

Communication/Outreach: CVRPC has a Facebook page and a Twitter page to enhance communication with towns, partnering organizations, and the public. "Like" CVRPC's page on Facebook and "follow us" on Twitter to receive updates regarding events, meetings, success stories, programs and other activities. Find us on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/centralvtplanning>. Find us on Twitter! <http://www.twitter.com/centralvtplan>.

Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery: Community Development funds continue to be available to assist with disaster recovery from the spring and summer 2011 and 2012 flooding events that received a Presidential Declaration. Projects for which funding is available have to be directly related to flood damage and must have a documented un-met need. Contact CVRPC for assistance with determining if your project is eligible and with the application process. Staff continued to work with Plainfield, Warren, Northfield, and Roxbury to provide technical assistance with the application process. Staff participated in meetings of the Waterbury flood working group.

Mad River Valley Planning District (MRVPD): Staff continues to provide technical, administrative, and bookkeeping assistance to the District (Towns of Fayston, Waitsfield, and Warren). Technical assistance to the three Towns is ongoing, as is data gathering for evaluating the impacts of development, and assistance with flood resilience. Staff attends the monthly meetings of the Planning District Steering Committee.

Mad River Resource Management Alliance: Staff continues its work with the Alliance (which includes the Towns of Duxbury, Fayston, Moretown, Northfield, Roxbury, Waitsfield, Warren, and Waterbury). Please contact John Malter at 244-7373 or malterport@aol.com for more information.

Transportation Planning Initiative: Staff is updating the transportation section of the Regional Plan working on the rideshare, travel demand management, bicycle and pedestrian sections. Staff is participating on a committee that is developing updated culvert standards. 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 Moretown, Waitsfield, Warren, Barre Town, and Calais. Staff is assisting East Montpelier with a US 2/VT 14 bridge intersection informational meeting. Work has begun on the Berlin US Route 302 bike and pedestrian plan. Consultants are working on the Calais RSMS, Orange ditch inventory, and a study on flood resiliency and impacts on the transportation network. Staff assisted towns with "Strong Communities, Better Connections" applications. Staff participated in site visits of high risk rural roads in Cabot.

Transportation Technical Assistance: Staff continues to provide technical assistance on transportation related issues. Contact Steve Gladczuk at CVRPC 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.

VT Economic Resiliency Initiative (VERI): Staff identified economic assets, commercial zones within the study area (Barre City and Barre Town along Gunners Brook), gathered data on local businesses, identified opportunities to raise awareness/do outreach about the project, participated in site visits along the Gunners Brook with municipal representatives and the consultant, and hosted the community workshop at which 30 local officials, residents, and business owners attended. Participants helped to identify issues and solutions for flooding associated with Gunners Brook. Staff also made presentations to Barre City Council and Barre Town Select board on the VERI project.

GIS/FEH: Updated and/or developed the following: natural resources map for the Regional Plan, set up and processed road counters for Barre Town, Calais, and Cabot, worked on the update to VT Culverts and its new tools, made a presentation on the history of CVRPC collecting town bridge and culvert data, and updated the town highway major collector road data for VTrans. Staff also assisted at a VT Yankee drill for the Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security and assisted with the evaluation of the drill, completed the grant award documentation for the LiDAR data collection along parts of the Mad River and Winooski River watersheds, assisted Roxbury with their

grant application for a culver replacement, and began the grant application for State Ecosystem funds to collect geomorphic data along the Mad River and its tributaries in Moretown in order to develop a river corridor plan. Staff continues to update the CVRPC web site, www.centralvtplanning.org, where you can read the latest planning news on our blog, and maintains the IT network. You can [Find us on Facebook!](#) and [Find us on Twitter!](#)

Regional Plan Update: *Plan Central Vermont* will take up a variety of issues between now and 2016 to build a more sustainable and engaged Region. The Commission continued to discuss the draft Strong and Diverse Economy element at their meeting on October 14, and staff continued to revise the element to address the Commission's comments on the proposed goals, policies and strategies. The draft will be taken up by the Draft Review Committee again at their meeting on Nov. 4 and by the Commission at the Nov. 11 meeting.



The fourth meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources working group was held on Oct. 22 where the draft Natural Resources profile was discussed and the draft Key Challenges and Trends document was reviewed. The next meeting will be held on Nov. 17 to continue discussing the draft Key Challenges & Trends and to begin discussing a draft of the Goals, Policies and Trends. A Health and Community working group will begin meeting in November to discuss the Healthy Communities and Community Resources elements. Contact Emily Nosse-Leirer at nosse-leirer@cvregion.com to sign up. Upcoming meeting information and meeting summaries can be found here: <http://plancentralvermont.org/news-events/>.

