



Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 14, 2017 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.)

AGENDA

<u>Page</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Description</u>
	7:00	Adjustments to the Agenda
		Public Comments
2	7:05	Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2017 (enclosed)*
4	7:10	Staff Reports (enclosed) and any updates
10	7:15	Executive Director's Report (enclosed) and any updates
11	7:20	Health Communities Initiatives, Dr. Harry Chen, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Health (enclosed)*
		Dr. Chen will discuss Vermont Health Department initiatives that intersect with local and regional planning work, such as the 3-4-50 Campaign, Health in All Policies, health-related climate change planning, and Partnerships for Prevention.
	8:00	Legislative Report, Bonnie Waninger
16	8:10	Commission Bylaw Amendment (enclosed)*
		Recommendation from the Executive Committee to amend the Commission's bylaws.
23	8:30	Act 64 Clean Water Report, Bonnie Waninger (enclosed)*
		Request for Commission input on an RPC role in Clean Water actions.
	9:00	Adjournment

* denotes anticipated action item

Approved: _____

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
DRAFT MINUTES
January 10, 2017**

Commissioners:

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

Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Laura Ranker, Ashley Andrews, Gail Aloisio

Guests: None

CALL TO ORDER

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

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Atwood requested a minute of silence to remember former Transportation Planner Steve Gladczuk, who passed away on January 4, 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

DECEMBER 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

B. Wernecke moved to approve the December 13, 2016 minutes as presented; J. Shatney seconded. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

B. Waninger provided an update on the hiring process for a GIS Planner and temporary Land Use/Natural Resources Planner.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Waninger noted that CVRPC will be sending a letter to towns requesting input on transportation planning project and studies that may benefit Central Vermont. A press release was issued. The TAC will prioritize the studies as part of CVRPC's transportation planning program.

1
2 **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

3 Waninger reported on Legislative Committee realignment in the VT House.
4

5 **CENTRAL VT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPORT**

6 Waninger explained that Jamie Stewart opted to provide a report on a quarterly basis. The next report
7 will be in March.
8

9 **CVRPC PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES**

10 Staff presented on CVRPC projects and activities. L. Ranker discussed Local Hazard Mitigation Plans
11 and CVRPC municipal assistance with these plans. G. Aloisio discussed how CVRPC engages
12 stakeholders in local and regional planning using project examples. A. Andrews presented CVRPC's
13 field services program.
14

15 **ADJOURNMENT**

16 *B. Werneke moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm; T. Ruth seconded. Motion carried.*
17
18

19 Respectfully submitted,
20

21 Bonnie Waninger, Executive Director

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

802/229-0389

Staff Report, February 2017

Fax: 802/223-1977

LAND USE PLANNING

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

Staff compiled goals, policies, and actions from Plan Central Vermont and the 2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan to identify if overlap or inconsistencies between sections exist.

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

Regional Planning – The regional energy plan is part of the Regional Plan update. The Regional Energy Committee reviewed outreach activities, a municipal survey, and the Act 174 regional energy plan standards. Staff distributed a survey to Chairs of Selectboards, Planning Commissions, Energy Committees, and Conservation Commissions. Municipal responses will inform development of the Plan. Survey responses are due by March 6th. A draft regional energy plan will be ready in May.

Local Energy Planning - CVRPC will assist Barre Town, East Montpelier, and Waterbury to develop comprehensive local energy plans. These plans can be stand alone or updated elements of a municipal plan. CVRPC solicited interest from municipalities and received interest from six municipalities. The selected municipalities provided commitments from both the Planning Commission and Selectboard to support this effort moving forward. Assistance is expected to begin by early April. All 23 communities will be provided town-specific energy data and mapping.

Town Plan Updates: At the Town's request, staff provided comments on Cabot's draft plan. Contact Eric Vorwald, vorwald@cvregion.com for information.

MUNICIPAL PLANNING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

East Montpelier Village Master Plan: Staff completed a buildout analysis for the study area within the Village of East Montpelier. Discussion with the Planning Commission led to a few minor changes. The Planning Commission will continue discussion on potential development regulations that will affect overall buildout, including minimum lot size and setbacks. The next steps in the process include developing implementation actions that can be included in the draft master plan.

Enhanced Consultations: Staff completed consultations with Worcester, Middlesex, and Orange. Staff is reviewing East Montpelier and Waterbury's Plans, and is summarizing Plan reviews for Montpelier and Washington prior to meeting with these five communities.

Technical Assistance: At the Town's request, staff reviewed Fayston's zoning updates.

Northfield requested a review of its zoning updates. Plainfield requested assistance on identifying “best practices” related to protections or limitations on disturbances to habitat blocks.

EMERGENCY PLANNING & HAZARD MITIGATION

LEOPs (Local Emergency Operations Plans): The 2017 LEOP base plan template has not changed (<http://demhs.vermont.gov/plans/local>). Municipalities may enhance the base plan with appendices. Several appendices serve as additional resources for the municipality to enhance emergency preparedness. The following appendices have been added: B8 Continuity of Operations Plan, B9 Evacuation Plan, B10 Debris Management Plan, C6 Shelter Inspections, and C7 Municipal Guidance for Flood Emergencies.

LEOPs are due by May 1st. The certifying individual signing the LEOP must have successfully completed ICS 402 or ICS 100 training. Training opportunities are below. An updated and adopted LEOP is one of four actions municipalities must take to receive state matching funds under the Emergency Assistance Relief Fund. CVRPC is available to provide technical assistance for LEOP update and adoption. Contact Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com.

Staff met with David Muse of the American Red Cross, Vermont District Program Director-South to gather ARC shelter data and begin comparison with information in municipal LEOPs.

Trainings/Workshops: DEMHS training can be viewed at <http://vem.vermont.gov/event>. Contact Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com

Staff worked with DEMHS to schedule ICS 402 training on Saturday, March 18th from 9 am–noon. Registration is now open. Course information and the registration form can be found on the DEMHS website at: <http://demhs.vermont.gov/calendar>

Staff participated in workshops on the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) and the Risk Management Program. Local businesses and town officials also participated. EPCRA requires facilities having certain chemicals - with quantities as low as one pound - to submit annual chemical inventory (Tier II) reports. **For calendar year 2016, the reporting deadline is March 1, 2017.** Certain sectors of industry and businesses are required to provide a Tier II report to the LEPC, Fire Departments, and DEMHS. CVRPC will be providing a Tier II facility database and maps to towns as a planning tool. Staff will contact each town to discuss how the information and maps can support hazard mitigation planning, LEPC 5's Emergency Response Plan, LEOPs, and local and regional planning related to flood resiliency and erosion risk mitigation activities. Please encourage Tier II reporting in your community to ensure the database is accurate and complete.

Staff attended a DEMHS “Learning Management Systems (LMS) training for external users” to assist with identifying areas in need of further development, revision, and clarification prior to

becoming “live” for external users. The state is moving to the LMS system for all trainings. Each user will have one account which is linked to an email address. The system allows users to see course offerings, access and maintain their own certifications and training record, register for courses and exercises, and link to other state agency training/learning sites. The system opened to state employees in late January; it is expected to open for external users before summer.

LEPC #5: Staff conducted outreach to school Superintendents regarding participation in the School Crisis Planning presentation. Staff coordinated with LEPC 5 members regarding a March meeting presenter, officer nominations, and Annual Response Plan committee members.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans: CVRPC is incorporating Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) risk data into Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive tree pest that targets ash trees and kills most trees in a stand within 6 years. Most states in the northeast have been affected, causing fluctuations in ash log prices, complications for forest recreational use, and increased need (and costs) for municipal clearance of dead trees and branches from public roads and right of ways. The UVM Cooperative Extension conducted an EAB Risk of Introduction Analysis in Vermont. Contact Gail Aloisio, Aloisio@cvregion.com to learn about your town’s risk, courses for learning to detect the pest, and other prevention resources available to towns.

Cabot: DEMHS returned comments on the plan, which was updated and returned for approval.

Worcester: Staff revised the draft plan based on information gathered from meetings with the Selectboard and Road Foreman. The Selectboard is finalizing the draft for submittal to DEMHS.

Barre Town: Staff met with Town department heads (the local hazard mitigation planning team) to focus on mitigation actions and strategies. Strategies for public participation were identified.

Orange: The Town’s new Planning Commission is preparing to resume work on the plan update.

Northfield & Fayston: DEMHS returned comments. Staff has begun incorporating revisions for final submittal to FEMA.

