



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 10, 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> ¹	<u>Description</u>
	7:00	Adjustments to the Agenda
		Public Comments
2	7:05	Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2017 (enclosed) ²
6	7:10	Staff Reports (enclosed)
13	7:15	Executive Director's Report (enclosed)
14	7:25	Committee Reports (enclosed)
	7:35	Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation Report , <i>Jamie Stewart</i>
17	7:40	Cabot Municipal Plan Approval and Confirmation of Planning Process (enclosed) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Municipal Plan public hearing
33		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Municipal Plan Regional Approval decision² – Confirmation of Planning Process decision²
35	7:50	Winooski River Tactical Basin Plan , <i>Pam DeAndrea, CVRPC Senior Planner, and Karen Bates, DEC Watershed Coordinator</i> Presentation and Commission input. Tactical basin plans focus on the projects or actions needed to protect or restore specific waters and identify appropriate funding sources to complete the work, based on monitoring and assessment data.
	9:00	Adjournment

¹ Times are approximate unless otherwise advertised.

² Anticipated action item.

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
DRAFT MINUTES
September 12, 2017

Commissioners:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barre City	Janet Shatney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Montpelier	Kirby Keeton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barre Town	Byron Atwood	<input type="checkbox"/>		Mike Miller, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Mark Nicholson, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moretown	Dara Torre, Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/>	Berlin	Robert Wernecke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Northfield	Laura Hill-Eubanks, Vice-Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>		Karla Nuisssl, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Orange	Lee Cattaneo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cabot	Dick Payne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plainfield	Bram Towbin
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calais	John Brabant (7:30pm)	<input type="checkbox"/>		Robert Atchinson, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Jan Ohlsson, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roxbury	Jerry D'Amico
<input checked="" 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, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Warren	Daniel Raddock
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Williamstown	Larry Hebert
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Middlesex	Ron Krauth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Woodbury	Michael Gray, Treasurer
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Worcester	Bill Arrand

Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Daniel Currier, and Eric Vorwald

Guests: Bill Moore CVCC, Ted Brady Deputy Secretary VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development

CALL TO ORDER

Chair J. Potter called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. The meeting began with introductions.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

JULY 11, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

R. Krauth moved to approve the minutes as presented; D. Payne seconded. Motion carried with 1 abstention.

STAFF REPORTS

E. Vorwald noted that CVRPC had been awarded funds from the High Meadows Fund to work with Cabot, Plainfield, and Marshfield on a Winooski Headwaters resilience effort. The project also includes Friends of the Winooski River and Vermont Woodlands Association as co-leads with CVRPC. The project looks at upland forests through the lens of flood resilience and work with private property owners. The grant award amount was \$40,000.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

B. Waninger highlighted the GMT Next Gen Plan and the evaluation of Central Vermont Barre and Montpelier routes. GMT will be presenting on the GMT Next Gen Plan at the November meeting of the TAC.

COMMITTEE REPORT

J. Potter introduced the inaugural report to the Commissioners and described the purpose of the reports as keeping Commissioners informed about committee work. There were no questions on the report.

Green Mountain Transit Appointments

In June CVRPC appointed Harold Garabedian, Commissioner, and Bonnie Waninger, Alternate as the Washington County Representatives to Green Mountain Transit. Garabedian has stepped down for this appointment. CVRPC has to now reappoint a Commissioner and Alternate to Green Mountain Transit. B. Waninger recommended herself as Commissioner, and Daniel Currier as Alternate to maintain a strong connection to the regional transportation program.

L. Cattaneo ask why Orange County does not have a Commissioner on GMT? Waninger said that when the GMTA and CCTA merger occurred, Orange County was not provided a Commissioner seat. She did not know why.

D. Payne moved to appoint Bonnie Waninger, Commissioner, and Daniel Currier, Alternate to GMT; S. Lotspeich seconded. Motion carried

ANR MODEL FLOOD HAZARD AND RIVER CORRIDOR BYLAW

E. Vorwald presented on the ANR model flood hazard and river corridor bylaws and discussed proposed staff comments for consideration by Commissioners. Comments are due to ANR by 9/30/17. Vorwald also pointed out the higher standard cross walk that lists the minimum and high standard comparison.

S. Lotspeich asked about the mapping of the river corridor and pointed out that the current river corridor data does not include the phase 2 geomorphic data nor the administrative correcting that

1 towns can make. Vorwald and D. Currier highlighted the differences in the data and the steps
2 towns can take. B. Towbin highlighted the UVM drone work completed in Plainfield.

3
4 *B. Fitzgerald moved to approve staff's comments and forward them to ANR; D. Payne seconded.*
5 *Motion carried.*

7 **NORTHERN BORDERS REGIONAL COMMISSION EXPANSION**

8 Ted Brady discussed the Northern Borders Regional Commission expansion. The NBRC helps to
9 modernize infrastructure and promote economic development in Northern Vermont. In the past, the
10 Federal Government has authorized \$10 million for the NBRC. The current geographic area that the
11 NBRC covers Grand Isle, Franklin, Lamoille, Orleans, Caledonia, and Essex Counties.

12
13 Sen. Leahy is looking to expand the area that the NBRC covers to include all of Vermont. CVRPC
14 staff have drafted a letter of support to Sen. Leahy for Commissioners to consider.

15
16 B. Towbin asked if there were any reasons why we would not want to join. T. Brady highlighted the
17 many benefits with no draw back as far as he knows.

18
19 Commissioners reviewed the letter. J. D'Amico discussed changes to language in the 2nd paragraph.
20 Debate on the language ensued with many good recommendations. Commissioners supported
21 expanding the NBRC region and sending a letter of support to Sen. Leahy.

22
23 *L. Hill-Eubanks moved to authorize staff edit the letter and the Chair to sign it; J. Shatney seconded.*
24 *Motion carried.*

26 **PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

27 E. Vorwald presented on the Project Review Committee's Rules of Procedure and Rules of Process.
28 The current rules that the Committee has been using were adopted in 2010. The updated rules
29 include both a Rules of Procedure and Rules of Process. Also included in this revision is the
30 Substation Regional Impact process to clarify the process for staff, the Committee, and developers.

31
32 *J. D'Amico moved to adopt the Project Review Committee's Rules of Procedure and the Rules of*
33 *Process; B. Atwood seconded. Motion carried.*

35 **REGIONAL ENERGY PLAN**

36 E. Vorwald presented on the Regional Energy Plan's Conflict Resolution Policy. This along with the
37 Introduction and Executive Summary are the last pieces needed to have a full draft Regional Energy
38 Plan to send out for public comment.

