



Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 14, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Central VT Chamber of Commerce

Paine Turnpike South, Berlin

(Coming off the interstate at exit 7, turn left at the first light.

At the next crossroads, the Chamber is on your left. It is the light yellow building.)

Page AGENDA

<u>Time</u>	<u>Description</u>
2 7:00	Public Hearings, Eric Vorwald <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Williamstown Plan (www.williamstownvt.org)– 2016 Regional Plan (http://centralvtplanning.org/programs/regional-planning/regional-plan/)
7:15	Adjustments to the Agenda Public Comments
7:17	Regional Approval of Town Plan and Confirmation of Planning Process – Williamstown (enclosed)*
7:20	2016 Regional Plan (sent previously)*, <i>Eric Vorwald</i> Discussion of public and Commissioner comments.
21 7:50	Meeting Minutes - May 10, 2016 (enclosed)*
24 7:52	Staff Reports (enclosed) and any updates
28 7:55	Executive Director's Report (enclosed) and any updates
8:05	Regional Partners Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Central VT Economic Development Corporation Report, <i>Sam Andersen/Jamie Stewart</i>– Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce, <i>Bill Moore</i>
30 8:15	CVRPC Committees (enclosed), <i>Julie Potter</i> Discussion of committee purpose and makeup in advance of July Commissioner assignments.
35 8:30	Collaboration Proposal - Bright Blue Media, Victor Guadagno (enclosed)* Bright Blue Media is requesting a collaboration with CVRPC to apply permaculture design principles on a regional scale in Central Vermont. Collaboration would include free GIS services and staff services from CVRPC.
9:00	Adjournment

* denotes anticipated action item



MEMORANDUM

TO: Town Plan Review Committee

FROM: Eric Vorwald, AICP
Senior Planner

RE: Town of Williamstown Updated Town Plan

DATE: May 26, 2016

On May 2, 2016, the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) received a request from the Town of Williamstown to review and consider regional approval of their updated town plan and planning process. As per the statutory requirements under 24 VSA 117 Section §4350, the CVRPC shall review and approve the town plan if it finds the plan:

- Contains each of the required elements listed in 24 VSA 117 Section §4382
- Is consistent with the required goals established in 24 VSA 117 Section §4302
- Is compatible with the Regional Plan and the approved plans of other municipalities in the Region

The Town of Williamstown's existing Town Plan was approved in November of 2010. That plan was not readopted therefore it expired in November of 2015, however a draft plan update was under consideration at the time. The Williamstown Planning Commission and Selectboard have both approved the 2016 town plan update. Approval of the 2016 Town Plan by the CVRPC would ensure Williamstown remains eligible for grant funding and other municipal assistance provided by the state.

Overall, the Town of Williamstown has undergone a concerted effort to complete their town plan update and receive approval from the Selectboard which occurred on in April of 2016. The 2016 Williamstown Town Plan includes all the statutory requirements that have been adopted by the Vermont Legislature over the past years. This includes discussion of flood resiliency; inclusion of support to maintain their state designation of village center, and specific information related to alternative energy sources.

In general, the 2016 Williamstown Town Plan supports the community's vision of having a vibrant village center surrounded by open farmlands and forests. This vision is supported throughout the plan's goals, policies, and tasks. Furthermore, the plan outlines common values that are shared by the community including protecting the lifestyles and traditions of Williamstown; revitalizing the villages; preserving the rural character; improving the business climate; and protecting public health, safety, and welfare. These values are clearly reflected throughout the plan.

In order to ensure the statutory requirements of the 2016 Williamstown Town Plan have been met, CVRPC staff completed a detailed analysis including page references to each of the required elements and statewide planning goals in the plan. This analysis is intended to assist the Town Plan Review Committee identify any comments they might want to discuss during their review. If the Town Plan Review Committee agrees that the 2016 Williamstown Town Plan adequately addresses all the required plan components, a recommendation of approval should be forwarded to the full commission for their consideration.

As part of this review, CVRPC staff has identified strengths and opportunities in the plan update for consideration in future plan updates. Overall the 2016 Williamstown Town Plan includes detailed information regarding the needs of the community. There are specific goals, policies, and tasks included with each section that identify what needs to be done, who is responsible for leading the effort, and a general timeframe. The plan also uses a significant amount of graphics and illustrations to help provide interest and make the plan more user friendly. The plan is organized in a clear and concise manner to match the statutory requirements making information easy to find and reference against statute.

While the plan includes significant graphic and illustrative content, one area where the plan could be improved is through additional mapping or more detailed mapping. Staff feels all the required maps are included with the plan, but several maps contain multiple sets of data which limit the detail that can be achieved. Overall however, there are limited negative aspects of the Williamstown Town Plan as the document outlines a clear path forward for the community to achieve its identified vision.

During the Regional approval and confirmation process, specified in § 4350 of the Act, the regional planning commission is required to assess town plans and the process whereby they are developed according to the criteria of the Act. Sections of relevant statute are quoted at each question.

Required Elements § 4382		Met	Not Met
1	Statement of Objectives, Policies, Programs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Land Use Plan and Map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Transportation Plan and Map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Utility and Facility Plan and Map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Rare Natural Resources/Historic Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Educational Facilities Plan and Map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Implementation Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Compatibility Statement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Energy Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Housing Element	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Economic Development Element	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Flood Resiliency Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

State Planning Goals § 4302		Met	Not Met
1	Compact village centers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Economy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Natural and Historic Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Quality of air, water, wildlife, and land resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Efficient use of Energy and Renewable Energy Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Agriculture and Forest Industries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Use of Resources and Earth Extraction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Safe and Affordable Housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Public Facilities and services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Child Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Flood Resiliency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOWN PLAN REQUIRED ELEMENTS

Title 24 Chapter 117: Municipal and Regional Planning and Development

24 V.S.A. § 4382. The plan for a municipality

(a) A plan for a municipality may be consistent with the goals established in section 4302 of this title and compatible with approved plans of other municipalities in the region and with the regional plan and shall include the following:

(1) A statement of objectives, policies and programs of the municipality to guide the future growth and development of land, public services and facilities, and to protect the environment.

Met

Pages: 7 & 8

Comments:

The plan includes a clear vision for how Williamstown would like to look and feel in the future. Specifically this includes a vibrant village center with an outlying landscape of open farmlands and forests.

(2) A land use plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective land uses, indicating those areas proposed for forests, recreation, agriculture (using the agricultural lands identification process established in 6 V.S.A. § 8), residence, commerce, industry, public and semi-public uses and open spaces reserved for flood plain, wetland protection, or other conservation purposes; and setting forth the present and prospective location, amount, intensity and character of such land uses and the appropriate timing or sequence of land development activities in relation to the provision of necessary community facilities and service;

Met

Pages: 96-103

MAPS – *see comments below*

Present Land Use Plan ✓

Prospective Land Use Plan ☒

Comments:

The land use section of the town plan includes information related to existing land use and the historic patterns that have shaped the community. The section also outlines a vision for the desired land use pattern in a clear and concise manner by identifying four broad categories of land use that are most appropriate for the community. An existing land use map and future land use map are included. One item to note is that the labeling of the graphic on page 99 has the conventional subdivision and the open space/preservation subdivision in the reverse order.

(3) A transportation plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective transportation and circulation facilities showing existing and proposed highways and streets by type and character of improvement, and where pertinent, parking facilities, transit routes, terminals, bicycle paths and trails, scenic roads, airports, railroads and port facilities, and other similar facilities or uses, with indications of priority of need;

Met
Pages: 86-95
MAP
Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

The plan update provides a through overview of the various aspects of transportation that impact the Town of Williamstown. This section covers historic information, existing trends in commuting patterns, accident rates including potential problem areas, transit issues, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. There are also significant tasks that identify a path to addressing and implementing the identified goals.

(4) A utility and facility plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective community facilities and public utilities showing existing and proposed educational, recreational and other public sites, buildings and facilities, including hospitals, libraries, power generating plants and transmission lines, water supply, sewage disposal, refuse disposal, storm drainage and other similar facilities and activities, and recommendations to meet future needs for community facilities and services, with indications of priority of need, costs and method of financing;

Met
Pages: 57-67
MAP
Utility and Facility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

The plan includes an inventory of existing facilities and public buildings including the town hall, town garage, cemeteries and other public buildings and sites. There is also a discussion of utilities such as water and wastewater; electricity; and telecommunications. Additionally, a map included in the Town Plan identifies specific sites for solar generation. One aspect to note is that in the goals, policies, and tasks, the development of a capital improvements program is included which will help the community budget for future municipal needs.

