Weekly News Roundup
October 2, 2020

Visit our website

Upcoming Events

Step Up to Button Up with CVRPC

October 8, 2020 | 5:00 pm
Looking to get answers to your questions about weatherization? Want to know what savings and incentives

ButtonUpVermont

are available for all sorts of energy efficiency projects? Join this informational webinar hosted by CVRPC, which will bring together residents across the region to share information about how to take advantage of energy savings in your own home. You can find more information about Button Up 2020 here.

Meeting information (register here)
Date and Time: Thursday, October 8 at 5pm
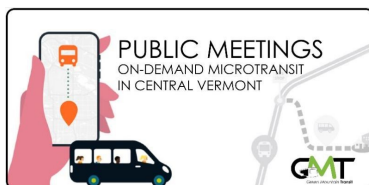Webinar ID: 927 7023 3457

Challenges to Sustainable Transportation in Vermont

Tune in Friday, October 9th at 12:00 PM to hear Dr. Gregory Rowangould, the new Director of the UVM Transportation Research Center, discuss some of the sustainability challenges facing transportation in Vermont and its many small and rural communities. Dr. Gregory Rowangould will also discuss how the UVM Transportation Research Center's research and outreach programs can help. Link available here.

Eastern Old Growth Forests: What They Are, Why They're Important, and Opportunities for Management

October 12, 2020 | 7:00-8:00 PM
Join Ethan Tapper, the Chittenden County Forester and CVU's Access program for a discussion of eastern old growth forests. Ethan will discuss what old growth forests are like (it may surprise you!), why they should be important to us, and what our role may be in helping develop new old growth on our landscape. In addition to allowing forests to grow and develop into old growth on their own, new research has highlighted opportunities to manage forests actively to become more like old growth forests sooner than they would naturally. Combined with an ecological forestry approach, this presents an opportunity to manage forests while increasing biodiversity, resiliency and overall health. Ethan will also discuss opportunities for employing this approach across Vermont's landscape. Sign up here.

PUBLIC MEETINGS
ON-DEMAND MICROTRANSIT
IN CENTRAL VERMONT
GMT

GMT Public Meetings on MicroTransit in Montpelier

Green Mountain Transit (GMT) is hosting a series of virtual public meetings to discuss replacing the Capitol Shuttle, Montpelier Hospital Hill, and the Montpelier Circulator with on-demand microtransit.
Please join GMT to learn more:

- Monday, October 12, 2020 at 5:00PM

- Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 12:00PM
- Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 4:00PM

The public is welcome to attend and offer comments. Please call 802-864-2282 with any questions or for more information. Additional info in this Burlington Free Press **article.**
To Join the Zoom Meetings: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88569826338?pwd=OTlRUTg5T1 c3a2FvOTJpYUtwVGxHdz09
Meeting ID: 885 6982 6338 | Passcode: 031210
Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kegK0L4Akc

Community News

Northfield hires Economic Development Director
A new Economic Development Director has been hired in Northfield. Jon Ignatowski started on September 15th and CVRPC welcomes him. Read more about Jon and his goals for the municipality here.

Resources from Vermont Hunger Council
Stretch your budget with Vermont food programs! These programs not only help you and your family - but are some of our most effective tools in bringing federal dollars into our Vermont economy and keeping our communities healthy.

3SquaresVT: Helps you put food on the table. It is an important program that helps households buy food from grocery and convenience stores, farmers markets, and co-ops. To find out more and get help applying visit www.vermontfoodhelp.com or text VFBSNAP to 855-11.

Meals for Kids: Wholesome food is important for children's ability to learn and grow. This fall, meals are available for kids through local schools, no matter where your child is learning. Meals are also available through some childcare providers. Contact your child's school or childcare provider to learn more!
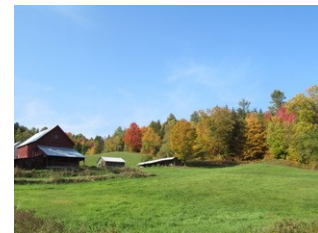
WIC: Provides access to healthy foods, nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding support, and community referrals. If you're pregnant, a caregiver, or a parent with a child under five, WIC is right for you! To find out more go to www.healthvermont.gov/wic or text 'VTWIC' to 855-11.

