



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 9, 2017 at 7:00 pm

Central VT Chamber of Commerce, Paine Turnpike South, Berlin

Optional Meetings for Non-Committee Commissioners (At Chamber)

6:30 pm – Town Plan Review Committee - Barre Town Plan Regional Approval Hearing

6:45 pm – Nominating Committee

AGENDA

<u>Page</u>	<u>Time</u> ¹	<u>Description</u>
	7:00	Adjustments to the Agenda
		Public Comments
2	7:05	Gaye Symington, President, High Meadows Fund (enclosed) Thinking Regionally, and Assessing Whether It Works
5	7:55	Regional Approval - Barre Town Plan (enclosed) ² The Town of Barre has requested review and approval its Town Plan under 24 VSA §4350(b)(1) .
6	8:05	Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2017 (enclosed) ²
9	8:10	Staff Reports (enclosed) and any updates
14	8:15	Executive Director's Report (enclosed) and any updates
16	8:20	Legislative Report (enclosed) and any updates
	8:25	Nominating Committee Report , <i>David Strong, Committee Chair</i> Presentation of initial slate of officers plus three additional Executive Committee members. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor.
	8:40	Committee Appointments , <i>Julie Potter, Vice Chair</i> Solicitation of Commissioners and Alternates for Committee appointments.
18	8:45	Resolution Regarding Regular Meeting Dates (enclosed) ² Adjustment to posting locations for meetings.
	9:00	Adjournment

¹ All times are approximate unless otherwise advertised

² Anticipated action item

THE HIGH MEADOWS FUND – 2017 WORK PLAN SUMMARY

Our Mission

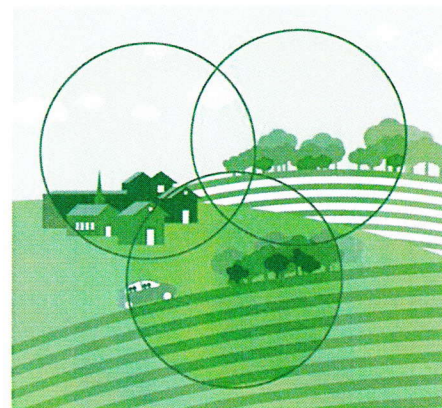
The High Meadows Fund promotes vibrant communities and a healthy natural environment while encouraging long-term economic vitality in Vermont.

Policy and investment choices should make communities more vibrant, equitable, and resilient. To us, resilience means the capacity not just to bounce back from stresses and disruptive events, but also to plan and act in the face of risks, challenges, and opportunities.

It is urgent that Vermonters address climate change by both lowering their contribution to a warming planet, and adapting to the ways climate disruption is threatening Vermont's communities and working landscape. Low-income Vermonters should benefit from clean energy, green infrastructure, and other responses to climate change.

OUR CHANGING CLIMATE

STRATEGIC LAND USE



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

CLEAN & EFFICIENT ENERGY

What Success Looks Like to High Meadows:

Land use that supports resilience, healthy soil & clean water:

- Towns that share a watershed collaborate to protect natural resources, housing and roads, reduce soil erosion and nutrient runoff, and prepare for more frequent and extreme weather events;
- The VT Clean Water Act is successfully implemented to support watershed resilience in a changing climate;
- Smart growth, working lands and clean water advocates work together to improve their individual and collective effectiveness;
- More forest landowners establish management plans for forest health;
- New payment mechanisms support soil health and watershed resilience.

Sustainable agriculture, food and forest-based enterprises:

- Grocers, universities, wholesale distributors and health care facilities increase local food purchases in ways that adequately support producers;
- Farm and forest enterprises have access to coaching, financing and other services that support their viability and environmental stewardship;
- Food waste is reduced and used to improve soil health or for other values;
- Healthy forests support diverse forest products and ecosystem services that improve watershed resilience;
- Farm & forest landowners adopt practices to build soil health, and reduce GHG emissions, and soil and nutrient runoff while staying profitable.

Clean and efficient energy use in buildings:

- Innovative financing, services and monitoring systems result in lower fossil fuel use in multi-family housing, town halls, schools, and single-family homes, especially those of low-income Vermonters;
- Vermont farms & forests contribute to a clean and efficient energy future.

We Value

- Leadership, communication and transparency;
- Innovation and entrepreneurship;
- Collaboration and friendship;
- Clarity about expectations;
- Continuous learning.

Our Approach

- We seek initiatives that engage private market forces;
- We are inspired by ideas grounded in practicality and science;
- We enjoy bringing concepts to action and execution at larger scale;
- We seek projects that inform and inspire others or fill information gaps;
- We encourage proposals that address social justice challenges;
- We recognize the need to take risk in order to create change;
- We work to establish practical outcomes that can be assessed;
- We emphasize dialogue, coordination and collaboration.

