



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 10, 2024 at 6:30 pm

29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier Vermont

Hybrid Meeting with Remote Participation via Zoom¹

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81136818419?pwd=dDFDbDhrTm56TUNQUlp3WEorYzRZZz09>

One tap mobile: +19294362866,,81136818419#,,,,*722490# US (New York)

Dial in via phone: 1-929-436-2866 • Meeting ID: 811 3681 8419 • Passcode: 722490

Or find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcjBhj3bIX>

Download the app at least 5 minutes before the meeting starts: <https://zoom.us/download>

6:15 pm – Social and pizza

Page **AGENDA**

6:30² Introductions

Adjustments to the Agenda

Public Comments

6:35 Committee Appointments (potential action)³

2 6:45 EPA Grant – Revolving Loan Fund

7:00 Winooski Flood Resilience Roundtable Update

3 7:10 Minutes 11/12/2024 (action - enclosed)³

6 7:15 Reports (action - enclosed)³

Update/questions on Staff and Committee Reports

7:25 Commissioner Round Table

7:40 Adjourn

Next Meeting: January 14, 2025

¹ Persons with disabilities who require assistance or alternate arrangements to participate in programs or activities 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.

² Times are approximate unless otherwise advertised.

³ Anticipated action item.



MEMO

Date: December 5, 2024
To: Board of Commissioners
From: Christian Meyer, Executive Director
Re: Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund

✉ ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion the creation of a revolving loan fund for brownfields cleanup.

Currently the CVRPC Brownfields Program has a backlog of demand. The overall goal of the Brownfields Program is to return sites with real or perceived contamination to the marketplace or to be reused for the public good such as housing, commercial uses, parks, or green space. To meet this demand, CVRPC has applied for EPA Coalition Assessment Grant funding for brownfields inventories, planning, environmental assessments and community outreach and EPA Revolving Loan Fund Grant funding to support cleanup of brownfield sites contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, and other contaminants. While the work that will be completed as part of the assessment grant is critical and will allow us to continue and expand upon the work we are already doing, there is also high demand for cleanup funding, which CVRPC is currently unable to provide.

The Revolving Loan Fund would allow CVRPC to provide cleanup funding through loans and sub-grants to municipal and non-municipal partners to clean up contaminated properties. Section 704 of the CVRPC bylaws states that CVRPC may “establish and administer a revolving loan fund...if approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board.” Before staff brings such a motion to the board, we would like commissioners to have an opportunity to request additional information or ask specific questions.

Were CVRPC to be awarded the Revolving Loan Fund Grant, such a motion will be necessary before we can accept the funding. If we are not awarded the funding, passing this resolution at this time will make future applications stronger.

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Draft MINUTES
November 12, 2024**

Commissioners:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barre City	Janet Shatney, Sec/Treas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moretown	David Stapleton
<input type="checkbox"/>		Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>		Joyce Manchester, Alt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barre Town	Alice Farrell	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northfield	Royal DeLegge
<input type="checkbox"/>		Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jeff Schulz, Alt
<input type="checkbox"/>	Berlin	Robert Wernecke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Orange	Lee Cattaneo
<input type="checkbox"/>		Karla Nuissl, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plainfield	Paula Emery
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cabot	Brittany Butler	<input type="checkbox"/>		Bob Atchinson, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calais	John Brabant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roxbury	Jerry D'Amico, Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>		Melanie Kehne, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waitsfield	Don La Haye
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Duxbury	David Wendt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Alice Peal, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Warren	Alexis Leacock
<input type="checkbox"/>	E. Montpelier	Zoe Christiansen	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jenny Faillace, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Clarice Cutler, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Washington	Peter Carbee, Vice Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fayston	Andrew McNealus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waterbury	Doug Greason
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marshfield	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Williamstown	Richard Turner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Middlesex	Ron Krauth	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jacqueline Higgins, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Mitch Osiecki, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Woodbury	Michael Gray
<input type="checkbox"/>	Montpelier	Mike Miller, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Worcester	Bill Arrand

Staff: Christian Meyer, Nancy Chartrand, Reuben MacMartin, Niki Sabado, Pamela Sonn

Guests: Stephen Whitaker - resident of Montpelier

Call to Order: Chair D'Amico called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm, a roll call was completed, and a quorum was present.

