

REGIONAL PLAN COMMITTEE

May 26, 2020 4:00 – 5:15 pm

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pg		AGENDA
	4:00	Welcome and Adjustments to the Agenda¹
		Public Comments
4	4:10	Approval Minutes² Consider approval of the February 18, 2020 meeting minutes.
6	4:15	Basin 14 Basin Plan³ - Grace Vinson, CVRPC Staff Propose comments and make recommendations regarding the <i>Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries, Basin-14 Tactical Basin Plan's</i> conformance with the Regional Plan.
19	4:40	Regional Plan: Development of New Plan – Clare Rock, CVRPC Staff Review comments and feedback from Board meeting on March 10, 2020. a) Review input on Vision and Aspirations. Consider possible edits or amendments. b) Review municipal needs, challenges and successes. Discuss incorporation into the Regional Plan.
	5:15	Adjournment

Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate 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.

² Anticipated action item.

³ Anticipated action item.

MEMO

Date: May 21, 2020

To: Regional Plan Committee

From: Clare Rock, Senior Planner

Re: Regional Plan Committee Meeting

Please find attached the following items for your review prior to the meeting:

- Video Conferencing Etiquette
- Previous meeting minutes

Additional memos are contained within regarding the other 2 Agenda items.

Video Conferencing Etiquette

DO THIS

- 🌀 Download the e-meeting app before the meeting and test your technology (camera/microphone)
- 🌀 Mute your cell phone
- 🌀 Turn off notifications (ding!)
- 🌀 Always assume your microphone is on
- 🌀 Be courteous to other participants
- 🌀 Give your full attention to others as you do when in the same room
- 🌀 Raise your hand or say “question” or “comment” then wait to be recognized by the Chair
- 🌀 Speak clearly
- 🌀 Keep body movements minimal
- 🌀 Move and gesture slowly and naturally
- 🌀 Maintain eye contact by looking into the camera when speaking
- 🌀 Dress appropriately
- 🌀 Make the session animated - please keep your video on
- 🌀 Be yourself and have fun!

AVOID THIS

- 🌀 Don't make distracting sounds
- 🌀 Don't shout
- 🌀 Don't make distracting movements
- 🌀 Don't interrupt other speakers
- 🌀 Don't carry on side conversations
- 🌀 Don't wear "noisy" jewelry
- 🌀 Don't cover the microphone or camera
- 🌀 Don't be distracted by eating, drinking, checking email, Web surfing or texting

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Regional Plan Committee

Draft Minutes

February 18, 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*

*On phone

Staff: Clare Rock

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

D Torre opened the meeting at 4:05pm. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

L Hill Eubanks made a motion to approve the January 21, 2020 meeting minutes, seconded by M Dent.

All in favor. Motioned carried.

REGIONAL PLAN: AMENDMENTS TO CURRENT PLAN

Staff gave a brief summary of the presentation and Board comments on the proposed amendments which took place at the last Board of Commissioners meeting. Brief discussion followed regarding the number of public hearings and the dates. Under statute we are not required to advertise both hearing dates in the first public hearing notice, internally staff and the Executive Director has not discussed whether we will set both dates in the first notice or just the first date.

REGIONAL PLAN: NEW PLAN

Rock referenced the documents titled "Planning Process and Plan Development Guide" which will have to be re created and redistributed. Once re-drafted staff will circulate to committee members for review prior to distribution to the Board.

Regarding the plan timeline, there is time on the March Board meeting agenda and this could present an opportunity to inform the Commission on the new regional plan development process. This would be ahead of the first public hearing on the amendments, providing context for the minimal changes to current plan at this time. This would also set the stage for the April (or May) Board meeting which will include a presentation from the State Tax Department about the impacts of Vermont's changing demographics. A good lead in to the new regional plan.

Staff gave an overview of the contents of the memo and the draft Vision and Values/ Goals documents. Stagg indicated that the title used the term Values, but within the documents they were titled as Goals. Discussion followed about values and goals. Committee member suggested they be called “aspirations,” other members agrees with this term.

Staff added that the “Aspirations” could be presented as the overarching principle of a chapter/topic and then envisions there will a subset of accompanying goals, policies and strategy or actions.

The committee voiced support of the draft shorted vision statement as presented and the accompanying goals/”aspirations.” One specific comment was about the lack of the word equity, committee agreed to add to line 13: “equity.”

Brief discussion about the organization of the plan which is yet to be determined. This aspect of the plan may be dependent on what the analysis part of the plan looks like. We do not need to make a decision on this yet.

Upon agreement on the draft vision documents, the committee agreed to share this with the board and seek feedback. Staff suggested Commission members could review the document and then come prepared to add comments via sticky notes, providing the opportunity for all members to contribute feedback as some do not always voice their opinions in front of the entire board. Board members will also be asked to identify their priority “aspirations” by sticky dot voting. Each board member will be given 3 (or 5) dots and will be asked to place their dots next to the “aspiration” they think are prior for the region.

Staff will circulate the “Planning Process + Plan Development Guide” for committee feedback before circulating the board as a DRAFT.

At the next committee meeting we’ll review the types of comments and results of sticky dot voting.

Board would like to see the Plan Central Vermont draft (less interested in the words but is interested in the data.) And would like to offer feedback on the types of data which is relevant and which data isn’t. We’ll start with the demographics at the next meeting either in March or April.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Next meeting Date: 3/17 at 4pm (3rd Tuesdays)

MEMO

Date: May 26, 2020

To: Regional Plan Committee

From: Grace Vinson, Planner

Re: Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries, Basin-14 Tactical Basin Plan Tactical Basin Plan

☒ ACTIONS REQUESTED:

- 1) Propose comments on the Basin Plan for adoption by the Executive Committee, and
- 2) Make recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding the Basin Plan's conformance with the 2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan.