1 *B. Fitzgerald moved to incorporate the Introduction/Executive Summary and Conflict Resolution*
2 *Policy into the Regional Energy Plan and to send the Plan out for public comments; B. Towbin*
3 *seconded. Motion carried.*

4
5 **ADJOURNMENT**

6 J. Potter announced that this would be Dick Payne's last Commission meeting. The Commission
7 thanked him for his years of service.

8
9 *D. La Haye moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm; D. Payne seconded. Motion carried.*

10
11 Respectfully submitted,
12 Daniel Currier, Program Manager

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

802/229-0389

Staff Report, October 2017

Fax: 802/223-1977

LAND USE PLANNING & MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE

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

A draft of the Regional Energy Plan is available for public comment through October 31. Staff will present the draft plan to community groups to solicit input in preparation of the final draft.

Project Review: The Project Review Committee is discussing CVRPC's Substantial Regional Impact criteria. Updated criteria will increase consistency and predictability for project reviews.

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

The Legislature provided funds for additional local energy plan development. The CVRPC will solicit town participation for local energy plan development in October. Communities with Planning Commission, Selectboard, and energy committee (if applicable) support will be most competitive.

Municipal Planning Grants: Staff assisted East Montpelier and Northfield with applications and provided support letters to Waterbury and Montpelier..

Municipal Consultations: Staff is reviewing the Plainfield's Municipal Development Plan in preparation of a consultation. Consultations will occur with Barre City, Barre Town, Duxbury, Fayston, and Roxbury.

Town Plan Assistance: CVRPC is working to build an online data library this year. Staff will develop and post commonly used data tables for each town, and provide links to data sources towns might find useful when updating plans. Contact Eric Vorwald, Vorwald@cvregion.com, if your town will need data for an upcoming town plan update. Data tables are being developed on a first need, first served basis.

EMERGENCY PLANNING & HAZARD MITIGATION

LEOPs (Local Emergency Operations Plans): The Marshfield 2017 LEOP and annexes, adopted by the Selectboard in June 2017, were submitted to CVRPC for review and then sent to VEM for acceptance. Woodbury anticipate an October adoption, which will mean 100 % of communities will have LEOPs.

Trainings and Workshops: CVRPC organized three trainings for September.

Dam Safety: Twenty people, representing nine communities and five organizations, participated in the Dam Safety Seminar. The seminar laid the groundwork for further open dialogue on dam safety between dam owners, landowners and local officials. A follow up seminar is planned with Ben Green from the Vermont Dam Safety Program.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP): Ten municipal officials participated in the NFIP training hosted by CVRPC. They discussed how to effectively administer flood hazard regulations and maintain compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). One criterion under ERAF is for municipalities to participate in and comply with the NFIP. At participants request, a second training (see below).

River Corridors: CVRPC staff met with members of the Northfield, Montpelier, and Calais Planning Commissions to discuss the status of the interim river corridor ordinances and river corridor mapping. The seminar initiated the conversation of adopting river corridor regulations.

Upcoming trainings include (Contact Laura Ranker, rankger@cvregion.com, to register):

Rail Car Incident Response, October 7, 8am–5 pm, VTrans Dill Building, 2178 Airport Road – Unit A, Berlin, VT 05641. This course is specifically identified as a local mitigation strategy for several communities to reduce the risk and vulnerability from rail incidents.

National Flood Insurance Program, October 11, 3-5pm, CVRPC office. The training will include in-depth discussion on:

- no net fill, compensatory storage, and no rise analysis;
- determining Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage and the requirements for additions and Historic Structures;
- determining Base Flood Elevations in Zone A; and
- communicating NFIP and No Adverse Impact.

Emergency Management Director, October 27, 8:00 am–4:30 pm, Middlebury. This new program developed by Vermont Emergency Management is a full day course. The successful pilot sponsored by CVRPC and Chittenden County RPC is now being replicated throughout the state. The class provides new EMDs with an introductory 2-hour class on the role of an EMD.

Tier II reporting and the ERCRA (Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986), December 13, 8:00 am-Noon, VTrans Dill Building, 2178 Airport Road – Unit A, Berlin, VT 05641. This course increases awareness and compliance in TIER II reporting by facilities. *Most municipalities should be reporting as a Tier II facility. Attend to learn why and how!*

LEPC5: LEPC5 will discuss its After Action Report from the September Table Top Exercise in November. The LEPC5 is updating its Annual Response Plan. Municipalities can anticipate receiving requests for information about contacts and services as part of the plan update process.

Tier II GIS Mapping: CVRPC updated the 2009 GIS Tier II facility database and maps with current data received from the State and LEPC 5. Mapping Tier II facility sites with the most recent information and providing it in a map format by town is an important resource and planning tool for towns. This Tier II

information and maps will support Hazard Mitigation Plans, LEPC 5's Emergency Response Plan, LEOPs, and local and regional planning related to flood resiliency and erosion risk mitigation activities.

American Red Cross: Staff continued to support local shelter initiatives and provide outreach and resource materials to municipalities to meet their sheltering needs. Staff facilitated coordination with ARC Regional Disaster Program Manager and municipal officials and EMDs.

State Emergency Operation Center (SEOC) Support: Staff completed IS 700, IS 775, and IS 800 training.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans: Contact Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com.

Orange – The Plan was submitted to FEMA for review and received Approval Pending Adoption.

Selectboard adoption should occur in October.

Waterbury Town and Village – The Floodplain Working Management Group, in which CVRPC participates, has submitted the Plan to VEM for review.

Barre City – The City has submitted the Plan to VEM for review.

Plans Expiring in 2018 – CVRPC has limited funds to support municipalities with Local Hazard Mitigation Plans expiring in 2018. Contact Laura Ranker, ranker@cvregion.com, for a list of eligible support activities, such as data updates, mapping, hazard research, transportation vulnerability analysis, etc.

Plans Expiring in 2019: Vermont Emergency Management is contacting municipalities with plans expiring in late 2018 and 2019 to solicit participation in a statewide application for Local Hazard Mitigation Plan updates. Municipalities must commit to providing the 25% match to participate.

Statewide Hazard Mitigation Plan Support: CVRPC completed working tables and maps for Plainfield and Waterbury which will be included in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. The tables and maps include the top five (5) flood hazard mitigation projects for each municipality. An excel format was used to allow the municipal officers to easily find information regarding their projects and identify funding sources as well as needed materials in grant applications.

