



## Weekly News Roundup August 14, 2020

Visit our Website

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### Upcoming Events

#### **VLCT Webinar - COVID 19 Grants Explained**

August 19, 2020 | 10:00 - 11:30 am

This webinar will help municipal leaders learn more about currently available grants (and the quickly approaching application deadlines) to help towns with expenses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. State officials will describe the application processes, eligibility requirements, and what the funds can be used for. Ample time for Q+A will be provided. [Register](#)

#### **ACCD 2021 Municipal Planning Grant Webinar**

August 19, 2020 | 2:00 - 3:00 pm

ACCD will host a webinar on Municipal Planning grants. Projects related to planning to re-purpose areas, sidewalks, and town greens to support continuity of business operations, developing COVID economy recovery strategies, updating zoning to welcome new homes, and more can qualify for grants. Register [here](#).

#### **Save the Date: Regional Energy Committee Roundtable**

September 1, 2020 | 5:00 pm

Join CVRPC for an evening discussion between energy committees on local projects, regional collaboration opportunities, and statewide programs. Bring an update and hear from others!

#### **Let's Grow Kids - Action Team Meetings**

Let's Grow Kids is reconvening Action Teams to help address critical role that child care plays in our society. If you are passionate about the future of child care and you want to know the best way to use your voice to strengthen the early care and education system, join in the meetings outlined below:

[Washington County August Action Teams \(Virtual Meeting\)](#) - Aug 19, 2020 | 5:30 - 6:30 pm

[Orange County August Action Team \(Virtual Meeting\)](#) - Aug 20, 2020 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm

#### **Housing Committees as a Tool to Meet Local Housing Needs**

Friday, August 21, 2020 | 12:30 to 2:00 pm

This interactive webinar provides an overview of the role and function of Housing Committees with examples from municipalities around the state. Will discuss how a local Housing Committee can help your community address housing needs and challenges, engage residents, and help advance community planning priorities. Webinar is focused on tools to help communities adapt to the rapidly changing world.

To register, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1378088700575288587>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. For more information, email [fhp@cvoeo.org](mailto:fhp@cvoeo.org).

## Farms for the Future webinar series: August and September

[Farms for the Future: A Skill-Building Workshop Series for Municipalities, Land Trusts, and Non-Profits to Support Farms and Farmers in northern New England](#) - This free, 5-part series provides introductory-level skill-building resources, guidance, and networking. The intended audiences are municipalities (planners, conservation commission, selectboard), land trusts, and organizations interested in protecting more farmland, increasing land access for farmers, building climate resiliency, planning for agriculture, and advancing land justice. Workshops will be highly interactive; all but the last one will be limited to 30 people to facilitate networking and dialogue. The webinars will be presented online in **August and September 2020** and will be recorded and available online at [Farmland Information Center](#) and [American Farmland Trust](#). The topics are:

- Supporting and Sustaining Farms, Farmers, and Farmland in your Community
- Strategies and Tools for Farm Protection
- Solar Siting and Farmland: Siting Options and Considerations
- Strategies and Tools for Making Farmland Available to Farmers
- Tools and Resources for Supporting Black, Indigenous, and Farmers of Color in Your Community

Learn more about the workshops and register [here](#).

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## Community News

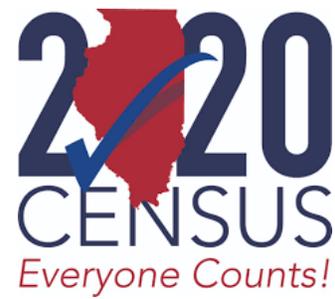
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### Complete the Census

The 2020 Census was launched this March and you can watch [this video](#) to find out why the Census is so important.

The Census determines:

- Federal funding for our schools, housing, public transportation and many other programs our communities rely on
- Our political representation locally and in Congress



**Every person counted in the 2020 Census will bring around \$2,000 in federal dollars to your community – per person, per year, for ten years.**

Our communities — low-income people, children, people of color, and immigrants — are among the most consistently under-counted in the country. Now more than ever in this time of crisis, it is **critical** that our communities be counted. In FY2016, Vermont received 2,482,076,315 through 55 federal spending programs guided by data derived from the 2010 Census.

