

Planning & Environment Linkages (PEL) Study



The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in partnership with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC), has launched the Vergennes Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) Study to evaluate solutions to reduce the impacts of large trucks on VT 22A through Vergennes.

Primary outcomes of the Vergennes PEL Study will be:

- Development of the Purpose and Need Statement
- Identification of all reasonable Alternatives that address the Purpose and Need Statement
- Detailed evaluation of the most promising Alternatives and Land Use Visioning
- Narrowing to a short list of Alternatives to advance for Federal Environmental Review

The Vergennes PEL Study will build from previous planning efforts (1995, 2002, and 2019) that considered alternatives to reduce large truck traffic impacts in Downtown Vergennes.

Truck Traffic on Route 22A through Vergennes

- 22A (North of Vermont Discount Store): 230 Medium Trucks & 530 Large Trucks per day
- 22A (South of Hopkins Road): 200 Medium Trucks & 540 Large Trucks per day
- Heavy Truck crash clusters located within downtown Vergennes
- Steep grades (up to 11%) are a challenge to navigate, especially in Winter



Vergennes Route 22A Corridor Profile

- *Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT)*
 - o 2019: 9,000 vehicles; 2021: 7,500 vehicles
- *Identified vehicle crash clusters*
 - o Route 22A, Elm Street and Monkton Road, Route 22A to Crescent Drive
- *Transit Ridership*
 - o Tri-Valley Transit: 5,000 boardings in Vergennes in 2019
- *VT Rail Line*
 - o Top commodities – Stone/Concrete Clay, Lumber, Petroleum, Paper, Nonmetallic Minerals
 - o NY/Canada/Maine account for ~70 percent of all inbound/outbound tonnage

For more detailed information on the Vergennes PEL Study and ways to stay involved, please visit the project website at www.vergennespel.com

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Previous Purpose and Need (2019)

The 2019 Vermont 22A Truck Route Study developed the following Purpose and Need Statement:

Enhance the economic vitality and quality of life in downtown Vergennes by reducing the noise, vibration, fume and dust impacts of truck traffic while:



Maintaining a high level of service for the movement of freight in the region



Minimizing and/or mitigating traffic impacts to other transportation corridors



Minimizing property and environmental resource impacts in neighboring communities



Supporting the continued movement of non-truck traffic through Downtown Vergennes



Providing a cost-effective use of resources.

The Vergennes PEL Study team is asking you:

What would you keep in the 2019 Purpose and Need Statement?

What would you change in the 2019 Purpose and Need Statement?

What are your areas of focus, interest, or concern related to this study?

What goals or outcomes are important to your community?

The study team of VTrans, ACRPC, WSP and Dubois & King welcomes input and appreciates any feedback you may have. Please share your thoughts on the Vergennes PEL Study. What works well now? What needs improvement? What priorities would you suggest? Let us know!

Leave your comments on the project website:

www.vergennespel.com

Please share your thoughts on the Vergennes PEL Study and sign up for our updates through the “Join the Email List” link found on the project website.

Vergennes PEL Study Team

