



REGIONAL PLAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday February 18, 2020

4:00 – 5:20 pm

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, VT 05602

AGENDA

4:00¹ Welcome and Adjustments to the Agenda

Public Comments

4:10 Approval Minutes
Consider approval of the January 21, 2020 meeting minutes.

4:15 Regional Plan: Amendments to Current Plan
Brief update of amendment status.

4:20 Regional Plan: Development of New Plan
Review and discuss draft Vision and possible Visioning process for the Regional Plan.

5:20 Adjournment

Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in programs or activities are encouraged to contact Nancy Chartrand at 802-229-0389 or chartrand@cvregion.com at least 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.

¹ Times are approximate unless otherwise advertised.

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Regional Plan Committee

Draft Minutes
January 21, 2020
4:00 – 5:15 pm

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, VT 05602

Committee Members:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dara Torre, Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Julie Potter, Vice Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laura Hill-Eubanks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ron Krauth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marcella Dent

Staff: Clare Rock

Others present: Kale Anderson

CALL TO ORDER

D Torre opened the meeting at 4:05pm.

INTRODUCTIONS

Those present introduced themselves, Kale Anderson member of the public introduced himself. He is a visiting planner who is seeking to relocate to the area and is interested in sitting in the meeting to learn more about CVRPC.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minor corrections identified.

L Hill Eubanks made a motion to approve the December 17, 2019 meeting minutes, with minor changes, seconded by M Dent. All in favor. Motioned carried.

REGIONAL PLAN: AMENDMENTS TO CURRENT PLAN

Staff stated that the amendments approved by the committee last month will be brought before the Board at the February Commission meeting. Staff will provide a brief memo outlining the approval steps and will plan to provide a brief presentation.

REGIONAL PLAN: NEW PLAN

Discussed and added additional thoughts based upon the information contained within the packet on the following topics:

Re: Target Audiences – in the secondary targets category, need to ensure a balance of perspectives and need to add environmental groups and Economic Development Groups.

1 Re: Key Partners – need to add VNRC and Friends of the Winooski. EAN (Energy Action Network) was
2 also identified.

3
4 Committee members suggested another category be added to the plan process outline: Content
5 Experts. These are a group of people/organizations which should be asked to review sections/chapters
6 for accuracy of content and technical input. Staff should further define and identify who these would be
7 (VNRC?)
8

9 Re: Public Engagement – the committee is interested to who is on the recipient list of the Weekly Blasts
10 emails as we may need to account for additional municipal officials. The regional plan process should
11 also be added to existing outreach and education such as P&Z Roundtables and Energy Roundtables.
12 Plus we should also consider preparing flyers which can be distributed at town meeting day. Plus a
13 dedicated webpage to the plan and its process with a comment field for people to submit comments.
14

15 Re: Timeline – we should stress this is a tentative timeline as it's an ambitious schedule and maybe
16 subject to change. We should also prepare to present the whole package to the Commissioners at one
17 time vs chapter by chapter.
18

19 RE: Core Components - The new draft SRI definition/criteria which was developed by the Project Review
20 Committee in 2018 should be utilized.
21

22 Re: Plan format - General interest toward a format like the NWRPC plan due to its balance of text and
23 graphics. Staff indicated the appealing aspects of the Pioneer Valley Plan due to its balance of white
24 space and highlighting of key findings. Further discussion of white space on the pages and the purpose
25 behind this. Technical readers don't like the white space, but it does make the document more
26 accessible to a wider audience who may flip through the plan. One key need is to ensure the plan has a
27 clear link between findings and policies. And "juicy" footnotes can also help!
28

29 Vision Statement – the committee wasn't over enthusiastic of the draft Vision from Plan Central
30 Vermont which was included in the packet. The committee commented that it was too long and didn't
31 contain enough adjectives. Discussion followed regarding presenting a short vision statement and then
32 framing a set of values to guide the planning process.
33

34 The committee would like staff to take another stab at the vision statement, research other RPC's vision
35 statements and research the philosophy of a vision statement for the next meeting.
36

37 The Board should weigh in on the plan process sometime this spring by possibly weighing in on Plan
38 Themes and Values.
39

40 ADJOURNMENT

41
42 *J Potter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by L Hill-Eubanks, all in favor. Motion carried.*
43

44 **Next meeting Date: 2/18 at 4pm (3rd Tuesdays)**



MEMO

Date: February 12, 2020

To: Regional Plan Committee

From: Clare Rock, Senior Planner

Re: Draft Vision Statement

✉ **ACTION REQUESTED:** Staff is seeking feedback on draft Vision and Goals document and plan for Board update/engagement.

Planning Process + Plan Development Guide

Staff will provide a reformatted version of items we have already discussed concerning the process and format of the new regional plan. This can be updated and refined as needed and can be used to share with Board members. Staff will seek any additions/changes from committee members.

