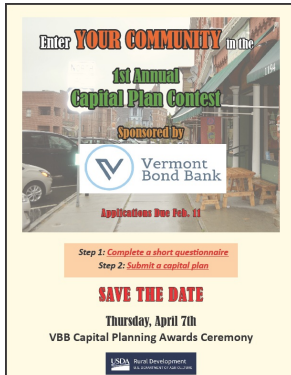


Weekly News Roundup January 28, 2022

Visit our website

Community News



Vermont Bond Bank Capital Plan Contest

Vermont Bond Bank recently announced a Capital Plan Contest. They are looking to recognize best practices in communities of all sizes while allowing all Vermonters to benefit from exemplary models of capital planning throughout the state.

Submissions may include all formats of capital plans used by communities and organizations. To be considered, complete a **short questionnaire** and email your capital plan to **this address**. Submissions are due by February 1, 2022.

Winners will be featured in the Bond Bank's future publications on capital planning. Additionally, winners will receive professional photography of a related project and special recognition at the Bond Bank's upcoming capital planning forum, and all will receive technical assistance on capital plan implementation. There will also be an award ceremony at the virtual Vermont Capital Planning Forum on April 7, 2022.

Community Health Needs Assessment

Every three years, residents of Washington County and surrounding areas are encouraged **to join the conversation** about how to strengthen community health. More than 50 local organizations are working together to promote a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).



This year's CHNA survey results will inform a three-year Community Health Improvement Plan that:

- Identifies and prioritizes health needs
- Builds upon existing strengths
- Works on solutions with community partners

How to join the conversation:

- Please take 10-minutes to complete the online community survey at: cvmc.org/chna2022
- Share this email with your friends and neighbors, aged 18 and older.
- To thank you for your time, you can enter a drawing for a chance to win a \$50 gift card, drawn weekly.

For more about the Community Health Needs Assessment, and organizations involved, visit CVMC.org/CHNA. You'll also find the 2019 CHNA report and corresponding Implementation Strategy, showing what happened with information previously gathered from the survey effort.

Washington County Continuum of Care Study

The Washington County Continuum of Care is looking for people in Washington County Vermont who are currently homeless who would like to be interviewed about their experiences with homelessness. Your identity and any information you tell us will be kept anonymous, and people who complete an interview will receive a \$100 Visa cash card. If you'd like to do this, or are working with someone who would, please contact Will Eberle at will.eberle@vermont.gov or 802-760-8741 text/call.

Temporary Open Meeting Law Changes

S.222, which authorized temporary Open Meeting Law procedures in response to COVID-19, was enacted into law. The changes become effective January 18, 2022 and expire on January 15, 2023.

The changes provide flexibility and requirements for meeting Open Meeting Law requirements as follows:

- Suspending the requirement for a physical location for regular, special and emergency meetings (boards can meet via electronic means only).
- When meeting electronically, the public body shall:
 - use technology that permits the attendance of the public through electronic or other means;
 - allow the public to access the meeting by telephone; and
 - post information that enables the public to directly access and participate in meetings electronically and include this information in the published agenda for each meeting (if there are presentations at the meeting or documents that will be discussed at the meeting, they must be posted in advance of the meeting with the meeting agenda so that individuals participating by telephone can follow along with the presentation).
- Selectboards and School Boards must record their meetings unless unusual circumstances make it impossible for them to do so.
- The time to post minutes can be extended from 5 to 10 days from the meeting date due to a staff shortage due to COVID.
- A municipal public body may post any meeting agenda or notice of a special meeting in two designated electronic locations in lieu of the two designated public places in the municipality or in a combination of a designated electronic location and a designated public place. A municipal public body shall post the notice or agenda in or near the municipal clerk's office and shall provide a copy of each notice or agenda to the newspapers of general circulation for the municipality.