(5) A statement of policies on the preservation of rare and irreplaceable natural areas, scenic and historic features and resources;

Met
Pages: 14-21, 67

Comments:

The town plan notes significant natural and scenic resources in Chapter Three. While there is no specific inventory of historic resources, the plan does discuss protection of existing historic resources and historic development patterns throughout the plan. This is most notable in the Goals, Policies, and Tasks of Chapter Six: Community Utilities, Facilities, and Service Organizations.

(6) An educational facilities plan consisting of a map and statement of present and projected uses and the local public school system;

Comments:

Chapter Four discusses education for all residents of Williamstown including adults and children. There are existing facilities that will meet the future needs of the elementary, middle, and high school students. This chapter also discusses future issues that will need to be addressed such as funding challenges.

Met

Pages: 39-46

MAP

Educational Facility ☒

(7) A recommended program for the implementation of the objectives of the development plan;

Comments:

Chapter Twelve discusses how the plan will be implemented and identifies priority steps to achieve implementation.

Met

Pages: 106

(8) A statement indicating how the plan relates to development trends and plans of adjacent municipalities, areas and the region developed under this title;

Comments:

Consistency with the Central Vermont Regional Plan and adjacent municipalities is noted in Chapter Eleven including a list of adjacent municipalities and how coordination might occur.

Met

Pages: 104-105

(9) An energy plan, including an analysis of energy resources, needs, scarcities, costs and problems within the municipality, a statement of policy on the conservation of energy, including programs, such as thermal integrity standards for buildings, to implement that policy, a statement of policy on the development of renewable energy resources, a statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy;

Comments:

The energy discussion in Chapter Seven is extensive and covers sectors related to renewable energy resources such as biomass, biofuels, wind, solar, and hydro. This chapter also talks about issues related to sectors such as transportation and structures.

Met

Pages: 68-75

(10) A housing element that shall include a recommended program for addressing low and moderate income persons' housing needs as identified by the regional planning commission pursuant to subdivision 4348a(a)(9) of this title. The program should account for permitted accessory dwelling units, as defined in subdivision 4412(1)(E) of this title, which provide affordable housing.

Met

Pages: 47-56

Comments:

Housing affordability and needs for special populations is discussed in Chapter 5. The goals, policies, and tasks encourage the development of accessory dwellings and maintaining compact development patterns.

(11) An economic development element that describes present economic conditions and the location, type, and scale of desired economic development, and identifies policies, projects, and programs necessary to foster economic growth.

Met

Pages: 76-85

Comments:

The plan discusses economic development and includes a list of preferred business types that could be of a benefit to the village center. These specific uses were identified in a community survey that was conducted in 2003. The goals, policies, and tasks note specific infrastructure needs that could benefit businesses in the community including fiber optic cable.

(12)(A) A flood resilience plan that:

(i) identifies flood hazard and fluvial erosion hazard areas, based on river corridor maps provided by the Secretary of Natural Resources pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 1428(a) or maps recommended by the Secretary, and designates those areas to be protected, including floodplains, river corridors, land adjacent to streams, wetlands, and upland forests, to reduce the risk of flood damage to infrastructure and improved property; and

(ii) recommends policies and strategies to protect the areas identified and designated under subdivision (12)(A)(i) of this subsection and to mitigate risks to public safety, critical infrastructure, historic structures, and municipal investments.

(B) A flood resilience plan may reference an existing local hazard mitigation plan approved under 44 C.F.R. § 201.6.

Met

Pages: 22-35

Comments:

Flood resiliency is thoroughly discussed in Chapter 3.A of the plan. This includes all the required components as noted in statute and action steps to mitigate impacts from flooding.

GOALS AND STANDARDS OF REVIEW

GOALS

24 VSA § 4302

(a) General purposes . . .

(b) It is also the intent of the legislature that municipalities, regional planning commissions and state agencies shall engage in a continuing planning process that will further the following goals:

(1) To establish a coordinated, comprehensive planning process and policy framework to guide decisions by municipalities, regional planning commissions, and state agencies.

(2) To encourage citizen participation at all levels of the planning process, and to assure that decisions shall be made at the most local level possible commensurate with their impact.

(3) To consider the use of resources and the consequences of growth and development for the region and the state, as well as the community in which it takes place.

(4) To encourage and assist municipalities to work creatively together to develop and implement plans.

(c) In addition, this chapter shall be used to further the following specific goals:

Goal 1:

To plan development so as to maintain the historic settlement pattern of compact village and urban centers separated by rural countryside.

Consistent

Pages: 96-103

(A) Intensive residential development should be encouraged primarily in areas related to community centers, and strip development along highways should be discouraged.

(B) Economic growth should be encouraged in locally designated growth areas, or employed to revitalize existing village and urban centers, or both.

(C) Public investments, including construction or expansion of infrastructure, should reinforce the general character and planned growth patterns of the area.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The plan discusses maintaining the existing village area as a hub of the community. There is also discussion of conservation subdivisions and similar land use practices that will help protect and preserve the rural areas of the community.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 2:

To provide a strong and diverse economy that provides satisfying and rewarding job opportunities and that maintains high environmental standards, and to expand economic opportunities in areas with high unemployment or low per capita incomes.

Consistent

Pages: 76-85

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The plan discusses the need to have a diverse economic base to support the community and discusses a survey of residents that includes specific uses that would be desired. In general, however, the rate of unemployment in Williamstown is low therefore this goal is being addressed due to the number of residents currently in the workforce.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 3:

To broaden access to educational and vocational training opportunities sufficient to ensure the full realization of the abilities of all Vermonters.

Consistent

Pages: 39-46

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The plan discusses future needs of the elementary and high school including the consideration of a joint school district with the Town of Northfield. Additionally, the plan discusses other aspects of education such as home schooling and adult education. This includes information on training opportunities such as the Barre Learning Center and the Randolph Technical Career Center.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why :

Goal 4:

To provide for safe, convenient, economic and energy efficient transportation systems that respect the integrity of the natural environment, including public transit options and paths for pedestrians and bicyclers.

Consistent

Pages: 86-95

(A) Highways, air, rail and other means of transportation should be mutually supportive, balanced and integrated.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan discusses the need to manage traffic flows while accommodating safer options such as bicycle and pedestrian facilities as well as expanding the Green Mountain Transit Authority's service. The goals, policies, and tasks also promote maintaining the existing transportation network while incorporating accommodations for multiple modes of transportation, enhancing the street environment, managing access, and reducing energy associated with transportation.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 5:

To identify, protect and preserve important natural and historic features of the Vermont landscape including:

- (A) significant natural and fragile areas;**
- (B) outstanding water resources, including lakes, rivers, aquifers, shorelands and wetlands;**
- (C) significant scenic roads, waterways and views;**
- (D) important historic structures, sites, or districts, archaeological sites and archaeologically sensitive areas**

Consistent

Pages: 14-21; 57-67

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The plan identifies natural heritage sites, wildlife habitat, historic resources, and scenic areas as important community characteristics that need to be protected throughout the community. The goals, policies, and tasks support the protection of these resources throughout the community.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 6:

To maintain and improve the quality of air, water, wildlife and land resources.

Consistent

Pages: 14-21

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The plan discusses the need to protect and preserve the quality of the water and the air as well as the wildlife habitat throughout the community. This is noted in the text by identifying possible threats and in the goals, policies, and tasks with ways to protect these resources moving forward.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 7:

To encourage the efficient use of energy and the development of renewable energy resources.

Consistent

Pages: 68-75

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The plan includes information related to a variety of renewable energy options and the goals, policies, and tasks discuss ways to incorporate renewable energy resources as well as conservation of energy.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 8:

To maintain and enhance recreational opportunities for Vermont residents and visitors.

Consistent

Pages: 61

(A) Growth should not significantly diminish the value and availability of outdoor recreational activities.

(B) Public access to noncommercial outdoor recreational opportunities, such as lakes and hiking trails, should be identified, provided, and protected wherever appropriate.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The plan acknowledges several of the recreational resources within the community, specifically Ainsworth State Park which encompasses approximately 885 acres of the town. The plan recognizes this sensitive resource as a community asset and seeks to protect it while continuing to maintain access.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 9:

To encourage and strengthen agricultural and forest industries.

Consistent

Pages: 14-38; 80

(A) Strategies to protect long-term viability of agricultural and forest lands should be encouraged and should include maintaining low overall density.

(B) The manufacture and marketing of value added agricultural and forest products should be encouraged.

(C) The use of locally-grown food products should be encouraged.

(D) Sound forest and agricultural management practices should be encouraged.

(E) Public investment should be planned so as to minimize development pressure on agricultural and forest land.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

Productive resources are discussed in the plan and include agricultural and forest lands. The plan talks about ways to encourage development while limiting the impacts on these resources through techniques such as clustered development. The plan also mentions that one of the top businesses that were lacking in the community is a farmer's market which could provide a venue for locally grown and produced products.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 10:

To provide for the wise and efficient use of Vermont's natural resources and to facilitate the appropriate extraction of earth resources and the proper restoration and preservation of the aesthetic qualities of the area.