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

Public Comments: Chair D'Amico advised that Stephen Whitaker, resident of Montpelier, was in attendance but would speak when we address the Montpelier Growth Area item on the agenda. Chair D'Amico also introduced Pamela Sonn, new CVRPC Assistant Planner.

Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) Appointment: Christian Meyer provided an overview of the information outlined in the packet, noting that we are soliciting for a municipal representative and have reached out to all municipalities for this seat. It was noted that this seat represents municipal interests, not a specific municipality. Alice Peal also made note of the floodplain and river corridor presentation planned for this week's CWAC meeting with Stephanie Smith of Vermont Emergency Management and Ned Swanburg of the Agency of Natural Resources.

Montpelier Growth Area: Stephen Whitaker advised the Board he was instrumental in pointing out the information outlined in the recent Montpelier Bridge article (linked in the meeting packet) advising approval of

1 Montpelier's growth center expansion was revoked. He shared his concerns related to Montpelier's planning
2 practices and stated his belief that the City is attempting to bypass this RPC's prerogative of reviewing and
3 approving a plan, and requested that the RPC insist the full growth center application be prepared based on full
4 detail of the Country Club Road property in their Municipal Plan. He requested the RPC pay close attention as
5 such a large development will have regional impact.

6
7 Christian Meyer went on to provide an overview of the memorandum provided in the packet. His directive
8 coming out of last month's meeting was to assess what the regional role was in the process and if we had
9 standing in the request for reconsideration; and if there was a time constraint on our ability to comment on the
10 process as is outlined in the packet. The RPC will be asked to review Montpelier's updated municipal plan upon
11 completion for conformance with the Regional Plan and will be requested to provide a letter of support to
12 extend growth area boundary. We will be watching this very closely. Christian advised he is a newly appointed
13 member of the Community Investment Board, however, in consideration of this application as it relates to
14 Montpelier he has recused himself from those votes since the RPC will have to review and possibly approve a
15 Municipal Plan in the future.

16
17 During discussion it was confirmed that the Country Club Road property extends from the Montpelier's current
18 growth center that includes Sabin's Pasture. It was also confirmed that when the updated Municipal Plan
19 comes to the RPC for approval it will be the role of the Municipal Plan Review Committee to review the plan for
20 approval. Chair D'Amico thanked Stephen for his input.

21
22 **Regional Plan Chapter Review – Transportation:** Senior Transportation Planner Reuben MacMartin provided an
23 overview of the information included in the meeting packet. Reuben noted that the draft chapter has been
24 presented to both the Transportation Advisory Committee and the Regional Plan Committee for feedback,
25 resulting in the goals and strategies being revised and requests for additional data and analyses. He requested
26 the Board's input on the draft chapter as presented.

27 Discussion included the utility of data presented on pages 25 and 29 given the age of the data. Reuben noted it
28 was the most recent data available at the time of drafting, but he will confirm whether more recent data is now
29 available. Christian noted it will be important to include that we will maintain and monitor trends going
30 forward. With regard to goals, there was discussion on goal #11 to include emergency use as well as
31 recreational use for Class IV roads. It became very apparent during recent flood events that consideration needs
32 to be given to getting emergency vehicles into impacted areas post flood. It was noted the Regional Plan could
33 include template language for municipalities to use in a Class IV Road policy. There was also discussion on the
34 Transportation Resilience Planning Tool (TRPT) that was initiated a few years ago to identify critical areas, and
35 consideration of whether this type of information should be in the Emergency Management chapter vs. the
36 Transportation chapter.

37 The Board was requested to please share the draft Transportation chapter information with their town officials
38 and to provide any additional feedback to the RPC for consideration.

