly, Champlain School; April 17, 2003.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; May 7, 2003.

- Presentation to the Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization; May 21, 2003.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; September 10, 2003.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; October 7, 2003.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; November 5, 2003.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; December 3, 2003.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; January 7, 2004.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; February 4, 2004.
- Presentation to the Waterfront Action Group; February 12, 2004.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; March 3, 2004.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; April 7, 2004.
- Presentation to the Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly; April 15, 2004.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; May 5, 2004.
- Presentation to the City Council Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee; May 18, 2004.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; August 4, 2004.
- Presentation to the South Burlington City Council; September 20, 2004.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; February 2, 2005.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; March 9, 2005.
- Presentation to the Burlington City Council; March 21, 2005.
- Presentation to the Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly; April 21, 2005.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; September 7, 2005.
- Presentation to the City Council Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee; November 2, 2005.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; November 2, 2005.

- Presentation to the City Council Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee; November 14, 2005.
- Presentation to the Burlington City Council; November 21, 2005.
- Presentation to the Public Works Commission; February 1, 2006.
- Presentation to the City Council Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee; February 6, 2006.
- Public Informational Meeting at Burlington Department of Public Works; July 24, 2006.
- Public Informational Meeting at Contois Auditorium – City Hall; July 27, 2006.
- Public Informational Meeting at Burlington Department of Public Works; July 31, 2006.
- Public Informational Meeting at Burlington Department of Public Works; August 3, 2006.
- Public Hearing for the 2006 Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement at Champlain Elementary School; November 30, 2006.

6.3.2 City of Burlington Resolutions

The City of Burlington has passed several resolutions regarding the development of the Southern Connector/Champlain Parkway, including the following:

- City of Burlington resolution supporting the Southern Connector/Champlain Parkway project, 1993.
- City of Burlington 1995 Consolidated Plan - Five Year Action/Focus Items Included: "Work Towards Completion of the Champlain Parkway".
- City of Burlington – Southern Connector Alternative, November 21, 2005 (refer to Appendix 1).

6.3.3 Process/Public Participation

The 2006 DSEIS was circulated on November 1, 2006. A comment period, including a public hearing, was provided from November 1, 2006 through December 29, 2006. This 2009 FSEIS addresses the written and oral comments received during the 2006 DSEIS review period (refer to Appendix 9). A Record of Decision (ROD) will be issued no sooner than 30-days after the distribution of this 2009 FSEIS.