Consistent

Pages: 15; 37

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The plan discusses the need to extract resources in a sustainable manner and return extraction sites to pre-development conditions. This is specifically noted in goal three on page 37.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 11:

To ensure the availability of safe and affordable housing for all Vermonters.

Consistent

Pages: 47-56

(A) Housing should be encouraged to meet the needs of a diversity of social and income groups in each Vermont community, particularly for those citizens of low and moderate income.

(B) New and rehabilitated housing should be safe, sanitary, located conveniently to employment and commercial centers, and coordinated with the provision of necessary public facilities and utilities.

(C) Sites for multi-family and manufactured housing should readily available in locations similar to those generally used for single-family conventional dwellings.

(D) Accessory apartments within or attached to single family residences which provide affordable housing in close proximity to cost-effective care and supervision for relatives or disabled or elderly persons should be allowed.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The plan discusses affordability, special needs housing, density, desired locations, and fair housing laws. The goals, policies, and tasks support the statewide housing goals including development of accessory dwellings and encouraging development in village centers.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 12:

To plan for, finance and provide an efficient system of public facilities and services to meet future needs.

Consistent

Pages: 57-67

(A) Public facilities and services should include fire and police protection, emergency medical services, schools, water supply and sewage and solid waste disposal.

(B) The rate of growth should not exceed the ability of the community and the area to provide facilities and services.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The community utilities, facilities, services, and organizations section (chapter VI) discusses all the relevant community services including water, wastewater electricity, telecommunications, and municipal facilities. The goals, policies, and tasks include items that talk about developing a capital improvements plan to forecast future needs and costs as well as ensuring capacity exists within the community infrastructure to serve future development.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 13:

To ensure the availability of safe and affordable child care and to integrate child care issues into the planning process, including child care financing, infrastructure, business assistance for child care providers, and child care work force development.

Consistent

Pages: 64; 67

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

Limited opportunities exist in Williamstown for childcare, however it is discussed including the limitations for providers of infant care. Goal seven in the community utilities, facilities, services, and organizations section specifically discusses goals, policies, and tasks related to childcare.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

Goal 14:

To encourage flood resilient communities.

(A) New development in identified flood hazard, fluvial erosion, and river corridor protection areas should be avoided. If new development is to be built in such areas, it should not exacerbate flooding and fluvial erosion.

(B) The protection and restoration of floodplains and upland forested areas that attenuate and moderate flooding and fluvial erosion should be encouraged.

(C) Flood emergency preparedness and response planning should be encouraged.

Consistent

Pages: 22-37

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

Flood resiliency is extensively discussed in section 3-A includes information on historic events, hazard identification, understanding the risks of flooding, identifying vulnerable areas and determining consequences, notes ways to mitigate flood hazards. Additional mapping is also included in this section.

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:

STANDARD OF REVIEW

24 V.S.A. § 4302(f)

(1) As used in this chapter, "consistent with the goals" requires substantial progress toward attainment of the goals established in this section, unless the planning body determines that a particular goal is not relevant or attainable. If such a determination is made, the planning body shall identify the goal in the plan and describe the situation, explain why the goal is not relevant or attainable, and indicate what measures should be taken to mitigate any adverse effects of not making substantial progress toward that goal. The determination of relevance or attainability shall be subject to review as part of a consistency determination under this chapter.

(2) As used in this chapter, for one plan to be "compatible with" another, the plan in question, as implemented, will not significantly reduce the desired effect of the implementation of the other plan. If a plan, as implemented, will significantly reduce the desired effect of the other plan, the plan may be considered compatible if it includes the following:

- (A) a statement that identifies the ways that it will significantly reduce the desired effect of the other plan;
- (B) an explanation of why any incompatible portion of the plan in question is essential to the desired effect of the plan as a whole;
- (C) an explanation of why, with respect to any incompatible portion of the plan in question, there is no reasonable alternative way to achieve the desired effect of the plan, and
- (D) an explanation of how any incompatible portion of the plan in question has been structured to mitigate its detrimental effects on the implementation of the other plan.

24 V.S.A. § 4350. Review and consultation regarding municipal planning effort

(a) A regional planning commission shall consult with its municipalities with respect to the municipalities' planning efforts, ascertaining the municipalities' needs as individual municipalities and as neighbors in a region, and identifying the assistance that ought to be provided by the regional planning commission. As a part of this consultation, the regional planning commission, after public notice, shall review the planning process of its member municipalities at least twice during an eight-year period, or more frequently on request of the municipality, and shall so confirm when a municipality:

- (1) is engaged in a continuing planning process that, within a reasonable time, will result in a plan which is consistent with the goals contained in section 4302 of this title; and
- (2) is maintaining its efforts to provide local funds for municipal and regional planning purposes.

(b)(1) As part of the consultation process, the commission shall consider whether a municipality has adopted a plan. In order to obtain or retain confirmation of the planning process after January 1, 1996, a municipality must have an approved plan. A regional planning commission shall review and approve plans of its member municipalities, when approval is requested and warranted. Each review shall include a public hearing which is noticed at least 15 days in advance by posting in the office of the municipal clerk and at least one public place within the municipality and by publication in a newspaper or newspapers of general publication in the region affected. The commission shall approve a plan if it finds that the plan:

- (A) is consistent with the goals established in section 4302 of this title;
- (B) is compatible with its regional plan;
- (C) is compatible with approved plans of other municipalities in the region; and
- (D) contains all the elements included in subdivisions 4382(a)(1)-(10) of this title.

The following are procedures for Regional Planning Commission review of town plans. The first procedure pertains to review of town plan re-adoptions and town plan amendments. The second is an alternate procedure for review of town plan amendments. For review of amendments, it is up to the discretion of the Regional Planning Commission as to which procedure will be used.

Town Plan Review & Approval Process

The following may be used for town plan re-adoption reviews as well as town plan amendment reviews

1. The regional planning commission (RPC) receives a request for town plan approval.
2. If the staff review reveals a flaw that would preclude RPC approval, the town will be notified. It is the town's option as to whether they want a final decision on the plan or if the plan should be withdrawn from the approval process.
3. Staff comments, including draft findings and recommendations, will be provided to the committee or board given responsibility by the RPC's bylaws for town plan approval.
4. The RPC's public hearing will be held before the RPC makes its final decision on the plan.
5. In all cases the RPC will take final action on the plan approval request within 60 days of its receipt.

Town Plan Amendment Review Process

This is an alternative procedure for town plan amendment reviews

1. The regional planning commission (RPC) receives a request to review an amendment to the town plan.
2. Staff comments, including draft findings and recommendations, will be provided to the committee or board given responsibility by the RPC's bylaws for town plan approval.
3. The town will be notified whether or not the amendment may be approved within the context of the current regional approval of the town plan, or if the amendment constitutes a material change to the plan that is beyond the scope of the current regional approval.
4. If the amendment constitutes a change to the plan that is beyond the scope of the current regional approval, the town will be given the option of submitting the amended plan for regional approval.



Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

FROM: Eric Vorwald, AICP
Senior Planner

RE: Town Plan Review Committee Comments on Williamstown Town Plan Update

DATE: June 14, 2016

On May 26, 2016 the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Town Plan Review Committee met to discuss the town plan update and planning process as requested by the Town of Williamstown. A quorum of the committee was not present therefore no formal action could be taken, however a general discussion did occur. Representatives from the Town of Williamstown were in attendance and provided an overview of the plan and the planning process.

The members of the Town Plan Review Committee that were in attendance noted that the plan was well organized and easy to follow; included a good mix of graphics and illustrations to emphasize important aspects of the plan; and more importantly commended the planning commission on developing one of the best plans they have reviewed from a small town without utilizing a consultant.

Following the discussion, the Town Plan Review Committee suggested the following action for consideration:

That the full commission approve the 2016 Town of Williamstown Town Plan and confirm their planning process noting it as one of the best examples of a town plan developed by small town without assistance from a consultant.

This suggestion was agreed upon by the Town Plan Review Committee Members that were present.

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
TOWN PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE
MAY 26, 2016
MEETING NOTES**

The regular meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Town Plan Review Committee was held on Thursday, May 26, 2016 at 4:00pm in the Conference Room of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission.

Committee Members Present:

George Malek – Town of Orange
Julie Potter – Town of East Montpelier

Others Present:

Matt Rouleau – Town of Williamstown
Margaret Phillips – Town of Williamstown
Eric Vorwald, AICP – CVRPC Senior Planner

CALL TO ORDER

Without a quorum of committee members present the meeting could not be called to order.