Meal Programs for Older Vermonters: People age 60 and older are especially encouraged to stay at home in order to protect themselves from COVID-19, but staying well nourished is also critical for your health. To help, you may be able to pick up meals to go or have meals delivered to your home. For more information about meals for older adults, please call the Helpline at 1-800-642-5119.

Food assistance through the Vermont Foodbank network: The Vermont Foodbank is dedicated to supporting Vermonters during all times of need. To get help during this time of crisis, visit vtfoodbank.org/gethelp or call 1-800-585-2265.

Enjoying Vermont in the Autumn
There are many ways to enjoy autumn in Vermont and the Green Mountain Byway is one of them. It is a 72-mile loop that connects the towns of Waterbury, Stowe, Morrisville, Hyde Park, Johnson, and Cambridge. **Read more here** about all it has to offer.

Join the City of Montpelier Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Update Committee
The City of Montpelier, in collaboration with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC), is beginning the update process for Montpelier's local hazard mitigation plan (LHMP). We are looking for community leaders and partner organizations for their participation and support to build the LHMP Committee- which will be the core group responsible for making decisions, guiding the planning process, and agreeing on the contents of the plan. An effective LHMP Committee engages multiple City departments and stakeholders to ensure the plan incorporates information not just on emergency management and hazard mitigation, but also

land use, recreation, natural resources, public safety, housing, and utilities/facilities management. An ideal candidate for this committee will have experience in one of these topics.

We anticipate the plan update process will involve several meetings taking place over the next 5 to 6 months. If you are interested, please complete the Council Committee application (available online here**: https://www.montpelier-vt.org/CommitteeApplication), no later than October 8, 2020.**

COVID 19 Updates

LGER Application Deadline Extended to October 15 [th]

The LGER deadline has been extended to October 15th for current non-applicants- eligible units of local government (ULGs) that have not submitted an LGER application. See below for additional instructions.

· **Current Non-Applicants:** the LGER application portal has been reopened to allow these ULGs to submit an application. The portal will close on October 15. Applications for current non-applicants must be submitted through the Tax Dept. website (https://tax.vermont.gov/coronavirus/municipal-grants/lger-grant)

· **Applicants** (ULGs that have applied to LGER): can amend their existing applications by contacting the Tax Dept. Amendments to existing grant application **must** be sent to tax.munigrants@vermont.gov for tracking purposes and to avoid duplicate applications. The email should discuss what the applicant wishes to revise (ex. supplies) and provide information about the change (ex. increase the amount by $XX). These applicants should not submit information through the website.

· For application assistance, please contact CVRPC at vinson@cvregion.com

News from CVRPC

If your community has a need we can assist you with, please contact us at CVRPC@cvregion.com. Previously published editions of **CVRPC's Municipal Updates** related to COVID-19 are available on our website. Stay Safe!

RFP's, Grant Information, Applications & Deadlines

SFY 2021 Transportation Alternatives Program Grant Opportunity
VTrans is now accepting grant applications for the SFY 2021 Transportation Alternatives Program. This year, Transportation Alternatives Program funding (roughly $2.2 million) is available for all eligible activities as described in the Vermont Transportation Alternatives Fall 2020 Application Guide per the link below. Applications are due in-hand or by e-mail by Friday, November 27, 2020.

http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/transport-alt

An informational workshop (via virtual meeting) will be held to convey requirements as well as to collect any questions that arise from the participants. It is strongly recommended that an official representative of the applicant attend the workshop to better understand the requirements associated with federal-aid projects. This session will be held at the time and date listed below. *No password or pre-registration is required*. Applicants may participate in the workshop from any computer connected to the internet.

· **Workshop Session :   October 14**[th]**, 2020 from 10:00am to 11:30am**
· The Workshop recording will also be accessible at the following link: http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/transport-alt

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Scott Robertson, P.E., VTrans Municipal Assistance Bureau – Local Projects @ 802-793-2395 | scott.robertson@vermont.gov

Upcoming Meetings

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

OCTOBER

Oct 5 4 pm Executive Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)
Oct 8 4 pm Clean Water Advisory Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)
Oct 8 5 pm Step Up to Button Up, see registration info
Oct 13 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners Meeting | Regional Plan Amendment Hearing, Via Technology (See Agenda)
Oct 22 4 pm Project Review Committee Meeting, TBD
Oct 27 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)

STAY CONNECTED