TRANSPORTATION

Counts: Contact Ashley Andrews, Andrews@cvregion.com, with count location requests for roads or sidewalks. Counts are useful for identifying vehicle speeds, the number of cars on a road, or the number of trucks verses cars. Staff installed counters on Main Street and Brook Road in Warren, and Brooks Road and Barre Hill in Plainfield.

Inventories: Contact Ashley Andrews, Andrews@cvregion.com.

Staff completed a “connected road” inventory in Roxbury and Warren with the help of the Town. Connected roads are sections of the road network that are connected to surface waters through ditches, culverts or other drainage structures. Connected roads present greater risks to water quality. The

Municipal Roads General Permit requires inventories.

Staff are finishing culvert and bridge inventories for Warren and Marshfield and a sign inventory for Calais. For inventories or to learn about VTCulverts.org, contact Dan Currier, currier@cvregion.com.

Parcel Data Updates: The Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI) is continuing its statewide parcel mapping program this year. Join VCGI and CVRPC for a presentation regarding the program and how a municipality can get GIS parcel data updated or created. The presentation is on Thursday, November 2 at 4 pm at CVRPC. RSVPs requested to Pam DeAndrea, deandrea@cvregion.com.

GIS: Contact Pam DeAndrea, deandrea@cvregion.com, or Ashley Andrews, Andrews@cvregion.com with map or data request. Staff has been working on maps for the East Montpelier Town Plan update. CVRPC provides at least 12 hours of free GIS services to all municipalities upon request.

Grant Assistance: VTrans has announced its Transportation Alternatives Program. Roughly \$2.2 million of program funds are reserved for environmental mitigation projects relating to stormwater and highways, including salt/sand sheds. Contact Dan Currier, currier@cvregion.com, for grant assistance or support letters.

Municipal Grants In Aid: Staff completed all 21 required Municipal Grants in Aid site visits. The site visit is the town's opportunity to meet with CVRPC and identify the road segments that will be enhanced. Towns have until June 2018 to complete all work. This grant is helping towns address connected road segments that are not in compliance with the current draft of the Municipal Roads General Permit. An estimated 80 segments of road totaling ~5 miles will be enhanced.

Planning: The Transportation Advisory Committee met in East Montpelier for a field trip to see and discuss the town's three active transportation projects, including a new Park and Ride, Village Sidewalk, and the VT Route 14 Bridge Reconstruction. The consultant team working on the East Montpelier and Orange intersection studies have completed work on the existing conditions report, the needs statement, and the alternatives analysis report.

Class 4 Road Erosion Remediation and Demonstration: Contact Dan Currier, currier@cvregion.com. State contracting is complete. Staff is working with Waitsfield, Woodbury, and Calais on subcontracts.

Public Transit: GMT is completing a Comprehensive System Analysis, called the Next Gen Study. GMT has completed the Capital District Service scenarios which look at the existing services and what improvements can be made. GMT will present results and solicit input at the TAC's November 28 meeting. The meeting is open to the public. CVRPC participates on the project's Advisory Committee.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Winooski Basin Plan: The outreach meeting in Waterbury brought together members of the Waterbury Conservation Commission and Duxbury Selectboard to learn about the Basin Plan process and how to get projects in line for funding. Participants suggested DEC use technology for targeted outreach to municipalities to decrease meeting demands on town officials. The next Basin Plan meeting will be October 18 at the Calais Town Hall. Contact Pam DeAndrea, deandrea@cvregion.com.

Grant Assistance: Contact Pam DeAndrea, deandrea@cvregion.com, for project development and grant writing assistance for the Ecosystem Restoration Program. Staff conducted a site visit at the Fayston Elementary School with Friends of the Mad River, Design Engineer, and VT DEC staff to review plans for a stormwater project at the school. Staff continues to work with Fayston and the Friends of the Mad River to prioritize other projects. A collaborative stormwater project in the Chase Brook Watershed and a landslide mitigation project along Murphy Road is one example. Fayston will be applying for Clean Water Initiative funding for these projects in the coming months. Staff is also working with Calais to help with solutions and possible grant funding for a gully that has developed from stormwater runoff in East Calais.

Mad River Moretown Stream Geomorphic Assessment: Staff assisted Bear Creek Environmental with more stream geomorphic assessments in Moretown. The assessment found that Herring Brook (a tributary to the Mad River that flows through Moretown) has very variable conditions as it flows down its valley to the confluence with the Mad River. The field work for the project is half complete and staff will assist Bear Creek this month in finishing up the assessments, which will help identify potential improvement projects for water, flood resilience, and habitat enhancement. Contact Pam DeAndrea at deandrea@cvregion.com.

Mad River and Kingsbury Branch Stormwater Master Plans: CVRPC has kicked off this project with the Friends of the Mad River (FMR) and released a Request for Proposals to hire a consultant to complete the Stormwater Master Plans. The plans will be for the five towns in the Mad River watershed (Duxbury, Fayston, Moretown, Warren, and Waitsfield) and the three towns in the Kingsbury Branch watershed (Woodbury, Calais, and East Montpelier). The CVRPC and the FMR are recruiting steering committee members to participate in this project, one to two from each town, for project prioritization to be included in the plans and for partial (30%) engineering design. Those projects with 30% design will be in good standing for future funding for implementation. Contact Pam DeAndrea deandrea@cvregion.com if interested in being on this committee.

Berlin and 3-Town (Barre Town, Barre City, and Plainfield) Stormwater Master Plans: CVRPC staff and WCA have attended many meetings with selectboards and/or specific town officials from Berlin, Barre City and Plainfield. The goal of these meetings is to finalize the top 20 priority sites for inclusion in the master plans and to determine the top 5 sites for 30% design plans (concept plans) for stormwater treatment. These designs will be integral in securing funding for project design and implementation. Many Barre Town private landowners identified in the top 20 sites came to their selectboard meeting to discuss potential treatment on or near their property and the conceptual designs/projects were well received making this a successful collaboration so far with town, CVRPC, consultant and private

landowners. The consultants will meet this week with the Berlin Selectboard and one more time with the Barre Town Selectboard to discuss their top priority sites. Contact Pam DeAndrea at deandrea@cvregion.com.

Upper Winooski Resilience: The CVRPC received their grant award of \$40,000 to work on flood resiliency to support forest integrity in the Upper Winooski Watershed. Staff will be working with the Towns of Cabot, Marshfield, and Plainfield to identify members of a steering committee that will guide this effort. Staff is also partnering with the Friends of Winooski River and the Vermont Woodlands Association on this effort.

