

Communication/Outreach: CVRPC has a Facebook page and a Twitter page to enhance communication with towns, partnering organizations, and the public. "Like" CVRPC's page on Facebook and "follow us" on Twitter to receive updates regarding events, meetings, success stories, programs and other activities. Find us on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/centralvtplanning>. Find us on Twitter! <http://www.twitter.com/centralvtplan>.

Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery: Community Development funds continue to be available to assist with disaster recovery from the spring and summer 2011 and 2012 flooding events that received a Presidential Declaration. Projects for which funding is available have to be directly related to flood damage and must have a documented un-met need. Contact CVRPC for assistance with determining if your project is eligible and with the application process. Staff continued to work with Plainfield, Warren, Northfield, and Roxbury to provide technical assistance with the application process. Staff participated in a meeting of the Waterbury flood working group.

Mad River Valley Planning District (MRVPD): Staff continues to provide technical, administrative, and bookkeeping assistance to the District (Towns of Fayston, Waitsfield, and Warren). Technical assistance to the three Towns is ongoing, as is data gathering for evaluating the impacts of development, and assistance with flood resilience. Staff attended the Mad River Valley Economic Summit on June 4.

Mad River Resource Management Alliance: Staff continues its work with the Alliance (which includes the Towns of Duxbury, Fayston, Moretown, Northfield, Roxbury, Waitsfield, Warren, and Waterbury). Please contact John Malter at 244-7373 or malterport@aol.com for more information.

Transportation Planning Initiative: Staff is updating the transportation section of the Regional Plan working on the vision, goals, policies and travel demand management pieces. Staff is participating on a committee that is developing updated culvert standards. Staff encourages the use of the metadata instructional video for information on editing data for the Vermont Online Bridge and Culvert Inventory Tool (VOBCIT). Staff is assisting the Towns of Fayston, Waitsfield, Warren, Moretown, Waterbury, and Middlesex with their byway work. Staff continues to work on the Central Vermont Regional Path with Berlin, Barre City, Barre Town, and Montpelier. Staff did traffic counts in Montpelier. Staff is assisting Plainfield in organizing a US 2/Bridge Street intersection meeting. Staff assisted East Montpelier with a US 2/VT 14 bridge intersection informational meeting. Staff worked on the Orange, Waitsfield, Warren, and Northfield culvert inventory updates. Staff also assisted VTTrans in prioritizing the data on the VT Culverts website. Work has begun on the Berlin US Route 302 bike and pedestrian plan. Consultants were selected for the Calais RSMS, Orange ditch inventory, and Flood Resilient transportation studies. Staff assisted towns with Bike Ped Program applications. Staff participated in High Risk Rural Road site visits in Roxbury and Barre Town, and did road counts in Montpelier and Calais. Worked on the methodology to select road segments for the transportation flood resiliency analysis and reviewed the selected road segments with the consultants to verify site treatment options and validate the methodology.

Transportation Technical Assistance: Staff continues to provide technical assistance on transportation related issues. Contact Steve Gladczuk at CVRPC for assistance with special transportation studies and technical assistance that may be needed in your community and are within the scope of work of the transportation contract with the Agency of Transportation. Municipal officials that would like to have volume, speed, or vehicle classification studies done for their towns can contact CVRPC staff for assistance.

VT Economic Resiliency Initiative (VERI): Assisted with outreach to Barre City and Barre Town for this initiative's kick off meeting and attended the meeting. Worked on developing a list of commercial assets within the study area. Sent out a mailing to all property owners along Gunners Brook requesting access across their properties to the Brook. Worked with the river consultant to set up a field schedule. Emailed meeting notes to the project team. Participated in an RPC/consultant meeting on the VERI project to date.