DISCUSSION OF THE WILLIAMSTOWN TOWN PLAN UPDATE

At 4:15pm, with still no quorum present, it was decided to have a general discussion regarding the Williamstown Town Plan update since representatives of Williamstown were in attendance. The representatives from Williamstown began the discussion by talking about any issues they encountered while developing the plan. It was noted that one of the biggest challenges was gathering and developing the information for the flood hazard mitigation section. It was also noted that conducting a survey of the community to better understand their needs and interests was the top priority for the planning commission now that the town plan has been updated. The group continued its discussion regarding the Williamstown Town Plan update and included items such as the overall layout, possible constraints to building in the Designated Village Center, and similar issues.

Following the discussion, the committee members present noted that this was one of the best plans they've seen for a small town that did not use a consultant and completed all the work on their own. Specifically commenting on the layout, use of graphics, and use of plain language. As such, the committee members suggested that the full commission approve the 2016 Williamstown Town Plan

ADJOURNMENT

The discussion on the 2016 Williamstown Town Plan concluded at 5:25pm.



Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Town of Williamstown, Vermont prepared a municipal plan in accordance with Chapter 117 of Title 24 of the Vermont Statutes, and the Regional Planning Commission found that the Municipal Plan meets all the requirements for approval under both the Commission's review process and Section §4350 of Chapter 117;

AND WHEREAS, Title 24, VSA, Section §4350 requires that CVRPC consult with member municipalities with respect to their planning efforts, requires that a municipality have a plan approved by its regional planning commission in order to have its planning process confirmed, and requires that a municipality maintains the use of local funds for local and regional planning;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Regional Planning Commission concludes that the Municipal Plan:

1. is consistent with the goals established in Section §4302 of the Act;
2. is compatible with the Central Vermont Regional Plan;
3. is compatible with the approved plans of other municipalities in the region; and
4. contains all the elements as required in Section §4382 of the Act;

AND does hereby **APPROVE** the 2016 Town of Williamstown Municipal Plan, dated April 11, 2016,

FURTHERMORE, in compliance with Title 24 VSA Section §4350, the CVRPC has consulted with and confirms the planning process of the Town of Williamstown. It is noted that when an adopted municipal plan expires, its approval also expires. Recommendations made by the Regional Planning Commission's Review Committee are attached and should be considered when developing the next edition of the Municipal Plan. If the municipality has zoning or other regulatory bylaws or is considering adopting bylaws, it is important that the bylaws are in compliance with the current Municipal Plan.

ADOPTED by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission at its June 14, 2016 meeting.

Byron Atwood, Chair
Central Vermont
Regional Planning Commission

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
May 10, 2016

Commissioners:

X	Barre City	Janet Shatney	X	Moretown	Dara Torre
X	Barre Town	Byron Atwood, Chair	X	Northfield	Laura Hill-Eubanks
<input type="checkbox"/>		Mark Nicholson, Alt.	X	Orange	George Malek
X	Berlin	Bob Wernecke	X	Plainfield	David Strong, Treasurer
X	Cabot	Dick Payne	<input type="checkbox"/>		Robert Atchinson, Alt.
X	Calais	Paul Rose	X	Roxbury	Gerry D'Amico
<input type="checkbox"/>		John Brabant, Alt.	X	Waitsfield	Don La Haye
X	Duxbury	Brian Fitzgerald	<input type="checkbox"/>		Harrison Snapp, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Alan Quackenbush, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Warren	Camila Behn
X	E. Montpelier	Julie Potter, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Washington	Gary Winders
X		Jack Pauly, Alt.	X	Waterbury	Steve Lotspeich
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fayston	Carol Chamberlin	X	Williamstown	Larry Hebert
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marshfield	VACANT	X	Woodbury	Michael Gray
X	Middlesex	Ron Krauth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Worcester	Bill Arrand
X	Montpelier	Tina Ruth, Secretary			
<input type="checkbox"/>		Kim Cheney, Alt.			

Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Dan Currier, Eric Vorwald, Steve Gladezuck, Marianne Wolz

Guests: Sam Anderson, CVEDC; Bill Moore, CV Chamber; Gary Root and Jan Ohlsson Calais

CALL TO ORDER

Chair B. Atwood called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting began with introductions.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC HEARING – CALAIS TOWN PLAN APPROVAL

J. Shatney moved to open the public hearing; G. Malek seconded. Motion carried.

Gary Root from the Calais Planning Commission talked about how the Town Plan was developed and the process for adoption. He voiced appreciation for the review process CVRPC staff and Plan Review Committee put into the plan prior to this meeting. *D. Payne moved to close the public hearing; P. Rose seconded. Motion carried.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

TOWN PLAN APPROVAL AND CONFIRMATION - CALAIS

E. Vorwald provided an overview of the Town of Calais's Town Plan, noting it was approved by the Calais Planning Commission and Selectboard, and was forwarded to the CVRPC for regional approval. He noted the Town Plan Review Committee recommended the plan be approved and the Town's planning process be confirmed.

1 J. Potter presented comments on behalf of the Town Plan Review Committee. The plan was
2 developed by the planning commission with extensive comments from other constituents.
3 Enhancing and expanding villages was the focus of the plan. There are very specific goals,
4 strategies, and actions with the identified person/persons or group responsible for completing the
5 actions. The plan uses very specific policy language where appropriate so that in statewide
6 permitting the town has that to use. The plan could use more graphics and updated maps. The
7 Committee recommended plan approval, and confirmation of the Town's planning process.

8
9 Commissioners extensively discussed the plan's compatibility with the Regional Plan as it
10 related to the Regional Housing Distribution Plan. G. Malek questioned the lack of a future land
11 use map and a map identifying the locations and number of housing units. J. Ohlsson addressed
12 the question by noting that the Town has a nature resources inventory underway with phase one
13 done and phase two started. The data will be used to create the future land use map. L. Hebert
14 commented that it's important to have all the requirement elements included in the plan for it to
15 be approved. E. Vorwald commented that preferred growth areas are for future development can
16 be determined by taking the existing maps and text in the plan which focuses on areas the Town
17 does not want growth to occur.

18
19 Commissioners discussed whether the plan could be approved conditionally or for a set period.
20 B. Waninger noted that statute did not address conditional approval. An approval extends
21 through the plan's life unless changes are made that remove statutory requirements.

22
23 *L. Hebert moved to not approve the plan because it's missing a housing element map; G. Malek*
24 *seconded.* In discussion, Commissioners discussed whether the motion should have been in the
25 positive (to approve) and whether the plan could be approved with a requirement to add a
26 housing map later. *G. D'Amico raised a point of order to change the motion to approve the plan*
27 *and allow it to be voted down.* The point was not ruled on. *D. LaHaye moved to amend the*
28 *motion on the floor to approve the plan conditionally given that the text exists but no map; R.*
29 *Krauth seconded.* In discussion, J. Potter pointed out that there is a map in the plan showing
30 expanded village districts. She believes this meets the requirement.

31
32 B. Wernecke requested both motions be voted down, and the plan approved. A Commissioner
33 asked if Calais can include the map in the plan before approval. G. Root said it could, but that
34 would delay the process by months if not a year for Selectboard approval. *After further*
35 *discussion D. LaHaye withdrew his motion to amend L. Hebert's motion, and L. Hebert*
36 *withdrew his motion as well.*

37
38 *B. Wernecke moved to approve the plan, confirm Calais' planning process, and adopt the*
39 *resolution as presented in the meeting packet; G. D'Amico seconded. Motion carried 15-4.*
40

41 J. Potter encourages every commission member on a planning commission to submit their plan to
42 the RPC as soon as a draft is ready for review.

43
44 **APRIL 12, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**

45 D. Payne said the minutes did not list Cabot, or his absence from the meeting. *B. Wernecke*
46 *moved to approve the April 12, 2016 minutes with changes; P. Rose seconded. Motion carried.*

1 **STAFF REPORTS**

2 No updates.

4 **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

5 B. Waninger noted the energy sitting bill was passed but the final version did not include the
6 funds to do the work. The House and Senate Committee Chairs and the Governor's office stated
7 it was an error, and the funds would be added through the budget update process. The final text
8 is still not available, but when it is she will send it out to everyone.

10 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

11 B. Waninger reported on the Health Department's new campaign 3-4-50: 3 behaviors lead to 4
12 illnesses that lead to 50% of the deaths in Vermont. VTrans is conducting a commuter rail study
13 from St. Albans to Montpelier. Steve will represent CVRPC. The Agency of Agriculture
14 presented to VAPDA on its agricultural lands mitigation program. They conducted a pilot in
15 Chittenden County to see what the on-site mitigation land is being used for and what percentage
16 is being actively farmed. Eventually they will do this work statewide. If the Commission is
17 interested, Waninger will invite them in to present their work. Commissioners nodded assent.