Our Strategies

- Grantmaking to social profit 501(c)3 organizations;
- Mission Impact Investments;
- Convening partners for learning and collaborative work;
- Reviewing and learning from successes and disappointments;
- Direct engagement with thought leaders, public officials and our grant and investment partners.

Stop Measuring Activities and Start Measuring Outcomes

Posted on The Chronicle of Philanthropy by Jason Saul on 5/29/14.¹

In my 20-plus years working in the nonprofit world, one of the most common mistakes I've seen nonprofits make is measuring activities instead of outcomes. I understand why: Measuring activities is easier, and nonprofits have limited time to dedicate to measurement. But measuring activities isn't going to help nonprofits demonstrate their value and secure more funds.

When groups measure program efforts—teaching, training, negotiating, feeding, researching, and so on—they're measuring activities. Outcomes, on the other hand, are the results of those activities: changed awareness, behavior, condition, or status. There are outcomes that pertain to individuals (like increased graduation rates or improved literacy), organizational outcomes (like more revenue or a better reputation), and systemic outcomes (like changed policies or greater investment).

To illustrate the difference between outcomes and activities, I think of a story from advisory work I did with a community foundation that was trying to measure the impact of its grants. At one of our weekly grant-review meetings, a program officer suggested that her latest grant was pretty straightforward and didn't require much discussion: The grantee had requested \$25,000 to purchase a new van. The program officer insisted that “the grantee either bought the van or didn't. It isn't hard to measure.”

I pressed, wanting to know why the van was purchased. To deliver stereo equipment? To move stolen goods? To sell ice cream? Turns out, the program officer requested the van to transport elderly citizens from rural communities to hospitals to receive preventative care. The real outcome of the grant wasn't buying the van but providing the elderly with increased access to health care.

When we start by identifying the outcome, we can consider the most efficient ways to achieve that outcome. In the case of increasing health-care access for the elderly, options like train passes, bus fares, or even setting up local clinics are valid alternatives to consider.

As your organization works to make its impact, my advice for avoiding the trap of tracking activities is to remember the following principles:

Outcomes are abstract and complex. Since activities are tangible and countable, like the number of website page views, many organizations focus on counting those rather than measuring more meaningful change.

Outcomes are difficult to control and take time to produce. Activities can occur quickly and are easy to control: Either you bought a van or you didn't. But outcomes are subject to external forces and can require years to be realized.

Outcomes speak to value. Activity tracking demonstrates accountability and compliance, while outcomes demonstrate the meaningful change your organization creates.

It is crucial for your organization to determine which outcomes it can produce and to measure your contribution toward those outcomes. This demonstration of value shows supporters how important your work is and can help you bring in more money so you can make an even greater impact.

Jason Saul is the founder and CEO of Mission Measurement, a consulting firm that specializes in measuring social outcomes.

ⁱ <http://www.highmeadowsfund.org/meadow-muffins/>



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Town of Barre, Vermont prepared amendments to their municipal plan in accordance with Chapter 117 of Title 24 of the Vermont Statutes, and the Regional Planning Commission found that the amendments meet 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 Amendments:

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

AND does hereby **APPROVE** the 2016 Amendments to the Barre Town Plan, dated October 27, 2016.

FURTHERMORE, in compliance with Title 24 VSA Section §4350, the CVRPC has consulted with and confirms the planning process of the Town of Barre. It is noted that when an adopted municipal plan expires, its approval also expires. Recommendations made by the Regional Planning Commission's Review Committee 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 May 9, 2017 meeting.

Byron Atwood, Chair
Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
DRAFT MINUTES
April 11, 2017**

Commissioners:

<input type="checkbox"/> Barre City	Janet Shatney	<input type="checkbox"/> Montpelier	Vacant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barre Town	Byron Atwood, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moretown	Mike Miller, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Nicholson, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northfield	Dara Torre
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Berlin	Robert Wernecke	<input type="checkbox"/> Orange	Laura Hill-Eubanks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Karla Nuissl, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plainfield	Vacant
<input type="checkbox"/> Cabot	Dick Payne	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Strong, Treasurer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Calais	John Brabent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Robert Atchinson, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jan Ohlsson, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roxbury	Gerry D'Amico
<input type="checkbox"/> Duxbury	Brian Fitzgerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waitsfield	Don La Haye
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marshfield	Ivan Shadis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Williamstown	Larry Hebert
<input type="checkbox"/> Middlesex	Ron Krauth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Woodbury	Michael Gray
		<input type="checkbox"/> Worcester	Bill Arrand

Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Eric Vorwald, Bonnie MacBrien

Guests: Jamie Stewart (CVEDC), Kirby Keeton, John Stevens, Bram Towbin

CALL TO ORDER

Chair B. Atwood called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. The meeting began with introductions. Atwood announced the passing of George Malek and a minute of silence was observed.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

MEETING MINUTES

D. Strong moved to approve the February 14, 2017 minutes as presented; J. Ohlsson seconded. J. Damico requested a correction to the date on page 4, line 1. Motion carried as amended.

