

### Abstract

The purpose of this paper is focused on learning and analyzing the governance structure of Vermont's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) at Chittenden County, also known as CCMPO. In October of 2010 our research team organized two focus groups to gain more insight into the complexity of the transportation improvement projects (TIP) from different transportation-related government agencies, such as Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), and non-profit organizations, such as Local Motion. Through these sessions, we were able to understand the TIP process from an insider's standpoint. Information gathered from these two groups helped formalize the current project prioritization process chart that is included in this poster. There have been over 300 transportation projects in the TIP that CCMPO has looked into from 1998-2011, and merging this data has helped establish a basis for further analysis on both qualitative and quantitative rankings. We are also in the process of analyzing this data set to see if these scores have a direct relationship to the projects that are eventually implemented, and how strong this correlation is. This allows us to assess the trade-offs that occur in decision-making. In addition, this paper will be assessing the prioritization scores that VTrans has assigned to the projects listed on the TIP, and the effect these scores have on the implementation of the transportation projects.