19 **CENTRAL VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPORT**

20 S. Anderson reported CVEDC is waiting to see final bills out of the Statehouse. The
21 Independent Contractor bill died in committee. She thanked Bonnie and Bill for hosting and
22 facilitating at the VT Futures Project event. More details on this project can be found at
23 <http://www.vtfuturesproject.org/>. CVEDC annual breakfast is in July and Commissioners are
24 welcome to attend. CVEDC host its annual Central Vermont job fair and reported have 788 job
25 seekers. They will have more number to report out on the job fair in the coming months.

27 **ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

28 S. Lotspeich reported that 17 ballots were returned. The following were duly elected: B.
29 Atwood – Chair; J. Potter – Vice-Chair; D. Strong – Treasurer; T. Ruth – Secretary; D. La Haye
30 – At-Large; L. Hill-Eubanks – At-Large; and L. Hebert – At-Large.

32 **VERMONT CLEAN WATER ACT**

33 D. Currier presented on the VT Clean Water Act (ACT 64). He covered the following topics:
34 Lake Champlain Total Maximum Dailey Load (TMDL) report, new Municipal Road General
35 Permit, new Three Acres of Impervious Surface General Permit, the Department of Agriculture's
36 new Required Agricultural Practices and Tactical Basin Planning. The timeline for the final
37 permits is 2018 with drafts ready in 2017. Comments of questions should be send to
38 currier@cvregion.com.

40 **ADJOURNMENT**

41 *B. Wernecke moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm. R. Krauth seconded. Motion carried.*

43 Respectfully submitted,

46 Daniel Currier

-24-
Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
Staff Report, June 2016

802/229-0389

Fax: 802/223-1977

LAND USE PLANNING

Regional Plan: Contact Eric Vorwald, vorwald@cvregion.com.

The Draft 2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan was distributed for comments as per statutory requirements. The 2016 Plan is generally readoption of the 2008 Plan, but it includes a new table related to implementation. Once adopted, this Plan will renew the expiration of the regional plan through 2024. CVRPC continues to work on a comprehensive update to the Regional Plan, called Plan Central Vermont. Adoption of Plan Central Vermont is anticipated to occur in mid to late 2017.

Regional Energy Planning: Contact Eric Vorwald, vorwald@cvregion.com.

CVRPC will begin a regional energy planning project in July. The effort will:

- explore Central Vermont's current and future anticipated energy use across all sectors (thermal, transportation, efficiency/conservation),
- use modeling to determine how Central Vermont might meet its future energy needs,
- develop strategies and actions for meeting those needs, and
- identify the regional "fair share" of specific renewable energy sources and types that could be expected in Central Vermont and the desired locations for siting these energy sources.

This work can be used by municipalities to develop comprehensive local energy plans that carry greater weight in Section 248, the Certificate of Public Good process.

Town Plan Updates: Contact Eric Vorwald, vorwald@cvregion.com.

Staff met with Woodbury to discuss its Town Plan update. Woodbury requested CVRPC review of its draft Plan prior to beginning the public hearing process. It was noted that the statutory requirement for a flood resiliency element was not included. Staff met with the Planning Commission on in May to discuss this and other comments related to their update. Currently the Woodbury Town Plan is expired.

Williamstown adopted a new Town Plan in April. The Town requested regional approval. Members of the Town Plan Review Committee suggested that the full Commission grant the Plan regional approval and confirm the Town's planning process. The Committee commented that Williamstown's Plan is one of the best examples of a Town Plan developed by a small town without assistance from a consultant. The Plan was well organized and easy to follow. It included a good mix of graphics and illustrations emphasizing important points.

MUNICIPAL PLANNING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

East Montpelier Village Master Plan: Staff has provided information to the Planning Commission related to existing land uses and current conditions within the identified study area and worked with the Planning Commission on establishing a vision statement for the village. The Town will host a public open house on July 21 to solicit feedback and gather opinions from the community on regarding the future of the Village of East Montpelier.

Marshfield Bylaw Update: The Marshfield Planning Commission hosted a public forum to launch its bylaw update. Marshfield first adopted zoning in the 1970's, and although provisions have been altered since then, the core of the zoning remains intact. Planning Commission members highlighted the zoning districts, shared previous challenges heard from residents and businesses, walked residents through the Town Plan's strong focus on maintaining Rural Character, and reviewed results of a resident survey conducted during the Town Plan update. At the Town's request, CVRPC introduced the Agency of Natural Resource's online NR Atlas, briefly reviewed natural constraints that impact development across Marshfield, and facilitated a discussion on rural character and strengths and challenges of the current zoning regulations. A second public is scheduled for June 16.

Enhanced Consultations: Staff completed enhanced consultations with the Towns of **Marshfield** and **Berlin**. Consultations are completed 18-24 months prior to a Plan's expiration. They offer an opportunity to have a formal conversation with towns about their planning and training needs. The consultation also includes reviewing changes in statutory requirements and discussing strengths of the existing plan and areas that could be strengthened.

In FY2017, CVRPC will complete consultations with: East Montpelier, Middlesex, Montpelier, Orange, Washington, Waterbury Town and Village, Woodbury, and Worcester.

Technical Assistance: GIS Staff worked with **Waterbury** on a Village Center Designation map for Waterbury Center. This will be a new designation for the Town.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HAZARD MITIGATION

Technical Assistance: **Marshfield**, **Cabot** and **Plainfield** officials continue coordinating with Green Mtn. Power, state agency personnel and CVRPC to understand safety concerns for the Marshfield Dam. **Plainfield** kicked off its community resilience and awareness project, which CVRPC staff attended. The steering committee will help coordinate efforts of the Selectboard, Planning Commission, Conservation Commission and Hazard Mitigation Committee to assess and build community resilience. The Town has requested CVRPC assistance to update its Hazard Mitigation Plan in the upcoming year.

LEOPs (Local Emergency Operations Plans): Contact Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com.

The majority of towns in Central Vermont have now put in place immediate response procedures for community emergencies. LEOPs have been adopted and accepted by DEMHS in Barre City, Barre Town, Berlin, Cabot, Calais, Duxbury, East Montpelier, Fayston, Middlesex, Montpelier, Moretown, Northfield, Orange, Plainfield, Roxbury, Waitsfield, Waterbury and Worcester. The towns of Washington, Williamstown, Warren, Marshfield, and Woodbury anticipate adoption at a June Selectboard meeting with submittal to DEMHS within the month.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (9-Town Project): Communities planning for hazard mitigation have been working to understand the history of how hazards have impacted them in the past, and to obtain community feedback on the most threatening hazards. During May, **Barre Town**, **Northfield**, **Roxbury** and **Fayston** held kick-off meetings. **Worcester** is gathering data, and **Middlesex** has scheduled a public hearing for June 28th. All towns are working on the draft language for the plan updates and gathering updated data information related to specific identified hazards. Staff is mapping and field-verifying at-risk transportation infrastructure for towns to consider as they update Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. **Orange** and **Northfield** have been completed, and **Barre Town** is in progress. Contact the staff member assigned to your town or Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com.

Trainings and Workshops: Contact Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com.

Emergency Planners from each RPC met with Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security officials to share best practices and ensure State and RPC emergency response and recovery is always closely coordinated. CVRPC participated in this quarterly gathering.

TRANSPORTATION

GMT Transportation Summit: Staff participated in a Transportation Summit organized by Green Mountain Transit. GMT is working to enhance transit options through innovative partnerships. The Summit brought partners together to discuss gaps and opportunities by industry and region. An afternoon session examined funding opportunities other than transit and partnership opportunities to forge better transportation options. Matt George inspired our thinking with his keynote address about Bridj. Bridj is an innovative urban transportation provider that uses pop-up infrastructure and app-tailored pick-up locations to create more efficient transit trips. George reminded us that transportation is about mobility, not the mode of transportation.

Municipal Technical Assistance: Summer culvert inventories are in progress, starting with **East Montpelier**.

High Risk Rural Road and School Zone site visits were conducted in **Barre City** and **Barre Town**. -26-

Regional Planning: Staff attended the Waitsfield VT 100 Bridge meeting, which was the third meeting for the project. The bridge will close this summer. Meeting attendance was light. Public comments focused on the whether the increased and speeding traffic on the official detour route (German Flats and Sugarbush Access Roads) would reduce the safety. The Town of Waitsfield asked to be compensated for use of local roads as a bypass. Since the meeting, a local reporter is wondering why Waitsfield and Warren are getting compensation and Fayston is not. The answer relates to the difference between an official detour and a local bypass.