STAFF REPORTS

B. Waninger informed Commissioners that CVRPC and its partners had received a second NADO Excellence in Regional Transportation award for the Plainfield Bridge Scoping Study project. The project was innovative in using unmanned aerial vehicles to map woody debris deposits. B. Towbin encouraged the Commission to utilize UVM's spatial analysis lab for mapping debris.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

B. Waninger advised Commission members to monitor the FEMA public disaster assistance deductible concept and noted that the comment period was currently open.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

B. Waninger discussed the various bills that were moving through the legislative process including: clean water funding and economic development omnibus. An explanation of Tax Increment Finance (TIF) districts was provided. Waninger asked if Commissioners wanted her to advocate for expanding the number of districts. Commissioners indicated TIFs were a useful tool and their number should be expanded. Waninger provided an overview of the housing bond proposal and asked if the Commission wanted to support, remain neutral, or be against it. The Chair indicated that Commissioners would discuss this with their towns.

CENTRAL VT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPORT

J. Stewart provided an overview of highlights of the CVEDC efforts and resources such as Maker Fairs, the Waterbury Arts Fest, program technical assistance grants, VTC/CCV workforce development programs, the 2017 Job Fair and the development of an economic development plan.

COMMISSION BYLAW AMENDMENT

B. Waninger explained the legislative authorization for RPC's to incur debt and borrow monies. It must be added to the bylaws to enable RPC's to do so. This allows RPC's to lease or purchase office space, establish revolving loan funds, and establish a line of credit.

L. Herbert moved to approve the bylaw amendment as presented: D. Strong seconded. Motion carried 15-0.

FY17 INTERIM SECRETARY AND/OR INTERIM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER

J. Potter explained that Tina Ruth resigned as secretary and a replacement would need to be appointed for the remainder of the fiscal year. L. Hill-Eubanks volunteered to be considered. There were no other nominations from the floor.

J. Potter motioned to nominate L. Hill-Eubanks: D, Strong seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioners held vacant the at-large Committee position previously held by Hill-Eubanks.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

J. Potter discussed the positions that needed to be filled on the Nominating Committee and Personnel Policy Review Committee. Potter also discussed other committees of the Commission as appointments will be made for FY18.

1 *L. Hill-Eubanks moved to appoint D. Strong as chair of the Nominating Committee with B. Atwood*
2 *and I. Shadis as additional members; D. La Haye seconded. Motion carried.*

3
4 *J. Potter moved to appoint S. Lotspeich to the Personnel Policy Review Committee; D. Strong*
5 *seconded. Motion carried.*

6
7 **TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE RULES OF PROCEDURE**

8 B, Waninger explained that the Commission has been working to develop Rule of Procedures for all
9 its committees. The Rules are helpful for recruiting new committee members and establishing
10 expectations for committee participation. She said the TAC had discussed the Rules at several
11 meetings, and recommended the Rules in the Commission packet be adopted.

12
13 *R. Wernecke moved to approve the Transportation Advisory Committee Rules of Procedure as*
14 *presented; M. Miller seconded. Discussion included difficulty in achieving quorum, what constitutes*
15 *the number needed for an affirmative vote (B. Waninger to research and get back to the Commission)*
16 *and efforts to increase participation ensued. No vote was taken.*

17
18 *R. Wernecke moved to delete“, currently 12” from the second line of Attendance and Quorums; G.*
19 *D’Amico seconded. Motion carried.*

20
21 *G. D’Amico moved to delete the sentence beginning “Members with three consecutive...” from*
22 *Attendance and Quorums; L. Herbert seconded. Motion defeated (9 opposed and 6 in favor).*

23
24 *D. Strong moved to approve the Transportation Advisory Committee Rules of Procedure as*
25 *amended; R. Werneke seconded. Motion carried.*

26
27 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

28 E. Vorwald gave a slide presentation on Economic Development Planning which provided
29 definitions, potential resources, and examples of member municipality efforts. He requested input
30 into the role of CVRPC. Suggestions included:

- 31 – Policy and project development, such as making existing fiber accessible for residential use
32 and pursuing a Vermont equivalent to New York’s zombie banking rule;
33 – Assisting communities to create predictability in permitting through town plan engagement;
34 – Having staff bring best practice ideas to towns; and
35 – Insuring local and regional economic plans have actionable items.

