



Regional Plan Draft Review Committee Oct. 26th, 4-6 pm, CVRPC Office Safe & Affordable Housing

ATTENDEES:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scott Bascom, <i>Town of Barre, VTrans</i>• David Strong, <i>Town of Plainfield</i>• Dara Torre, <i>Town of Moretown</i>• Laura Hill Eubanks, <i>Town of Northfield</i>• Ron Krauth, <i>Town of Middlesex</i>• Ed Larson, <i>Barre Granite Association</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marianne Wolz, <i>CVRPC Staff</i>• Gail Aloisio, <i>CVRPC Staff</i>• Bonnie Waninger, <i>CVRPC Staff</i>
---	--

MEETING PURPOSE: To review the Draft Safe & Affordable Housing Element and discuss regional housing distribution patterns.

SUMMARY:

The meeting commenced at 4 pm.

The Committee was interested if more information was available on how the resort housing market affects the overall housing market in the region. It may shift regional or seasonal housing trends or it could be similar or different from other resort housing markets in Vermont.

One member was concerned that more encouragement might be needed for towns to develop subsidized and/or affordable housing, and whether the RPC could do more to facilitate.

Another member shared experiences as a landlord. He has observed that due to Vermont's strong tenant protection laws, property owners can be reluctant to convert their homes or buildings into rental units. They are concerned about the risk involved with taking on a tenant who may be irresponsible.

The Committee is also interested in adding policies and actions related to social strategies that can help communities house an aging population. Communities, families and individuals may need to be willing to take on non-traditional living arrangements.

The Committee discussed issues associated with Regional Housing Distribution Patterns. They concluded that the information (housing growth projections) available in a Housing Distribution Plan is useful to educate towns and inform their planning processes. However, the Committee does not feel strongly that the Commission should continue to require a mapping exercise as part of the Municipal

Housing Planning process. The Committee is interested in alternatives that may more effectively help municipalities plan for housing.

The meeting concluded at 6 pm

Wrap-up and Next Steps: The next DRC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, Nov. 17th at 3:30 pm.** The committee will review the Goals and Policies of the Housing Element.