Transportation Planning Initiative: CVRPC hosted and lead portions of the Interim Road Erosion Training in East Montpelier. This training included staff from all partner RPC's, VTTrans, and VT ANR DEC. The purpose of the training was to insure all road erosion assessments work towards meeting the Municipal Roads General Permit to the extent possible. While the permit is not ready, towns are continuing to inventory road erosion locations. The guidance is close to the permit, but not actual final yet. RPCs asked questions about erosion, connected segments, and stream status (intermittent, waters of the state, etc.). CVRPC will use interim guidance this summer in four towns. Contact Dan Currier, currier@cvregion.com

NATURAL RESOURCES

GIS/Fluvial Erosion Hazard: To prepare for the new Forest Integrity local and regional planning requirement, staff attended a training on i-Tree software. i-Tree is a state-of-the-art, peer-reviewed software suite from the USDA Forest Service that provides urban and rural forestry analysis and benefits assessment tools. The i-Tree Tools help communities of all sizes to strengthen their forest management and advocacy efforts by quantifying the structure of trees and forests, and the environmental services that trees provide.

Water Quality: Staff has been participating in water quality financing meetings. The Vermont Clean Water Act (Act 64) requires the State Treasurer to recommend a long term revenue source to fund water quality improvements. The stakeholder process leading up to the draft report considers the long-term costs of clean water and potential Clean Water Fund revenue options. Revenue options were reviewed at the previous stakeholder meetings. Criteria established for rating the viability of each option included: predictability, revenue potential, sufficiency, promotes mitigation, nexus to water, quality, income equity, geographic distribution, administration & compliance, and accountability. Public meetings will be held later this year. A draft report is expected to be released for public comment in November.

Landslide Analysis: Staff completed a GIS analysis to identify potential areas at risk for landslides. Using the analysis, staff visited six landslide location across Washington County and identified one in **Barre City** for further analysis. This landslide will be included in a UAV flight that UVM will lead, and then it will be reviewed for inclusion in Barre City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Northfield Village Green Stormwater: CVRPC and the Town of **Northfield** reviewed consultant proposals for the construction of the bioretention area. G & N Excavation was selected for the installation, and contracting is underway.

Forest Integrity: Staff is beginning work to pursue grant funds to assist communities with forest integrity planning. H.857, the omnibus forest bill, included new planning requirements for local and regional plans. Part of the project may include completing natural resource inventories for interested communities. Contact Bonnie Waninger, Waninger@cvregion.com if your community might be interested in participating in the project.

Staff participated in the quarterly VT Urban and Community Forestry Council meeting. Kristen Bousquest of the Arbor Day Foundation demonstrated a new program for communities that assists property owners to locate new trees in locations that provide maximum energy return based on the property's location. Users can watch an energy meter calculate energy saved or used as the user moves the 'tree' around the site. Communities can use the program to promote tree planting and measure energy savings. The Council also toured green infrastructure projects at the

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Brownfields: Contact Gail Aloisio, Aloisio@cvregion.com.

Northfield is focusing on economic development, boosting the tax base and creating jobs and housing by exploring redevelopment concepts for two properties in Northfield Village. The Northfield Savings Bank Block and the Old Freightyard area were screened for environmental concerns, and now architects are working up redevelopment concepts for feedback from the community. The project is funded by the State of Vermont Brownfields Technical Assistance. CVRPC participates on the steering committee.

Washington Access Modification Grant, Calef Public Library: Staff worked with the Library and Project Writer in anticipation of CVRPC's role to provide General Administrative Services for the library project. The Town has met the Award Conditions and is awaiting a final Grant Agreement from VCDP.

NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONNECTIONS

Staff Updates: Bonnie MacBrien has joined the CVRPC team as the new Finance and Office Manager.

Trainings: GIS staff attended the Geospatial Forum in White River Junction.

Policy Update: CVRPC have been working to update its Personnel Policies Manual for the past 18 months. The Personnel Policy Committee presented a draft to the Executive Committee this month. The Executive Committee will offer comments at its July 5 meeting.

Community/Partner Visits: Staff met with the Cabot Community Association (CCA) Director to discuss potential assistance. CCA is a non-profit corporation working to enhance the quality of community life for those visiting or residing in Cabot and for those doing business there. The Association is working to strengthen Cabot's Main Street and plans to pursue grants for economic development planning. Staff met with the Calais Selectboard.

Staff met with VLCT Director Maura Collins regarding shared interest in furthering economic development planning in communities, particularly in rural areas.

Corporate Cup! In the ZONE!-ing: CVRPC staffers Dan Currier and Marian Wolz ran in the Corporate Cup Challenger under the team name of "In the ZONE! - ing"

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

Executive Director's Report

May 25, 2016

Federal Overtime Regulation Revisions

The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division ("DOL") has published its final overtime regulation applicable to "white collar" (executive, administrative and professional) employees. The rule becomes effective December 1, 2016.

The most significant change is an increase of the salary exemption threshold from \$455 a week (\$23,660 per year) to \$913 a week (\$47,476 per year). CVRPC will have three exempt (overtime eligible) employees now. Working with municipal boards makes +8 hour days a regular occurrence for CVRPC staff, and we will need to adapt our approach to using compensatory time. The Personnel Policy Committee included controls for accrual of overtime in the overhaul of CVRPC's draft Personnel Policies, which is being distributed to the Executive Committee for review in June. From a policy perspective, CVRPC will need to decide whether to include overtime pay with regular payroll or to incorporate a time and a half compensatory time policy into the Personnel Policies when its accrual cannot be avoided.

Professional Development: Conveying What We Do in 30 Seconds or Less

Staff recently completed a communications training to assist us in more effectively conveying the value of our work. Titled "Elevator Speeches," the training was scenario-based: You step into an elevator and, as the door closes, the person next to you asks, "What do you do?" You have 30 seconds to answer that question. How do you summarize what you do and how it adds value to our customers? "I'm a planner" rarely invites a longer conversation about the innovative work of CVRPC and its communities.

Staff is practicing our elevator speeches. The next time you see one of us, I hope you'll ask us what we do. Practicing strengthens the effectiveness of our advocacy for communities and the region.

Federal Directions: Climate Adaptation

Participating in state and federal policy development is one way CVRPC serves its member municipalities. We work to insure local capacity, perspective, and challenges are incorporated into state and federal policy.

CVRPC was one of four RPCs asked to participate in the FEMA Region 1-sponsored New England Climate Adaptation, Preparedness, and Resilience Seminar as part of the State of Vermont's

team. Shifts in precipitation patterns, higher temperatures, rising sea levels, and more frequent extreme weather events are expected to add to economic challenges that communities already face. The Seminar highlighted innovations and identified potential areas for improvement to increase collaboration between state and federal agencies. *Climate change adaptation and mitigation are beginning to appear in state and federal programs, and communities should expect a stronger emphasis to appear over the next few years.*

State agencies participating in the seminar noted that New England is unique nationally because of its lack of county government. Because federal policy is framed in the context of working with cities and counties, federal agencies find it challenging to adapt programs to New England's governmental system. They lack the capacity to work with every municipality. More and more, federal agencies serving New England are looking to Regional Planning Commissions (Northern New England) and Councils of Governments (Southern New England) to assist them in bridging this gap. State agencies spoke positively about RPC work, its ability to increase local capacity for action, and its value in connecting local actions and state and federal policy.

CVRPC Committees and Annual Appointments

STANDING COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Meets: 4-6pm on the Monday of the week before the Commission meeting.

Term: 1 year beginning July 1; officers typically serve for two years

Members: 4 officers and 3 at-large Commissioners elected annually.

2016 Members: Byron Atwood, Chair; Julie Potter, Vice Chair; David Strong, Treasurer; Tina Ruth, Secretary; Larry Hebert, Laura Hill-Eubanks, and Don LaHaye, At-Large

Duties:

- 1) Carry out decisions and instructions of the Commission.
- 2) Recommend positions to be taken by the Commission, its committees, or staff.
- 3) Act on behalf of the Commission in the absence of a quorum of the Commission when time precludes the delay of decision or action until the next regular Commission meeting.
- 4) Execute other actions as outlined in Commission-adopted policy.
- 5) Management/Operations
 - a. Approve the annual budget, ACCD contract, and Transportation contract
 - b. Accept the annual audit
 - c. Approve budget adjustments that may arise during the year
 - d. Accept grants or other contracts with outside organizations or agencies, et al.
- 6) Personnel
 - a. Approve the addition/elimination of staff positions and the retention of consultant services as recommended by the Executive Director
 - b. Approve amendments to Personnel Policies
- 7) Contractual Commitments
 - a. Approve contracts with consultants as provided for in the Commission's Procurement Procedures
 - b. Approval of contracts will deem to be approval of the payment of invoices provided the work has been done to the satisfaction of the Executive Director.
- 8) Organizational Issues
 - a. Determine and approve Commission meeting agendas
 - b. Determine appropriate action on policy issues that arise from time to time including legislative issues, RPC allocation formula, or other issues affecting the Central Vermont region and its individual constituent cities and towns.

