

HINSDALE, NH – BRATTLEBORO, VT CONNECTICUT RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT

Existing Bridges Subcommittee

OVERVIEW

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Existing Bridges Subcommittee is to develop a vision for the Charles Dana and Anna Hunt Marsh Bridges and Hinsdale Island, including the envisioned activities and uses of the bridges and island, physical changes, management and maintenance considerations, and expected impacts on economic development, tourism, transportation/access, and recreational opportunities.

The Existing Bridges Subcommittee reports to and advises the Hinsdale-Brattleboro Bridge Project Advisory Committee formed by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

II. MEMBERSHIP

The Existing Bridges Subcommittee will be comprised of the following members: three (3) people representing public safety, two (2) people representing municipal public works and/or highway departments, two (2) people representing economic development organizations, two (2) people representing rail trail user groups, one (1) person representing the Town of Hinsdale, one (1) person representing the Town of Brattleboro, one (1) person representing public health, and one (1) person representing historic interests. Approximately half of the Subcommittee membership should be stakeholders from Hinsdale or the state of New Hampshire, and the other half should be stakeholders from Brattleboro or the state of Vermont.

III. PROPOSED PROCESS & DELIVERABLES

1. **Evaluate Existing Conditions.** This could include, but is not limited, to creating an inventory of existing plans, policies, and reports having a bearing on the future use and management of the existing bridges and/or island, gathering data on current uses and activities, gathering information on the structural conditions of the bridge, and gathering information about the island's conditions.
2. **Conduct Public Outreach and Engagement Activities.** The Existing Bridges Subcommittee should solicit input from the public to better understand concerns related to the bridges/island and develop an inclusive vision that is informed by a cross-section of community stakeholders. Public engagement activities could include holding one or more public meetings, conducting a resident survey, conducting a public workshop, etc.
3. **Develop a Vision for the Existing Bridges and Island.** After the Existing Bridges Subcommittee has assessed the existing conditions of the bridges and island and received public input, the Subcommittee should develop a vision for the bridges and island which includes the envisioned activities and uses of the bridges and island, physical changes, management and maintenance considerations, and expected impacts on economic development, tourism, transportation/access, and recreational opportunities.

As the planning process unfolds, the Existing Bridges Subcommittee and Hinsdale-Brattleboro Bridge Project Advisory Committee may determine other Subcommittee activities will be necessary.