Waterbury – Staff participates in the Waterbury Floodplain Management Working Group, which is updating the Town’s hazard mitigation plan. Staff provided sample public opinion surveys on hazard mitigation and FEMA resources for public participation.

TRANSPORTATION

Counts: Contact Ashley Andrews, Andrews@cvregion.com, to have a count location added to our list for the spring 2017.

Inventories: Staff has been processing the Calais Culvert Inventory and loading that data into VTCulverts. To have your town's inventory updated or to find out more about VTCulverts.org, contact Dan Currier, currier@cvregion.com.

Staff provided a summary of 2016 bridge and culvert inventory work to VTrans. This summary tracks progress and insures town information follows VTrans procedures. Staff also provided 2016 bicycle and pedestrian counts. Counts are included in statewide reports and assists towns to plan for path and sidewalk enhancements.

Better Roads: Staff finalized capital plans for Moretown, Middlesex, Waitsfield, and Duxbury. Staff will be working with Warren, Roxbury and Montpelier on inventories this year. Better Roads grant applications are due March 17th (<http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads>). To have CVRPC complete an inventory, contact Dan Currier, currier@cvregion.com.

Planning: CVRPC revised the Central Vermont yearly list of State paving candidates. Of fifty segments on the State list, seven are in Central Vermont. CVRPC's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) ranks paving projects annually. Regional ranking is a factor in final project selection. The TAC meets on February 28, 6:30-8:30 pm at CVRPC office, to rank projects.

CVRPC collaborates with the Lamoille County Planning Commission to support the Green Mountain Byway and its Steering Committee. This byway runs along Route 100 in Waterbury and Stowe. Hyde Park Town and Village have expressed interest in joining the Byway. The Corridor Management Plan would be updated if these communities participate.

Public Transit: Green Mountain Transit (GMT) General Manager Karen Walton resigned in December. The GMT Board of Commissioners expressed tremendous appreciation for the Walton's work to modernize the organization. Walton was able to revamp the organization's management systems to save money in many areas, resulting in lower costs for communities and better service for riders - all without raising fares. Mark Sousa, GMT's Assistant General Manager is serving as Interim General Manager while the Board works on a transition plan.

NATURAL RESOURCES

GIS: Staff assisted Warren with town plan map updates, making the maps available for review online. Staff conducted a field day in Barre Town to gather additional sewer manhole locations. CVRPC is assisting the Town with a comprehensive inventory of its sewer manholes as part of an asset management program. Staff assisted the Central VT Solid Waste Management District with a series of wall maps, and assisted Montpelier with Natural Resources Inventory map updates.

Water Quality: Staff is meeting with towns to discuss updated information about the Draft Municipal Roads General Permit. Contact Dan Currier at currier@cvregion.com.

Mad River Ridge-to-River Stormwater: The 5-town initiative continues to identify municipal actions that can help mitigate stormwater impacts. CVRPC participates on the Planning Team, which is developing information on land development regulations and how stormwater issues can be addressed. The team is developing a white paper outlining possible next steps for municipalities.

River Corridor Protection: Staff participated in a meeting about river corridors protection to begin conversation of a coordinated effort with other entities. Each participant shared its activities and the status of particular projects and grants.

Silver Jackets: Staff participated in the winter meeting of the Vermont Silver Jackets. Silver Jackets teams bring together multiple state, federal, and sometimes local agencies to learn from one another in reducing flood risk and other natural disasters. By applying shared knowledge, the teams enhance response and recovery efforts when events occur. Vermont's team promotes, and looks to enhance, projects consistent with the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. The team assists with the identification and communication of flood risk and implementation strategies to mitigate and manage flood risk. The team is completing flood inundation mapping for the Winooski River in Montpelier.

Wildfire Risk Reduction: Staff participated in a webinar on the federal Wildfire Risk Reduction and Wildfire Response grant to explore whether this grant could support rural water supply planning for fire suppression. Climate projections indicate Vermont will experience increasingly warmer temperatures. Combined with increasing development in forested areas, this is expected to translate into higher wildland fire risk. Last year, several fire departments expressed interest in planning and implementing dry hydrants. CVRPC is working to assist the departments by matching their project idea with a funding source and assisting with potential grant applications.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CDBG-18 Elevation: The project consultant, Dubois and King is updating the databases that will be used to create the hydraulic modeling. Contact Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com.

Washington Access Modification Grant, Calef Public Library: Staff is assisting with preparations for the grant close out, final requisition, and monitoring visit.

CDBG Plainfield: Plainfield studied options to address repeated flood damages to the Great Brook and Mill Street bridges. The study determined the bridges are severely undersized. Replacing both bridges may cost around \$1.6 million. With the study, the Town can apply for state and federal assistance. The project's final public hearing occurs February 13th.

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

Woodbury is working toward purchasing a frequently flooded, former convenience and gas station

in its village. The site would be restored for floodplain function, allowing the community to safely invest in revitalizing the village without fear that enhancements will be damaged. Lead and asbestos investigations of the on-site buildings were completed. CVRPC is developing plans to investigate the extent of other potential contaminants on site, such as petroleum products.

Workforce Investment: Staff participated in the quarterly meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Workforce Partnership. Erica Campbell of the Farm to Plate initiative discussed workforce efforts for the foods industry network. Jamie Stewart (CVEDC) and Joel Schwartz (Barre Area Partnership) discussed findings related to employer needs. Employers are experiencing a gap between workforce soft skills and employer needs. (See Executive Director's report.)

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff Updates: CVRPC is pleased to announce that Pam DeAndrea will join its team on March 8th as Senior Planner. Pam will coordinate CVRPC's GIS Department, providing GIS data, analysis, and maps. As a Certified Floodplain Manager, Pam also will be responsible for water quality planning and project management.

Pam currently serves as GIS/IT Planner at the Lamoille County Planning Commission, where she conducts GIS spatial analyses for natural resource, transportation, and town planning. Before this, she worked for 10 years as a Senior GIS & Environmental Specialist at Bear Creek Environmental and eight years as a Project Geoscientist at Stone Environmental. Pam and her family live in Calais.

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

February 8, 2017

Workforce Investment

Staff participated in two meetings about workforce development this month: the Central Vermont Workforce Partnership meeting and an Agency of Commerce focus group about whether moving the Department of Labor into the Agency would help or hinder workforce development efforts.

Why should CVRPC participate in workforce investment? CVRPC's mission is to assist member municipalities in providing effective local government and to work cooperatively with them to address regional issues. Municipalities face the same workforce challenges as private business. Employers have stated that having a skilled, available workforce is the single greatest challenge facing Vermont.

Regional planning commissions work with partners to design and implement strategies that create stronger, more dynamic, and more resilient regional economies that are based on quality of place. Collaboration across sectors, jurisdictional boundaries, and levels of government helps assure investment priorities are strategic. It aligns resources to reduce unnecessary barriers that unwittingly prohibit good development and good governance.

RPCs continually work to modernize their services. Doing so means finding new paths to creating vibrant, lasting communities that offer safe, reliable, affordable transportation choices and access to affordable housing and high-wage jobs, so that young people don't want to leave and families can grow in place. Addressing the state and region's workforce challenges requires organizations, agencies, and businesses to collaborate.

Federal Infrastructure Programs

Representative Peter Welch meets with Regional Planning Commissions in January to discuss rural infrastructure improvements. Welch requested a list of infrastructure needs that could be paid for through a national infrastructure improvement program. In addition to the list, RPCs encouraged modifications to federal programs focusing on:

- *Local Priorities:* Federal programs should focus on the existing backlog of infrastructure needs that rural communities have identified as necessary for their continued well-being and growth.
- *Innovation and Flexibility:* Rural communities are hot beds of innovation. Solutions (and federal programs) should fit the community rather than make the community fit the solution.
- *Program Accessibility:* Rural communities need grants, not loans, and program matches should be based upon community means. Program administration should hold communities accountable for use of federal funding without unduly burdensome reporting requirements that exceed rural community administrative capacities.

3 > 4 > 50

VERMONT

TIP SHEET

Healthy Communities

EASY STEPS TO CREATING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY



More than half of Vermont adults (60%) are above a healthy weight, making them more susceptible to chronic disease. Communities that are built to support physical activity, safe walking and biking, use of public transportation, and easy access to fresh foods are essential for good health.

KEY STRATEGIES FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

1. Add health-supporting language to the town plan

- Restrict the sale of tobacco near schools and playgrounds.
- Require green space, gardening space, or sidewalks in new housing and commercial development.