39 **Winooski Basin Flood Workshop:** Christian Meyer provided details about the workshop outlined in the packet,
40 clarifying it is Wednesday, December 4th. It was noted this event is the result of a planning committee of the
41 organizations outlined in the packet meeting and initiating a conversation basin-wide. The top three questions
42 that will be presented at the workshop are:

1 What are you working on or plan to work on in the area of flood damage reduction, resilience and
2 adaptation in your community:

3 What resources do you need to get this work done?

4 Is there value in this watershed-level convening – is it worthwhile and should we do it again?
5

6 It was noted information had been sent out to municipal governing boards and town officials to identify people
7 in the community to attend and report back to their municipal governments.
8

9 It was also noted that CVRPC is always looking for opportunities for basin-wide modeling initiatives so we can
10 start identifying the best projects to pursue.
11

12 **Minutes – (10/8/24):** *Don La Haye moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Lee Cattaneo.*
13 *Motion passed unanimously.*
14

15 **Reports:** Christian Meyer noted Community Development Planner Eli Toohey has been working on EPA
16 applications to grow our Brownfields program. One of the applications being submitted is for a revolving loan
17 fund, which our bylaws authorize us to create, but it must have a 2/3 majority vote of the board. This item will
18 be brought back in front of the board next month.

19 Christian also advised additional Green Mountain Transit services are being cut. Initial rounds of reduced service
20 already went into effect in the Chittenden County area. Today the GMT Board voted on reducing service for the
21 Montpelier Link (Burlington & St Albans) beginning in March 2025. There was discussion on the reasons for loss
22 of ridership as well as the groups such cuts are going to affect the most (elderly / disabled) who may be
23 dependent on public transportation to get to services. Reuben advised he will try and identify new transit data
24 for inclusion in the Regional Plan. He was also requested to look at the language on long distance transit on
25 page 28 of the draft chapter.

26 *Ron Krauth moved to accept the reports as presented, seconded by Don La Haye. Motion passed unanimously.*

27 **Commissioner Round Table:**

28 Janet Shatney advised Barre City is proud recipient of the MERP grant that CVRPC Climate and Energy Planner
29 Sam Lash worked on. They have received funds to do upgrades to Barre City Auditorium and City Hall. She
30 informed the group that Sam Lash is a rock star!
31

32 Lee Cattaneo also shared praise for Sam's work with their town, noting that Orange also received grant funds to
33 redo their town hall and town offices and make them energy efficient.
34

35 **Adjournment:** *Don La Haye moved to adjourn at 7:43 pm; seconded by Lee Cattaneo. Motion carried*
36 *unanimously.*
37

38 Respectfully submitted,
39 Nancy Chartrand, Office Manager

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Committee & Appointed Representative Reports, November 2024

Meeting minutes for CVRPC Committees are available at www.centralvtplanning.org.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Monday of week prior to Commission meeting; 4pm) [12/02/24]

- Authorized Executive Director to sign the following contracts and amendments: Department of Environmental Conservation – Upper Winooski Stormwater Mitigation Project Amendment #2; Agency of Transportation FFY2025 TPI Work Program; Stone environmental – Phase II Environmental Assessment at Country Club Road – Montpelier; Lamoille County Conservation District – Project Development in the Upper Little River Watershed; Vermont Land Trust – Implementation of John Fowler Road Berm Removal – Marshfield.
- Accepted the October 2024 unaudited financials.
- Formed a subcommittee to review the process for Executive Director evaluation.
- Initiated the process of forming an FY26 Nominating Committee in order to bring a slate for this Committee to the Board in January.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (February - April; scheduled by Committee)

- Did not meet.

PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE (4th Thursday, 4pm)

- Did not meet – December meeting scheduled for 12/3/2024
- Staff prepared memo to committee summarizing noteworthy new and ongoing Act 250 and Section 248 applications.

REGIONAL PLAN COMMITTEE (1st Tuesday, 4pm) – (11/19/24)

- Staff reviewed with committee a draft of the Energy chapter.
- Next meeting scheduled for December 17th @ 4 pm.

MUNICIPAL PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE (as needed; scheduled by Committee)

- Did not meet.

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (4th Tuesday; 6:30 pm)

- Reuben MacMartin, CVRPC – Senior Transportation Planner presented for feedback a draft presentation on transportation/land-use interactions that he intends to take to the towns to ensure that planning commissions, select boards, and other relevant parties understand transportation/land-use relationships and consider them in their decision making.

CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (2nd Thursday, 4pm)

- Hosted 14 November 2024 meeting.
 - Meeting topic: *Floodplain Mapping, River Corridor Bylaws & Hazard Mitigation Funding*
 - Guest speakers:
 - Ned Swanberg, DEC - Regional Floodplain Manager
 - Lisa Kolb, VT Emergency Management
 - Nearly 20 non-committee members attended this meeting
- Next meeting: 9 January 2025.
 - Meeting topic: *Municipal Wastewater Assistance & Workshops*

BROWNFIELDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (3rd Thursdays 10-10:30am)

- Approved funding for Phase II for Country Club Road, Montpelier
- Updates on the EPA Brownfields Coalition Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund applications
- Next meeting scheduled for December 19, 2024

WINOOSKI BASIN WATER QUALITY COUNCIL (3rd Thursday, 1pm)

- Awarded funding for one proposal:
 - CVRPC – Waitsfield Floodplain Restoration Project Development
- Reviewed five proposals:
 - Vermont Land Trust – Roland Stream Crossing Implementation
 - Friends of the Winooski:
 - Riparian Buffer Planting - Huntington (2 locations)
 - Riparian Buffer Planting - Marshfield
 - Riparian Buffer Planting - Jericho
- Next meeting scheduled for 19 December 2024

VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (VAPDA)

- VAPDA met to conduct its regular business. No major actions were taken.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT BOARD – VAPDA Representative

No meetings were held

VERMONT ECONOMIC PROGRESS COUNCIL

No Central Vermont activity.

GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT

The GMT Board of Commissioners met to discuss and act on several items:

- The Board approved a refund policy
- The Board established a new rule on organizational rule making
- The Board approved the issuance of a request for proposals for legal services
- The Board approved the proposed services reductions for March 2025. These service reductions will primarily impact intermunicipal LINK services to and from Burlington.
- The Board moved to set the ADA discount rate at 45%
- The Board moved to increase fixed route assessments by 4% in FY26 in urban areas.
- The Board approved the general manager beginning his proposed special assessment process.
- The Board moved to accept the GMT interim legislative report.

CENTRAL VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

- Staff did not participate in the November meeting.

MAD RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT

- Staff were not available to participate.

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

P: 802-229-0389

Staff Report, November 2024 cvrpc@cvregion.com

Staff are in the office Monday - Friday. Due to telework schedules, please schedule in-person meetings in advance.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Contacts: Eli Toohey, toohey@cvregion.com, Niki Sabado sabado@cvregion.com & Will Pitkin, pitkin@cvregion.com, unless otherwise noted.

Municipal Planning & Plan Implementation:

- Barre City:
 - Community Tree Planting Grant Application (Lincoln)
 - Worked with Friends of Mathewson Playground to finalize grant application for the planting of four trees at Mathewson Playground.
 - Submitted final grant application to Chittenden County RPC.
 - Presented Housing Infill Analysis Final Report to Housing Taskforce and Barre City Council. (Eli & Brian)
 - Met with Barre City Planning Commission to coordinate outreach plan, timeline and roles for upcoming charette for the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Study (Reuben, Niki).
- Berlin – Met with Berlin Planning Commission for presentation of SE Group’s existing conditions analysis for the transit oriented development study and coordinated of next steps/public input process (Reuben)
- Northfield – Met with Northfield Select Board, Planning Partners, and Town Administration for coordinating venues, event schedule, and form-based code process for the upcoming charette for Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Study (Reuben, Niki).
- Orange – Met with municipal leadership for Municipal Energy Resilience (MERP) and Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) grants, met with municipal leadership and contracted architect. (Eli & Sam)
- Plainfield
 - Review and development of the Neighborhood Development Area (NDA) pre-application draft with Plainfield Planning Commission and Steering Committee members to update bylaws, subdivision regulations and mapping requirements (Niki).
 - Review and production of interim bylaw updates and subdivision regulations for the draft application. Met with DHCD and Plainfield Planning Commission Chair to coordinate and update regulation requirements (Niki).
- Waterbury – prepared consultation letter and recommendations for the Waterbury Planning Commission for their town plan update. Includes information on Act 47, Complete Streets, Neighborhood Development Area (NDA) Designation, and CVRPC training and education resources (Niki).
- Second round of Bond Bank and Penn Planning Studio for Climate/Flood Resilience in Barre City, Montpelier, and Plainfield (Reuben, Keith, Niki, Eli)

