

Regional Plan Update: New language developed through the Plan Central Vermont process is now being amended into three sections of the 2008 Regional Plan. These amendments will allow the Commission to work under more focused and specific goals and strategies, as well as ensure compliance with statutory requirements for these elements of a regional plan. The three sections of the 2008 Regional Plan proposed for amendment are:

- 2008 Economic Element
- 2008 Utilities, Facilities & Services Element
- 2008 Land Use Element, including a Future Land Use Map

These amended elements may be viewed on the Plan Central Vermont website at <http://plancentralvermont.org/the-plan/2008-amendment/>. The first two public hearings on the amendments were held May 12 and June 9 at the regular Regional Commission meeting. After discussion of the proposed language, the Commission assembled a committee to develop revisions regarding the Land Use Element of the plan. A committee representing the various perspectives on the Commission met on June 23 and revisions were developed. Revised versions of the three plan elements will be presented at the July 14 Commission meeting for acceptance by the Commission and are included in the Commission mailing for the July 14 meeting.

A first draft of the Health and Communities Element of the 2016 Regional Plan is completed, but is not being considered for amendment or adoption at this time. This element covers a number of Regional issues ranging from food security to healthy community design. The draft will be reviewed by the Regional Plan Draft Review Committee later in the summer before going to the full Commission for discussion and approval in the fall. Questions regarding the Regional Plan amendments may be submitted to Assistant Planner, Gail Aloisio, at aloisio@cvregion.com

Forest Stewardship: Staff continues this work in partnership with the Dept of Forests, Parks and Recreation, as well as seven other regional planning commissions. The Town of Marshfield is incorporating forest conservation into revisions to their land use regulations. Staff will be assisting the Town to revise a GIS analysis of land development potential to inform their decisions. Please contact Gail Aloisio at aloisio@cvregion.com.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMP): Twenty towns have received final FEMA approval of their local hazard mitigation plans (LHMP). The Town of Calais LHMP has received approval pending adoption from FEMA Region 1. Waitsfield's draft LHMP was submitted in late June for review by VT Emergency Management (DEMHS). Staff completed additional data updates to Marshfield's draft LHMP which are currently under review by the Town before resubmission to DEMHS. If your community is interested in getting involved with any of the current LHMP updates or is interested in technical assistance from CVRPC, please contact Gail Aloisio at aloisio@cvregion.com.

Flood Resilience/Flood Hazard Area Regulations: Staff continues to assist municipalities with flood hazard area and fluvial erosion hazard bylaw adoption processes, as well as impacts from flooding and planning for flood resilience. For assistance with developing your town's flood resilience element, please contact Gail Aloisio at aloisio@cvregion.com.

Transportation Planning Initiative: Staff is updating the transportation section of the 2016 Regional Plan working on the highway section. Staff is assisting the Towns of Fayston, Waitsfield, Warren, Moretown, Waterbury, and Middlesex with their byway work. Staff continues to work on the Central Vermont Regional Path with Berlin, Barre City, Barre Town, and Montpelier. Staff did traffic counts in Waitsfield, East Montpelier, and Woodbury. Work continues on the Berlin US Route 302 bike and pedestrian plan. Consultants are working with Northfield, Plainfield, Woodbury, Cabot, Calais, and East Montpelier on road maintenance activity programs, and a study on flood resiliency and impacts on the transportation network in the Mad River Valley. Staff is evaluating the effects

of safety improvements at VT 63/Miller Road (Barre Town). The TAC is developed and recommended the FY 16 work plan. Staff completed a complete streets outreach. Staff is working on Worcester, Middlesex and Woodbury's culvert inventories. Staff attended three High Risk Rural Road Program site visits in Waterbury, Middlesex, and East Montpelier. A Situation Report was sent to the SEOC. There was no significant storm damage in Central Vermont. Staff attended the Way to Go Awards Ceremony. Four Carbon Cups were won by Central Vermont entities, The City of Montpelier, Twinfield Union School, VNRC, and Suncommon. The Act 250 Application for the Smith St. Section of the Central Vermont Regional Path was reviewed and comments provided.

Transportation Technical Assistance: Staff continues to provide technical assistance on transportation related issues. Contact Steve Gladczuk at gladczuk@cvregion.com for assistance with special transportation studies and technical assistance that may be needed in your community and are within the scope of work of the transportation contract with the Agency of Transportation. Municipal officials that would like to have bicycle/pedestrian, vehicle volume, speed, or classification studies done for their towns can contact CVRPC staff for assistance.

Town Technical Assistance: The Dept. of Housing & Community Development has announced availability of Municipal Planning Grants (MPG). Approximately \$457,482 is available to communities in Vermont for projects promoting community planning, revitalization and development activities. The maximum award amount is \$20,000 with applications under \$8,000 not requiring a local match. Municipalities with an adopted municipal plan and planning process confirmed by the Regional Planning Commission as of Sept. 30, 2015 are eligible to apply. MPG program priorities for funding this year include: municipal plan updates addressing inconsistencies with statewide planning goals, bylaw updates addressing conflicts with the municipal plan, implementation of municipal plan flood resilience goals, and special projects for State designated areas. Municipalities interested in applying may contact Assistant Planner, Gail Aloisio, for more information at aloisio@cvregion.com.