36
37 **ADJOURNMENT**

38 *D. La Haye moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 pm; D. Strong seconded. Motion carried.*

39
40 Respectfully submitted,
41 Bonnie MacBrien
42 CVRPC Finance & Office Manager

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

802/229-0389

Staff Report, May 2017

Fax: 802/223-1977

LAND USE PLANNING

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

Regional Planning – The Regional Energy Committee discussed draft pathways and implementation actions. New implementation actions are based on goals and policies in the 2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan. A first draft of the energy plan will be completed by May 30.

Local Energy Planning - CVRPC met jointly with East Montpelier, Barre Town, and Waterbury to walk through data and standards, discuss the project process, and identify municipal concerns. Other municipalities received targets and maps they can use to launch energy planning. CVRPC invites municipalities to join us on May 11 for an energy standards training and discussion of municipal data and mapping.

Town Plan Updates: The Town Plan Review Committee meets May 9 to host a public hearing and consider Barre Town Plan amendments. The full Commission may consider action on the amendments at their meeting later that evening. Contact Eric Vorwald, vorwald@cvregion.com.

GIS: Contact Pam DeAndrea, deandrea@cvregion.com.

Staff digitized historic districts in all municipalities for inclusion in a statewide historic district layer.

Staff analyzed vulnerable buildings and infrastructure within inundation areas for 10, 25, and 50 year storm events for the Mad River Valley, Thatcher Brook and the Winooski River. Waterbury, Fayston, Duxbury, Moretown, Waitsfield, and Warren were included. The analysis will help prioritize projects to make the communities more flood resilient. Contact GIS staff to learn more!

MUNICIPAL PLANNING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

East Montpelier Village Master Plan: The Town is reviewing the draft master plan.

Municipal Planning Grants: Two municipalities have expressed interest. Staff will be contacting all municipalities to solicit project ideas and provide application assistance.

EMERGENCY PLANNING & HAZARD MITIGATION

LEOPs (Local Emergency Operations Plans) – Duxbury, Moretown, Barre Town, Cabot, East Montpelier, Fayston, Waterbury Village and Town, Middlesex, Orange, and Worcester adopted and

received DEMHS approval for their 2017 LEOP. Berlin adopted its LEOP and it will be sent to DEMHS for approval. Calais is scheduled to adopt its LEOP in early May.

Staff continues to summarize the Tier II report data for inclusion in local emergency operations plans. Towns are encouraged to contact CVRPC for LEOP update and adoption assistance. LEOPs are one of four steps towns can take to increase disaster reimbursement from the State under ERAF. Those municipalities that have not submitted a 2017 Local Emergency Operations Plan to the CVRPC are no longer meeting Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund and grant requirements. Contact Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com, for assistance in submitting your plan.

Trainings and Workshops: Staff participated in the National Flood Insurance Program workshop and training sponsored by the FEMA 1 District and the Vermont Regional Floodplain Managers.

LEPC #5: Staff assisted Barre City with the follow-up from a March monitor visit and helped facilitate grant compliance. The City subsequently received a letter of successful grant completion. Staff began reviewing a Memorandum of Understanding between the Medical Reserve Corps 5 and their proposed fiscal agent, Capstone. Staff prepared and submitted the LEPC's Hazchem grant application. The project aims to increase the LEPC's capacity to perform its duties, increase participation in bi-monthly LEPC 5 meetings, and increase municipal awareness of Tier II facilities and reporting to enable effective planning and response for hazardous materials events.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans:

Fayston: Plan received FEMA "approval for final adoption". After Town adoption, the State submits the adoption certificate to FEMA, and FEMA issues a letter of approval. The letter confirms the Town's eligibility to apply for FEMA mitigation grants.

Middlesex: DEMHS has returned comments. Staff is working on incorporating edits.

Northfield: Plan received FEMA "approval for final adoption". After Town adoption, the State submits the adoption certificate to FEMA, and FEMA issues a letter of approval. The letter confirms the Town's eligibility to apply for FEMA mitigation grants.

Waitsfield: Plan adopted by Town. Awaiting FEMA letter of approval. The letter confirms the Town's eligibility to apply for FEMA mitigation grants.

Waterbury: Staff participated in the review and evaluation of the public survey results.

Worcester: Staff is working on incorporating DEMHS comments and public comments.

Roxbury: Staff sent a final draft to DEMHS for review and comments.