Regional Planning and Implementation:

- Revised Transportation chapter for 2025 Regional Plan based on feedback from Board of Commissioners (Reuben)
- Participated in *Missing Middle Housing Solutions & Zoning for More Equitable Housing Options*, Maryland Department of Planning webinar. (Eli, Niki)
- Refined housing targets methodology and capacity data. (Eli, Niki, Will, Pamela)
- Updated Regional Plan Housing chapter. (Eli, Pamela)

- Participated in Statewide RPC meetup in St. Johnsbury. (Niki, Eli, Pamela, Will, Brian)
- Future Land Use methodology planning and development with regional planning commission partners (Niki, Brian, Will).
- Participated in the Land Use Reform training - planning, development, and outreach (Niki, Will).
- Participated in the Housing Targets Municipalization methodology meeting with Rutland RPC, Northwest RPC, and CCRPC.
- Collaborated with VT Recreation & Parks Association and Vermont Trails & Greenway Council for assistance planning 2025 Recreation Conference on Accessibility. (Lincoln)

Economic Development: (Contact Eli Toohey, toohey@cvregion.com and Christian Meyer, meyer@cvregion.com)

- Participated in Regional Project Prioritization selection meeting with Central Vermont Economic Development Corp (Eli, Christian)
- Drafted EDA 2023 Disaster Supplemental Application. (Eli, Keith, Pamela)
- Ongoing Northern Borders Regional Commission Awardees Local Development District (LDD) support for Neck of the Woods, Waitsfield and Prospect Heights, Barre City. (Eli)

Brownfields: (Contact Eli Toohey, toohey@cvregion.com)

- FY24 new subgrant agreement with Mount Ascutney Regional Commission endorsed.
- Submitted applications for Brownfields EPA Coalition Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund Grants.
- Updated Brownfields Site list for active and potential projects in our region.
- Contract drafted for Phase II 203 Country Club Road, Montpelier (SMS Site # 2022-5116).
- Participated in *Economics of Brownfields* webinar. (Eli)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HAZARD MITIGATION

Contact Keith Cubbon, cubbon@cvregion.com, unless otherwise noted.

Local/Regional Planning:

- Met with Agency of Transportation staff, along with engineering consultant SLR for Resilience Initiative for Vermont Empowerment and Recovery (RIVER) to review District #6 garage site. (Keith, Will)
- East Montpelier-held public meeting to discuss hazards to community as part of the drafting of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan(LHMP).
- Waitsfield, Cabot, Fayston – received FEMA’s final approval of LHMP plans.
- Barre City, Waterbury, Fayston, Orange- LHMPs resubmitted with revisions.
- Attended VEM/RPC meeting (Will)
- Field visit to Plainfield with Conservation Committee to discuss buffer plantings and floodplain reconnection utilizing Clean Water Service provider funding.
- Began crafting Hazard Mitigation Grant full applications for Barre City
- Worcester – 2024 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Lincoln):
 - Addressed Vermont Emergency Management’s required revisions.
 - Submitted updated plan to Worcester Hazard Mitigation Planning Team.
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program
 - Middlesex (Lincoln & Brian):
 - Drafted request for contract extension to the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
 - Submitted amended contract with extended construction completion date to engineer.
 - Submitted the second reimbursement request to the Natural Resources Conservation Service for completed engineering work.
 - Submitted budget increase request to the Natural Resources Conservation Service for updated engineering designs and construction needed along Brook Road.

- Communicated with landowners regarding design updates, construction costs, and future buyout options.

TRANSPORTATION

Contact Reuben MacMartin, macmartin@cvregion.com or Keith Cubbon, cubbon@cvregion.com, unless otherwise noted.

Field Services:

- Submitted report and data to VTrans of all traffic counts from the 2024 field season.
- Processed Cabot pedestrian counters and sent reports to town.