Forest Integrity: Staff is working with the advisory group for the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation (FPR) project to design a webinar series related to Act 171, the new forest integrity and connectivity requirement for local and regional plans. Contact Clare Rock, rock@cvregion.com.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Brownfields: Contact Clare Rock, rock@cvregion.com.

With assessments results available for multiple properties, staff and CVRPC contractors met with site owners, developers, and DEC staff to discuss results and plan next steps. Staff discussed the program and properties with the Dept. of Health's Barre District Director, who elected to join the Brownfields Committee. CVRPC's Brownfields Advisory Committee will be reviewing sites and deciding which should be funded. At its September meeting, Committee members voiced support for assisting properties currently in the program to move towards redevelopment rather than accept new sites into the program. Staff connects new properties to other funding sources when CVRPC funding is unavailable.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matt Germaine Joins CVRPC as Planning Technician: Matt Germaine of Montpelier has joined the Commission's staff as a Planning Technician. Matt supports the Commission's field services by performing speed and traffic counts, conducting infrastructure inventories, conducting pavement and road erosion surveys, and completing data entry and quality control activities. Matt previously worked as a SerVermont AmeriCorps VISTA Leader, support, coaching, and mentoring VISTA members. He also served as an AmeriCorps volunteer with EnergyCare in St. Louis where he planned and performed home weatherizations, consultations, and deliveries. We are pleased to have him on our team!

Upcoming Meetings:

OCTOBER

Oct 7	8 am	Rail Car Incident Response Workshop, Berlin Airport
Oct 9		Columbus Day Holiday, CVRPC office closed
Oct 10	7 pm	Board of Commissioners, Central VT Chamber of Commerce, Berlin

Oct 11	4- 6 pm	National Flood Insurance Program training, CVRPC Office
Oct 16	4 pm	Brownfields Advisory Committee, CVRPC Office
Oct 17	4:30 pm	CVEDC Annual Meeting, Capitol Plaza, Montpelier
Oct 18	7 pm	Winooski Tactical Basin Plan public meeting, Calais Town Hall
Oct 24	6:30 pm	Transportation Advisory Committee, TBD
Oct 25	10 am	The Commission on Act 250, Statehouse Room 10, Montpelier
Oct 26	4 pm	Project Review Committee, CVRPC Office
Oct 27	10 am	Washington County Regional Partnership, Barre

NOVEMBER

Nov 2	4 pm	GIS Parcel Data Updates informational meeting, CVRPC Office
Nov 6	4 pm	Executive Committee, CVRPC Office
Nov 6	6 pm	LEPC5 meeting, Central Vermont Medical Center Boardroom, Berlin
Nov 10		Veterans Day Holiday, CVRPC office closed
Nov 14		Vermont Development Conference, Burlington
Nov 14	7 pm	Board of Commissioners, Central VT Chamber of Commerce, Berlin
Nov 20	4 pm	Brownfields Advisory Committee, CVRPC Office
Nov 23-24		Thanksgiving Holidays, CVRPC office closed
Nov 24	10 am	Washington County Regional Partnership, Barre
Nov 28	6:30 pm	Transportation Advisory Committee, CVRPC office

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

October 2, 2017

Climate Economy Summit Tour

Can you guess what National Life, Sun Common, and the Alchemist have in common beyond being located in Vermont? They are all part of Vermont's growing Climate Economy. They are operating on the premise that tackling climate change can stimulate the economy and their business bottom line while reducing climate risk.

- National Life's Facilities Manager took action because it made business sense. NL's investment into a wood fired heating plant, floating rooftop solar, and energy efficiency measures paid for itself...and then some.
- Sun Common used Vermont's 90 x 50 renewable energy goal to launch a Benefit Corporation. B-Corps are for-profit businesses operating as a traditional corporation but required by law to consider the impact of its decisions shareholders, society and the environment.
- The Alchemist invested in a high-tech state of the art wastewater system at its Stowe brewery and visitor center. The system discharges the same amount of effluent as a few modest homes, remarkable for a brewery. Their next endeavor is a greenhouse, which will use carbon dioxide produced during fermentation to grow greens for employees and trees for riparian buffers.

The Climate Economy Summit was sponsored by the Vermont Council on Rural Development.

VT Dept. of Health Initiatives

Meet Joan Marie Misek, the new(ish) Barre District Director for the Vermont Department of Health. We met last week to discuss complimentary initiatives. We found considerable benefit in sharing information, data, and what we know about communities that might be useful to the other organization.



For DOH:

- Town Plan health profiles
- DOH data briefs
- Town Health Officer outreach
- Barre Safe Sharps Disposal Pilot
- Counter Tool audits for stores

For CVRPC:

- Brownfields Program
- Local Emergency Planning Committee 5
- Town consultations
- Food System Analysis
- GMT Next Gen Transit Study

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission**Committee & Appointed Representative Reports****October 2017**

Meeting minutes for CVRPC Committees are available at www.centralvtplanning.org.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Monday of week prior to Commission meeting; 4pm)

- Adopted a budget adjustment to incorporate unspent FY17 funds from the Agency of Commerce agreement and to adjust projected revenues for grants ending September 30.
- Discussed a preliminary request from the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority for leased employee, financial, and planning services. The Committee noted a need to develop policy for when and how the Commission will provide services to other organizations.
- Completed a quarterly progress review of the Commission's FY18 activities.
- Discussed statewide relations between RPCs and Natural Resource Conservation Districts.
- Discussed FY2019 municipal dues. Dues will be set at the Committee's November meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (February and March; scheduled by Committee)

Did not meet.

PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE (4th Thursday, 4pm)

The Project Review Committee (PRC) reviewed three applications under Section 248 for Certificates of Public Good. Two projects were for reconstruction of existing power substations to upgrade outdated equipment, and one project was for the installation of a telecommunications tower. The Committee determined none of the projects met substantial regional impact. The Committee continued its discussion of updates to the substantial regional impact criteria.

REGIONAL PLAN COMMITTEE (as needed; scheduled by Committee)

Did not meet.

TOWN PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE (as needed; scheduled by Committee)

Discussed the Town of Cabot's Municipal Development Plan and recommended regional approval. The Committee also began updating its Rules of Procedure. The Committee elected Janet Shatney as Chair and Bill Arrand as Vice-Chair. For reference, the Town Plan Review Committee consists of Janet Shatney, Chair (Barre City); Bill Arrand, Vice-Chair (Worcester), Jerry D'Amico (Roxbury), Ron Krauth (Middlesex), and Ivan Shadis (Marshfield).