The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) is updating the Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries Tactical Basin Plan. Karen Bates, ANR Watershed Planning presented the planning process at the June Executive Committee meeting.

CVRPC has the opportunity to provide recommendations to the Agency of Natural Resources regarding tactical basin plans pursuant to 10 V.S.A §1253(d). Statute directs the Agency to "develop, in consultation with the regional planning commission, an analysis and formal recommendation on conformance with the goals and objectives of applicable regional plans." Plus, regional planning commissions are to assist the Secretary in implementing a project evaluation process to prioritize water quality improvement projects within the region to assure cost effective use of State and federal funds.

The Regional Plan Committee is tasked with providing a recommendation to the Executive Committee to approve CVRPC Basin Plan comments and conformance finding. The Committee must prepare the recommendation for approval at the Executive Committee's June 15, 2020 meeting. Committee actions noted above can be taken at the Committee's June meeting.

Staff reviewed the Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries Tactical Basin Plan. Staff then prepared a Draft Memo to ANR on the conformance of the Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries Tactical Basin Plan and the Regional Plan and Project Prioritization. The Memo includes the following attachments:

- Conforming Goals and Objectives Table

The Draft Basin Plan can be viewed here:

<https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/May%20DRAFT%20-%202020%20Basin%2014%20Tactical%20Basin%20Plan.pdf>

June 2020

Peter Walke, Commissioner
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05602

Re: Draft Stevens-Wells-Waits-CT River Tactical Basin Plan Conformance with the Central Vermont Regional Plan

Dear Mr. Walke,

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) has reviewed the *Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries, Basin-14 Tactical Basin Plan*, dated May 2020. The purpose of this memorandum is to analyze the relative conformance of the Draft Tactical Basin Plan with the relevant Goals, Strategies and Recommended Actions of the Regional Plan.

Introduction

The CVRPC has the opportunity to provide recommendations to the Agency of Natural Resources regarding tactical basin plans pursuant to Vermont Statutes Title 10, Chapter 47, §1253(d). Statute directs regional planning commissions to:

- (2)(G) ... the Secretary [of Natural Resources] shall: develop, in consultation with the regional planning commission, an analysis and formal recommendation on conformance with the goals and objectives of applicable regional plans.
- (3)(D) ... [the regional planning commissions are to] assist the Secretary in implementing a project evaluation process to prioritize water quality improvement projects within the region to assure cost effective use of State and federal funds.

CVRPC staff completed a review of the *Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tactical Basin Plan* in May, 2020. Staff then presented the review to CVRPC's Regional Plan Committee on May 26, 2020 for review and comment, to the Clean Water Advisory Committee on June 11, 2020 for review and comment, and to the Executive Committee for review and approval on June 15, 2020. Based upon this process the CVRPC presents these comments to the VT Agency of Natural Resources.

Plan Conformance

The *Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tactical Basin Plan* and the *2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan, amended 2018*, contain overarching conforming Goals and Objectives. The accompanying table on page 4 lists the Basin Plan's top objectives and strategies and identifies those Regional Plan goals, policies, and actions which are mutually supportive. (See attachment titled "Conformance Analysis of Goals & Objectives: Basin 14 Draft Tactical Basin Plan to the

CV Regional Plan”). CVRPC found that the Draft Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan conforms to the following main policies of the Land Use, Outdoor Recreation, Economics, Facilities, Services, and Utilities, and Transportation Goals in the Regional Plan:

- Generally opposing downgrading of water classifications and supporting maintenance/upgrading of classifications. The TBP objectives to assess candidates for reclassification, and recommend reclassification of Riddle Pond Outlet and Lower Waits River to B(1) for fishing conforms to these policies.
- Supporting municipalities to 1) enhance their flood hazard regulations and 2) implement land use policies and regulations that consider disaster resilience. The TBP objectives to revisit the Waits River River Corridor Plans and increase ERAF ratings conforms to these policies.
- Preserving wetlands to protect their function and productivity. The TBP objectives to update wetland mapping and provide outreach and training on the Vermont Rapid Assessment Method conforms to this policy.
- Promoting sound management, conservation, and use of natural resources, and employing Acceptable Management Practices (AMPs) on all agricultural operations. The TBP objective to develop BMP projects for farmers to submit to AAFM conforms to these policies.
- Protecting public health and safety and supporting the betterment of surface water quality in the region. The TBP objective to protect public health and safety and ensure public use and enjoyment of waters and their ecological health conforms to this policy.
- Preventing the spread of invasive species and implementing coordinated invasive species and forest pest education measures. The TBP objectives to recruit residents to join the Vermont Invasives Patrollers, and reduce the spread of invasive species and protect existing biodiversity conforms to this policy.
- Adopting policies and practices to reduce stormwater runoff volume and minimizing negative environmental impacts associated with the transportation system. The TBP objectives to identify and address sources of sediment in Washington, prioritize stormwater projects, replace/retrofit high priority stream crossings, implement BMPs for high priority road segments, and remediate impacts of impervious surface-related stressors conforms to these policies.
- Minimizing forest and habitat fragmentation, and ensuring that resource extraction operations follow AMP's. The TBP objectives to provide outreach, technical assistance and workshops to forestland owners and loggers on AMPs, implement forest restoration projects on state lands in Washington/Orange, and promote sustainable timber harvesting practices conforms to this policy.