A training on *The Essentials of Land Use Planning* was held in Williamstown on June 10. Staff is also preparing a training on *Sharing Municipal Services*. Communities interested in participating in the *Sharing Municipal Services* training may contact Gail Aloisio at aloisio@cvregion.com.

Brownfields: CVRPC has received a \$400,000 Brownfields Community Wide Assessment award from the U.S. EPA. This funding will provide for environmental site assessment and clean up planning for redevelopment of potentially contaminated properties throughout the Region. A Brownfields advisory committee will be assembled to guide CVRPC's Brownfields Assessment Program. Commissioners interested in serving on this committee or nominating a member may contact Gail Aloisio, Assistant Planner, at aloisio@cvregion.com.

VT Economic Resiliency Initiative (VERI): Staff continued to identify economic assets and commercial zones within the study area (Barre City and Barre Town along Gunners Brook).

GIS/Fluvial Erosion Hazard: Updated and/or developed the following: updated the East Montpelier conservation overlay map, attended East Montpelier's Planning Commission meeting to discuss past build out and village studies and ideas for a municipal planning grant, and updated the Economic, and Utilities, Facilities and Services elements of the 2008 Regional Plan. Staff conducted a site visit at the Central Street, Northfield storm water treatment structure, set up and attended class four road site visits in Calais and Cabot for VT Youth Conservation Corps work, assisted with the development of a case study for Green Infrastructure based on CVRPC's work in Northfield, attended the Statewide parcel mapping work group, and attended the Enterprise GIS consortium meeting for VAPDA. Staff also presented on the Forest Stewardship Atlas demonstrating to the public what can be found there. GIS staff also spent considerable time in the field assisting communities with bridge and road culvert inventories.

Wrightsville Beach Recreation District: Staff provides administrative, fiscal, and technical assistance to the District. The beach and park are open daily from 9 a.m. to dusk through Labor Day weekend. The website for Wrightsville Beach has photos of the shelters and amenities; take a look at www.wrightsvillebeachvt.com. The Agency of Natural Resources has reached out to the Wrightsville Beach board to assess the Board's interest in owning and managing all the land around the Wrightsville Reservoir outside of the dam. More information and further discussion will happen over the course of the next several months.

Community Survey Assistance: If your community is interested in learning more about digital survey services offered through CVRPC, please contact CVRPC at alouisio@cvregion.com.

Emergency Planning and Hazard Mitigation : Staff continued to work with municipalities to complete the LEOP adoption process and submittal for acceptance to DEMHS. Fayston, Roxbury, Moretown, and Barre Town successfully completed the process in May. The three Towns of Worcester, Northfield, and Woodbury have completed their plans and scheduled the adoption process for their first June select board meeting. The CV Region will have all 23 towns with an approved and accepted 2015 LEOP by June 15. With acceptance of the 2015 LEOP's, the municipalities have increased their ERAF rating. Congratulations!

Please be reminded that DEMHS tells us that all first responders are required to be trained in ICS 100 and ICS 200 by October 2015. CVRPC will continue to promote and encourage training in our Region. Contact Laura Ranker at CVRPC to schedule trainings in your community. To view the DEMHS Training & Exercise calendar for the latest trainings being offered across the State, go to <http://vem.vermont.gov/event>.

The LEPC 5 Committee met and staff assisted with pre-meeting preparations, meeting minutes, and follow-up on the proposed bylaw amendments.

Contact Laura Ranker for assistance with any specific emergency management planning and training needs for your community at ranker@cvregion.com.

Project Review Committee: The Committee developed proposed revisions to the Project Review Committee Procedures. These procedures define when and how CVRPC will participate in development review and also dictates the Commission's definition of "substantial regional impact." The proposed Procedures were reviewed by the Executive Committee at its June meeting and further revisions are being developed upon their recommendation.

CVRPC reviewed the following projects in June:

VT College of Fine Arts Act 250 Application: The College applied to erect a sign at the corner of East State and College Streets. This project was determined to be of no substantial regional impact and therefore a review for conformance with the Regional Plan was not conducted.

Cabot Hosiery Expansion Act 250 Application - Cabot Hosiery Mills, Inc. applied for an amendment to their Act 250 permit for an expansion of the facility at 364 Whetstone Drive in Northfield. The proposed project will add a 99,500 square foot addition to the south side of the existing manufacturing building. The Mill plans to add 295 employees by 2019 over the course of the expansion bringing employment to 450. Currently 155 people are employed. Staff represented CVRPC at a May 20 hearing. The project has been determined to have substantial regional impact and is in conformance with the Regional Plan

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