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (4th Tuesday; 6:30 pm)

The TAC toured East Montpelier to see and discuss the Town's three active transportation projects, including a new Park and Ride (developed on a property supported by CVRPC's Brownfields Program), Village Sidewalk, and the VT Route 14 Bridge Reconstruction. GMT provided a bus for the tour.

In October, the TAC will host the Vermont Transportation Board for a presentation on Project Prioritization.

BROWNFIELDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (4th Monday, 4pm)

Heard contractor report for the Town of Whiting Fire & Recycle Station Supplemental Phase 2 assessment. At the request of the Chair, staff highlighted progress at all properties in the program.

The majority of program funding has been committed. The Committee discussed whether to seek new sites for enrollment, to move all current sites forward, or to select a few sites to move forward. Committee members expressed that keeping current sites moving through the process would be a higher priority.

CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (to be determined)

CVRPC is soliciting members for a Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC). Staff has advertised this committee during the Winooski Tactical Basin Plan outreach meetings. Given the clean water legislation and upcoming permits, this committee would help prioritize water quality projects within Central Vermont and guide CVRPC in its basin planning activities. We hope to have representation from each municipality. Contact Pam DeAndrea, deandrea@cvregion.com.

ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (As needed; scheduled by committee)

Did not meet.

VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

VAPDA's September meeting was a Directors and Associates meeting which focused on updates and the status of various ongoing projects and VAPDA Committee workings. The updates included RPC's submitting projects to the Clean Water Block Grant for implementation, the legislative Commission on Act 250, Regional Energy plan submission and Public Service Department review, and the RPC proposal to complete Clean Water Act planning and outreach.

VERMONT ECONOMIC PROGRESS COUNCIL

No applications from Central Vermont.

GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT

GMT held its annual Board Retreat. The Retreat offers Commissioners and Alternate Commissions the opportunity to discuss issues in depth and to strategize about the upcoming year's opportunities. Commissioners are trained on different aspects of transit and/or GMT operations.

Buildings and General Services asked GMT to run the Capital Shuttle year round. Currently, temporary service runs during the legislative sessions. Due to the construction on the Montpelier Transit Center, the Building and Grounds division has lost their parking lot. This has caused a parking burden. The State will pay 100% of the cost of services. The change engendered a lively discussion about whether this

single-source funded service violated any Charter rules regarding contract bidding. Commissioners approved the temporary increase in services until GMT staff gathers additional information.

MAD RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT

The Steering Committee discussed a new branding campaign, including a new logo that can be shared by the Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Mad River Path Association. Discussions also included the FY 18 Work Plan and Budget and organization for the upcoming Town Leadership Meeting.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Town Plan Review Committee

FROM: Eric Vorwald, AICP
Senior Planner

RE: Town of Cabot Updated Town Plan

DATE: September 26, 2017

On August 16, 2017, the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) received a request from the Town of Cabot to review and consider regional approval of their updated town plan and planning process. As per the statutory requirements under 24 VSA 117 Section §4350, the CVRPC shall review and approve the town plan if it finds the plan:

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

The Town of Cabot's existing municipal development plan was approved in June of 2012. That plan was updated and a new plan was adopted by the Cabot Selectboard on August 15, 2017. Approval of the 2017 municipal development plan by the CVRPC would ensure The Town of Cabot remains eligible for grant funding and other municipal assistance provided by the state.

Overall, the Town of Cabot has undergone a concerted effort to complete their municipal development plan update. The 2017 Cabot Town Plan includes all the statutory requirements that have been adopted by the Vermont Legislature since the plan was last adopted in 2012. This includes discussion of flood resiliency; inclusion of support to maintain their state designation of village center, specific information related to alternative energy sources, and an implementation program that will extend the life of the plan from five years to eight years.

In general, the 2017 Cabot Town Plan supports the community's vision of having a vibrant village center surrounded by open farmlands and forests. This vision is supported throughout the plan's goals and implementation strategies. Furthermore, the plan outlines common values that are shared by the community including protecting the lifestyles and traditions of Cabot; revitalizing the villages; preserving the rural character; improving the business climate; and protecting public health, safety, and welfare. These values are clearly reflected throughout the plan.

In order to ensure the statutory requirements of the 2017 Cabot Town Plan have been met, CVRPC staff completed a detailed analysis including page references to each of the required elements and statewide planning goals in the plan. This analysis is intended to assist the Town Plan Review Committee identify any comments they might want to discuss during their review. If the Town Plan Review Committee agrees that the 2017 Cabot Town Plan adequately addresses all the required plan components, a recommendation of approval should be forwarded to the full commission for their consideration.

As part of this review, CVRPC staff has identified strengths and opportunities in the plan update for consideration in future plan updates. Overall the 2017 Cabot Town Plan includes detailed information regarding the needs of the community. There are specific goals and implementation strategies included with each section that identify what needs to be done, who is responsible for leading the effort, and how success of the action will be measured. The plan also includes additional maps to illustrate the various conditions that exist within the Town of Cabot.

While the plan is consistent with statutory requirements, one area where the plan could be improved is through updated data. This becomes challenging due to the fact that this plan update is in between decennial censuses, which means that some data points cannot be updated to reflect current conditions. Staff feels all the required data is included with the plan to the best of the Town's ability at this time, but some of the information is at the end of its usefulness. Overall however, there are limited negative aspects of the Cabot Town Plan as the document outlines a clear path forward for the community to achieve its identified vision.

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

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

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

TOWN PLAN REQUIRED ELEMENTS

Title 24 Chapter 117: Municipal and Regional Planning and Development

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

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

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

Met

Pages: I-1

Comments:

The introduction covers the purpose of the plan and the objectives to be met through this effort.

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

Met

Pages: V-1

MAPS

Present Land Use Plan ✓

Prospective Land Use Plan ☒

Comments:

The land use element covers all requirements and acknowledges the relationship between land use and infrastructure demands. The plan focuses growth in the villages through existing regulations to protect outlining rural areas. The plan also notes that updates to zoning should be done to match current planning needs.

There is no one specific map that identifies current land use, but the culmination of several maps provides an overview of existing conditions and satisfies this requirement.

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

Met

Pages: VIII-1

MAP

Transportation ☒

Comments:

The plan discusses statutory requirements including existing facilities and future needs for the village such as parking, and bicycle & pedestrian facilities. The plan does not define scenic roads, however no roads are currently identified.

