



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 13, 2025 at 6:30 pm

29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, VT

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/j/81136818419?pwd=dDFDbDhrTm56TUNQUlp3WEorYzRZZz09>

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

Page **AGENDA**

6:30² Introductions

Adjustments to the Agenda

Public Comments

2 6:35 Legislative Update – Josh Hanford, VLCT

5 7:05 FY25 Nominations (Action - enclosed)³

Presentation of nominations; final opportunity for nominations from the floor

8 7:20 Minutes (Action - enclosed)³

11 7:25 Reports - Staff and Committee Reports (Action - enclosed)³

7:35 Commissioner Round Table

7:45 Adjourn

Annual Meeting: June 10, 2025

¹ Persons with disabilities who require assistance or alternate arrangements to participate in programs or activities are encouraged to contact our office at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@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.

Une assistance linguistique gratuite est disponible pour accéder à tous les programmes



MEMO

Date: May 13, 2025
To: Board of Commissioners
From: Will Pitkin, Planner
Re: Legislative Update

☒ DISCUSSION - NO ACTION REQUESTED

Legislative Update

The two main focuses from the FY2024 VT legislative session – housing and flooding – are again the focuses in the FY2025 legislative session, plus the proposed reforms to public education funding and administration that you’ve likely heard about in the news.

Additionally, the acts from FY2024’s legislative session related to housing (Act 181) and flooding (Act 121) both required significant rulemaking after their passage to determine the details of how those acts would be implemented. The rulemaking is ongoing for both, and CVRPC has participated to the extent possible (more so for the housing bill, Act 181, which has seen more rulemaking activity at the state level than Act 121).

FY2025: New Bills Moving through the Legislature

Please find footnoted below the VT Legislative Joint Fiscal Office’s summaries of the following bills that are currently moving through the legislature in FY2025: the housing bill (S.127), the education bill (H.454), and the flooding bill (H.397). All three bills have crossed over into the other chamber of the legislature and have significant modifications since they were introduced, so it is difficult to determine what the final versions will include. Josh Hanford from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns will provide more info in his presentation at the meeting.

The most recent versions of the bills include the following topics.

Housing Bill (S.127) ¹

- Community Housing Investment Program – municipal housing and housing

¹ Summary S.127: https://ljfo.vermont.gov/assets/Publications/2025-2026-Senate-Bills/GENERAL-381569-v4-Fiscal_Note_HGA.pdf

infrastructure finance mechanism

- Vermont Infrastructure Sustainability Fund – revolving loan fund administered by the VT Bond Bank to fund infrastructure
- Vermont Manufactured Home Improvement and Repair Program – grants to repair existing manufactured homes and construct new manufactured homes in infill lots
- Vermont Rental Housing Improvement Fund – grants and loans to convert existing buildings into rental housing and construct new rental housing units

Education Bill (H.454)²

- School District Boundary Task Force – study group to determine possibility of consolidating school districts
- State Aid for School Construction – funding mechanism to help schools with maintenance and improvement costs
- Tuition to Approved Schools – reform of which schools are eligible to receive tuition money from public school districts, includes some private schools

Flood Bill (H.397)³

- Voluntary Buyout Program and Municipal Grand List Stabilization Program – state funding for municipalities to buyout flood-prone properties and maintain property tax income after losing grand list value through those buyouts; a separate portion of the bill also proposes state education tax relief for municipalities that gave property tax abatements to property owners who were affected by flooding
- Municipal Finance and Debt Reform – more flexibility for municipalities to use unassigned fund balances that are in approved municipal budgets and remain unspent by the end of the fiscal year for emergency response reserve funds and other investments
- Local Option Tax Revenue Share – municipalities that have Local Option Taxes would receive a larger share of the revenue (75% to the municipality and 25% to the state instead of the current 70% to the municipality and 30% to the state)

FY2024: Rulemaking and Implementation of Last Year's Acts

Act 181 (FY2024 Housing/Act 250 Reform Act)

CVRPC is in the process of drafting a new Regional Plan and the Future Land Use Map, both of which were centerpieces of Act 181 and will play a critical role in determining Act 250 jurisdiction. CVRPC has been participating in monthly statewide RPC meetings and recently met with the VT Land Use Review Board (formerly the Natural Resources Board, the administrator of Act 250 permits and the entity responsible for approving the Regional Plan and Future Land Use Map). Staff are collaborating with the Regional Plan Committee to determine how to map areas

² Summary H.454: https://ljfo.vermont.gov/assets/Publications/2025-2026-House-Bills/GENERAL-382378-v9-H_454_fiscal_note_AsRecSEd.pdf

³ Summary H.397: <https://ljfo.vermont.gov/assets/Publications/2025-2026-House-Bills/FN-H.397-APBH.pdf>

that do not fall squarely into one land use category under the new statewide Future Land Use Map mapping methodology. CVRPC will conduct individual consultations with municipalities in the coming months in order to further refine these areas.

