



 **PROTERRA**

PROTERRA

BATTERY ELECTRIC

ZERO EMISSIONS

Future of Rural Transit

Project Overview

Vision


Prepare Vermont to have the most efficient, equitable, and cost-effective rural transportation system in the US





Project Goal

Expand transportation options for rural communities by offering combined bus services to schools and community members using electric buses.





Program Partners

- Steering committee:
 - Jennifer Wallace-Brodeur (VEIC)
 - Cara Robecheck (EAN)
 - Linda McGinnis (EAN)
 - Peggy O’Neill-Vivanco (VT CCC)
 - Jenn Wood (Community Engagement Lab)
 - Dan Currier and Ross McDonald (AOT/Go VT)
 - Mariah Keagy (VEEP)
- Advisory committee includes individuals from: GMP, AARP, VCIL, Vital Communities, VNRC, VSA, VBSR, VPPSA, DPS, WCSU, TRORC, NWRPC



What's Happened So Far

- Partners have been meeting for over a year
 - Investigated past studies and projects
 - Outreach to key stakeholders
- EAN Summit Pitch – selected for funding and staff support
- Selected to receive a Mobility and Transportation Innovations grant from VTrans

Goals for 2021

- Engage state, regional and local stakeholders
- Learn from existing combined service in Burlington
- Explore opportunities to combine service in Montpelier through request based, flexible schedule, flexible route service
- Identify rural region to analyze costs and benefits and test concept with community members
- Develop a pilot program
- Secure funding and pilot location for 2022

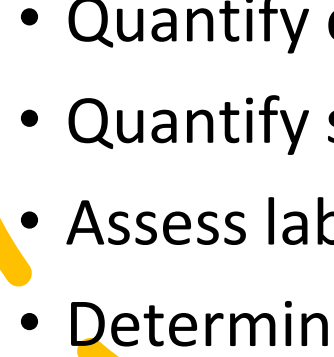


2021 Project Action Plan: Outreach and Engagement

- Identify partners and rural location for piloting the concept
- Research existing combined service in Burlington
- Participate in Montpelier flexible bus service transition
- Engage public and other stakeholders to identify barriers and solutions to combining services



2021 Project Action Plan: Cost-Benefit Analysis

- Based on 2-3 specific rural areas and associated routes within one community/region
 - Evaluate opportunities to expand school and public transit trips to meet more needs
 - Quantify savings from fleet consolidation and EV adoption
 - Quantify energy and emissions reductions
 - Quantify savings to Medicaid, school district, others?
 - Assess labor impacts
 - Determine if routes can be served by electric buses and charging needs
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2021 Project Action Plan: Pilot Program Design

- Deploy electric buses (cutaways) to serve 1-2 rural school systems and surrounding communities
- Secure funding to purchase buses and charging equipment
- Community engagement to identify and address concerns and build support
- Develop plans to collect data and evaluate the project
- Develop pilot metrics and methodology to track metrics



Questions and Discussion