2. Define action strategies

- Support mixed use development that includes no smoking ordinances in public areas
- Create bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
- Maintain smoke-free parks, recreation and open space.
- Increase access to healthy foods.

3. Design "complete" streets and roadways

- Consider the safety of all road users: walkers, bicycles, wheelchairs, public transportation, and cars.

4. Maintain and promote places to be active

- Include parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces.

5. Increase access to healthy foods

- Dedicate space for community gardens and farmers markets.

THE IMPACT ON HEALTH

Healthy community design makes it easier for people to live healthy lives. Healthy communities see:

- Two-fold increase in daily recommended physical activity in walkable communities.
- 35% increase in physical activity when inviting, safe environments for exercise exist.
- Lower overweight and obesity rates with access to fresh and healthy foods.
- Reduced secondhand smoke exposure and increased quit success with smoke-free places.

"As the community garden flourishes, a sense of community has developed among neighbors. Families are eating vegetables when they were not previously."

MORE RESOURCES

Visit healthvermont.gov/3-4-50 for more resources, including:

Active Living & Healthy Eating: Healthy Community Design Resource

Complete Streets: A Guide for Vermont Communities

HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES



As Vermonters, we take great pride in our quality of life, strong communities, natural places and commitment to healthy living. We share a common goal: to ensure that our state continues to be one of the healthiest and best places in the U.S. for all of us to live, work and play. Complex problems cannot be solved by one agency or discipline alone. We must work together across agencies for collective impact.

What is Health in All Policies?

Health in All Policies (HiAP) is a collaborative approach to improving the health of all people by incorporating health considerations into decision making of cross-sectors and policy areas. A Health in All Policies approach identifies the ways in which decisions in multiple sectors affect health and how better health can support the goals of multiple sectors. The goal is to ensure that decision-makers are informed about the health consequences of various policy options during the decision making process.

Why Health in All Policies?

Cross-sector action is needed to create health equity. Health outcomes are determined less by our access to health care services and the quality of those services – and more by the combination of health behaviors and the social and economic circumstances into which we are born and live. These social and economic circumstances are the roots of inequality.

THE HIAP Task Force

The Health in All Policies Task Force is a cabinet level body established by Executive Order No. 7-15 to identify programs, policies and strategies to improve the health of Vermonters, especially vulnerable populations and to coordinate across agencies around issues of healthy communities.

The HiAP Task Force provides an annual report to the governor on –

- Potential opportunities to include health criteria in regulatory, programmatic and budgetary decisions
- Promising practices in other jurisdictions to identify opportunities for innovation and coordination across sectors that include consideration of potential positive and negative health impacts of decisions
- Evidence-based actions and policies to improve the wellness of state employees across state government, including healthy food procurement policies

The Task Force will seek to enhance health while advancing our other goals, such as protecting natural resources and agricultural lands, increasing the availability of affordable housing, improving air and water quality, improving infrastructure systems, promoting public health and active lifestyles, planning sustainable communities, increasing educational attainment and meeting the state's climate change goals.

Health in All Policies Efforts Underway

Vermont already has many examples of a Health in All Policies approach. The challenge and opportunity now is to maximize the impact through system-wide changes supported by a cabinet level Task Force empowered to utilize the authority and tools of government.

Health and Community Planning

- Barre Town Plan
- ECOS Sustainability Project

Health and Housing

- Support and Services at Home (SASH)
- Indoor Air Quality and Lead Abatement

Health, Agriculture and Food

- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) prescriptions for health
- Farm to School and Farm to Plate
- Healthy Food Procurement Rules

Health and Transportation

- Complete Streets
- Health Impact Assessments

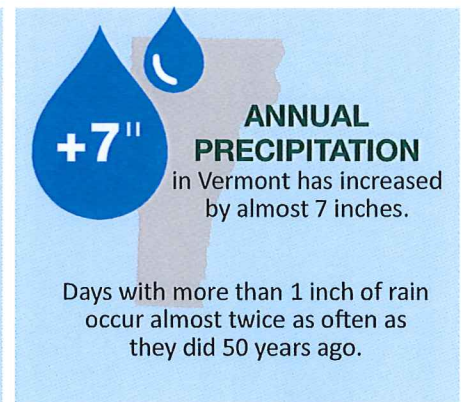
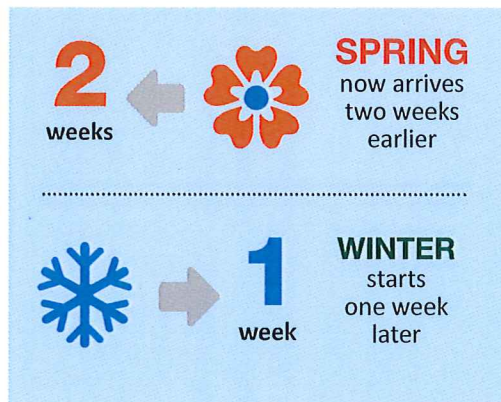
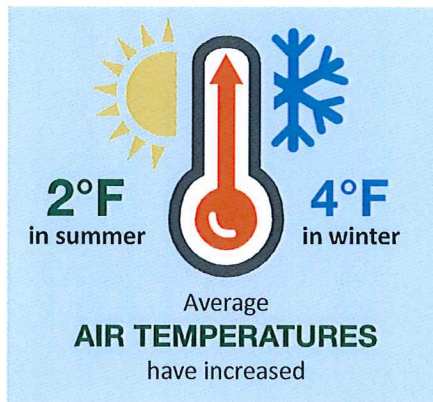
CLIMATE CHANGE + YOUR HEALTH

NEARLY 100% OF CLIMATE SCIENTISTS AGREE:

Greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel combustion in cars, power production, and manufacturing are causing the temperature of the earth to rise.

Climate change is real and has already affected Vermont.

IN THE PAST 50 YEARS:



CLIMATE CHANGE INCREASES HEALTH RISKS FOR VERMONTERS



Summer heat can cause sickness and death. On days when the average statewide temperature reaches at least 87°F, **EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS** for heat-related complaints are 8 times more likely.

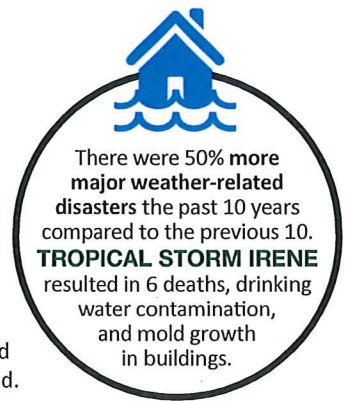


Lake Champlain
temperatures increased
by 2-7° F in the
past 50 years.

Warm water and runoff from heavy rains can fuel **CYANOBACTERIA BLOOMS** (blue-green algae) in lakes and ponds, especially during summer on calm, sunny days in nutrient-rich bays. Blooms can cause skin irritation and other allergy-like symptoms and may release toxins that cause flu-like symptoms if swallowed.



Heavy rains can send contaminated runoff into drinking and recreational waters. From 2005–2014, Vermont averaged **500+ reported CASES OF WATER OR FOODBORNE ILLNESS** each year, with more cases reported after heavy rains, although it's assumed that many more cases are never reported.



Warmer conditions have contributed to increased **black-legged (deer) TICK POPULATIONS** and lengthened their active season.



In 2015, Vermont had the highest number of **LYME DISEASE** cases per capita in the U.S.



A longer growing season and more carbon dioxide in the air increases pollen, which can cause seasonal allergies and **ASTHMA ATTACKS**. **11% of adults in Vermont** report having asthma and 8% suffer from hay fever.

Vermont is expected to continue warming in the future, leading to hotter summers, shorter and milder winters, stronger storms, and more frequent droughts.



WHO IS AT RISK?

In Vermont, everyone is at risk for climate-related health effects. Severe weather, illness, stress and anxiety can affect anyone in any location. There are some groups in Vermont whose health is especially vulnerable.

- **People who spend a lot of time outdoors**
 - Outdoor workers, athletes, and hobbyists
 - Homeless people
 - Those living in flood prone locations or valleys with poor air quality
- **People with health sensitivities**
 - Elderly adults
 - Infants and children
 - Those with chronic medical conditions
- **People with limited financial and social resources for reducing risk**

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Once you have identified the ways that you, your family, and members of your community are at risk from climate-related health impacts, take actions to reduce these risks and give care to others when needed.