Nominating Committee

Meets: As needed, usually in April or May.

Term: 1 year beginning July 1; members cannot serve two consecutive terms.

Members: 3 Commissioners appointed by the Commission

2015 Members: Don La Haye, Waitsfield; Bill Arrand, Worcester; Steve Lospeich, Waterbury

Duties: Nominate officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee.

Project Review Committee (Executive Committee Minutes 02/03/14)

Meets: As needed, generally 5-7 times per year.

Term: 3-year, staggered terms, appointed annually in July.

Members: Five municipal Commissioners, one alternate, and project's host municipality
Commissioner. One member must be an Executive Committee member.

Members (appointment ends): Byron Atwood, Chair (2016); Bob Werneke (2018); Laura Hill-
Eubanks (2016); Brian Fitzgerald (Alternate, 2018); Larry Hebert (2017), Richard Payne
(2017); Sam Andersen, CVEDC (Ex-officio, non-voting)

Duties: Make determinations on behalf of the full Commission regarding conformance or non-
conformance with the Regional Plan for Act 250 and Section 248 applications, based on
information provided.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Regional Plan Review Committee (Commission Minutes 11/12/13)

Meets: As needed.

Term: No term established

Members: 5 CVRPC Commissioners and 4 regional organizations

Original Members: Laura Hill Eubanks (Northfield); Mike Miller (Barre City); Dara Torre
(Moretown); Tim Carver (East Montpelier); David Strong (Plainfield); Ed Larson (Barre
Granite Association); David Rubin (Capstone Community Action); Sophie Sauve (Winooski
Natural Resources Conservation District), Scott Bascom (VT Agency of Transportation).

Current Members: Laura Hill-Eubanks (Northfield); Dara Torre (Moretown); David Strong
(Plainfield); Dan Hoxworth (Capstone Community Action); Scott Bascom (VT Agency of
Transportation VT Agency of Transportation)

Duties: Develop and recommend updates to the Regional Plan to the full Commission.

1 **Town Plan Review Committee**

2 Meets: As needed.

3 Term: 1 year, appointed in July

4 Members: 5 Commissioners; customarily, 1-2 Commissioners from adjacent communities
5 appointed by Commission to participate on an ad hoc basis

6 FY2016 Members: Julie Potter; Ron Krauth; George Malek; Paul Rose; Bill Arrand

7 Duties: Review town plans for conformance to statutory requirements and make
8 recommendation to the Commission regarding Regional Approval.

10 **Transportation Advisory Committee** (established 1993)

11 Meets: Fourth Tuesday of each month.

12 Term: 1 year, beginning July 1

13 Members: 23 town members appointed by municipalities and representatives of transit, airport,
14 VTrans appointed by those organizations

15 FY2016 Members: Scott Bascom (Barre City); Harry Hinrichsen (Barre Town); Bob Wernecke
16 (Berlin); Kevin Lehoe (Cabot); David Ellenbogen (Calais); Vacant (Duxbury); Frank Pratt
17 (East Montpelier); Kevin Russell (Fayston); Vacant (Marshfield); Ronald Krauth
18 (Middlesex); Dona Bate (Montpelier); Joyce Manchester (Moretown); Jeff Schultz
19 (Northfield); Lee Cattaneo (Orange); Bob Atchinson (Plainfield); Gerry D'Amico (Roxbury);
20 Don LaHaye (Waitsfield); Vacant (Warren); Ray McCormack (Washington); Steve Lotspeich
21 (Waterbury); Larry Hebert (Williamstown); Vacant (Woodbury); Bill Arrand (Worcester)

22 Duties: Review and make recommendations on Transportation Planning Initiative functions,
23 those being development of the Regional Transportation Plan and its recommendations; and
24 the development, project prioritization, and recommendations for the Transportation
25 Improvement Program.

27 **Personnel Policy Committee** (established 2014)

28 Meets: As needed.

29 Term: None established

30 Members: 3 Commissioners

31 2014-2016 Members: Julie Potter, Tina Ruth, Laura-Hill Eubanks

32 Duties: Recommend revisions to the Personnel Policies.

Brownfields Advisory Committee (ad hoc; re-established 2016)

Meets: As needed.

Term: 2 years

Members:

- 1) Voting - 5 Commissioners and 1 alternate, CVEDC, VT Dept. of Health, up to 12 members, at minimum representing housing, real estate, finance, at-risk populations, solid water and the environment
- 2) Non-voting members: EPA, VT Agency of Commerce, VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation

2016-2018 Members:

- 1) Voting - Janey Shatney (Barre City); Julie Potter (East Montpelier); George Malek (Orange); Ron Krauth (Middlesex); Anita Kelman (Capstone Community Action); Brad Denny (Town of Northfield); Alison Friedkin (Downstreet Housing & Community Development); Sam Andersen (CVEDC); Sasha Bianchi (VT Dept. of Health, Barre District)
- 2) Non-Voting - Dorrie Paar, EPA

Duties:

- 1) Recommend investment of brownfield funds to the Executive Committee.
- 2) Assist to identify and prioritize communities or neighborhoods in need of support for brownfields revitalization and the projects that will support those efforts
- 3) Develop brownfield-related policies for recommendation to the Commission, and provide input into any policies developed by the Commission related to brownfields.
- 4) Provide oversight for and assist in the development of the Commission's brownfields work program and budget.
- 5) Participate in public outreach efforts, including education of the professional community, public notification, liaison to municipalities and other local and regional boards as appropriate, and other activities.
- 6) Maintain site selection criteria.
- 7) Review and prioritize nominated sites for inclusion in the Region's brownfields program
- 8) Assist in the hiring of consultants and oversee consultant progress to bring projects to completion.

Clean Water Advisory Committee (established 2016)

Meets: As needed.

Term: Under development.

Members: Under development

2016 Members: Commissioners – Ron Krauth, Middlesex and Michael Gray, Woodbury; Other members have not been appointed.

Duties: Guide the Commission's work plan related to programs and projects that would be impacted by the Clean Water Act.

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Vermont Association of Planning & Development Agencies:

Meets: First Thursday of the month in June and December

Appointee: Commissioner

Term: 1 year

FY2016 Member: Byron Atwood

Duties: Participate in two meetings a year

Vermont Economic Progress Council

Meets: Monthly, normally on the fourth Thursday of the month in Montpelier; attend only when there is an application from the region; participation is non-voting

Term: 1 year

Appointee: As desired by the Commission. RPCs usually designate their Executive Directors to VEPC, but some RPCs have designated Board members to the position.

FY2016 Member: Bonnie Waninger

Duties: Participate in two meetings a year

Green Mountain Transit (formerly CCTA dba GMTA)

Meets: Third Tuesday of the month at 7:30am in Burlington; 3 times a year, meets in different locations in its service area at 4 or 5 pm

Term: 3 years

Appointee: As desired by the Commission. RPCs usually designate their Executive Director or Transportation Planner

FY2016 Member: Harold Garabedian (Commissioner); Bonnie Waninger (Alternate)

Duties: Annually, set long-term goals to guide the General Manager and the priorities of the organization for that fiscal year; monitor progress in meeting the goals; participate on a committee as designated by the Chair



Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

MEMO

Date: June 14, 2016

To: Board of Regional Commissioners

From: Bonnie Waninger, Executive Director

Re: Bright Blue Media Proposal

Staff is requesting Commission waiver of CVRPC's GIS Cost of Services policy to dedicate up to 80 hours of service (\$3,200 value) for a landscape analysis using land cover, contours, and natural constraints and other GIS work in support of Bright Blue EcoMedia's regional permaculture design collaboration.

Bright Blue EcoMedia is an educational non-profit whose mission is to communicate transitional strategies through film (<http://brightbluemedia.org/>).

Last August, CVRPC and other partners sponsored a one-day workshop aimed at inspiring meaningful conversations and action towards the creation of resilient regional systems. The workshop was part of a broader effort by Bright Blue EcoMedia to learn how permaculture design principles might be applied on a regional scale. As part of the workshop, CVRPC presented a summary of the Commission's 2012 Central Vermont Food Systems Assessment and facilitated a discussion on identifying opportunities for a sustainable, locally-based business network.

Bright Blue has proposed additional collaboration with CVRPC (see attached proposal). Generally, the collaboration would include:

- 1) Exploring forest farming to diversify Vermont's woodlands; and
- 2) Developing permaculture-based land management strategies based on regional contour review.

Vermonters have always used forestlands for hunting and foraging. Increasingly, forestland is being used for commercial edibles harvesting. The floods of 2011 have increased public lands acquisition to support flood resiliency. While this land will remain undeveloped, it also offers an

opportunity to explore management strategies that offer multiple benefits. Bright Blue's team of researchers and practitioners can explore a unique aspect that may interest municipalities as they begin implementing the forest integrity planning requirement passed by the Legislature in 2016.

