

1 * * * General Statement of Policy; Transportation Planning * * *

2 Sec. 9a. 19 V.S.A. § 10b is amended to read:

3 § 10b. STATEMENT OF POLICY; GENERAL

4 (a) The Agency shall be the responsible agency of the State for the
5 development of transportation policy. It shall develop a mission statement to
6 reflect:

7 (1) that State transportation policy shall be to encompass, coordinate,
8 and integrate all modes of transportation and to consider “complete streets”
9 principles, which are principles of safety and accommodation of all
10 transportation system users, regardless of age, ability, or modal preference; ~~and~~

11 (2) the need for transportation projects that will improve the State’s
12 economic infrastructure, as well as the use of resources in efficient,
13 coordinated, integrated, cost-effective, and environmentally sound ways, and
14 that will be consistent with the recommendations of the Comprehensive
15 Energy Plan (CEP) issued under 30 V.S.A. § 202b, the recommendations of
16 the Climate Action Plan (CAP) issued under 10 V.S.A. § 592, and any rules
17 adopted in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 593;

18 (3) the need for the Agency to lead, assist, and partner in the
19 transformation of the transportation sector to meet the emissions reduction
20 requirements of the Global Warming Solutions Act, codified at 10 V.S.A.
21 § 578, and ensure that there is an environmentally clean, efficient, multimodal

1 system that will have economic, environmental, equity, and public health
2 benefits for all Vermonters; and

3 (4) the importance of transportation infrastructure resilience and
4 strategies to construct or retrofit, or both, transportation infrastructure to
5 prepare for and adapt to changes in the climate; add redundancy and efficiency
6 to the transportation network; and use maintenance and operational strategies
7 to address transportation disruptions.

8 (b) The Agency shall coordinate planning and education efforts with those
9 of the Vermont Climate ~~Change Oversight Committee~~ Council, established
10 under 10 V.S.A. § 591, and those of local and regional planning entities to:

11 (1) ~~to~~ ensure that the transportation system as a whole is integrated, that
12 access to the transportation system as a whole is integrated, and that statewide,
13 local, and regional conservation and efficiency opportunities and practices are
14 integrated; and

15 (2) ~~to~~ support employer-led or local or regional government-led
16 conservation, efficiency, rideshare, and bicycle programs and other innovative
17 transportation advances, especially employer-based incentives.

18 (c) In developing the State’s annual Transportation Program, the Agency
19 shall, consistent with the planning goals listed in 24 V.S.A. § 4302 ~~as amended~~
20 ~~by 1988 Acts and Resolves No. 200~~ and with appropriate consideration to
21 local, regional, and State agency plans:

1 (1) Develop or incorporate designs that provide integrated, safe, and
2 efficient transportation and that are consistent with the recommendations of the
3 CEP and the CAP.

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5 Sec. 9b. 19 V.S.A. § 10i is amended to read:

6 § 10i. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS

7 (a) Long-range systems plan. The Agency shall establish and implement a
8 planning process through the adoption of a long-range ~~multi-modal~~ multimodal
9 systems plan integrating all modes of transportation. The long-range ~~multi-~~
10 ~~modal~~ multimodal systems plan shall be based upon Agency transportation
11 policy developed under section 10b of this title; other policies approved by the
12 General Assembly; Agency goals, mission, and objectives; and demographic
13 and travel forecasts, design standards, performance criteria, and funding
14 availability. The long-range systems plan shall be developed with participation
15 of the public and local and regional governmental entities and pursuant to the
16 planning goals and processes set forth in 1988 Acts and Resolves No. 200.
17 The plan shall be consistent with the Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP) issued
18 under 30 V.S.A. § 202b and the Climate Action Plan (CAP) issued under
19 10 V.S.A. § 592.

20 * * *

1 (c) Transportation Program. The Transportation Program shall be
2 developed in a fiscally responsible manner to accomplish the following
3 objectives:

4 (1) managing, maintaining, and improving the State’s existing
5 transportation infrastructure to provide capacity, safety, ~~and~~ flexibility, and
6 resiliency in the most cost-effective and efficient manner;

7 (2) developing an integrated transportation system that provides
8 Vermonters with transportation choices;

9 (3) strengthening the economy, protecting the quality of the natural
10 environment, and improving Vermonters’ quality of life; ~~and~~

11 (4) achieving the recommendations of the CEP and the CAP; and

12 (5) transforming the transportation sector to meet the State’s emissions
13 reduction requirements and ensure that there is an environmentally clean,
14 efficient, multimodal system that will have economic, environmental, equity,
15 and public health benefits for all Vermonters.

16 * * *

17 (f) Emissions modeling.

18 (1) The Agency of Natural Resources shall coordinate with the Agency
19 of Transportation to consider and incorporate relevant elements of the
20 proposed Transportation Program and the effectiveness of those elements in

1 reducing greenhouse gas emissions when developing and updating the
2 Tracking and Measuring Progress Tool pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 591(b)(3).

3 (2) The following shall be included in the reports required pursuant to
4 section 10g of this chapter:

5 (A) the portion of the Tracking and Measuring Progress Tool related
6 to the Transportation Program;

7 (B) a qualitative estimation of how effective the relevant elements of
8 the proposed Transportation Program for the upcoming fiscal year will be in
9 reducing greenhouse gas emissions and a quantitative estimation, based on the
10 emission projections published in the Greenhouse Gas Inventory, if available,
11 of how much more the greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector
12 need to be reduced for the State to achieve its emissions reductions
13 requirements; and

14 (C) a strategy and plan for how to reduce the greenhouse gas
15 emissions from the transportation sector to achieve the recommendations in the
16 CEP and the CAP during fiscal years beyond the upcoming fiscal year, with
17 the expectation that the strategy and plan shall be used in the Agency of
18 Transportation’s ongoing planning.