Some possible actions include:



Take steps to **LOWER YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT** while helping your health:

- Walk and bike instead of driving for short trips.
- If possible, grow your own food or shop for fresh, local, and nutritious food.
- Improve indoor comfort and lower energy costs by sealing air leaks and using window coverings and shade plants to keep your home cool in summer.



ON HOT DAYS, drink extra fluids, avoid strenuous outdoor activities, and stay in cool, shady places.



AVOID TICK AND MOSQUITO BITES by covering exposed skin and using EPA-registered repellents.



CHECK YOUR BODY FOR TICKS at least once on days after being in grassy or wooded areas.



PREPARE FOR STORMS AND FLOODS with a household emergency plan and emergency supply kit. Learn how to stay safe after a flood or during a power outage.



Stay out of lakes, ponds, and streams for **48 HOURS AFTER HEAVY RAINS** because runoff could contaminate waterways. Recent heavy rains can also make streams fast and dangerous for swimming.



LEARN HOW TO IDENTIFY CYANOBACTERIA (blue-green algae) and see where blooms have been reported on the Cyanobacteria Tracker.



WATCH AIR QUALITY FORECASTS and reduce outdoor activity on days when pollen, ozone, or particulate matter levels are high.



CHECK-IN on family, friends, and neighbors that may be at high risk for climate-related health impacts.

To learn more about these and other actions you can take to prevent climate-related health impacts, please visit

<http://healthvermont.gov/environment/climate/take-action>

STAY IN TOUCH

By taking action to reduce climate change and to prevent health impacts associated with climate change, you can improve your health today and help ensure a healthier future for all Vermonters!

We'll be continuing the conversation about environmental health issues in the coming months. If you have questions, visit <http://healthvermont.gov/environment/climate> or contact ClimateHealth@vermont.gov.

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ARTICLE I. NAME AND ADDRESS

The name of this organization shall be the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission. The regional area with which this Commission shall be concerned and serve shall be those parts of Orange and Washington Counties embraced within the boundaries of the following municipal corporations: Barre Town , City of Barre, Berlin, Cabot, Calais, Duxbury, East Montpelier, Fayston, Marshfield, Middlesex, City of Montpelier, Moretown, Northfield, Orange, Plainfield, Roxbury, Waitsfield, Warren, Washington, Waterbury, Williamstown, Woodbury, and Worcester. The principal address of this Commission shall be the address of its offices.

ARTICLE II. POWERS AND PURPOSES

The legal basis and powers of this Commission are stipulated in the Vermont Municipal and Regional Planning and Development Act, 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117, and such other laws as may be enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont.

The mission and purpose of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is to assist Central Vermont municipalities in providing effective local government and to work cooperatively with them to address regional issues. The Commission shall coordinate and assist in efforts to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the people of Central Vermont through development and planning activities affecting physical, natural, and human resources. In all efforts, the Commission shall foster the wise expenditure of public funds and resources necessary for the efficient delivery of governmental and community services.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERS, REPRESENTATION, AND VOTING

SECTION 3.1 MEMBERSHIP

All municipalities within the Central Vermont Region are members of this Commission. However, a participating member in the Commission is further defined as a municipality that regularly sends a representative to the Commission's meetings, and pays their annual assessment by October 1 of each year.

SECTION 3.2 COMMISSIONERS

The Commissioners of this Commission shall consist of one person from each of the participating town or city municipal corporations within the regional area designated in Article I hereof which have agreed to accept the conditions imposed by this Commission for such participant membership.

Commissioners shall be subject to the following conditions of appointment and tenure:

a. he/she shall be appointed by the legislative body of the municipality or its agent, or elected by the voters, as allowed by Statute. No Commissioner may vote or otherwise formally serve until such appointment has been certified in writing to the Commission by the appointing legislative

body.

b. such Commissioners, so appointed, shall serve for a term of one year or until a successor shall have been appointed, provided, however, that a Commissioner may be appointed to succeed himself;

c. in the event of the death, resignation, disqualification or removal of a Commissioner of this Commission, a successor shall be appointed forthwith as provided in Subsection 3.2a hereof;

d. an alternate Commissioner of this Commission may be appointed, as provided in Subsection 3.2a thereof, for the same term and subject to the same qualifications as a Commissioner and such alternate Commissioner, in the absence of the Commissioner at any meeting of this Commission, shall sit as the Commissioner and exercise all of the authority of the Commissioner in such meeting.

Said alternate shall not assume the office or committee chair of the regular commissioner nor participate on the Executive Committee in place of the regular commissioner.

e. it shall be the duty of each Commissioner to regularly report as to the activities of the Commission to the legislative body and the local planning commission of the town/city of his/her appointment.

SECTION 3.4 VOTING AND QUORUMS

a. Each Commissioner shall have one vote in all actions taken by the Commission. except Commissioners of area wide citizen interest groups who, according to State Statute (Act 200) may not vote on the adoption or amendments to municipal/town plans, the Regional Plan, or confirmation of any municipal planning process.

b. A quorum of Commissioners of this Commission for holding meetings and transacting business shall be a majority of the duly appointed municipal Commissioners. In the event of a tie vote on any matter before this Commission, including the vote of the Chairman, such motion, resolution, or action shall be considered as lost.

c. If, prior to any vote on any matter before the Commission, a Commissioner shall request time and opportunity to consult with the body which appointed him to this Commission prior to casting his vote on such matter, such vote shall be postponed unless such postponement results in violation of State statute requirements.

d. By order of the Commission, any vote may be taken by postal ballot prior to the next ensuing meeting of the Commission by mailing such votes to the Secretary of the Commission.

SECTION 3.5 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Commissioners have an obligation to conduct the affairs of their office in such a manner as to instill public trust and confidence. As such, the Commission shall maintain a written policy on conflict of interest and code of conduct. A copy of said policy shall be provided to all Commissioners at the time of their appointment.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

SECTION 4.1 REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Commission shall be held on the second Tuesday of the month, or as may otherwise be determined by either the Executive Committee or the Commission. The time and place of the meetings shall serve the convenience of the greatest number of Commissioners and member towns, as determined by the Commission.

The monthly meeting that occurs in May shall be considered the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 4.2 ADDITIONAL MEETINGS

Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman, the Executive Committee, or by a majority vote of the Commission, at any time.

SECTION 4.3 NOTIFICATION OF MEETINGS

Notice of regular meetings of the Commission shall be mailed not less than five days prior to such meetings to all Commissioners, alternate Commissioners, Municipal Planning Commission Chairs, Chairs of Boards of Selectmen and Aldermen, Mayors, City/Town Managers, and municipal planners of all member municipalities.

Whenever possible, Commissioners and alternates shall receive advance written notification of any special or additional meetings.

SECTION 4.4 MINUTES

Minutes of all meetings of the Commission shall be kept and copies thereof shall be available to all Commissioners, member towns, and the general public.

SECTION 4.5 ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER

Roberts Rules of Order, Revised shall generally govern the proceedings of the Commission in all cases which are not otherwise specifically covered within these Bylaws or by any other special rules the Commission may adopt.

ARTICLE V FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL YEAR

The fiscal and operational year of this Commission shall be from July 1 of one year to June 30 of the next.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND STAFF

SECTION 6.1 OFFICERS

The officers of the Commission shall consist of a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, all of whom shall be duly appointed Commissioners or alternates of member towns.

SECTION 6.2 COUNCIL OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVE

Annually, the Commission shall elect a representative to the Council of Regional Commissions who shall be a duly appointed Commissioner or alternate of a member town.

SECTION 6.3 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Officers shall be elected by the Commission from among the membership established in Article III, Section 3.1. A nominating committee, consisting of three Commissioners, shall be appointed by the Commission at the February meeting of each year. The nominating committee may nominate candidates for each office, and three additional Commissioners on the Executive Committee.

The Nominating Committee shall present an initial slate of candidates at the March meeting with a final slate of candidates at the April meeting of each year. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor at the April meeting, at which time nominations will be closed.

A ballot, containing the final slate of candidates, shall be sent, not less than 10 days prior to the May meeting, to all Commissioners eligible to vote. The officers of the Commission and other elected officials shall be elected by receiving the most votes. The results of the ballot shall be ascertained and announced at the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 6.4 TERMS OF OFFICE

The terms of office of all officers and other elected officials shall be from Annual Meeting to Annual Meeting or until their successors have been elected and installed.