CVRPC uses slope as a factor in natural resource considerations for land use. A regional contour analysis followed by input from Bright Blue's collaborative may provide a new perspective to assist CVRPC in refining its land use and climate resilience strategies.

In addition to benefits noted above, working with the collaborative offers CVRPC access and partnership opportunities with UVM, the Center for the Agricultural Economy, local agricultural enterprises, and a non-profit media company. This access opens doors for future collaboration.

Designing Abundance
Proposal to include Central VT Regional Planning Commission
as a "Professional Affiliate"
designabundance.org

Bright Blue EcoMedia

Bright Blue EcoMedia is a Montpelier-based non-profit formed in 2010 to tell stories of transition. It is an educational 501c3 that has focused primarily on using film as a means to educate viewers on sustainable design strategies. Bright Blue has completed seven films and has been awarded two New England Emmys for environmental programming.

Designing Abundance

In 2014 Bright Blue launched Designing Abundance, a research initiative focused on permaculture design principles and their application on the regional scale. Over the past 40 years examples have been established that demonstrate the effectiveness of Permaculture as a site-specific design strategy. There is increasing interest in applying these design principles to larger systems and our intention is to strategically organize experienced designers, community members, local institutions and young researchers to explore this potential in Central Vermont. We are seeking design solutions to our land management strategies, as well as our social and economic organizations. We are forming partnerships with ecological, social and economic innovators.

Two potential areas of collaboration with the Central VT Regional Planning Commission:

1- Regional Contour Review and Land Management Strategies:

We would like to collaborate with your GIS team to review regional contour patterns and compare to land-use strategies. We propose that best management practices could emerge that would vary based on specific site characteristics. These would be driven by geospatial characteristics (orientation, slope, bio-diversity, animal integration, etc.). We intend to design broad land-management strategies with emphasis on water management and biological guilds.

2 - Forest Farming and diversifying Vermont's woodlands

A key component of Permaculture Design is biological diversification and the replication of natural systems. We will assemble a diverse team of researchers and practitioners, to offer strategies to integrate Agroforestry into Vermont's forest management plan. A recent excerpt from Bright Blue's film, *The Resilient Ones*, discusses Agroforestry. - <https://goo.gl/2htGwl>

Roles and Responsibilities of Bright Blue Permaculture Group:

1. Offer additional layers/permaculture perspective to GIS maps, specifically forestry maps
2. Act as liaison between Bright Blue Permaculture initiative and CVRPC.
3. Support planning and coordination efforts for *Designing Abundance* workshop series
4. Provide media support and other promotional/outreach materials to CVRPC.

Roles and Responsibilities of Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission:

1. Support GIS mapping efforts of Bright Blue Permaculture Group
2. Provide updates to Research Coordinator relevant to development of Central Vermont Regional Permaculture Design. Specific areas of interest include: 1.) Contour, Land Use & Access 2.) Water Quality 3.) Forestry and 4.) Regional Food System Assessment

Permaculture Cooperative of Central Vermont – Professional Affiliates

- Bright Blue EcoMedia
- GUND Institute of Ecological Economics
- UVM's Ecological Design Collaboratory
- The Center for an Agricultural Economy
- Vermont Bean Crafters
- Sho Farm
- Maple Wind Farm
- Bear Roots Farm, Barre, VT

Permaculture Cooperative of Central Vermont (PC-CVT) Operating Group:

- Vic Guadagno, Bright Blue EcoMedia
- Rose Thackeray, UVM Senior
- Ali Riggen, UVM Senior

PC-CVT Steering Committee

- Jon Erickson, UVM
- Amy Seidl, UVM
- Walt Poleman, UVM
- Sarah Waring, Center for an Agricultural Economy
- Bruce Hennessey, Maple Wind Farm
- Joe Bossen, Vermont Bean Crafter

Objectives for 2016:

- Create GIS Mapping set that provides overview of Permaculture strategies
 - Orientation Map – northeast United States, geology, climate, history, culture, etc.
 - Regional Maps (A&A – Analysis & Assessment) – Barre/Montpelier & surrounding watershed (physical contours, water problem areas, land coverage – public/private, biological product movement – supply/demand, current production & value add analysis, opportunities, economic/social arrangements)
 - Case Studies – Maps & landscape perspectives (24 Marvin St., Perfect Circle Farm, Foster Hill Farm, Devitt Forestry Products, Robinson Hill Farm, East Hill Tree Farm, Foster Hill Herb Farm)
- Emphasis on Permaculture Principle One (Observe and Interact). Research history of Permaculture in central Vermont and how it has influenced individuals and environmental groups
- Create media to document process, generate interest and coalesce group
- Organize educational workshops and public lectures

These are
informational only.

Robert's Rules of Order Quick Reference Guide

The following points and chart should cover all you need to know to effectively participate at a meeting:

- Only voting members (signified by blue placards) may make motions or vote on motions.
- Non-voting members (signified by red placards) may participate in the debate on a motion.
- Hold your placard up to be placed on the speaker list. You will be called when it is your turn to speak.
- You do not need to be recognized to speak to second a motion or make an interruptible motion. However, you do need to hold up your placard while speaking in either of these cases.
- Attempts to use points of order, information, or parliamentary inquiry to participate in debate shall be ruled out of order, so please don't do this.
- Address your comments to the chair and not to another member of the General Assembly. This means do not make debate a personal issue. Keep your comments based on your opinions of the facts, not based on people's personality or motives.
- An amendment to a motion may be amended, but an amendment to an amendment to a motion may not!

What you want to do	What you say	In plain English	Can this interrupt the speaker?	Does this need a second?	Can this be debated?	Can this be amended?	What does this apply to?	What vote is required to pass?
Bring business before the General Assembly	"I move that ..."	"We should do this..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	(none)	Majority
Modify a pending motion	"I move to amend..."	"I think this will make this better."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Any amendable motion	Majority
Close debate	"I move the previous question."	"Let's stop talking and vote."	No	Yes	No	No	Any debatable or amendable motion	2/3
Limit or extend debate	"I move to limit/extend debate to..."	"We need time limits on this, people."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	(none)	2/3
Correction or question	"Point of information..."	"There's something we need to know."	Yes	No	No	No	Any motion	No Vote
Complaint	"Point of personal privilege."	"I gotta go!"	Yes	No	No	No	(none)	No Vote
Confusion	"Point of clarification."	"What the #@!@ is going on here???"	Yes	No	No	No	Any motion	No Vote
Table a motion	"I move to table this motion until ..."	"Hang on, we should think about this for a while."	No	Yes	No	No	Any motion	Majority
Rules violation	"Point of order..."	"Wait! This isn't going according to Robert's Rules!"	Yes	No	No	No	Any error	No Vote
Remove from the table	"I move to take from the table..."	"OK, we can talk about that again now."	No	Yes	No	No	Any tabled motion	Majority
Refer to committee	"I move to refer this issue to committee."	"We need to look at this more closely."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Any motion	Majority

ROBERTS RULES CHEAT SHEET

To:	You say:	Interrupt Speaker	Second Needed	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Needed
Adjourn	"I move that we adjourn"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Recess	"I move that we recess until..."	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
Complain about noise, room temp., etc.	"Point of privilege"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair Decides
Suspend further consideration of something	"I move that we table it"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
End debate	"I move the previous question"	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Postpone consideration of something	"I move we postpone this matter until..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend a motion	"I move that this motion be amended by..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Introduce business (a primary motion)	"I move that..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

The above listed motions and points are listed in established order of precedence. When any one of them is pending, you may not introduce another that is listed below, but you may introduce another that is listed above it.

To:	You say:	Interrupt Speaker	Second Needed	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Needed
Object to procedure or personal affront	"Point of order"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair decides
Request information	"Point of information"	Yes	No	No	No	None
Ask for vote by actual count to verify voice vote	"I call for a division of the house"	Must be done before new motion	No	No	No	None unless someone objects
Object to considering some undiplomatic or improper matter	"I object to consideration of this question"	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
Take up matter previously tabled	"I move we take from the table..."	Yes	Yes	No	No	Majority
Reconsider something already disposed of	"I move we now (or later) reconsider our action relative to..."	Yes	Yes	Only if original motion was debatable	No	Majority
Consider something out of its scheduled order	"I move we suspend the rules and consider..."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Vote on a ruling by the Chair	"I appeal the Chair's decision"	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority

The motions, points and proposals listed above have no established order of preference; any of them may be introduced at any time except when meeting is considering one of the top three matters listed from the first chart (Motion to Adjourn, Recess or Point of Privilege).