Public Transit:

- See Committee Report for participating in GMT Board of Commissioners work

Municipal Assistance:

- Assisted Waitsfield in coordinating with VTrans regarding Meadow Road Bridge and options for repair, replacement, management, and enforcement
- Attended VTrans session on municipal fleet electrification & provided program recommendations to better meet municipal needs. Conducted outreach on current initiatives including Plainfield EVSE and provided Chief Moulton (Montpelier) with snapshot of EV&EVSE funding opportunities and police cruiser specific options (Sam)

Regional Activities:

- Held TPI meeting
- Provided outreach for Transportation Alternatives and Stormwater
- Attended VTrans Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Policy TAC Meeting to review results from additional analyses conducted on Cap & Invest scenarios; Stakeholder session providing feedback on allocating emissions to at risk industries, direction of revenue towards supporting income-based programming and municipal fleets, etc. (Sam)
- Participated in Thriving Communities Anti-Displacement Strategies meeting/training
- Attended VTrans Transportation Planning Initiative meeting in Barre
- Evaluated RITIS data tools for measuring and representing episodic congestion
- Coordinated with VTrans, Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce (MRVCC), and Mad River Valley Planning Department (MRVPD) on pending grant application for the Mad River Byway
- Pulled and processed updated regional commute modeshare by town data
- Drafted land-use transportation interactions presentation for future municipal edification

NATURAL RESOURCES

Contact Brian Voigt voigt@cvregion.com and Lincoln Frasca frasca@cvregion.com, unless otherwise noted.

Tactical Basin Planning Assistance:

- Hosted November Clean Water Advisory Committee on *Floodplain Mapping, River Corridor Bylaws & Hazard Mitigation Funding*:
 - Conducted targeted outreach to municipalities without zoning regulations.
 - Panel speakers:
 - Ned Swanberg, DEC - Regional Floodplain Manager
 - Lisa Kolb, VT Emergency Management - Hazard Mitigation Grants Manager
 - Approximately 20 participants (in addition to Committee members)
- Met with DEC Wastewater Staff and Friends of the Mad River to begin planning a Wastewater Workshop for the Mad River Valley.
- Promoted January Clean Water Advisory meeting on *Municipal Wastewater Assistance & Workshops*.
- Received application for new Clean Water Advisory Committee member.

- Participated in UVM Water Connects Seminar Series: "Comparative Analysis of 2023 and 2024 Floods in Vermont: Magnitude, Duration, and Impacts"

Clean Water Service Provider (CWSP):

- Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council:
 - Awarded funding for a Project Development proposal.
 - Reviewed four Riparian Buffer Planting project proposals and one culvert replacement (implementation) proposal.
 - Prepared application for municipal alternate solicitation to fill two vacant seats.
- Met with the Clean Water Service Providers from other basins to discuss procurement, project adoption, landowner easements vs. license agreements, Phosphorus calculation challenges, and upcoming DEC action plan.
- Met / corresponded with the following regional partners:
 - Friends of the Mad River: proposed transferring project management responsibilities (to FMR) for subsequent phases of floodplain restoration projects in Waitsfield.
 - Friends of the Winooski River: assisted with proposal development for riparian buffer planting projects.
 - Vermont Land Trust: discussed culvert project eligibility with VLT and DEC staff.
 - Vermont River Conservancy: discussed facilitation of Great Brook Roundtable with DEC, community stakeholders and watershed partners.
 - Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District: discussed further development of priority projects identified through recently-completed Lake Wise Assessments and the eligibility of gully projects.
- Participated in the VT Agricultural Water Quality Partnership Winooski/Central Regional Coordination Meeting:
 - Flood impacts on agricultural land, opportunities for collaboration, notable legislative and agency updates, and strategic planning.
- Participated in the following Department of Environmental Conservation meetings and trainings:
 - CWSP Check-in to discuss site access license agreements, easements, stipends for Basin Water Quality Council members, Phosphorus accounting and risk tolerance.
 - Met with Basin Planner for training on Phosphorus calculation methods for riparian buffer plantings.

FEMA Map & Flood Bylaw Updates: No activity this month

Water Quality Project Development:

- Berlin:
 - Riparian Planting and Culvert Replacement Project Development:
 - Issued Request for Proposals for Engineering Services.
 - Received three proposals, met with staff to reviewing proposal scoring and select preferred consultant.
 - Received buffer planting inquiry from mobile home co-op via the Berlin Conservation Commission.
- Plainfield:
 - Conducted site visit with Conservation Commission along the Great Brook and in Village area.
 - Scoped potential sites for floodplain restoration and riparian buffer planting projects.
 - Corresponded with Basin Planner regarding eligibility of planting project at Recreation Field.
 - Discussed the use of Clean Water Service Provider funding to implement restoration projects following buyouts.