In the event that any office or other elected position is vacated, such vacancy shall be filled at the next regular Commission meeting. Officers so elected are to hold office only for the balance of the current year or until their successors are elected and installed.

Any officer may be removed from office for cause by a 2/3 vote of those present and voting. Any action for removal must be warned one month in advance of the Commission meeting at which such vote will be taken.

SECTION 6.5 DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVE

a. The CHAIR shall preside at all meetings of the Commission and the Executive Committee. The Chair shall perform such other duties as are normal or customary to the office, or which may be assigned by the Commission.

b. The VICE-CHAIR shall act as Chair in the absence or incapacity of the Chair, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Commission.

c. The SECRETARY shall perform all duties customary to that office, including the overseeing of the minutes of Commission meetings and such Committee meetings as the Chair may designate.

d. The TREASURER shall oversee all financial records of the Commission and perform such other duties as are normal and customary to the office.

e. The REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COUNCIL OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONS shall represent the Commission on the state-wide Council of Regional Commissions pursuant to 24 VSA 4305 and shall report to the Commission at least quarterly on the Council of Regional Commissions' activities.

The Commission shall establish and maintain a policy which further delineates the specific duties of officers.

SECTION 6.6 STAFF

a. The staff of the Commission shall include an Executive Director and any other administrative or technical staff determined necessary by the Commission. All personnel practices shall be in accordance with the Commission's Personnel Policies which shall be maintained and may be amended from time to time. Consultants and/or special project staff may be used to augment the regular staff when there is a need for special expertise or additional staff resources.

b. The staff through the Executive Director shall undertake such duties as the Commission or Executive Committee may assign.

c. It is the policy of the Commission that no person seeking employment or having business with the Commission shall be discriminated against for reasons of race, religion, color, familial status, sex, age or place of national origin.

SECTION 6.7 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a. COMPOSITION The Executive Committee shall consist of seven Commissioners, including the four officers and three additional Commissioners who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

b. PURPOSE The Executive Committee shall facilitate the general operation of the Commission by acting on behalf of the Commission. Decisions or actions by the Executive Committee are subject to rescission or amendment by the Commission. The Executive Committee shall distribute minutes of its meetings for review by Commissioners.

c. POWERS AND DUTIES The powers and duties of the Executive Committee shall be to:

- 1) Carry out all decisions and instructions of the Commission.
- 2) Recommend to the Commission 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 meeting of the Commission.
- 4) Execute other actions as outlined in a policy adopted by the Commission; said policy may be amended as the Commission so directs.

SECTION 6.8 SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Commission may create such Committees as may be needed from time to time. Such Committees shall report to the Commission as it so directs.

ARTICLE VII. SIGNATORY OF THE COMMISSION

All contracts, checks, orders and other instruments which require the signature of the Commission shall be signed in the name of this Commission by such officers or agents as the Commission shall designate from time to time for that purpose.

ARTICLE VIII. APPROPRIATIONS

a. The Commission shall annually establish dues in accordance with a schedule and rate established by the Commission. The Commission shall notify in writing all municipalities within the region on or before November 15th of the sums it deems necessary to be received from said municipalities for the ensuing fiscal year.

b. Municipalities not appropriating funds in an amount equal to their annual dues shall not be entitled to services afforded to those municipal members that have appropriated such funds. Services to member municipalities not paying the annual dues shall be provided on the basis of a rate schedule approved by the Commission. Non-payment of the annual dues does not otherwise affect membership status. Unless directed otherwise by the Commission, prioritizing and scheduling the delivery of services to municipal members that have not paid their annual dues in full shall be at the discretion of the Executive Director.

c. The Commission may receive and expend funds from any source.

d. The Commission may borrow money and incur indebtedness for the purposes of purchasing or leasing property for office space, establish and administer a revolving loan fund, or establish a line of credit,

ARTICLE IX. DISSOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION

Upon the affirmative vote of all of the Commissioners of this Commission at an annual meeting of this Commission, provided notice of the proposal of dissolution at the meeting shall have been given in writing to each Commissioner of the Commission and each alternate Commissioner at least thirty days prior to such meeting, or when the number of participating towns and cities represented by Commissioners on this Commission shall be less than five, this Commission be dissolved and terminated.

Proposed
change

**ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS TO THESE ARTICLES OF CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS**

A. A proposed amendment shall be placed on the agenda for any regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission by vote of the Commission or by vote of the Executive Committee.

B. The proposed amendment shall be discussed at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission and may be amended at that meeting. The proposed amendment shall proceed only upon vote of the Commission.

C. The proposed amendment, as it may have been amended, shall be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the Commission for final vote. No amendment to the proposed amendment shall be allowed at the Commission meeting during which the final vote is taken. The proposed amendment shall become effective upon affirmative vote of 60% of the municipal Commissioners. If a 60% affirmative vote is not attained, the proposed amendment fails.

CERTIFICATE

The foregoing Articles of Constitution and Bylaws were adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the duly appointed Commissioners of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission at a regularly noticed meeting thereof at which a quorum was present, which meeting was reconvened and held the 27th day of April, 1967 at East Montpelier, Vermont.

On May 27, 1980, the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, amended the Constitution and Bylaws adopted April 27, 1967. Those amendments have been incorporated into this document.

On January 10, 1989 the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission amended the Constitution and Bylaws adopted April 27, 1967. Those amendments have been incorporated into this document.

On May 10, 1994 the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission amended the Constitution and Bylaws adopted April 27, 1967. Those amendments have been incorporated into this document.

On November 11, 1997 the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission amended the Constitution and Bylaws adopted April 27, 1967. Those amendments have been incorporated into this document.

On May 8, 2001 the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission amended the Constitution and Bylaws adopted April 27, 1967. Those amendments have been incorporated into this document.

On April 13, 2010 the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission amended the Constitution and Bylaws adopted April 27, 1967. Those amendments have been incorporated into this document.



MEMO

Date: February 8, 2017

To: Board of Commissioners

From: Bonnie Waninger, Executive Director

Re: Request for Commission Input on RPC Clean Water Role

Act 64 of 2015 directed the Treasurer's Office to develop a recommendation for financing Clean Water actions. The House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife has been taking testimony for several weeks to understand different perspectives about the Report and possible financing structures. Like many bills affecting municipalities or municipal and regional planning, RPCs were asked for VAPDA input. VAPDA is the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies, essentially the RPCs working together. The request was general with the direction for input left to VAPDA. The turnaround time for the input is usually short (less than 3 days).

RPC Directors used the attached draft to discuss areas of consensus among the regions. I had hoped to discuss its concepts with Commissioners in advance of submitting comments. However, a basic bill was crafted by the House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife earlier today, making time of the essence.

Staff would like to know whether Commissioners support item #11, Regional Role. Of these activities, CVRPC has completed regional project prioritization for state transportation projects for many years and in 2016, the legislature required that RPCs prioritize projects in tactical basin plans. CVRPC maintains strong partnerships with our conservation district and watershed associations. We work with them annually to coordinate work, which avoids duplication of effort and maximizes outcomes and partnerships. CVRPC also works with municipalities to deliver projects, such as:

- Better Roads inventories and capital budgets,
- project scoping studies, and
- project management services for design and construction project.

Advocacy for this role would permit CVRPC to continue filling gaps for municipalities, especially smaller communities.

Background

As required by the Legislature, the Treasurer's Clean Water Report includes:

- proposed revenue sources to replace the Property Transfer Tax surcharge;
- recommendations for rewarding or incentivizing best management practices;
- revenues estimates by source;
- an assessment of how each revenue source would be administered; collected, and enforced;
- recommendations on whether a bond should be issued; and
- a legislative proposal to implement each revenue source.

Treasurer Pierce recommended:

- establishing a long-term funding plan;
- establishing a two-year interim funding plan for high priority projects. A per-parcel fee is the current proposal; and
- to the extent possible, using existing resources. Several state agencies are realigning funding priorities to address this recommendation.

The Treasurer's Clean Water Report and an Executive Summary are available at <http://www.vermonttreasurer.gov/content/reports>.

A 2-page summary of Potential Legislative Action compiled by Legislative Council at the request of the Committee is available at <http://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/document/2018/12/Date/1-26-2017>. The document is under *Michael O'Grady* near the bottom of the page.