GIS/FEH: Worked on town plan maps for the Towns of Fayston, Roxbury, and Northfield. Worked on the Village

center map for Plainfield. Updated the East Montpelier Flood and Erosion Hazards map. Created a map for Berlin showing the conserved lands in the floodplain. Assisted Warren and Roxbury with their CDBG applications. Assisted the Town of Waterbury with the setting up of a river flume table. Walked the Thatcher Brook in Waterbury for Waterbury geomorphic assessment. Staff continues to update the CVRPC web site, www.centralvtplanning.org, where you can read the latest planning news on our blog, and maintains the IT network. You can [Find us on Facebook!](#) and [Find us on Twitter!](#)

Regional Plan Update: *Plan Central Vermont* will take up a variety of issues between now and 2016 to build a more sustainable and engaged Region. The Draft Review Committee met on July 7 to review Economic Development working group progress and finalize Safe & Affordable Housing goals and on Aug 26 to review the Strong & Diverse Economy element and prioritize strategies. The Economic Development working group provided input on draft policies and strategies via an online survey tool developed by staff, and a final draft incorporating these comments was circulated in late July. The draft Strong & Diverse Economy element was circulated to Commissioners on Aug 13 and the e-news distribution group on Aug 21. Staff anticipates presenting the draft Economic element to the Commission at the September 9 meeting.



The second meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources working group was held on July 17 where the draft Water Resources and Flood Resilience profiles were discussed and revised. The next meeting will be held on Sept. 17 to discuss the Natural Resources profile and key challenges & trends.

If you would like to serve on any of the working groups and have not yet signed up, please contact Emily Nosse-Leirer at nosse-leirer@cvregion.com. Upcoming meeting information and meeting summaries can be found here: <http://plancentralvermont.org/news-events/>.

Wrightsville Beach Recreation District: Staff provides administrative, fiscal, and technical assistance to the District. The beach and park facilities include hiking trails, a ball field, disc golf, grills, picnic tables, as well as two picnic shelters that can be rented, and of course, swimming, canoeing, and kayaking. The beach and park facilities will remain open through September with shorter hours on weekdays (11 a.m. to 7 p.m., but full days on the weekends (9 a.m. to dusk). If you want to rent one of the picnic shelters for your birthday, reunion or other event, it is best to do so early; contact Laurie Emery at 229-0389 or emery@cvregion.com. The website for Wrightsville Beach has been dramatically updated and has photos of the shelters and amenities; take a look at www.wrightsvillebeachvt.com.

Enhanced Consultation: If your community is in the process of revising its town plan or is planning to do so in the near future, now is the time to have us assist. Staff will provide local officials with recommendations on how their plan is or is not consistent with the State planning goals and how the town can make “substantial progress” toward meeting those goals as outlined in 24 VSA Chapter 117. For more information, please contact Kim McKee at Mckee@cvregion.com.

Community Survey Assistance: If your community is interested in learning more about digital survey services offered through CVRPC, please contact CVRPC at mckee@cvregion.com.

VEM/Emergency Planning/Hazard Mitigation Funding: The deadline for Local Emergency Operation Plan (LEOP) submission has been extended to October 2014. Staff has been working with the towns of Berlin, Fayston, Marshfield, Northfield, Plainfield, Waitsfield, and Washington to complete their LEOPs and have them approved by VEM. Staff performed Local Liaison outreach and reporting duties on behalf of the State Emergency Operations Center following Jul 28 storm events and attended a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC 5) meeting in Barre City on Aug 4. Staff has also been in communication with the VT Community Assistance Registry for Emergencies (CARE) program to learn how information collected can be utilized in local emergency management planning.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMP): Nineteen towns have received final FEMA approval of their local hazard mitigation plans (LHMP). Staff has been assisting Calais and Montpelier with final submittal of LHMPs for

FEMA approval. Staff has also assisted Waterbury with an update to their LHMP mitigation project list and assisted VEM staff with collecting official LHMP documentation. If your community is interested in technical assistance from CVRPC, please contact Kim McKee at mckee@cvregion.com.