Other Comments

CVRPC offers the following general comments:

- On page 36, Figure 12, it appears that Cookville Swamp (#24 in the Figure) is located in the Town of Washington. The Town where the swamp is located is indicated as Corinth on page 35.
- *Recommendation:* Clarify the location of Cookville Swamp. From aerial photos a large wetland complex along Cookville Brook is in Corinth. If this is what is known as Cookville Swamp, then please revise Figure 12.

The CVRPC Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) conducted a thorough review of the Basin Plan and had the following comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tactical Basin Plan. We look forward to working with ANR on the Plan implementation and other related projects in the future.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Waninger
Executive Director

DRAFT

Conformance Analysis of Goals & Objectives: Basin 14 Draft Tactical Basin Plan to the CV Regional Plan

Draft Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan, dated 05/2020**2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan, amended 2018**

Section	Pg. #	Top Objectives and Strategies	
Executive Summary, Table 1: Target Watershed Areas for Restoration and Protection	9	<p>Focus Areas: Scotch Burn, Middle Brook & Blood Brook, Waits River, Ompompanoosuc River, Connecticut River Mainstem</p> <p><u>Priority strategies:</u></p> <p>--Support outreach and project identification for agricultural best management practices (BMPs), riparian area plantings, river corridor and wetlands easements, and riparian area restoration.</p> <p>--Implement water quality monitoring on farms to measure effectiveness of restoration efforts</p>	<p>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</p> <p><u>Goal 1:</u> To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources.</p> <p><u>Goal 1, Policy 3:</u> Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region.</p> <p><u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3a:</u> Storage and utilization of fertilizers, pesticides, petro-chemicals, herbicides, sludge, or other potentially harmful industrial, agricultural, commercial or residential materials, must be accomplished in a manner compatible with existing regulations.</p> <p><u>Goal 7:</u> To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy: 3:</u> Acceptable Management Practices (AMP's, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources) should be employed on all agricultural, silvacultural and earth extraction operations</p>
Executive Summary, Table 1: Target Watershed Areas for Restoration and Protection	9	<p>Focus Areas: Ompompanoosuc River, Waits River, Stevens River, Wells River, Bloody Brook, Prospective A(1) & B(1) Rivers & Streams</p> <p><u>Priority strategies:</u></p> <p>--Develop and impleement projects from River Corridor Plans</p> <p>--Replace or retrofit high priority stream crossings that have been identified in bridge and culvert inventories</p> <p>--Provide outreach to communities on floodplain and river corridor protections</p>	<p>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</p> <p><u>Goal 1:</u> To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources</p> <p><u>Goal 1, Policy 5:</u> Avoid or limit development and investment in identified flood hazard areas. Where established economic and institutional centers exist, development in these centers shall adhere to strict floodplain management standards to minimize flood damage and public safety risk.</p> <p><u>Goal 1, Policy 5, Strategy 5b:</u> Encourage and provide technical assistance to municipalities in enhancing the regulatory standards in their municipal flood hazard regulations, including the incorporation of River Corridor regulations</p> <p><u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3f:</u> Assist with and support efforts to remove dams that are not serving a useful purpose and other artificial barriers from rivers and streams. Help identify dams that are not serving a useful purposes and that should be listed for removal in conformance with state and federal rules and regulations.</p>
Executive Summary, Table 1: Target Watershed Areas for Restoration and Protection	9	<p>Focus Areas: Ompompanoosuc River, Waits River, Stevens River, Wells River, Bloody Brook, Prospective A(1) & B(1) Rivers & Streams</p> <p><u>Priority strategies:</u> Provide technical support for river and stream reclassification protection efforts</p>	<p>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</p> <p><u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b:</u> CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users</p> <p>Outdoor Recreation Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</p> <p><u>Policy 7:</u> CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects</p>

Executive Summary, Table 1: Target Watershed Areas for Restoration and Protection	9	Focus Areas: Waits River, South Peacham Brook <i>Complete Road Erosion Inventories (REIs) and implement BMPs on high priority road segments</i>	<u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u> <u>Goal 7:</u> To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater. <u>Goal 7, Policy 2.</u> Structural Best Management Practices (BMP's) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.)
Chapter 2, Figure 11	33	Recommended for additional study/monitoring to determine eligibility for B(1) for aquatic biota <u>#21:</u> East Orange Branch Waits River (Washington) <u>#16:</u> Waits River mainstem <u>#27:</u> Cookeville Brook	<u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u> <u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b:</u> CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users <u>Outdoor Recreation:</u> <u>Policy 7:</u> CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects <u>Washington Town Plan:</u> No specific language in Washington Town Plan re: support/opposition of upgrading classifications.
Chapter 2, Figure 11	33	Recommended to reclassify to B(1) for fishing <u>#20:</u> Riddle Pond Outlet	<u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u> <u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b:</u> CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users <u>Outdoor Recreation:</u> <u>Policy 7:</u> CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects <u>Orange Town Plan, pg 26:</u> "Riddel Pond displays high quality aesthetic value and is excellent wildlife habitat....As the health of these bodies of water is important to the Town, any undue, potentially detrimental activities should be discouraged"
Chapter 2, Figure 12	36	Wetland for further study for Class(1) designation <u>#24:</u> Cockville Swamp (<i>Recommendation: Clarify the location of Cookville Swamp. From aerial photos a large wetland complex along Cookville Brook is in Corinth. If this is what is known as Cookville Swamp, then please revise Figure 12</i>)	<u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u> <u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b:</u> CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users <u>Outdoor Recreation Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</u> <u>Policy 7:</u> CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects

Chapter 4, Natural Resources: Rivers	60	Local Zoning and Bylaws: <i>Smart planning and design for development through Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMP) and ERAF attainment in towns and villages saves money and lowers the risk of significant loss during flood events, while protecting water quality as an added benefit.</i>	<u>Facilities, Services and Utilities Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u> <u>Emergency Management Goal 1:</u> To build disaster resistant communities in Central Vermont through sound emergency planning and management. <u>Emergency Management Goal 2:</u> To ensure that all communities in Central Vermont have the appropriate information, resources, and tools to respond to disaster events and recover from their impacts. <u>EM Policies:</u> 1. Promote the importance of local emergency management plans to municipalities in Central Vermont. 3. Encourage municipalities to undertake and periodically review an all-hazards assessment in their community to identify potential hazards and the at-risk people and property. 4. Encourage municipalities to adopt minimum standards for public roads, bridges, and culverts (using the Vermont Local Roads Program and FEMA's standards). 5. Encourage municipalities to implement land use policies and development regulations that consider the potential impacts of disasters on people and property. 8. Encourage municipalities to amend flood hazard regulations so they comply with current NFIP requirements. 9. Provide local officials with information on programs and funding available through FEMA and/or VEM for emergency management and hazard mitigation projects.
Chapter 4, Natural Resources: Rivers	60	Local Zoning and Bylaws: <i>--Protecting river corridors helps protect roads and structures from erosive damage, improves water quality, moderates flooding, and enhances wildlife habitat. River corridor protection, limits development close to stream and river channels to allow the channel to establish and maintain a least-erosive path through the valley lessening the need to armor channel edges.</i> <i>--In recognition of historic settlement patterns, the DEC model river corridor bylaw provides for infill and redevelopment in designated centers and densely developed areas provided that new development does not further encroach on the river relative to pre-existing development</i>	<u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</u> <u>Goal 1:</u> To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources <u>Goal 1, Policy 5:</u> Avoid or limit development and investment in identified flood hazard areas. Where established economic and institutional centers exist, development in these centers shall adhere to strict floodplain management standards to minimize flood damage and public safety risk. <u>Goal 1, Policy 5, Strategy 5b.</u> Encourage and provide technical assistance to municipalities in enhancing the regulatory standards in their municipal flood hazard regulations, including the incorporation of River Corridor regulations <u>Goal 3:</u> To encourage the historic settlement pattern of compact village and urban centers separated by rural countryside while promoting development in economically viable locations. <u>Policy 1:</u> New development should be planned so as to respect the historic settlement pattern of compact villages, neighborhoods, and urban centers separated by rural countryside. Accordingly, CVRPC.... "Encourages "in fill" development and adaptive reuse of buildings in existing settlements."
Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	72	Actions to address runoff from agricultural lands (basinwide) <u>#7.</u> Increase technical assistance to farms to develop BMP projects for farmers to submit to VAAFM for funding. <u>#8.</u> Support funding to provide assistance for managing shared equipment. <u>#9.</u> Build capacity of the CRWFA <u>#10.</u> Form farm management teams to provide an organized contact for farmers around technical assistance for water quality protection. <u>#11.</u> Continue funding for cover crop and no-till <u>#12.</u> Look into the possibility of the development and creation of an inter-seeding machine for cover cropping.	<u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</u> <u>Goal 1:</u> To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources. <u>Goal 1, Policy 3.</u> Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region. <u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3a.</u> Storage and utilization of fertilizers, pesticides, petro-chemicals, herbicides, sludge, or other potentially harmful industrial, agricultural, commercial or residential materials, must be accomplished in a manner compatible with existing regulations. <u>Goal 7:</u> To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater. <u>Goal 7, Policy: 3.</u> Acceptable Management Practices (AMP's, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources) should be employed on all agricultural, silvacultural and earth extraction operations.

Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	73	Actions to address runoff from developed lands stormwater- Washington <i>#14. Work with watershed partners and municipalities to prioritize stormwater projects in Basin 14 where Stormwater Mapping Reports have been completed.</i>	<u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u> <u>Goal 7:</u> To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater. <u>Goal 7, Policy 2.</u> Structural Best Management Practices (BMP's) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.) <u>Goal 7, Policy 4.</u> Efforts should be made to minimize the extent of impervious surfaces and surface runoff associated with parking facilities. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44.) <u>Goal 7, Policy 5.</u> Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff,... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44.)
Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	73	Actions to address runoff from developed lands- Roads (Basinwide, Waits River) <i>#16. Provide and support training for road crews on culvert replacements and installation and maintenance of road BMPs.</i> <i>#17. Complete Road Erosion Inventories (REIs) to meet Municipal Road General Permit (MRGP) requirements.</i> <i>#18. Implement best management practices for high priority road segments identified in REIs to meet MRGP requirements</i>	<u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u> <u>Goal 7:</u> To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater. <u>Goal 7, Policy 2.</u> Structural Best Management Practices (BMP's) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.) <u>Goal 7, Policy 4.</u> Efforts should be made to minimize the extent of impervious surfaces and surface runoff associated with parking facilities. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44.) <u>Goal 7, Policy 5.</u> Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff,... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44.)
Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	74	Natural Resource Protection: Wetlands (basinwide) <i>#24. Update wetland mapping.</i> <i>#25. Provide outreach and training to interested communities on conducting Vermont Rapid Assessment Method inventories.</i>	<u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</u> <u>Goal 1:</u> To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources. <u>Goal 1, Policy: 3.</u> Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region. <u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 5d.</u> Wetlands that provide a flood storage function as determined by the VT Wetlands Program should be left undisturbed or development should be required to provide compensatory storage or restoration on-site or in the immediate vicinity, if disturbed. <u>Goal 4:</u> To protect environmentally sensitive or unique areas. <u>Goal 4, Policy: 8.</u> It is the policy of CVRPC to encourage the preservation of wetlands so as to protect their function and productivity. Efforts (including consideration of site design options) should be made to mitigate against the possible adverse impacts of development on the Region's wetlands.

Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	75	Natural Resource Protection: Rivers (basinwide) <u>#26</u> . Increase ERAF rating by increasing municipal protections of water resources through local ordinances and the adoption of recommended standards and plans: river corridor protection, national floodplain insurance program, local emergency management plan, and local hazard mitigation plan. Continue to keep these plans up-to-date and implement their recommendations	Facilities, Services and Utilities Goals, Policies, and Strategies <u>Emergency Management Goal 1</u> : To build disaster resistant communities in Central Vermont through sound emergency planning and management. <u>Emergency Management Goal 2</u> : To ensure that all communities in Central Vermont have the appropriate information, resources, and tools to respond to disaster events and recover from their impacts. <u>EM Policies</u> : 1. Promote the importance of local emergency management plans to municipalities in Central Vermont. 3. Encourage municipalities to undertake and periodically review an all-hazards assessment in their community to identify potential hazards and the at-risk people and property. 4. Encourage municipalities to adopt minimum standards for public roads, bridges, and culverts (using the Vermont Local Roads Program and FEMA's standards). 5. Encourage municipalities to implement land use policies and development regulations that consider the potential impacts of disasters on people and property. 8. Encourage municipalities to amend flood hazard regulations so they comply with current NFIP requirements. 9. Provide local officials with information on programs and funding available through FEMA and/or VEM for emergency management and hazard mitigation projects.
Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	76	Natural Resource Protection: Rivers (Orange, Washington) <u>#34</u> . Assess candidates for reclassification on municipal and VFPR lands that have been identified in the 2020 Basin 14 TBP. These headwaters include North Branch of the Wells River, Red Brook, Beaver Brook, the South Branch of the Wells River, and the Waits River headwaters. Additional monitoring is recommended to determine if these waters meet criteria for reclassification for aquatic biota. The Waits River headwaters currently meeting the criteria for B(1) for fishing.	General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies <u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b</u> : CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users Outdoor Recreation Goals, Policies, and Strategies : <u>Policy 7</u> : CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects
Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	77	Natural Resource Protection: Rivers (basinwide) <u>#39</u> . Replace or retrofit high priority stream crossings that have been identified through previously completed or new the bridge and culvert assessment process. Conduct additional assessments as necessary.	General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies <u>Goal 7</u> : To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater. <u>Goal 7, Policy 5</u> . Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff,... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44. including "properly sizing and maintaining culverts")
Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	78	Natural Resource Protection: Lakes (Orange) <u>#51</u> . Recruit residents to join the Vermont Invasive Patrollers. There are currently no VIPs in this basin .	General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies <u>Goal 4, Policy 9</u> . Prevent the spread of terrestrial invasive species and forest pests. <u>Goal 4, Policy 9, Strategy 9a</u> . Work with partners to implement coordinated invasive species and forest pest education, detection, prevention and control measures. <u>Goal 4, Policy 9, Strategy 9b</u> . Encourage landscaping with native species over the use of non-native species, particularly in non-urban environments. Work with UVM Extension Master Gardeners on educating homeowners on the use of native trees and plants.

Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	79	Natural Resource Protection: Forests (Basinwide) <u>#53</u> . Provide outreach, technical assistance and workshops to private forestland owners, foresters, and loggers on AMPs, use of skidder bridges, and voluntary harvesting guidelines.	General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies: <u>Goal 7</u> : To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater. <u>Goal 7, Policy 3</u> . Acceptable Management Practices (AMP's, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources) should be employed on all agricultural, silvacultural and earth extraction operations. Economic Goals, Policies, and Strategies <u>Goal 2, Policy 7C</u> . Ensure that resource extraction operations follow best management practices to minimize impacts to the local and surrounding environment and other land uses, and to allow for site restoration. <u>Goal 2, Policy 7D</u> . Implement the goals and policies presented in the Land Use element of this Plan related to continued use, sustainability and protection of productive forests and prime agricultural
Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP	79	Natural Resource Protection: Forests (Washington/Orange) <u>#54</u> . Implement forest infrastructure restoration projects on state lands such as culvert replacements or retrofits, road decommissioning where water quality benefits are identified through assessments and long-range management plans.	General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies: <u>Goal 7</u> : To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater. <u>Goal 7, Policy 3</u> . Acceptable Management Practices (AMP's, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources) should be employed on all agricultural, silvacultural and earth extraction operations. Economic Goals, Policies, and Strategies <u>Goal 2, Policy 7C</u> . Ensure that resource extraction operations follow best management practices to minimize impacts to the local and surrounding environment and other land uses, and to allow for site restoration. <u>Goal 2, Policy 7D</u> . Implement the goals and policies presented in the Land Use element of this Plan related to continued use, sustainability and protection of productive forests and prime agricultural soils.
Chapter 5, Table 14: Basin 14 Priorities for Monitoring and Assessment	80	Kettle Pond (Marshfield, Groton) Monitor presence/absence of invasive species	General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies <u>Goal 4, Policy 9</u> . Prevent the spread of terrestrial invasive species and forest pests. <u>Goal 4, Policy 9, Strategy 9a</u> . Work with partners to implement coordinated invasive species and forest pest education, detection, prevention and control measures. <u>Goal 4, Policy 9, Strategy 9b</u> . Encourage landscaping with native species over the use of non-native species, particularly in non-urban environments. Work with UVM Extension Master Gardeners on educating homeowners on the use of native trees and plants.
Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update	89	Target Area: Basinwide <u>Objective</u> : Gather additional nutrient water quality data to better direct ANR and partners' watershed protection and restoration work in the watershed	General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies: <u>Goal 1</u> : To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources. <u>Goal 1, Policy: 3</u> . Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region. <u>Goal 1, Policy 6</u> . Improve flood resilience planning, education and outreach activities to create a citizenry aware of flood risks, potential costs, and actions that can serve to reduce risk and future property loss.

Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update	90	<p>Target Area: Basinwide</p> <p><u>Objective:</u> <i>Promote sustainable timber harvesting practices to control soil erosion and reduce sedimentation to waterways.</i></p>	<p><u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</u></p> <p><u>Goal 7:</u> To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy 3.</u> Acceptable Management Practices (AMP's, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources) should be employed on all agricultural, silvacultural and earth extraction operations.</p> <p><u>Economic Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u></p> <p><u>Goal 2, Policy 7C.</u> Ensure that resource extraction operations follow best management practices to minimize impacts to the local and surrounding environment and other land uses, and to allow for site restoration.</p> <p><u>Goal 2, Policy 7D.</u> Implement the goals and policies presented in the Land Use element of this Plan related to continued use, sustainability and protection of productive forests and prime agricultural soils.</p>
Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update	90	<p>Target Area: Basinwide</p> <p><u>Objective:</u> <i>Remediate impacts of impervious surface-related stressors to waters.</i></p> <p><u>Update or Recommendation for 2020 TBP:</u> <i>Work with watershed partners and municipalities to prioritize stormwater projects in Basin 14 where Stormwater Mapping has been completed.</i></p>	<p><u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u></p> <p><u>Goal 7:</u> To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy 1.</u> New development should, through design and maintenance, attempt to minimize changes in the volume and chemical composition of runoff. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44)</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy 2.</u> Structural Best Management Practices (BMP's) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.)</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy 4.</u> Efforts should be made to minimize the extent of impervious surfaces and surface runoff associated with parking facilities. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44.)</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy 5.</u> Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff,... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44.)</p> <p><u>Transportation Goals and Policies:</u></p> <p><u>Goal 2:</u> To preserve and maintain the existing transportation system.</p> <p><u>Goal 2, Policy 1.</u> Support the necessary steps for evaluating, prioritizing, and implementing preventive maintenance programs for all elements of the transportation system.</p>

Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update	90	<p>Target Area: Basinwide</p> <p><u>Objective:</u> <i>Promote littoral habitat protection on lakes by control of shoreland soil erosion, nutrient loss and sedimentation.</i></p> <p><u>Update or Recommendation for 2020 TBP:</u> <i>Focus shoreland training in Basin 14 and plan to coordinate with NRCD. Focus outreach on camps, businesses, and private landowners. Lake Morey did a septic local 2018 with large turnout</i></p>	<p><u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</u></p> <p><u>Goal 1:</u> To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources.</p> <p><u>Goal 1, Policy 3.</u> Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region.</p> <p><u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3d.</u> Native vegetated buffer strips in riparian zones and shoreland areas should be protected or maintained according to Best Management Practices outlined in the Vermont Handbook for Shoreland Development and VT ANR Guidance Regarding Riparian Buffers to protect functional habitat and improve water quality.</p> <p><u>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3g.</u> Assist landowners in identifying funding opportunities to support buffer plantings on their properties that would support stream bank and shoreland restoration.</p> <p><u>Facilities, Services and Utilities Goals, Policies and Strategies:</u></p> <p><u>WASTEWATER TREATMENT GOAL:</u> Improvement and expansion of wastewater treatment facilities and options so as to protect public health, maximize public investment, and reinforce desired patterns of growth.</p> <p><u>WWT Policy: 13.</u> CVRPC encourages the use of shoreline zoning powers (24 V.S.A., Chapter 117, and</p>
Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update	91	<p>Target Area: Basinwide</p> <p><u>Objective:</u> <i>Reduce the spread of invasive species and protect existing biodiversity in basin lakes.</i></p>	<p><u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u></p> <p><u>Goal 4, Policy 9.</u> Prevent the spread of terrestrial invasive species and forest pests.</p> <p><u>Goal 4, Policy 9, Strategy 9a.</u> Work with partners to implement coordinated invasive species and forest pest education, detection, prevention and control measures.</p> <p><u>Goal 4, Policy 9, Strategy 9b.</u> Encourage landscaping with native species over the use of non-native species, particularly in non-urban environments. Work with UVM Extension Master Gardeners on</p>
Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update	91	<p>Target Area: Town of Washington</p> <p><u>Objective:</u> <i>Identify and address significant sources of sediment, nutrients, and bacteria entering waters in the watershed.</i></p> <p><u>Update or Recommendation for 2020 TBP:</u> <i>BMPs funded by Better Roads in Orange. Corinth REI completed in 2017. Topsham REI planned for 2019 (funding secured). REI for Washington and Orange scheduled for summer 2019. Bradford REI & culvert inventory planned for 2020 (funding secured).</i></p>	<p><u>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</u></p> <p><u>Goal 7:</u> To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy 1.</u> New development should, through design and maintenance, attempt to minimize changes in the volume and chemical composition of runoff. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44)</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy 2.</u> Structural Best Management Practices (BMP's) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.)</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy 4.</u> Efforts should be made to minimize the extent of impervious surfaces and surface runoff associated with parking facilities. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44.)</p> <p><u>Goal 7, Policy 5.</u> Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff,... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44.)</p> <p><u>Transportation Goals and Policies:</u></p> <p><u>Goal 2:</u> To preserve and maintain the existing transportation system.</p> <p><u>Goal 2, Policy 1.</u> Support the necessary steps for evaluating, prioritizing, and implementing</p>