Wrightsville Beach Recreation District: Staff provides administrative, fiscal, and technical assistance to the District. The beach and park facilities include hiking trails, a ball field, disc golf, grills, picnic tables, as well as two picnic shelters that can be rented, and of course, swimming, canoeing, and kayaking. If you want to rent one of the picnic shelters for your birthday, reunion or other event, it is best to do so early (Yes, even now for next season!); contact Laurie Emery at 229-0389 or emery@cvregion.com. The website for Wrightsville Beach has photos of the shelters and amenities; take a look at www.wrightsvillebeachvt.com.

Enhanced Consultation: If your community is in the process of revising its town plan or is planning to do so in the near future, now is the time to have us assist. Staff will provide local officials with recommendations on how their plan is or is not consistent with the State planning goals and how the town can make “substantial progress” toward meeting those goals as outlined in 24 VSA Chapter 117. For more information, please contact Kim McKee at Mckee@cvregion.com.

DEMHS/Emergency Planning/Hazard Mitigation Funding: If your community has not yet submitted a Local Emergency Operation Plan (LEOP), please do so immediately or request assistance from CVRPC as the new ERAF rule went into effect on Oct. 23. Staff has continued ongoing outreach and has been working with the Towns of Worcester and Roxbury to complete their LEOP's and have them approved by DEMHS (Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security). Staff attended a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC 5) meeting in Waterbury and assisted DEMHS with information gathering for the HUD National Disaster Resilience Competition.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMP): Twenty towns have received final FEMA approval of their local hazard mitigation plans (LHMP). The Town of Washington's LHMP is the most recent to receive final approval. Staff has been assisting Calais with final submittal of an LHMP to FEMA. If your community is interested in technical assistance from CVRPC, please contact Kim McKee at mckee@cvregion.com.

Flood Resilience/Flood Hazard Area Regulations: Staff continues to assist affected municipalities and the State with various issues surrounding the Flood Hazard Area and Fluvial Erosion Hazard bylaw adoption processes, as well as impacts from flooding and planning for flood resilience. Staff also continues to assist the Town of East Montpelier in finalizing proposed Fluvial Erosion Hazard/River Corridor regulations and attended a Floodplain Working Group meeting in Waterbury. For assistance with developing your town's flood resilience element, please

contact Kim McKee at mckee@cvregion.com.

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

Forest Stewardship: Staff continues this work in partnership with the Dept of Forests, Parks and Recreation, as well as four other regional planning commissions. The RPC's are developing tools that can be used to address priority forest landscapes. The project will enable landowners and local officials to access and better understand the data which can then be applied to management situations. Staff is reviewing town plans and regulations in Northfield and Duxbury. Please contact Dan Currier at currier@cvregion.com with questions and to get involved in the project.

Town Plan Review: The Town of Northfield requested regional approval for their 2014 Plan and staff convened the Town Plan Review Committee on Nov. 6. The Town of Duxbury has requested regional approval for their 2014 Plan and the hearing will be scheduled for the December Commission meeting.

Town Technical Assistance: Staff assisted the Calais Planning Commission with data inquiries and determination of 1 v. 10-acre jurisdictional threshold status for Act 250. Staff provided letters of support to Cabot and the City of Montpelier for Transportation Alternatives grant applications and assisted Cabot with inquiries re: zoning adoption procedures. Staff researched and addressed an inquiry from East Montpelier Planning Commission regarding preliminary review provisions for Conditional Use permits.

Brownfields: Staff attended an EPA applicant workshop on Oct. 29 in preparation for an upcoming FY 2015 Brownfield Assessment grant application.

Green Mountain Byway: Staff attended monthly Steering Committee meetings and continued assistance and finalization in designing a cultural & historic resources brochure. Staff also assisted with review of RFP responses for development of the Byway web site.

Healthy Community Design/Food Systems Planning: Staff coordinated a Central Vermont Food Systems Council stakeholder reorganizing meeting on Oct. 22 to revisit goals and develop an action plan. The next meeting has been scheduled for Dec. 3. If interested in participating, please contact Kim McKee at mckee@cvregion.com.

Project Review: Staff received notice that VTel has dropped its plans to build a new telecommunications tower on Upper Road in Plainfield. Staff attended a pre-hearing conference on Nov. 10 for the proposed free-standing Kohl's at the Berlin Mall.

Act 250/Section 248 Applications received – Montpelier: Improvements to the Vermont College of Fine Arts campus including a transformation of the gymnasium into an exhibition and performance center and creating a faculty and alumni retreat center by refurbishing two buildings and constructing a new building. **Northfield:** Interior and exterior modifications to the Kreitzburg Library at Norwich University including interior upgrades to lighting, finishes, communication systems and furnishings; enclosure of the existing covered porch; and modifications to the existing patio and asphalt paths with an overall reduction in impervious area.

Waterbury(/Bolton): Radio equipment rack to be mounted on a 24" x 24" metal frame pad, 4' NW of existing communications building near summit of Ricker Mountain. **Waterbury:** Subdivision of a 40 acre property (Winter Woods) into (10) building parcels with 1600' of shared access, on-site septic and municipal water service, as well as one undeveloped lot.

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