DRAFT – 2/7/2017

VAPDA Comments on the
State Treasurer's Clean Water Report, Required by Act 64 of 2015

Thank you very much to the State Treasurers Office, the Agency of Natural Resources and the Tax Department for the hard work and consultation that went into developing this report and its recommendations. It is a significant step forward in developing a long term funding system for achieving our shared clean water goals.

VAPDA believes that investing in water quality is a necessary long-term investment in our State for our residents and visitors.

In order for the State of Vermont to establish a stable, long-term source of water quality funding to meet our water quality goals, we support the following:

1. **Statewide Approach.** We endorse an approach that takes a State-wide perspective on addressing water quality, beyond a focus only on the Lake Champlain basin or a particular region; while acknowledging Lake Champlain is an invaluable asset to the entire State and its economy.
2. **Biggest bang for the buck.** Raising the majority of needed funding statewide will allow the State to best manage investments that have the greatest cost-effectiveness. The cost to society will be less if effective investments are made in high-priority locations. This is important to most efficiently meet our Clean Water goals.
3. **Real Need.** There are significant funding gaps for municipalities and other regulated entities to achieve compliance. The total cost of capital investments in clean water are estimated at \$115 million per year for the next 20 years. The funding gap is \$62 million per year. The current recommendation is to fund \$25 million per year.

It is important to keep in mind that these costs do not include project planning and development costs or ongoing operating and maintenance costs, which may be as much or more than the capital costs on an annual basis and are ongoing. So, the total true cost may be \$230 million or more.

4. **Raise funds statewide.** These compliance efforts will be most assisted by meeting a significant portion of the cost through statewide revenues. Municipal budgets, and their limited base of property taxes, cannot afford the significant cost of water quality compliance on their own. This will allow for equitable revenue-raising statewide and decrease inequity among municipalities in raising sufficient revenue to implement what needs to be done. Please keep in mind that any municipal costs that are not covered by the State will still be borne by taxpayers at the municipal level, but probably in very unequal ways as some towns move more quickly and some more slowly.

5. **Immediate funding.** We support the interim funding proposal of extending the property transfer tax surcharge for another year to 2019 and using state bonding capacity until a long-term revenue can be implemented. The three priorities, in order, for this interim period should be:
 - i. Developing the administrative systems to determine, collect, and distribute parcel-based revenue.
 - ii. Investing in project development.
 - iii. Investing in capital projects that are “shovel ready.” There is some concern here that those that are “shovel ready” now may not be the most cost effective projects.
6. **Nexus.** There should be a clear nexus between how funding is raised and water quality; that is, the revenue source should be closely related to either a significant pollution source or a direct beneficiary of improved water quality. Meeting the documented stream impairment and phosphorus, stormwater, and nitrogen TMDL requirements should be the principal targets.
7. **State-share:** If the state share of capital funding were 80%, it would be consistent with other funding programs like transportation.
8. **Parcel Fee/“All-in.”** Implement a broad-based approach that spreads these costs out among all Vermonters makes the most sense in terms of having a rational nexus and having an “all in” approach. This would include properties that are exempt from property tax including government facilities, State roads and buildings. In concept, we support the recommendation to implement a parcel-based tiered fee at the beginning of FY19, with a more accurate impervious-based tiered fee to follow when ready.
9. **Additional Resources.** The State of Vermont should raise revenue and bond, as necessary, to provide the match necessary to obtain additional Federal or private funding opportunities. DEC should take an active role in finding and applying for federal funding.
10. **Clean Water Fund Board.** At least one municipal representative should be added to the Clean Water Fund Board in 2017. Thank you for your support of H.38.
11. **Regional Role.** –Regional planning commissions are interested in working with our conservation districts, watershed groups, and non-profit partners to support the implementation of the most cost effective solutions identified and prioritized in the tactical basin plans. To deliver projects, it is typical that 10% go towards project scoping and engineering. We would ask that grant funding be apportioned to the RPCs to work with the State Agencies of Natural Resources, Transportation, and Agriculture; and our municipalities, conservation districts, watershed groups and non-profit partners; to accomplish the following:
 - i. regional prioritization of projects in the tactical basin plans;
 - ii. a pool of project development, engineering, management/monitoring funds in each region;
 - iii. a regional or municipal capital improvement plan approach to project selection rather than competitive grants;
 - iv. partnerships between municipalities, property owners, RPCs, conservation districts, and watershed associations;
 - v. development of a long-term framework for ensuring proper maintenance, operations and management of these new clean water assets.

One role of RPCs is to help shape public policy for the needs of municipalities.

WELCH SEEKS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT IDEAS

JAN. 27, 2017, 4:15 PM BY MIKE POLHAMUS 11 COMMENTS

WWW.VTDIGGER.ORG



Rep. Peter Welch meets with regional planners to discuss infrastructure improvements. VTDigger Photo by Mike Polhamus.

President Trump and congressional leaders appear willing to support infrastructure investments in rural areas and Vermont could benefit, according to Rep. Peter Welch.

Welch, speaking Friday to regional planners in Montpelier, asked what infrastructure needs they might have that could be paid for through a national infrastructure improvement program.

“This is an area Trump has a real desire to do something ambitious,” the Democrat said.

Rural voters put Trump into office, Welch said, and the president looks eager to repay their support. It remains unclear, however, how Trump or Congress intend to pay for the investments, Welch said.

But should funding arise, Vermont’s interests are closely aligned with those of “rural America,” Welch said.

“I think we’ve got a compelling case to make” for significant infrastructure investment in Vermont. A national program, he said, could win approval in part because many of his Republican colleagues face the same challenges.

Welch said in addition to the planners that he would be contacting Vermont mayors for ideas as well.

Planners at Friday’s meeting said they had hundreds of millions of dollars worth of infrastructure needs in their communities.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

Those range from sidewalks and roads to wastewater treatment plants to municipal buildings and broadband internet access.

Many of Vermont's municipal buildings were built in the mid-1800s, said Adam Lougee, executive director of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, "and they haven't had a lot of work done to them since."

Municipal buildings across Vermont — such as town halls, libraries and similar facilities — could use numerous upgrades, Lougee said, such as better energy efficiency measures and improved access.

In putting some of these improvements in place, Vermont municipalities could use assistance from their Congressional delegation to make sure grants and other federal funding doesn't come with onerous strings attached, Lougee said.

Often, federal aid requires towns to build larger or more expensive facilities than they require, and relaxing the rules to avoid unnecessary investments would help put limited federal funds to their best use, Lougee said.

Along the same lines, small towns often have difficulty raising matching funds for large federal programs, said Chris Campany, Windham Regional Planning Commission's executive director.

Infrastructure improvement are need across the country, in liberal and conservative districts, which could benefit Vermont.

"I think it's going to help us to acknowledge that (infrastructure needs are) a problem in Democratic Vermont as much as in Republican Oklahoma," Welch said.

Broadband access for rural communities is another idea likely to see support from his Republican colleagues as well, Welch said. Trump's new Federal Communications Chairman, Ajit Pai, hails from Kansas, and he shares Welch's goal of improving internet access for rural areas, Welch said.



January 26, 2017

Congressman Peter Welch
128 Lakeside Avenue, Suite 235
Burlington, VT 05401

INFORMATIONAL
ONLY

Dear Congressman Welch,

Thank you for the opportunity to identify Central Vermont's infrastructure priorities. Our member municipalities were pleased to hear that Congress may be investing in infrastructure improvements. High priority infrastructure projects are attached, as well as other projects that could move forward in within five years if federal investments were available. Projects for the City of Montpelier are also attached. We understand these project have already been forwarded.

In addition to identifying priority needs, CVRPC would like to share challenges communities face when accessing federal infrastructure programs.

As currently structured, water and wastewater programs create low return on investment and encourage inefficient systems. Unlike other federal programs, water and wastewater programs issue loans rather than cost-share grants. They assume the infrastructure's economic benefit is solely to the rate payer. Urban and rural communities are locked into a vicious cycle of increased infrastructure extensions, higher maintenance and operation costs, and increased extensions to recoup those costs. If the full cost of the investment is calculated, the cost-benefit ratio would not be ideal. In addition, it becomes difficult to achieve voter consensus on maintenance and operation investments. Structuring the programs as cost-share grants, similar to other federal infrastructure programs, would encourage more cost efficient systems, support investments in downtowns and village centers, and grow economic investments.