See also: [VLCT's FAQ for Open Meeting Law Changes](#)

Job Posting - Waterbury Assistant Planning & Zoning Administrator

The Town of Waterbury seeks to hire an Assistant Planning & Zoning Administrator (PZA). The successful candidate will assist with the administration and enforcement of the Town of Waterbury's zoning and subdivision bylaws, as well as general planning functions. The Assistant PZA will also assist with the regulation and management of the 100-yr. floodplain. The Assistant PZA will assist the Planning & Zoning Director, Development Review Board, and Planning Commission when necessary. Experience with floodplain management and a demonstrated ability to review and write zoning by-laws is desired. This is a full-time position with benefits, 40 hours per week. Pay is commensurate with experience; hiring range is \$21.00 to \$29.00 per hour. Seeking to hire as soon as possible. The complete job description can be accessed via the home page of our municipal website: www.waterburyvt.com. The employment application is on the Finance & Human Resources page of our municipal website:

https://www.waterburyvt.com/fileadmin/files/Finance_files/Employment_application.pdf

Send cover letters, resumes, and applications by Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. to: Stephen Lotspeich, Planning & Zoning Director, 28 N. Main Street, Suite 1, Waterbury, VT 05676 or via e-mail: slotspeich@waterburyvt.com

Guidance for Municipalities from the Cannabis Control Board

The Cannabis Control Board recently announced that it has released Guidance for Municipalities, which is posted [here](#) on their website.



RFPs, Grant Information, Applications, and Deadlines



New Program to Subsidize Electric Vehicle Charging Stations for Multi-Unit Housing

Department of Housing and Community Development has a new grant program for the installation of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE or EV chargers) to serve residents in affordable and non-profit multiunit housing.

The deadline to apply is April 1, 2022. Detailed information on eligibility and resources for planning projects proposals can be found on the [program website](#).

Downtown Transportation Fund Grant Applications Now Available

New Eligibility for Designated Village Centers

For 2022 the Downtown Transportation Fund has expanded eligibility to Designated Village Centers that have participated in the [Better Connections Program](#) administered by the Vermont Agency of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Community Development and Designated Village Centers within Chittenden County that have completed a comprehensive downtown/village center/community area planning process with public input, comparable to the Better Connections Program. See the program application for a full list of eligible municipalities.

Application Deadline: March 7, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m. | Award Decisions: April 25, 2022

Project Started: April 25, 2024 | Project Completed: April 25, 2025

See the 2022 [Downtown Transportation Fund](#) and [Clean Water Initiative Funding](#) for DTF Projects for eligibility, program guidance and application. The maximum grant amount is \$200,000 with a 20% match is required. Projects must demonstrate the ability to start the project within 24 months and complete within 36 months.

Additional Clean Water Initiative Funding Available

The Downtown Transportation Fund (DTF) has an additional \$140,000 in funding from the Agency of Natural Resources, Clean Water Initiative (CWI). DTF projects may apply for \$20,000 to \$140,000 of “add on” clean water funding for eligible storm water implementation projects. A 20% match is required for these funds. Examples of eligible projects can be found on the Department of Environmental Conservation [Green Stormwater Infrastructure](#) (GSI) web page. The [Vermont Green Streets Guide](#) is a resource to help you plan, design and maintain your clean water project. The Clean Water Initiative will provide additional funds for DTF projects to implement stormwater management practices that help control flooding, reduce erosion, and improve water quality. The project must primarily mitigate nutrient or sediment pollution.

Please contact [Gary Holloway](#), the Downtown Program Manager at 802-522-2444 if you have questions or need assistance with the DTF application. It is strongly encouraged to set up a preapplication meeting to discuss project ideas.

Learn more about how Downtown Transportation Fund investments can transform your downtown at our [blog post](#).

Upcoming Meetings

Please note that CVRPC will provide a video or call in option for meetings (see agendas on our [website](#) for details).

JANUARY

Jan 31 4 pm Executive Committee (February meeting)

FEBRUARY

Feb 7 4 pm - Executive Committee Special Meeting

Feb 8 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners

Feb 10 4 pm Project Review Committee

Feb 21 Office closed - Holiday

Feb 22 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee

Feb 23 5 pm Central Vermont Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC)

Feb 28 4 pm Executive Committee (March meeting)

STAY CONNECTED