Vision Statement

As discussed at the last meeting the committee requested additional information about vision statement. Below please find additional information about what they are, what they should contain and how they are used in the planning process.

What is a vision statement?

- A vision is like a lighthouse, which illuminates rather than limits, giving direction rather than destination.¹
- A vision statement is a view of how the world should be as a result of your work.²
- A vision statement captures what community members value most about their community, the shared image of what they want their community to become, and the preferred approaches to creating the desired future.³

How long should a vision statement be?

One source states that “Vision statements can vary in length, but should be clear and concise, and

¹ Haines, Anna, *Using Visioning in a Comprehensive Planning Process* (G3752) https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/clue/Documents/publicProcesses/Using_Visioning_in_Comprehensive_Planning_Process.pdf [accessed Feb. 13, 2020]

² Wiener, George, *Nonprofit Mission Statements vs Vision Statements*, <https://www.wholewhale.com/tips/nonprofit-mission-statements-vs-vision-statements/> [accessed Feb. 13, 2020]

³ DHCD, *Planning Manual Module 1*, <https://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/CD/CPR/DHCD-Planning-Manual-Module1.pdf>, page 46 [accessed Feb. 13, 2020]

create a visual image in the mind of the reader.”⁴ Where another recommends “It should be short (i.e., one sentence), but also inspiring, memorable, and able to remain unchanged for 100 years.”⁵

Based upon the Committee’s previous discussion and review of the draft vision statement as contained within the draft Plan Central Vermont document, there is agreement that the Vision statement for the new regional plan should be short[er].

Examples of [short] Vision Statements:

- *Habitat for Humanity’s* vision statement is for a world where everyone has a decent place to live.
- *Teach for America’s* vision statement is that one day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education.
- *CCRPC I-89 Corridor Plan’s* draft Vision statement is: The 2050 Vision for the I-89 Corridor through Chittenden County is an interstate system (mainline and interchanges) that is safe and resilient and provides for reliable and efficient movement of people and goods in alignment with state, regional, and municipal plans.⁶

Additional information about Vision Statements:

See document titled *Using Visioning in a Comprehensive Planning Process* (sent under separate cover due to technical difficulties.)

Draft New Regional Plan Vision Statement:

See attached document titled *Draft Vision + Goals*.

This documents contains an abbreviated vision statement which is based upon the one contained within the *Draft Plan Central Vermont Introduction Chapter* (and as presented at the last committee meeting.) Staff considered drafting a new vision statement but upon consideration of best planning practices development of new vision statement should be based upon some type of visioning process in which the Board (and possibly additional stakeholders) are involved in.

- **Staff recommends the committee either:**
 - **Use the *Plan Central Vermont* Vision Statement/abbreviated version as presented; OR**
 - **Plan to involve the Board [and possibly stakeholders] in the development of a new vision statement**

If we use the abbreviated version, staff is requesting the committee also agree to use the overarching *Plan Central Vermont* Goals as the basis for organizing the plan.

Alternatively, we engage the Board in a visioning process, develop a new vision statement and consider identification of a set of emerging issues/challenges. The new plan could then be organized around this set of emerging issues.

⁴ DHCD, *Planning Manual Module 1*, <https://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/CD/CPR/DHCD-Planning-Manual-Module1.pdf>, page 46 [accessed Feb. 13, 2020]

⁵ Wiener, George, *Nonprofit Mission Statements vs Vision Statements*, <https://www.wholewhale.com/tips/nonprofit-mission-statements-vs-vision-statements/> [accessed Feb. 13, 2020]

⁶ as presented at the Board meeting on Tuesday February 11, 2020

New Regional Plan Draft Vision + Goals

Vision

Central Vermont is a place where people and commerce thrive and innovate, the health of the natural environment and residents' quality of life are valued, and local communities are equipped to plan for and respond to emerging trends and unexpected challenges.

Values

Steward a strong **culture of cooperative planning** with residents working together to find solutions to sustaining the vitality of local communities and high quality of life enjoyed in our Region.

Foster a **prosperous and adaptable economy** that will provide full employment in a broad range of occupations at a livable wage.

Preserve an **economically viable working landscape** of farms and forests, with increased local food production and access to healthy food.

Protect **ecologically functioning natural systems** and sustainably manage natural resources including wildlife, habitat and water resources.

Minimize contribution to a **changing climate** and be prepared to mitigate impacts from increased natural hazards.

Ensure a **range of housing choices** that are high quality, safe and attractive, provide affordable options available for all residents.

Accommodate the availability of **reliable and affordable energy** supplies, increased energy efficiency, and diverse renewable energy resources and facilities.

Preserve the **rural character and unique historic settlements** with thriving downtown and village centers serving as cultural and economic hubs.

Guide construction and maintenance of **cost-effective infrastructure** that supports desired growth patterns, public health and environmental sustainability.

Stimulate a **healthy, active and connected population** in communities that work for all residents.

Provide an **integrated, regional transportation system** that encourages various modes of travel.