TRANSPORTATION

Counts: Contact Ashley Andrews, Andrews@cvregion.com, with count location requests. Staff installed four counters in Montpelier on Northfield and Berlin Streets.

Inventories: Field season kicked off with communities meetings. CVRPC will complete culvert and bridge inventories for 11 towns by September 30, connected roads inventories for three towns by June 30, and numerous road counts. In addition, staff will complete park and ride counts this month. Overall park and ride use is reportedly down by ~5% statewide. Contact Dan Currier, currier@cvregion.com, for inventory updates or for information about VTCulverts.org.

Grant Assistance: CVRPC and Calais were awarded \$113,000 from the VT Department of Environmental Conservation to assist the Town to bring sections of Class IV road up to standard based on the new Municipal Roads General Permit. The project also includes statewide trainings by CVRPC and other regional commissions.

Planning: CVRPC's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) hosted a presentation on the Exit 6 Route 63 Park and Ride in Berlin. This will be a new park and ride and will have room for 62 vehicles. Access to the park and ride will be off East Road adjacent to Jet Service Envelope. The TAC meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8:30 pm at the CVRPC office.

Staff attended two VTrans Construction District meetings focused on coordination and planning for upcoming VTrans construction projects in Central Vermont. These meetings provided an excellent opportunity to meet and network with VTrans District staff.

Staff presented at the Town Officers Education Conference on the types of data and analysis the RPC's provide to municipalities. CVRPC highlighted its Location Affordability analysis, the East Montpelier Village Master Plan, and a Cabot speed zone analysis.

Public Transit: CVRPC staff met with the region's Rural Elderly and Disabled Advocacy Group (REDPAC). The group facilitates the transportation of our rural elderly and disabled populations to appointments around the region. Green Mountain Transit (GMT) helps the group by managing the yearly grant from the State and coordinating the trips.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Winooski Basin Plan: Contact Pam DeAndrea, deandrea@cvregion.com.

VT DEC is developing a project prioritization process associated with its Watershed Database. CVRPC has participated to insure this statewide effort considers local and regional differences from statewide needs. Staff collaborated with partners at Winooski Basin Plan meeting. Discussions centered on upcoming outreach and how to develop projects to be included in the Basin Plan.

Riparian Buffer Gap Analysis: Contact Pam DeAndrea at deandrea@cvregion.com.

Using federal Clean Water Act funds passed through from the State, CVRPC will be conducting a gap analysis for riparian buffers within the Mad River Watershed. The Friends of the Mad River will use the analysis to target landowner outreach for planting or conservation projects.

Mad River Ridge-to-River Stormwater: Project deliverables are being finalized. The R2R team will meeting in May to determine direction of the Steering Committee and the project overall.

Winooski Headwaters: Staff is preparing a grant application to the High Meadows Fund to evaluate upland forest areas in relation to water quality and quantity. The project would involve work with Cabot, Marshfield, and Plainfield.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CDBG-18 Elevation: Staff organized and coordinated four public informational meetings in the Mad River / Thatcher Brook Flood Study area. Staff presented inundation data and vulnerability assessment results. Communities provided input on vulnerable sites and priorities. A press release was published in the Valley Reporter. Staff and CVRPC's consultant, DuBois & King, will meet in May to discuss the sites and finalize prioritization. Contact Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com.

Washington Access Modification Grant, Calef Public Library: The monitoring visit was scheduled and the final public hearing was held!

Brownfields: Contact Bonnie Waninger, Waninger@cvregion.com

Brownfields assessment work began at five properties in Barre City, Woodbury, and Whiting. The Brownfields Committee will consider a sixth property for program enrollment in May. Brownfield assessments enable property owners and prospective developers to understand site conditions that may limit or modify development plans. CVRPC invests brownfield funds from the EPA to encourage business development and expansion, municipal and non-profit uses, and greenspace.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recognition: The Plainfield Village Bridges Alternatives Analysis receive a 2017 Excellence in Regional Transportation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations for its innovative use of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) to take before and after storm photos of in-stream logs and debris. Engineering consultant Milone & MacBroom had determined bridges on Mill Street and Brook Road weren't wide enough to handle major rain storms. The bridges' underpasses need to be widened to allow water and debris to flow through smoothly. The University of Vermont used drones to map debris movement and jam points down the Great Brook, which allowed the project team to understand whether upstream management of debris might

provide damage relief (it can). The next step is to design a replacement bridge and acquire funding for construction. Funded the study came from Disaster Relief funds through the VT Community Development Program to CVRPC. CVRPC also managed the project for the Town. CVRPC will showcase the project at NADO's National Regional Transportation Conference in late June.