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

Met

Pages: IX-1

MAP

Utility and Facility ☒

Comments:

This element is thoroughly discussed and includes information regarding the future needs of the community. This includes challenges such as maintaining roads and the possible costs for increasing emergency services. Additionally, the plan discusses the future wastewater allocation is available to support growth in the village, but this allocation needs to be managed effectively as it is limited.

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

Met

Pages: II-13 & III-1

Comments:

Information discussing specific species is included such as deer, turtle, and bird habitats. History is noted regarding the context of the upper and lower villages with the core center maintained in the upper village. Inventories of historic structures and designations are included in the plan.

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

Comments:

Existing educational facilities are discussed including enrollment, staff capacity, and budgets. The plan also indicates the primary challenge facing the school is falling enrollment which has led to discussions regarding school consolidation. This is framed in the context of spending needs for facilities improvements if consolidation is not pursued.

Met

Pages: IX-6

MAP

Educational Facility ☒

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

Comments:

Implementation is included in each element and addresses specific tasks, outcomes, and responsible parties for each implementation item noted and the goal that will be met by the implementation action.

Met

Pages: multiple sections & pages

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

Comments:

The impacts to adjacent municipalities are noted. Specifically the plan indicates that there are no conflicts.

Met

Pages: I-7

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

Comments:

The plan addresses the rural nature of the town and that transit would help reduce energy costs and demands on fossil fuel needs for the residents. There is an acknowledgement that personal vehicles are the primary means of travel in the community. There is no indication that “substantial deference” is being sought through this plan update.

Met

Pages: V-1

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

Met

Pages: IV-1

Comments:

Housing is adequately addressed including information on affordability and patterns of development. The plan addresses the regional housing distribution plan and notes that actual buildout has not met the projections of this plan and that housing will be encouraged where infrastructure exists to support it.

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

Met

Pages: VII-1

Comments:

This section notes that the agriculture economy and the reliance on tourism are major parts of the economic landscape in the community. The plan discusses the need to improve the downtown/village as the core economic center for the community and includes discussion on improvements that have been done to accomplish this.

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

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

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

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

Met

Pages: II-9, VIII-9, IX-2, IX-5

Comments:

Flood resiliency is discussed in multiple sections. Specific language on wetlands, river corridors, and fluvial erosion hazards is noted. Additionally, the plan talks about the protection of forests to help control flooding and references are made to the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, which addresses hazard information. There is also a map identifying hazard information.

GOALS AND STANDARDS OF REVIEW

GOALS

24 VSA § 4302

(a) General purposes . . .

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

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

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

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

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

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

Goal 1:

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

Consistent

Pages: V-1, IX-1, VII-1

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

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

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

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

Development is encouraged in the villages where infrastructure is planned and exists to support growth and will limit impacts on rural areas.

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

Goal 2:

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

Consistent

Pages: VII-1

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan discusses current economic drivers and discusses the future needs to support the villages including parking needs and specific uses that are desired by the community.

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

Goal 3:

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

Consistent

Pages: IX-6

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan talks about where opportunities exist and how future needs will be addressed such as school consolidation and programs offered by the library for residents.

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

Goal 4:

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

Consistent

Pages: VIII-1

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

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan identifies bicycle, pedestrian, and transit as critical infrastructure for future development potential in Cabot's villages. The plan also discusses the maintenance needs of existing roads and how that impacts capital expenditures in the community.

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

Goal 5:

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

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

Consistent

Pages: II-1

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The natural heritage section includes inventories of resources and notes why they are important to the community including ways to protect these resources. Examples include regulatory and non-regulatory implementation such as management of a conservation fund regulations to protect shorelines.

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

Goal 6:

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

Consistent

Pages: II-1, II-4

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan notes that high quality air, water, wildlife, and land resources currently exist and indicates that maintaining forest resources will continue to sustain this quality.

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

Goal 7:

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

Consistent

Pages: VI-1

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

Energy needs and uses are discussed. The plan notes that conservation is an important part of future needs and encourages actions to conserve energy when possible. Also, a map is included that identifies renewable energy resource areas.

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

Goal 8:

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

Consistent

Pages: IX-10

- (A) Growth should not significantly diminish the value and availability of outdoor recreational activities.**
- (B) Public access to noncommercial outdoor recreational opportunities, such as lakes and hiking trails, should be identified, provided, and protected wherever appropriate.**

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan notes where recreational opportunities exist and their value to the community. The goals and implementation strategies enforce the community's support for future facilities including access to waterbodies and maintaining trails through the community for year-round use.

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

Goal 9:

To encourage and strengthen agricultural and forest industries.

Consistent

Pages: multiple sections including land use, economic development, and natural heritage (V-1, VII-1, and II-1)

- (A) Strategies to protect long-term viability of agricultural and forest lands should be encouraged and should include maintaining low overall density.**
- (B) The manufacture and marketing of value added agricultural and forest products should be encouraged.**
- (C) The use of locally-grown food products should be encouraged.**
- (D) Sound forest and agricultural management practices should be encouraged.**
- (E) Public investment should be planned so as to minimize development pressure on agricultural and forest land.**

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

Development is encouraged in the villages to protect the rural areas of the community. The plan also discusses examining the existing zoning regulations for potential changes that will protect agricultural and forest resources while reducing fragmentation off these areas.

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

Goal 10:

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

Consistent

Pages: III-3

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan notes that earth resources, including sand and gravel, are limited within the town, however a map is included that shows potential areas for future extraction locations to sustain the community's needs.

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

Goal 11:

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

Consistent

Pages: IV-1

- (A) **Housing should be encouraged to meet the needs of a diversity of social and income groups in each Vermont community, particularly for those citizens of low and moderate income.**
- (B) **New and rehabilitated housing should be safe, sanitary, located conveniently to employment and commercial centers, and coordinated with the provision of necessary public facilities and utilities.**
- (C) **Sites for multi-family and manufactured housing should readily available in locations similar to those generally used for single-family conventional dwellings.**
- (D) **Accessory apartments within or attached to single family residences which provide affordable housing in close proximity to cost-effective care and supervision for relatives or disabled or elderly persons should be allowed.**

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan encourages accessory dwelling units where appropriate. The plan also encourages compact development in the villages to promote density and affordability for multiple income levels. Development in the villages would also put residential and non-residential uses in closer proximity which would promote affordability.

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

Goal 12:

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

Consistent

Pages: IX-1

- (A) Public facilities and services should include fire and police protection, emergency medical services, schools, water supply and sewage and solid waste disposal.**
- (B) The rate of growth should not exceed the ability of the community and the area to provide facilities and services.**

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan notes that there is excess wastewater capacity that is allocated by the Selectboard and could be used for revitalization of the village. The plan also notes that upgrades to existing municipal buildings have been on-going and will continue on an as-needed basis to promote energy efficiency, accessibility, and usability by the community. Additionally, future needs for emergency services (primarily related to ambulance services) are specifically noted.