- Communicated with stakeholders (DEC, Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District, Conservation Commission) regarding a Great Brook Roundtable to coordinate project development and technical assistance.
- Calais – Marshfield Road Gully Stabilization
 - Corresponded with Vermont River Conservancy regarding landowner outreach for a possible floodplain restoration / easement project along Rt. 14
- Waitsfield – Floodplain Restoration Project Development
 - Received funding from the Basin Water Quality Council.
 - Corresponded with Friends of the Mad River to discuss collaborating on subsequent project phases.
- Northfield – Provided funding information to JH Stuart Associates regarding planting project on Norwich University’s rugby field.

Stormwater Projects:

- Upper Winooski Stormwater Implementation (Calais):
 - Published Request for Bids for construction contractor.
 - Collaborated with DEC Staff on contract updates.
- Marshfield Road Gully Stabilization Final Design (Calais):
 - Issued Request for Proposals for Engineering Services.
 - Received one proposal, met with staff to review proposal scoring and discuss budgetary constraints.
 - Met with Department of Environmental Conservation Basin Planner to debrief site visit regarding eligibility of culvert replacement.

CLIMATE & ENERGY

Contact Sam Lash, lash@cvregion.com unless otherwise noted.

Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP)

- Provided ongoing support (technical assistance, community engagement, town outreach) for mini grant use and assessment report edits/conversations
- Provided technical assistance regarding failed hot water heater and heating equipment (Worcester, Middlesex)

Implementation Phase: awards announced 11/12/24

Summary: all 20 eligible municipalities applied for a total of over \$6.5million in projects across 39 municipal buildings (focused on building envelope & fuel switching)

- Barre City, Plainfield, Cabot, Worcester, Roxbury, Orange, and Washington were awarded almost \$2.5million for building envelope and HVAC projects. Reviewed grant agreements, AUFs and other requirements- conducted outreach and provided recommendations and answered questions on next steps, requirements, ECM prioritization, etc) to selectboards, municipal staff, and energy coordinators.
- Met with Efficiency VT and conducted outreach to core supporting partners for town project development and implementation including TENs and wasteheat recovery projects (Cabot & Plainfield; Northfield).
- Conducted outreach to towns not awarded funding, provided alternative funding and loan opportunities, resources, and support to implement priority projects (Williamstown, Warren, Duxbury, Marshfield, Middlesex, Fayston, Waterbury, Berlin, Calais, Moretown, Northfield, East Montpelier, and Montpelier).
- Aggregated questions for BGS, coordinated with other RPCs and BGS regarding grant agreement execution.

VDH Hot Weather Preparedness

- Developed Extreme Weather Preparedness Municipal Planning workshop (Register: <https://forms.gle/1NX6r3EAeCZE72UUA>), December 13th 11am-1pm at the Old Labor Hall, Barre City

- Prepared template, regional profile summary of heat vulnerability risk and municipal template, resource packet, etc., and conducted outreach to EMDs, Municipal Staff & Leadership, Libraries, & partners.

Municipal Planning and Implementation

- Met with East Calais Fire District reps regarding route 14 main break, as well as reservoir and chlorinator projects, provided funding and loan options
- Supported Orange coordination of MPG, mini grant, & MERP implementation awards (Town Hall & Office projects)
- Provided update analyses and targets and assistance regarding adjustments to incremental renewable energy generation target and mapping to East Montpelier Energy Committee Chair
- Conducted outreach to state partners on Middlesex heating system needs, submitted to Public Service Dept. for consideration under sustainable energy program; provided additional options to selectboard& energy committee chairs
- Reviewed municipal generator requests and needs in light of generator eligibility for Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) program (Moretown, Barre City, Montpelier, East Calais, Worcester, etc.)
- Provided support on status of ongoing projects and planning process with staff transition (Fayston & Orange)
- Met with Worcester planning commission chair to support town plan and energy element update
- Coordinated funding for inserts for low-income residents participating in WindowDresser community builds (Montpelier/Barre City/Barre Town; Middlesex&MRV; VT Climate Catalysts funding; Sunshine Fund award)
- **Climate Pollution Reduction Grant:** conducted outreach for Climate Action Plan Municipal Stakeholder Feedback Session; attended session