Staff Updates: Assistant Planner Gail Aloisio departed the Commission. Gail has been considering a change of careers and elected to move forward in April. We wish her well as she pursues new opportunities! CVRPC has posted the open position as a mid-to-senior level planner focused on land use and brownfields.

Assistant Planner Marian Wolz also departed the Commission in April. Marian, who was in a temporary position, accepted a permanent planner position with the VT Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

CVRPC advertised a mid-to-senior level planner position. The current candidate pool is excellent. Candidate review begins May 8. Our goal is to have a new team member on board by July 1.

Upcoming Meetings:

May 8	3 pm	Personnel Policy Review Committee, CVRPC Office
May 9	6:30 pm	Town Plan Review Committee, Central VT Chamber of Commerce, Berlin
May 9	6:45 pm	Nominating Committee, Central VT Chamber of Commerce, Berlin
May 9	7 pm	Board of Commissioners, Central VT Chamber of Commerce, Berlin
May 11	7 pm	Local Energy Guidelines Training, Waterbury Municipal Office
May 15	7:30 am	Regional Workforce Partnership, Spaulding High School, Barre
May 15	4 pm	Brownfields Advisory Committee, CVRPC Office
May 23	6 pm	Transportation Advisory Committee, CVRPC Office
May 24	2 pm	Fair Housing Training, ACCD, National Life, Montpelier
May 24	4 pm	Regional Energy Committee, Central VT Medical Center, Berlin
May 29		Memorial Day Holiday, CVRPC Office Closed
June 5	4 pm	Executive Committee, CVRPC Office

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

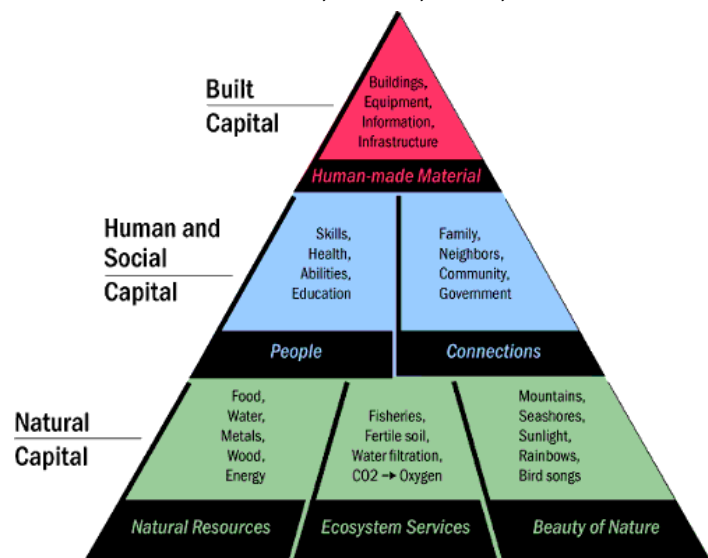
May 9, 2017

This month, two graphics crossed my desk that encouraged me to think about how interest groups work together in Vermont, and how great Vermonters are at tackling challenges with innovation.

Community Capital

Community Capital is the natural, human, social, and built capital from which a community receives benefits and on which the community relies for continued existence. The term 'capital' is most commonly used to refer to money and material goods. In the context of sustainability, communities have several different types of capital that need to be considered -- natural, human, social, and built capital. All four types of capital are necessary for communities to function and benefit from community management.

The USDA VT/NH office recently award a contract to Community Roots, LLC, a consulting firm in Hinesburg to engage communities in discussions of leveraging their community capital for economic growth. The primary focus area will be Newport, VT. Community Roots will provide training and coaching to other communities as well. To explore assistance for your community, contact Melissa Levy at (802) 318-1720 or melissa@community-roots.com.