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

Goal 13:

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

Consistent

Pages: IX-16

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

Childcare is discussed in the context that limited facilities exist in the community. This is noted in the context of limited needs as most residents work away from town and utilize childcare near their places of employment.

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

Goal 14:

To encourage flood resilient communities.

- (A) New development in identified flood hazard, fluvial erosion, and river corridor protection areas should be avoided. If new development is to be built in such areas, it should not exacerbate flooding and fluvial erosion.**
- (B) The protection and restoration of floodplains and upland forested areas that attenuate and moderate flooding and fluvial erosion should be encouraged.**

Consistent

Pages: multiple sections

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

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal :

The plan discusses limiting development near waterbodies to protect floodplains and river corridors to limit potential risks from future flooding events. There are references to the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, which addresses specific hazards and mitigation measures in more detail.

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

STANDARD OF REVIEW

24 V.S.A. § 4302(f)

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

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

(A) a statement that identifies the ways that it will significantly reduce the desired effect of the other plan;

(B) an explanation of why any incompatible portion of the plan in question is essential to the desired effect of the plan as a whole;

(C) an explanation of why, with respect to any incompatible portion of the plan in question, there is no reasonable alternative way to achieve the desired effect of the plan, and

(D) an explanation of how any incompatible portion of the plan in question has been structured to mitigate its detrimental effects on the implementation of the other plan.

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

(a) A regional planning commission shall consult with its municipalities with respect to the municipalities' planning efforts, ascertaining the municipalities' needs as individual municipalities and as

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

(1) is engaged in a continuing planning process that, within a reasonable time, will result in a plan which is consistent with the goals contained in section 4302 of this title; and

(2) is maintaining its efforts to provide local funds for municipal and regional planning purposes.

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

(A) is consistent with the goals established in section 4302 of this title;

(B) is compatible with its regional plan;

(C) is compatible with approved plans of other municipalities in the region; and

(D) contains all the elements included in subdivisions 4382(a)(1)-(10) of this title.

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

Town Plan Review & Approval Process

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

1. The regional planning commission (RPC) receives a request for town plan approval.
2. If the staff review reveals a flaw that would preclude RPC approval, the town will be notified. It is the town's option as to whether they want a final decision on the plan or if the plan should be withdrawn from the approval process.

3. Staff comments, including draft findings and recommendations, will be provided to the committee or board given responsibility by the RPC's bylaws for town plan approval.
4. The RPC's public hearing will be held before the RPC makes its final decision on the plan.
5. In all cases the RPC will take final action on the plan approval request within 60 days of its receipt.

Town Plan Amendment Review Process

This is an alternative procedure for town plan amendment reviews

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



MEMORANDUM

TO: Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

FROM: Eric Vorwald, AICP
Senior Planner

RE: Town Plan Review Committee Comments on Cabot Municipal Development Plan

DATE: October 10, 2017

The Commission should consider a motion to authorize the Chair to sign a resolution indicating that the Town of Cabot's Municipal Development Plan is consistent with the 2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan and confirm the Town of Cabot's planning process as recommended by the Town Plan Review Committee.

On August 16, 2017, the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission received a request from the Town of Cabot to review and consider regional approval of their municipal development plan update (town plan update) and confirm their planning process. The plan was formally adopted by The Town of Cabot's Selectboard on August 15, 2017.

On September 26, 2017 the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Town Plan Review Committee met to discuss the municipal development plan update and planning process as requested by the Town of Cabot. Representatives from the Town's Planning Commission were in attendance to provide input and answer questions. Additionally, staff prepared a report outlining compliance with statute and the regional plan.

The Town Plan Review Committee reviewed the plan and concluded that it meets all the statutory requirements as outlined in 24 VSA §4382 and is consistent with the goals as noted in 24 VSA §4302. As such, the Committee recommended that the Commission regionally approve the Town of Cabot's Municipal Development Plan and confirm their planning process. The Committee also recommended that future updates to the municipal development plan include information, when possible, regarding the specific references to data and citations for mapping in order more completely address statutory requirements.



RESOLUTION

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

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Regional Planning Commission concludes that the Municipal Development Plan:

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

AND does hereby **APPROVE** the 2017 Town of Cabot Municipal Development Plan, dated August 15, 2017.

FURTHERMORE, in compliance with Title 24 VSA Section §4350, the CVRPC has consulted with and confirms the planning process of the Town of Cabot. It is noted that when an adopted Municipal Development Plan expires, its approval also expires. Recommendations made by the Regional Planning Commission's Town Plan Review Committee are attached and should be considered when developing the next edition of the Municipal Development 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 Development Plan.

ADOPTED by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission at its October 10, 2017 meeting.

Juliana Potter, Chair
Central Vermont
Regional Planning Commission

WINOOSKI RIVER TACTICAL BASIN PLAN



Tactical basin plans focus on the projects or actions needed to protect or restore specific waters and identify appropriate funding sources to complete the work, based on monitoring and assessment data. The plan will guide all watershed work supported by the Watershed Management Division in the basin. The issues identified in the plan are the ones that will be prioritized for management and funding attention. Tactical Basin Plans integrate priority items from complementary plans, including river corridor plans, stormwater master plans, backroads inventories, and agricultural environmental assessments.

Stressors within the Winooski Basin include: channel and land erosion, nutrient loading, pathogens like e. coli, invasive species, and flow alterations from dams and water withdrawals. If you are aware of challenges, such as eroding dirt roads, poor culvert placements, stream or lakeshore erosion, clear-cutting, etc., it's important to voice them so they can be evaluated for inclusion in the plan. If potential problems are not included, they may not receive support from ANR.

Vermont Statute provides RPCs with the opportunity to prioritize projects. CVRPC will set priorities for the Winooski Basin in 2018. This is an opportunity to learn more about the Basin Planning process and provide input for your community!