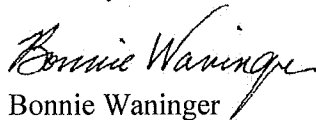
Communities need financial assistance to implement changes in federal policy that address unintended consequences of previous federal policy. In the 1970s and 1980s, federal policy encouraged treatment of stormwater and sewage in a single combined sewer system to maintain water quality and create infrastructure efficiencies. Today, federal policy discourages combined systems because stormwater surges cause system overflows. As communities work to untangled

combined systems, prioritizing federal investment in this area makes fiscal sense and supports economic centers.

Federal infrastructure investments do not support the critical phase of project development between studies that identify alternatives and having a shovel ready solution. Larger municipalities have staff to fill this gap. Smaller communities need support to move ideas to construction. This limits the ability of rural communities to implement appropriate infrastructure investments.

We appreciate the opportunity to convey the region's needs and assist to shape federal policy into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bonnie Waninger".

Bonnie Waninger
Executive Director

Priority Investments

Water System Investments

Waterbury	Ashford Lane Water Line Replacement - replace approx. 1,920 feet of 10" waterline with new 12 " ductile iron pipe.	\$325,000	Shovel ready Construction 2018 or 2019
Waterbury	Crossroads Waterline Replacement - replace 300 feet of 6" cast iron pipe with new 8" ductile iron pipe to reduce business shutdowns	\$109,000	Shovel ready; construct 1 year

Wastewater System Investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Northfield	Sewer Main Extension - 14,000 ft. of sewer line along Routes 12 and 12A	\$4.1 million	70% plans completed. Design 2-3 years

Stormwater Investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Warren	Construct stormwater drains past bridge and into village	\$80,000	Shovel ready

Transportation Investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Barre Town	East Barre sidewalk – design and construct ~625 ft of sidewalk along Mill Street	\$140,000	3-4 years
Warren	Covered bridge – restore and rehabilitate an 1880 wooden covered bridge, including abutments and 55-foot wooden deck	\$700,000	3-4 years
Woodbury	East Hill Road culvert replacement	\$27,000	Shovel ready
Waterbury	Bridge #47 - deck replacement for North Main Street bridge over Thatcher Brook	\$400,000	Shovel ready; Construct 2018/2019
Waterbury	Maple Street Road Reclamation and Resurfacing - asphalt reclamation on 7,300 feet of roadway in Waterbury Center. Replace under road culverts, reclamation, and road stabilization.	\$459,425	Shovel ready; construct 1 year

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Barre City	Smith Street Bike Path	\$500,000	Shovel ready. Construct 1 year
Barre City	Pearl Street Pedestrian Way	\$150,000	Shovel ready. Construct 1 year
Barre City	Keith Ave. Parking Lot Brownfield Redevelopment	\$650,000	Shovel ready. Construct 1 year
Warren	Main Street Bridge Rehabilitation	\$225,000	Construct 1 year

Hazard Mitigation Investments

Cabot	Remove dam on Sawmill Road and restore the floodplain	\$275,990	2-3 year Design/ Removal
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Public Facility Investments

Barre City	Wastewater Treatment Plant Methane Boiler	\$150,000	Final Design Complete. Construct 1 year
Barre City	Wastewater Treatment Plant Underground Storage Propane Tanks	\$110,000	Design Complete. Construct 1 year
Warren	Town Hall expansion	Not available	Shovel ready

Note: City of Montpelier schedule attached.

Longer-Term Investments

Water System Investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Berlin	Expansion of Water Capacity	\$450,000	Design 1 year. Construct 4 years
Northfield	Water Line Replacement – replace 7,800 feet water line and 500,000 gallon reservoir	\$3.8 million	Scoping 1-2 years. Design/Construct 3-4 years
Cabot	Waterline - upgrade waterline size	\$800,000	Scoping 1 year. Design 1 year, Construct 2 years
Plainfield	Waterline replacement- in Plainfield village	\$800,000	Design 2 years. Construct 2 years.
East Montpelier	Water Sytem - purchase village water system from edlerly private owner and convert to public system. Remediate problems immediately and upgrade system over 20 years.	\$350,000 - \$500,000	Purchase 2 years. Design remediation 1 years. Construct remediation 1 year.

Stormwater Investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Northfield	Stormwater/Combined Sewer Over-flow Improvement	\$2.8 million	Scoping 1-2 years. Design/Construct 3-4 years

Transportation Investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Barre Town	East Barre bike path - light engineering, construction, ditching and storm water measures for crushed gravel/granite mat path	\$100,000	Scoping 1 year Design/construct 1 year
Barre Town	Peloquin Road culvert (Graniteville) - replace culvert with concrete box culvert or alternative option to sleeve existing culvert.	\$400,000; \$175,000 secured	1-2 years

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Williamstown	Sidewalk - scope, design and construct a sidewalk from the village to the middle/high school	\$30,000	Scoping 1 year Design/construct 3-4 years
Plainfield	Plainfield Village Bridge - replace bridge on Brook Road	\$1.7 million	Scoping 1 year Design/construct 3-4 years
Plainfield	Plainfield Village Bridge - replace bridge on Mill Street	\$1.7 million	Scoping 1 year Design/construct 3-4 years
Waterbury	Loomis Hill Road Reclamation and Resurfacing - 9,900 foot section to reclaim asphalt, resurface, and stabilize failing roadway, rebuild road drainage piping.	\$706,008	Shovel ready Construction 2017 or 2018
Waterbury	Stowe St. Bridge Replacement – Scoping Study for functionally deficient bridge	\$20,000	1 year
Calais	North Calais Bridge Replacement (TH 16)	\$36,000	Engineering completed. Construct 1-2 years
Roxbury	Webster Road Bridge Replacement	\$400,000	Design 3 months. Construct 1 year
Roxbury	Tenney Road Bridge Replacement	\$400,000	Design 3 months. Construct 1 year
Roxbury	Warren Mountain Road Reconstruction & Paving – Rebuild base and pave 1.34 miles of gravel road	\$1.3 million	Design 1 year. Construct 3 years
Barre City	Merchants Row Parking Lot Brownfields Redevelopment	\$6 million	Assess 1 year. Design 1 year. Construct 1 year
Barre City	Metro Way Bike Path	\$150,000	Design 1 year. Construct 1 year
Barre City	Vermont Granit Museum Bike Path	\$1.8 million	Design 1 year. Construct 1 year
Orange	Reservoir Road realignment	\$500,000+	Design 1-3 years
Washington	Road Resurface – improve 5 miles of gravel roads	\$300,000	1 mile per year for next 5 years
Washington	Bridge Replacement – increase heavy vehicle capacity on road to School	\$200,000	Scoping, design, build 1-2 years
Duxbury	Culvert replacement on Atwood Road	\$300,000	Design and Construct 1-3 years

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Duxbury	Culvert replacement on Stevens Brook Road	\$280,000	Design and Construct 1-3 years
Duxbury	Culvert replacement on Dowsville Road	\$390,000	Design and Construction 1-3 years
Duxbury	Bridge replacement on Dowsville Road	\$240,000	Design and Construction 1-3 years
Warren	Sugarbush Access Road bike path – 3 phase project	\$1.7 million for all phases	Phase 1 construction shovel ready 2018
Warren	West Hill side bank stabilization	\$170,000	Not available
Berlin	Barre-Montpelier Road Sidewalks Phase 1	\$340,000	Design 1 year Construct 2-3 years
Berlin	Barre-Montpelier Road Sidewalks Phase 2	\$311,000	Design 1 year. Construct 2-3 years
Berlin	Barre-Montpelier Road Sidewalks Phase 3	\$245,000	Design 1 year. Construct 2-3 years
Waitsfield	Joslin Hill Road - 1.2 mile road reconstruction	\$900,000	FY2020
Waitsfield	Paving – East Warren Road 3 miles	\$500,000	FY2021
Waitsfield	Paving – North Fayston Road 1 mile	\$150,000	FY2022
Northfield	Central Street Paving and Stormwater Project	\$410,000	Scoping 1 year. Design/Construct 1-2 years
Worcester	Hampshire Hill Road culvert, including stream bank erosion control	\$150,000	Scoping 1-2 years
Worcester	Eagle Ledge Road culvert replacement	\$5,000	Construct 1 year
Worcester	Norton Road bank and road erosion control	\$15,000	Construct 1-2 years
Worcester	Harris Hill Road culvert Replacement	\$50,000	Construct 1-2 years
Worcester	Downs Road Culvert replacement	\$25,000	Construct 1-2 years
Moretown	Park and Ride facility \$300,000	\$300,000	Scope 1 year. Design 2 years. Construct 1 year

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Moretown	Sidewalk - replace sidewalk system in Village	\$500,000	Scope 2 years. Design 2 years. Construct 1 year.
Moretown	Box Culvert replacement on Moretown Common Road	\$200,000	Design 2 years. Construct 1 year.
Calais	N. Calais (TH #16) Hayden Rd bridge	\$36,000	Engineering complete. Construct 1 year.
East Montpelier	Culvert - replaced undersized, historic stone culvert on Center Road	Study \$40,000 Design/Construct \$265-340,000	Scope 1 year. Design 1 year. Construct 1 year.