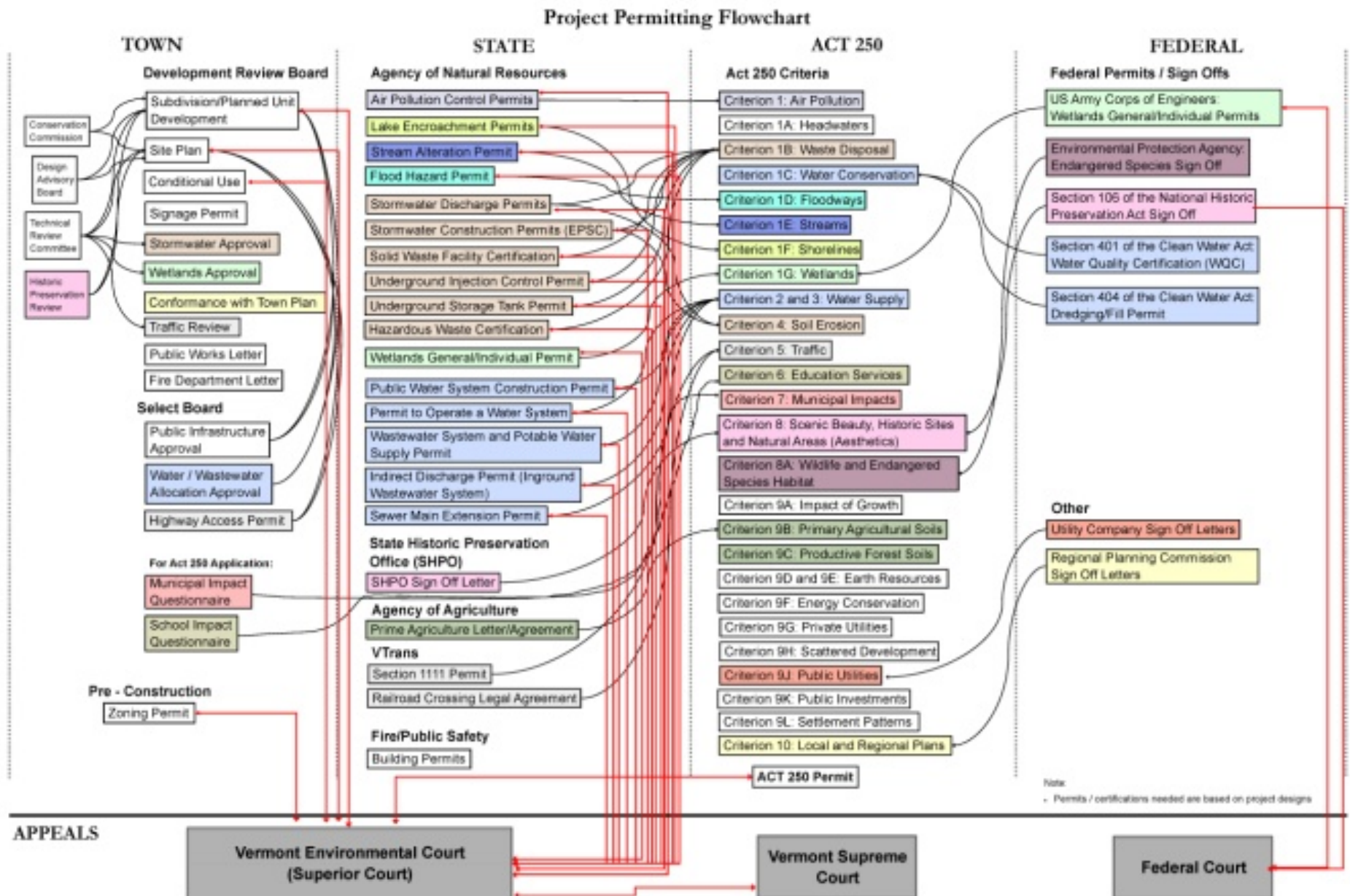


Source: <http://sustainablemeasures.com>

Permit Reform

Conversations about Vermont's project permit system often focus on it as an obstacle to advancing development in a timely manner. Planners and developers worked together last month to create a graphic representation of the system (see next page) to understand where streamlining might be beneficial.

The graphic outlines potential permits and approvals a project might need and their relationships. Still in draft form, it visually highlights why Vermont's permitting system can seem onerous, especially to those who rarely navigate it. Whether you agree with the concept of permitting as an obstacle, viewing the system from a project developer's perspective might help further conversations about whether or how local, state, and federal permitting can work together effectively.



Legislative Report*

May 4, 2017

*Adapted in part from Legislative Reports from the Vermont Planners Association, Vermont League of Cities and Towns, and the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies

The end of the Legislative session involves final adjustments to bills and give-and-take negotiations that may result in add-on amendments, revisions to “finished” bills, and numerous surprises. I hope you’ll take any information included here with a grain of salt – it may not be valid by the Board of Commissioner’s meeting!

Economic Development

S.135 - Economic Development Omnibus – *In House-Senate Conference Committee.*

The House revised the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) piece of this legislation to include up to two additional districts per county with an overall limit of 14 new districts through 2024.

Funding for the proposed \$35 million Housing Bond received attention this week as the House proposed to use property transfer tax monies intended for the Clean Water Fund for the Housing Bond. The proposal essentially extends the property transfer tax surcharge further into the future and uses early funds for the Housing Bond. There is some uncertainty whether/how this may impact Clean Water Funds into the future. VTdigger reported yesterday that the extension funds were already included in the Clean Water Fund calculation, meaning the same funds may have been allocated twice. If so, I would anticipate additional movement on one or both topics.