Regional Energy Planning and Implementation

- Reviewed proposed energy developments' conformance with regional plan (Berlin), provided outline of 248 and 248a process and workflow (Sam & Will)
- Reviewed new PUC rules 5.100, 5.400, 5.500, and 2.100 and implications for town responsibilities, project review committee, and regional plan
- Reviewed DOE Energy Improvements in Rural Areas Program for fit with municipal projects and regional needs; conducted outreach to Washington Electric Coop to provide support if considering application for Jackson Corners or other substation projects
- Participated in Efficiency VT partners meeting on weatherization & heat pump programs, and workforce coordination
- **Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant:** attended Equipment Rebate Voucher Reporting Webinar
- **Regional Plan 2025 update:** Energy chapter work and meeting with regional plan committee
- **Vermont Climate Council Climate Action Plan Update:** participated as member of Just Transitions Sub-Committee& Cross-Sector Mitigation Liaison (thermal working group): worked on potential equipment and fuel recommendations, tracked potential municipal benefits/impacts, reviewed draft transportation sector recommendations; etc), outline of just transitions text.
- **Municipal Vulnerability Indicators Tool:** Facilitated training on Municipal Vulnerability Indicators Tool with Climate Action Office (ANR) at Municipal Day 11/1/24.

GIS – Geographic Information System Mapping

Contact Brian Voigt, voigt@cvregion.com, unless otherwise noted.

- Prepared Local Hazard Mitigation Plan maps (land cover, residential development, critical facilities, transportation facilities and flood hazards) for Waterbury (along the Route 2 / Winooski River corridor).
- Barre Town: discussed zoning district boundary updates with municipal staff.
- East Montpelier: prepared map for Local Hazard Mitigation Plan public meeting.
- Marshfield: shared final draft of trail map with trails committee.
- Plainfield: prepared map of potential parcel buyout locations to support site visit with Conservation Commission; corresponded with Planning Commission regarding zoning district boundary updates.

OFFICE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office:

- Facilitated installation of new phone system
- Participated in statewide RPC finance huddle
- Assisted with recruitment of representatives for Brownfields and Clean Water Advisory Committees
- Continued work with auditor on FY24 CVRPC audit
- Continued recruitment for Finance Manager

Upcoming Meetings:

CVRPC meetings currently offer remote access unless otherwise noted. Meeting access information is provided on agendas at www.centralvtplanning.org.

December

Dec 2	4 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
Dec 3	4 pm	Project Review Committee
Dec 5	4:30 pm	Nominating Committee
Dec 10	6:30 pm	Board of Commissioners
Dec 13	11 am	Extreme Weather Workshop
Dec 17	4 pm	Regional Plan Committee
Dec 19	10 am	Brownfields Advisory Committee
Dec 19	1 pm	Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council
Dec 19	6 pm	Land Use Reform – Municipal Training
TBD		Municipal Plan Review Committee
Dec 25		Office Closed – Holiday

January

Jan 1		Office Closed – Holiday
Jan 6	4 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
Jan 7	4 pm	Regional Plan Committee
Jan 9	4 pm	Clean Water Advisory Committee
Jan 14	6:30 pm	Board of Commissioners
Jan 16	10 am	Brownfields Advisory Committee
Jan 16	1 pm	Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council
Jan 20		Office Closed – Holiday
Jan 23	4 pm	Project Review Committee
Jan 28	6:30 pm	Transportation Advisory Committee

RECENT CVRPC NEWS HEADLINES

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November 8th

- CVRPC's MTAP Program
- Brownfields Program Update
- Floodplain Mapping, River Corridor Bylaws & Hazard Mitigation Funding Presentation
- Transportation Alternatives Program Grants
- Mobile Home Infill Program
- VT Urban & Community Forestry Program 2025 Grant Program
- CVRPC Seeks Part-Time Finance Manager

November 29th

- 2025 Downtown Transportation Fund Grants Available
- Land Use Reform – Municipal Training
- Extreme Weather Preparedness Workshop