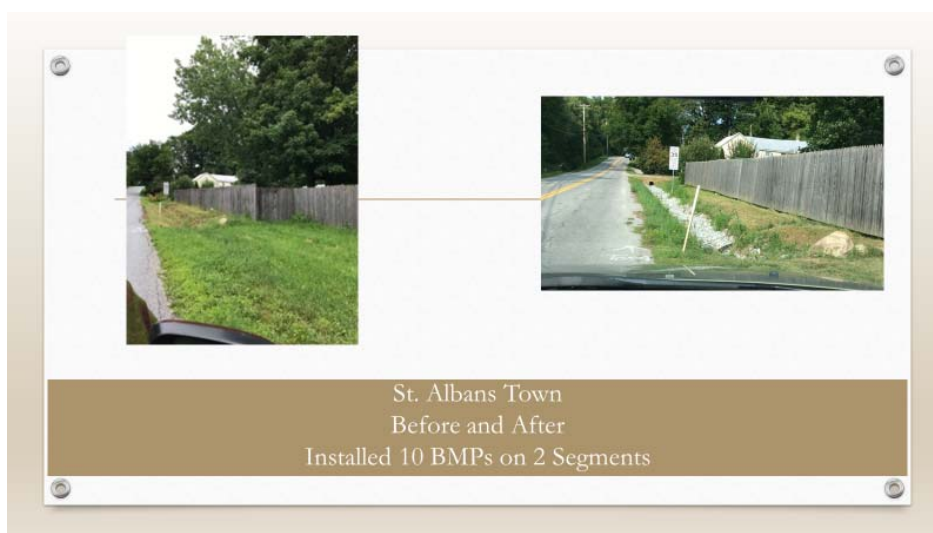
For information:

- visit Sample Basin Plans: <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/map/basin-planning>.
- contact Karen Bates, DEC Watershed Coordinator, karen.bates@vermont.gov, 490-6144.
- contact Pam DeAndrea, CVRPC Senior Planner, deandrea@cvregion.com, 229-0389.

Grants in Aid Pilot Project

09/29/17 Statewide Status Report

186	Participating municipalities.
160	Site visits with municipal officials to further explain the program, identify road segments and review eligible Best Management Practices (BMPs). The remaining site visits will be completed in early October.
463 ¹	Number of road segments that will be fully brought up to the draft MRGP standards.
309 ¹	Number of road segments that will be complete and in compliance with draft MRGP standards by October 31, 2017.
154 ¹	Number of road segments that will be complete and in compliance with draft MRGP standards by June 30, 2018.
3.5	Average number of segments per municipality being fully brought up to compliance with draft MRGP standards.
10	Municipalities that have completed their GIA segments. Many more are currently in construction.



¹This number is based on reporting from 133 of 187 municipalities and will increase as site visits are completed and information is entered into the pre-construction database.



October 2, 2017

Ms. Judith Whitney, Clerk
State of Vermont Public Utility Commission
112 State Street, 4th Floor
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2701

**RE: PUC Case Number 17-3862-PET – Green Mountain Power South End Substation Rebuild
– Barre City**

Dear Ms. Whitney;

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) received a petition on behalf Green Mountain Power Corporation for a Certificate of Public Good on August 30, 2017. This petition is for the demolition and reconstruction of an existing power substation located at 121 South Main Street in Barre City. The project will consist of upgrades to the equipment and new fencing at the site, but generally maintain the existing footprint.

On September 28, 2017, the CVRPC's Project Review Committee met and discussed this project in relation to consistency with the Regional Plan and the possibility of this project meeting the thresholds for Substantial Regional Impact. At this meeting, the Project Review Committee determined that the above referenced project does not currently qualify as a project having Substantial Regional Impact as noted in the CVRPC's policies and procedures.

Based on this determination, the CVRPC does not intend to submit testimony or comments on this project. However, the CVRPC reserves the right to reevaluate this project and provide comments if conditions or circumstances regarding this petition were to change. Please feel free to contact the CVRPC if you have any questions or need additional information.

Regards,

Eric Vorwald, AICP
Senior Planner

Cc: Certificate of Service List as attached (2 pages total)



October 2, 2017

Mr. Doug Best, Project Manager
Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.
366 Pinnacle Ridge Road
Rutland, VT 05701

RE: PUC Case Number 17-4144-AN –VELCO Substation Rebuild– Barre Town

Dear Mr. Best;

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) received a 45 day advanced notice of a project filing on behalf of the Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. (VELCO) for a Certificate of Public Good on September 7, 2017. This advanced notice relates to a project that will consist of the demolition and reconstruction of an existing power substation located at 411 Upper Prospect Street in Barre Town. The project will consist of equipment and building upgrades to an existing facility and will also include new security measures such as an expanded fence, cameras, and lighting. The new substation will utilize the existing building site but will require a temporary facility to be constructed during the process to maintain electric service in the area.

On September 28, 2017, the CVRPC's Project Review Committee met and discussed this project in relation to consistency with the Regional Plan and the possibility of this project meeting the thresholds for Substantial Regional Impact. At this meeting, the Project Review Committee determined that the above referenced project does not currently qualify as a project having Substantial Regional Impact as noted in the CVRPC's policies and procedures.

Based on this determination, the CVRPC does not have any specific comments to provide regarding this advanced notice. However, the CVRPC reserves the right to reevaluate this project and provide comments if conditions or circumstances regarding this petition were to change when final submission is received. Please feel free to contact the CVRPC if you have any questions or need additional information.

Regards,

Eric Vorwald, AICP
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Judith Whitney, Clerk, Vermont Public Utility Commission
James Porter, Esq. Vermont Department of Public Service
Jennifer Duggan, General Counsel, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources



October 2, 2017

Ms. Judith Whitney, Clerk
State of Vermont Public Utility Commission
112 State Street, 4th Floor
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2701

RE: PUC Case Number 17-4070-PET – Verizon Wireless - Zan Street Cell Tower – Barre City

Dear Ms. Whitney;

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) received a petition on behalf of Verizon Wireless for a Certificate of Public Good on September 1, 2017. This petition is for the construction of a telecommunications tower to be located on Zan Street in Barre City. The project will consist of a new utility pole to be located in the Green Mountain Power right-of-way and new cellular communication equipment.

On September 28, 2017, the CVRPC's Project Review Committee met and discussed this project in relation to consistency with the Regional Plan and the possibility of this project meeting the thresholds for Substantial Regional Impact. At this meeting, the Project Review Committee determined that the above referenced project does not currently qualify as a project having Substantial Regional Impact as noted in the CVRPC's policies and procedures.

Based on this determination, the CVRPC does not intend to submit testimony or comments on this project. However, the CVRPC reserves the right to reevaluate this project and provide comments if conditions or circumstances regarding this petition were to change. Please feel free to contact the CVRPC if you have any questions or need additional information.

Regards,

Eric Vorwald, AICP
Senior Planner

Cc: Certificate of Service List as attached