MEMO

Date: May 19, 2020

To: Regional Plan Committee

From: Clare Rock, Senior Planner

Re: New Regional Plan

✉ **ACTION REQUESTED: Review feedback on Vision + Aspirations and consider possible edits/amendments.**

Comments and Feedback: Vision + Aspirations

At the March 10, 2020 Board meeting Commissioners were asked to identify their top 4 Aspirations which they felt were most important or critical to the region in the future. Based upon the number of votes, the Aspirations have been listed below in ascending order:

Number of votes	draft Aspiration
13	ecologically functioning natural systems
11	prosperous, equitable, and adaptable economy
10	economically viable working landscape
9	reliable and affordable energy supplies
9	rural character and unique historic settlements
8	cost-effective infrastructure
7	changing climate
7	housing choices
7	healthy, active and connected population
6	integrated, regional transportation system
3	culture of cooperative planning

Attached please find the document titled *Comments and Feedback: Vision + Aspirations*. This includes the written comments provided by Commissioners. In some cases staff has provided a proposed amendment to an Aspiration based upon the comments. Staff is seeking input from the committee about whether edits or amendments should be made.

Review Municipal Needs, Challenges, + Successes

Also at the March 10, 2020 Board meeting Commissioners were asked to share municipal needs, challenges and successes. These can be used to help inform aspects of the new plan. For example, the Vision and Aspirations identify what the future of region should look like; proven

successes can help inform strategies towards meeting new goals. Additionally, in order to work toward a desired future it is necessary to address local current needs and challenges. Recognition of municipal needs and challenges should be incorporated into the new plan along with highlighting successes.

Staff organized this feedback within the framework of the draft Aspirations. Below is a summary of the types of input received:

Number of comments	Types of Municipal Needs, Challenges (and Successes)
17	cost-effective infrastructure
13	housing choices
12	culture of cooperative planning
11	healthy, active and connected population
10	integrated, regional transportation system
8	ecologically functioning natural systems
8	rural character and unique historic settlements
7	prosperous, equitable, and adaptable economy
7	reliable and affordable energy supplies
6	changing climate
2	economically viable working landscape

A more detailed summary of the feedback is contained with the attached document titled *Identification: Municipal Needs, Challenges, + Successes*.

Staff Observations:

- Differences between what we want as a regional (aspirations) vs what we need (municipal needs). Cost effective infrastructure was a significant challenge for municipalities, yet didn't rank highly as a regional aspiration. Conversely ecological natural systems was the top aspiration, but wasn't necessarily identified as a need.
- Lack of volunteers was mentioned repeatedly, yet the Aspiration of cooperative planning wasn't identified as a priority or critical need for the future of the region. As a region should we be aspiring to a culture of cooperative planning or is this a possible strategy to achieving a desired outcome?
- Workforce recruitment, development and attainment were discussed by a few Board members, but isn't explicitly identified in the economy Aspiration. Staff has proposed an amendment to this Aspiration.
- Energy related comments didn't identify affordability or reliability as a need or challenge. (Affordability or reliability are the key aspects of the Energy-related Aspiration.) Municipal comments focused more on how power was generated. Staff has proposed an amendment to this Aspiration.
- Comments on the Aspirations questioned the use of subjective words such as "desired" "attractive." Staff has proposed edits to these Aspirations.

New Regional Plan

Comments and Feedback: Vision + Aspirations

The following comments and feedback was generated at the March 10, 2020 CVRPC Board Meeting. For additional information about the meeting please see the Board Meeting Minutes.

Agree	Disagree	Unsure / indiff	Vision
12	0.25*	7	<p>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.</p> <p><i>* one red dot was mostly obscured by a green dot placed on top of the red one, therefore it was counted as a partial</i></p> <p>Comments: The vision is not clear enough to give direction.</p>

# of votes	Aspirations
3	<p>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.</p> <p>Comments: High quality of life = living in the country</p>
11	<p>Foster a prosperous, equitable, and adaptable economy that will provide full employment in a broad range of occupations at a livable wage.</p> <p>Comments: Encourage, attract, develop, and retain a good workforce.</p> <p>Suggested staff revision: <i>Foster a prosperous, equitable, and adaptable economy that invests in the development of a skilled workforce.</i></p>
10	<p>Preserve an economically viable working landscape of farms and forests, with increased local food production and access to healthy food.</p> <p>Comments: "local food production" – for whom?</p>
13	<p>Protect ecologically functioning natural systems and sustainably manage natural resources including wildlife, habitat and water resources.</p> <p>Comments: How?</p>
7	<p>Minimize contribution to a changing climate and be prepared to mitigate impacts from increased natural hazards.</p>