Economic Development Investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Barre Town	Quarry Hill Property – Extend electric, sewer and water service and build road to improve town-owned property for interested business	\$100,000	Design/construct 1-2 years

Public Safety investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Northfield	Combined EMS Facility – Remodel and expand existing facility	\$2.6 million	Feasibility Study completed. Design/construct 2-3 years
Waitsfield	Replacement of 1987 Fire Dept. tanker with 3,000 gallon pumper.	\$350,000	FY2019

Hazard Mitigation Investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Woodbury	Brownfields - redevelop a frequently flooded, former gas station and general store into a village center floodplain park	\$50,000	2-3 years
Calais	Pekin Brook Culvert - upgrade and replace culvert to protect Town Hall from flood damage. Town Hall assessment complete.	\$30,000 engineering \$450,000 construction	Culvert scoping 1 year. Design/construct 3-4 years
Fayston	#9 Road Slump - roadway threatened by eroding hillside. Alternatives analysis complete.	Unknown	Design 1 year. Construct 2-3 years

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Fayston	Bragg Hill Road & Murphy Road Slumps - Scoping studies for two locations where eroding streambanks threaten local roads	Unknown	Scoping 1 Year

Public Facility Investments

Municipality	Project	Projected Cost	Project Timing
Barre City	City Hall – Police Station Renovations	\$150,000	Design 1 year. Construct 1 year
Barre City	Public Works Campus Replacement	\$10 million	Design 1 year. Construct 2 year
Barre City	Civic Center Complex Renovations	\$1 million	Design 1 year. Construct 1 year
Barre City	Municipal Pool Complex Renovations	\$300,000	Design 1 year. Construct 1 year
Barre City	Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester Fixed Cover	\$375,000	Construct 2 years
Orange	Town Garage addition	\$50,000	Construct 1-3 years
Duxbury	Construct a new Town Office	\$1 million	Scoping and design 2-3 years
Duxbury	Construct a new loader shed and salt storage	\$175,000	Design and Construction 1-3 years
Warren	New Town Garage – construct new town garage	\$789,000	Scoping Study \$20,000. Design/Construct 3-4 years
Waitsfield	Town Garage addition	\$650, 000	Design complete. Construct FY2019
Moretown	Town Hall Energy Efficiency Upgrade	\$50,000	Design 1 year. Construct 1 year
Cabot	New Fire Department - purchase land and construct building	\$1 million	Design 2 years. Construct 1 year.
East Montpelier	Town Office - constructe new town office on town-owned land in village	\$450,000- \$650,000	Design 2 years. Construct 1 year.
Barre Town	Elementary School generator - purchase and install generator to increase shelter capacity and allow for overnight sheltering	\$50,000	1 -2 years

Note: City of Montpelier schedule attached.

City of Montpelier 5-Year Infrastructure Needs (2017-2022)

	Infrastructure Category	Construction Cost	Engineering Cost	Total Cost
Possible Funding Year	Retaining Walls			
18	Lague Drive Slope Stabilization	\$110,000.00	\$25,300.00	\$135,300.00
19	Hubbard Street	\$45,000.00	\$10,350.00	\$55,350.00
20	Hill Street (Dual Project)	\$123,000.00	\$28,290.00	\$151,290.00
21	North Street Gabion	\$84,000.00	\$19,320.00	\$103,320.00
22	Prospect Street / Hill Street	\$100,000.00	\$23,000.00	\$123,000.00
	5 Year Total	\$462,000.00	\$106,260.00	\$568,260.00
Possible Funding Year	Water System (See Master Plan)			
17	Northfield Street	\$1,169,863.00	\$423,850.00	\$1,593,713.00
Annually	Transmission Main Upgrades	\$750,000.00	\$172,500.00	\$922,500.00
Annually	Plant Upgrades	\$300,000.00	\$69,000.00	\$369,000.00
	Total	\$1,050,000.00	\$241,500.00	\$1,291,500.00
	5 Year Total	\$5,250,000.00	\$1,207,500.00	\$6,457,500.00
Possible Funding Year	Sewer System (See Master Plan)			
17	Northfield Street	\$866,163.00	\$316,901.48	\$1,183,064.48
Annually	Transmission Main Upgrades	\$750,000.00	\$172,500.00	\$922,500.00
Annually	Plant Upgrades	\$650,000.00	\$149,500.00	\$799,500.00
	Total	\$1,400,000.00	\$322,000.00	\$1,722,000.00
	5 year Total	\$7,000,000.00	\$1,610,000.00	\$8,610,000.00
Possible Funding Year	Stormwater System (See Master Plan)			
Annually	Transmission Main Upgrades	\$456,150.00	\$104,914.50	\$561,064.50
	Total	\$456,150.00	\$104,914.50	\$561,064.50
	5 Year Total	\$2,280,750.00	\$524,572.50	\$2,805,322.50
Possible Funding Year	Street Reconstruction			
17	Northfield Street	\$799,713.00	\$289,741.78	\$1,089,454.78
Possible Funding Year	Bridges			
2018	Bridge No. 15 (Grout Rd)	\$250,000.00	\$57,500.00	\$307,500.00
2018	Bridge No. 10 (School St)	\$500,000.00	\$115,000.00	\$615,000.00
2018	Bridge No. 13 (Cummings Street)	\$1,800,000.00	\$255,000.00	\$2,055,000.00
2019	Bridge No. 64 (East Mont Road - US Rte 2)	\$1,500,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
2021	Bridge No. 62 (East Mont Rd - Us Rte 2)	\$1,000,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$1,300,000.00
2022	Bridge No. 0B2-1 (State St -Bus Rte 2)	\$7,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$8,000,000.00
	Total	\$12,050,000.00	\$2,227,500.00	\$14,277,500.00
	5 Year Total	\$12,050,000.00	\$2,227,500.00	\$14,277,500.00
Possible Funding Year	Sidewalks			
Annually	Reconstruction	\$150,000.00	\$34,500.00	\$184,500.00
Annually	Maintenance	\$25,000.00	\$5,750.00	\$30,750.00
Annually	Extensions	\$75,000.00	\$17,250.00	\$92,250.00
	Total	\$250,000.00	\$57,500.00	\$307,500.00
	5 Year Total	\$1,250,000.00	\$287,500.00	\$1,537,500.00
Possible Funding Year	Traffic Systems			
20	Main Street Signal	\$400,000.00	\$92,000.00	\$492,000.00
Annually	Maintenance	\$25,000.00	\$5,750.00	\$30,750.00
	Total	\$425,000.00	\$97,750.00	\$522,750.00
	5 Year Total	\$525,000.00	\$120,750.00	\$645,750.00
Highlighted Cells are not included in 5 year total				

City of Montpelier 5-Year Infrastructure Needs (2017-2022)

City of Montpelier Infrastructure Needs				
Year	Infrastructure Category	5 Year Construction Costs	5 Year Engineering Cost	5 Year Total Cost
2018-2022	Retaining Walls	\$462,000.00	\$106,260.00	\$568,260.00
2018-2022	Water System	\$5,250,000.00	\$1,207,500.00	\$6,457,500.00
2018-2022	Sewer System	\$7,000,000.00	\$1,610,000.00	\$8,610,000.00
2018-2022	Stormwater System	\$2,280,750.00	\$524,572.50	\$2,805,322.50
2018-2022	Bridges	\$12,050,000.00	\$2,227,500.00	\$14,277,500.00
2018-2022	Sidewalks	\$1,250,000.00	\$287,500.00	\$1,537,500.00
2018-2022	Traffic Systems	\$525,000.00	\$120,750.00	\$645,750.00
2017	Northfield Street (Water,Sewer &Road)	\$2,835,739.00	\$1,030,493.26	\$3,866,232.26
	Totals	\$28,817,750.00	\$6,084,082.50	\$34,901,832.50
Highlighted Cells are not included in 5 year total				\$34,901,832.50