The bill includes authorization to enact Rural Economic Development Infrastructure (REDI) Districts. One or more municipalities could establish a REDI district for a portion of or all of a town upon petition of 20 or more voters. The districts would be formed to finance, own, and maintain infrastructure that provides economic development opportunities in rural and under-resourced areas. Bylaws for a district’s formation would need to be sent to the local legislative body prior to approval by the district. The district would not be authorized to use taxes or eminent domain. New to this section is a requirement that both the municipal legislative body and planning commission confirm any public sewer and water projects in a district conform with the adopted local plan and the regional commission confirm they conform to the adopted regional plan.

Act 250/Section 248

H.424, Act 250 50th Anniversary Review Commission – *Sent to the Governor for signature.*

H.233, Forest Fragmentation & Act 250 – *Passed by the House and sent to the Senate.*

This bill amends Act 250 to confer jurisdiction for the construction of improvements for commercial, industrial, or residential use if such an improvement at any point is more than 350 feet within a forest

block that is classified as a highest priority interior forest block or a habitat connectivity area that is classified as a highest priority connectivity block by the Vermont Conservation Design. Given this late transmittal to the Senate, the bill is not expected to be passed this year.

H.411, Energy Efficiency & Act 174 Revisions – *Voted down by the Senate.*

There was an amendment in the Senate to revise the Act 174 provisions related to energy planning and substantial deference to municipal/regional plans. The amendment would have granted deference to all duly adopted local and regional plans. Automatic substantial deference sounds attractive and appears to be on-par with Act 250 substantial deference. The difficulty with this amendment was that the Public Service Board has indicated clearly that language in current plans is not sufficient. Even if this amendment had passed, it is likely challenges to plans would be successful, meaning municipalities would continued to lose and continue to be frustrated.

H.241, Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District Charter Change – *In House Government Operations; Passed in Concurrence by the Senate*

This bill authorizes charter changes to update the purpose to reflect changes to the state recycling law, to exercise eminent domain within the District or any municipality that has withdrawn from the District if the property or site to be taken has been considered, by official action of the Board of Supervisors, as a potential site or sites for a resource recovery facility during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date of withdrawal, and to levy assessments.

VLCT testified that the connection between appointed representatives and municipalities may be a problem. In the case of the CVSWMD, it said some municipalities did not appear to know about the charter change proposal. **CVRPC encourages Commissioners to meet regularly with their legislative bodies and planning commissions to exchange information about CVRPC and local activities.** Staff is available to attend these meetings with Commissioners and to assist Commissioners to prepare updates upon request.



Resolution on Complying with Vermont Open Meeting Law (1 V.S.A. § 312)

Whereas the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is a public body created in 1967 by the 20 municipalities in Washington County and the Towns of Orange, Washington, and Williamstown in Orange County and is, therefore, subject to Vermont Open Meeting Law; and

Whereas that Law requires that the time and place of all regular meetings subject to Vermont Open Meeting Law shall be clearly designated by statute, charter, regulation, ordinance, bylaw, resolution, or other determining authority of the public body; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC):

1. Adopts the time and location of the CVRPC Board of Commissioner regular meeting as the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at the Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce, 33 Stewart Road, Berlin, Vermont;
2. adopts the following times and locations for regular meeting of its committees:
 - a. Executive Committee: the Monday one week prior to the Board of Commissioners meeting, 4:00 pm, at the CVRPC office, 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, Vermont;
 - b. Project Review Committee: as needed, the first or 4th Thursday of the month, 4:00 pm, at the CVRPC office, 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, Vermont;
 - c. Town Plan Review Committee: as needed, the first Thursday of the month, 4:00 pm, at the CVRPC office, 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, Vermont;
 - d. Transportation Advisory Committee: the fourth Tuesday of the month, 6:30 pm, at the CVRPC office, 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, Vermont; and
 - e. Brownfields Advisory Committee: the third Monday of the month, 4:00 pm, at the CVRPC office, 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, Vermont; and

3. names the following locations for posting of meeting notices and agendas:

- a. CVRPC website: www.centralvtplanning.org.
- b. CVPRC office, 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, Vermont.
- c. Cabot Town Clerk's Office, 3084 Main Street, Cabot, Vermont.
- d. Waitsfield Town Office, 4144 Main Street, Waitsfield, Vermont.

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners: 04 / 11 / 2017 If adopted, date in final
version will be updated
to 05/09/17.

Byron Atwood, Chair
CVRPC Board of Commissioners