	Comments: none
7	<p>Ensure a range of housing choices that are high quality, safe and attractive, provide affordable options available for all residents.</p> <p>Comments: "attractive" – to whom? "provide" – can't we provide our own. We know how.</p> <p>Suggested staff revision: <i>Ensure a range of safe and affordable housing choices are available for all residents.</i></p>
9	<p>Accommodate the availability of reliable and affordable energy supplies, increased energy efficiency, and diverse renewable energy resources and facilities.</p> <p>Comments: How? Where? Energy storage problems. Meet the challenge.</p> <p>Suggested staff revision: <i>Accommodate the <u>development</u> of reliable and affordable energy supplies, increased energy efficiency, and diverse renewable energy resources and facilities.</i></p>
9	<p>Preserve the rural character and unique historic settlements with thriving downtown and village centers serving as cultural and economic hubs.</p> <p>Comments: none</p>
8	<p>Guide construction and maintenance of cost-effective infrastructure that supports desired growth patterns, public health and environmental sustainability.</p> <p>Comments: "desired" – by whom?</p> <p>Suggested staff revision: <i>Guide construction and maintenance of cost-effective infrastructure that supports public health and environmental sustainability.</i></p>
7	<p>Stimulate a healthy, active and connected population in communities that work for all residents.</p> <p>Comments: More focus on "healthy" population (use to address substance abuse)</p>
6	<p>Provide an integrated, regional transportation system that encourages various modes of travel.</p> <p>Comments: "transportation system" – just one for the region (?)</p>

Other overall comment: too many adjectives. Board member suggested striking all adjectives from the Aspirations.

New Regional Plan

Identification: Municipal Needs, Challenges, + Successes

At the March 10, 2020 CVRPC Board Meeting, municipal representatives were asked to share their municipal needs, challenges, and successes.

As a method of organizing the municipal needs, challenges, and successes staff organized and grouped them based upon the themes outlined within the draft New Regional Plan Vision + Aspirations document. For additional information about the topics discussed at the March 10 meeting, please see the Board Meeting Minutes.

Regional aspiration: culture of cooperative planning		
Total # of municipal comments: 12	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Lack of volunteers. (6 comments) Reluctance to consider zoning regulations. Keeping up with unfunded state mandates. (2 comments)	<u>Success Comments:</u> Adoption of new plan and zoning regulations. Good work by historical society. Excellent volunteer fast squad and fire department. VT Council on Rural Development RAMP volunteers.
Regional aspiration: prosperous, equitable, and adaptable economy		
Total # of municipal comments: 7	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Employment opportunities. Economic development. (5 Comments) Balancing business and agriculture.	<u>Success Comments:</u> n/a
Regional aspiration: economically viable working landscape		
Total # of municipal comments: 2	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Preservation of agricultural land. Ability of small farms and homesteads to operate.	<u>Success Comments:</u> n/a
Regional aspiration: ecologically functioning natural systems		
Total # of municipal comments: 8	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Protecting forest blocks. Water quality (2 comments) Stormwater	<u>Success Comments:</u> Protecting wildlife corridors. (Waterbury land conservation efforts) Invasive (emerald ash borer) and utilization of grant funds to inventory. Stormwater Management Plan. (Stevens River watershed) Erosion control plan.
Regional aspiration: changing climate		
Total # of municipal	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Storm events.	<u>Success Comments:</u> Local hazard Mitigation Plan.

comments: 6	Flood Resilience. Recoiling village area with river corridor regulations. Climate change issues.	
Regional aspiration: range of housing choices		
Total # of municipal comments: 13	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Affordability/affordable housing (5 comments.) Housing Supply. Quality of stock. (3 comments) Location of housing (sprawl). Vulnerable/sensitive populations (seniors, homeless.) Short term rentals.	<u>Success Comments:</u> Creating and retaining affordable housing (Waterbury) New home boom - 50 houses built in last 5 years.
Regional aspiration: reliable and affordable energy		
Total # of municipal comments: 7	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Climate change and fossil fuels. Meeting state energy goals. Decommissioning (solar panels.) 3 Phase Power	<u>Success Comments:</u> Renewable energy solar farms. Produce an alternative energy plan.
Regional aspiration: rural character and unique historic settlements		
Total # of municipal comments: 8	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Balance character with more housing. Rural vs urban. Light pollution (along RT2)	<u>Success Comments:</u> Preserving the nature of the town. Town Center Designation. Montpelier Alive. Village Center Designation.
Regional aspiration: cost-effective infrastructure		
Total # of municipal comments: 17	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Water and wastewater infrastructure. (4 comments) Cell, broad band, internet service. (3 comments) Dam removal. Cost of emergency services. (4 comments) Cost of municipal functions - such as budgeting, bookkeeping, engineering, employee healthcare (4 comments)	<u>Success Comments:</u> Capital Budget Process Mini TIF (Montpelier)
Regional aspiration: healthy, active and connected population		
Total # of	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u>	<u>Success Comments:</u>

municipal comments: 11	Social services. Substance abuse and opioid crisis (3 comments) School consolidation (possible closure of local school.) Aging in place. Youth retention.	Recreation and town forests (2 comments) Rec Field, sidewalks, lighting, kiosks. School consolidation (rural kids now have access to good school.) More births than deaths last year.
Regional aspiration: integrated, regional transportation system		
Total # of municipal comments: 10	<u>Challenge / Need Comments:</u> Exit 10 congestion Traffic impact on Rt2 Lack of public transit and other modes of travel aside from car. Road safety and speed. Circulation and alternative routes in small villages. Cost of municipal road and bridge maintenance. (2 comments)	<u>Success Comments:</u> Grants to build sidewalks and trails. (2 comments)