Flood Resilience/Flood Hazard Area Regulations: Staff continues to assist affected municipalities and the State with various issues surrounding the Flood Hazard Area and Fluvial Erosion Hazard bylaw adoption processes, as well as impacts from flooding and planning for flood resilience. Staff attended Waterbury Floodplain Committee meetings, coordinated a meeting to prep the Town of Berlin for a FEMA Community Assistance Visit with VT DEC staff and a “Lessons Learned from Irene” EPA webinar. Staff also continues to assist the Town of East Montpelier in development of Fluvial Erosion Hazard/River Corridor regulations and developed and published a Local Flood Hazards brochure with related web content. For assistance with developing your town’s flood resilience element, please contact Kim McKee at mckee@cvregion.com.

Forest Stewardship: Staff continues this work in partnership with the Dept of Forests, Parks and Recreation, as well as four other regional planning commissions. The RPC's are developing tools that can be used to address priority forest landscapes. The project will enable landowners and local officials to access and better understand the data which can then be applied to management situations. For the next phase of the project, staff will be reviewing town plans and regulations in Northfield and Duxbury. Please contact Dan Currier at currier@cvregion.com with questions and to get involved in the project.

Town Plan Review: Municipal plans for Barre City (September 4) and Roxbury (August 19) were reviewed by the Town Plan Review Committee for recommendation to the Regional Planning Commission at its September 9 meeting.

Town Technical Assistance: Staff provided comments to Calais and Fayston on their draft Town Plans, assisted a property owner in Plainfield with identifying opportunities for development, attended a site visit with Plainfield Conservation Commission regarding a local trail project and sent follow-up info, assisted Woodbury with ZBA orientation materials and sent Municipal Planning Grant outreach emails and reminder emails to towns. Staff reviewed a municipal planning grant application for the Town of Plainfield and made recommendations and assisted Northfield with recommendations for future land use districts.

Green Mountain Byway: Staff attended monthly Steering Committee meetings, provided assistance with GM Byway web site planning and RFP development, and provided assistance with the Cultural & Historic Resources brochure development.

Act 250/Section 248 Applications: Staff attended the reconvened hearing on July 15 in Northfield regarding the Korrow Real Estate, LLC project and submitted testimony on behalf of the Commission. Staff also researched project review procedures from other RPCs and provided input to CVRPC's Committee. The Project Review Committee convened on July 31 to discuss revisions to the Committee Procedures and Operating Guidelines and will be submitting the final draft to the Executive Committee. Staff attended a pre-application site visit on Aug 13 for the potential Partridge Farm redevelopment project in Berlin that proposes constructing 120 multi-family units in 4 buildings.

Since the last staff report, the following applications have been received (NRS = Not Regionally Significant): **Cabot:** VTTrans/Segment 2 of US Rte 2 reconstruction amendment (reviewed previously, amendment NRS). **Barre Town:** Construction of an addition onto the house of a two bay garage to be used with the auto repair business operating on site (NRS). **Moretown:** Installation of a 3’ microwave dish on an existing communications tower off Cobb Hill Rd (NRS). **East Montpelier:** Construction of a new showroom/office and workspace on US Rte 2 for timber-framing business (NRS). **Waterbury:** Conversion of office space to a one-bedroom apartment above the Jimmz Pizza restaurant (NRS). **Orange:** Construction of a new 7,200 volt distribution line (NRS). **Berlin:** Construction of a 500kW solar electric generation facility on 3 acres on the north side of Airport Rd.

Committee meeting & hearing to be scheduled: **Williamstown:** A 5,100 sq ft expansion of the existing Pump & Pantry building to include a retail area, meat dept., more employees, and outdoor seating. **Montpelier:** Two additions totaling 39,200 sq ft to Gallison Hill Commercial Park and reconfiguration/additional parking. **Berlin:** Construction of a single approx. 55,550 sq ft free standing Kohl's department store on the Berlin Mall property. .
Williamstown: Construction of a new wireless telecommunications facility at 1025 Stone Rd

Remember to visit CVRPC's web site at www.centralvtplanning.org to view our blog and for the latest planning publications and news.