The Census can be completed on-line, by phone, or by mail; and they have started sending folks door to door. **Make sure you count by filling out your form at [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov)**

By law, all Census responses are confidential and personal information may not be shared, especially to law enforcement agents.

### Internet Line Extension Customer Assistance Program

The Line Extension Customer Assistance Program (LECAP) provides up to \$3,000 in assistance to qualifying and eligible consumers to extend telecommunications lines to their homes. Find out more and apply [here](#).

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## COVID 19 Updates



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### Local Government Expense Reimbursement Grant Program Open

Governor Scott and the Agency of Administration announced last week that the [Local Government Expense Reimbursement Grant Program](#) for Vermont municipalities is now open. Eligible expenses to cover some costs incurred due to COVID-19 include, but are not limited to:

- Hazard pay
- Supplies and equipment
- Sanitation

- Facility alterations
- Overtime compensation
- Redirection of staff for first-response need

Applications are due September 1, 2020. LGER funds will not reimburse funds that are covered by insurance or other funding sources, including funding provided by FEMA's Public Assistance program. CVRPC staff can assist municipalities to identify and document eligible expenses. Trainings will be held later this month. Contact Grace Vinson at [vinson@cvregion.com](mailto:vinson@cvregion.com).

## Vermont Emergency Management Mask Distribution

The state has made 300,000 donated cloth face masks available to all municipalities throughout the state. Face masks will be distributed directly to municipalities that have requested them. The list of towns and points of contacts are listed [here](#) and will be updated as more towns request masks. If your community is not listed, that indicates they did not request their allotment, or did not provide a contact. Vermonters looking to obtain cloth face masks may do so by getting in touch with the point of contact listed and requesting more info.

## News from CVRPC

Previously published editions of [CVRPC's Municipal Updates](#) are available on our website.

If your community has a need, we can assist you with, please contact us at [CVRPC@cvregion.com](mailto:CVRPC@cvregion.com) - Stay Safe!

## RFP's, Grant Information, Applications & Deadlines

### 2021 Municipal Planning Grants

Vermont's communities face tough challenges responding to and recovering from COVID-19, and the State's flexible [Municipal Planning Grants](#) are ready to support projects for long-term recovery. Now is a great time to consider proposals that boost resilience in your community.

Towns may apply for up to \$22,000 and joint applications from several municipalities (a consortium) may apply for up to \$35,000. A wide range of municipal planning and implementation activities are eligible for funding. Strong grant applications demonstrate a clear need and community partnership. I encourage you to reach out to stakeholders now and discuss local needs, opportunities and strategies for change.

Please review the [Program Description](#) for eligibility requirements and use the new [Application Guide](#) and the criteria for successful applications.

#### Application Schedule for the 2021 Grants:

- Online application (GEARS) opens for use: August 1, 2020
- Training webinar: August 19, 2020 (Register [here](#))
- RPC confirmation of municipal planning process (for eligibility): September 30, 2020
- Application Deadline: October 1 @ 6:00 p.m., 2020
- Award Decisions: Early December 2020

If you have any questions or want to discuss project ideas, please contact Clare Rock @ CVRPC - [rock@cvregion.com](mailto:rock@cvregion.com)

## Upcoming Meetings

*Please note that CVRPC will provide a video or call in option for all meetings*

### AUGUST

Aug 11 There will be no Board of Commissioners Meeting this month  
 Aug 27 4 pm Project Review Committee Meeting, TBD  
 Aug 27 6:30 pm Municipal Plan Review Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)  
 Aug 31 4 pm Executive Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)

### SEPTEMBER

Sept 1 5 pm Regional Energy Committee Roundtable, Via Technology (See Agenda)  
Sept 8 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)  
Sept 10 4 pm Clean Water Advisory Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)  
Sept 22 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)  
Sept 24 4 pm Project Review Committee Meeting, TBD

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STAY CONNECTED