CVRPC will work with member municipalities seeking to obtain partial Act 250 exemptions (Tier 1B status) and full Act 250 exemptions (Tier 1A status). Meanwhile, the Land Use Review Board is in the rulemaking process for how it will map areas that are subject to more stringent Act 250 jurisdiction (Tier 3 status); that determination does not involve the RPCs and is separate from the Regional Plan and Future Land Use Map – the Land Use Review Board’s exact timeline is unknown.

Act 121 (FY2024 Flood Safety Act)

FY2024’s Flood Safety Act introduced a new state permit requirement for development in the floodplain and river corridors, plus proposed shifting administration of the National Flood Insurance Program from municipalities to the state or possibly to RPCs. There is still significant rulemaking needed before the new state flood permit requirement comes into effect in 2028, and the status of federal National Flood Insurance Program is unclear. A senate committee has been formed to carry out further rulemaking regarding the state permit, including potential permit exemptions (similar to the Act 250 permit exemptions in FY2024’s Act 181 and FY2023’s HOME Act – Act 47) but has not made significant progress to date.



MEMO

DATE: May 13, 2025
TO: Board of Commissioners
FROM: Nominating Committee
RE: Nominations for FY26 Officers and Committee Members

CVRPC's Bylaws task the Nominating Committee with nominating:

1. A slate of Officers and At-Large members of the Executive Committee, with an initial proposed slate presented at the April regular meeting and a final slate presented at the May regular meeting; and
2. A slate of nominees for committees and appointees to be presented at the May meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

This memo presents the Nominating Committee's final slate of candidates for Officers and members of the Executive Committee, Standing and Special Committees, and Appointments to Other Organizations for FY26 (starting July 1, 2025). In preparing these slates, the Nominating Committee has followed its adopted Rules of Procedure and Guidelines, including considerations such as the best interest of the Commission, Commissioner interests, and committee balance.

Commissioners may nominate additional candidates from the floor at the May meeting, at which time nominations will be closed and those nominations added to the slate for a balloted election.

The slates identified by the Nominating Committee are included below. Unless otherwise noted, terms are one year. All terms end on June 30 of the year noted.

Executive Committee (1-year term ending 2026)

The Executive Committee includes 3 officers and 4 at-large Board members appointed by the Board. The proposed slate is:

Chair – Peter Carbee, Washington	At-Large – Royal DeLegge, Northfield
Vice Chair – Lee Cattaneo, Orange	At-Large – Michael Gray, Woodbury
Secretary/Treasurer – Janet Shatney, Barre City	At-Large – Doug Greason, Waterbury
	At-Large – Jerry D'Amico, Roxbury

Project Review Committee (3-year term ending 2028)

The Project Review Committee includes 5 Board members + 1 alternate Board member appointed by the Board. The proposed slate is:

Lee Cattaneo, Orange	Peter Carbee, Washington
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Committee members with unexpired terms are: Robert Wernecke, Berlin (2027); Bill Arrand, Worcester (alternate seat – 2027); John Brabant, Calais (2026) Alice Peal, Waitsfield Alt. (2026)

Regional Plan Committee (1-year term ending 2026)

The Regional Plan Committee includes 5 Board members appointed by the Board. The proposed slate is:

Doug Greason, Waterbury	Alice Peal, Waitsfield
Michael Miller, Montpelier	Rich Turner, Williamstown
John Brabant, Calais	

Municipal Plan Review Committee (1 year term ending 2026)

The Municipal Plan Review Committee includes 5 Board members appointed by the Board. The proposed slate is:

Bill Arrand, Worcester	Michael Gray, Woodbury
Ron Krauth, Middlesex	Joyce Manchester, Moretown
Brittany Butler, Cabot	

Brownfields Advisory Committee

The Brownfields Advisory Committee includes 5 Board members + 1 alternate Board member appointed by the Board. The proposed slate is:

Don La Haye, Waitsfield Alt - to fill Peter Carbee's unexpired term for alternate seat (2026)	
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Committee members with unexpired terms are: Lee Cattaneo, Orange (2026); Ron Krauth, Middlesex (2026); Janet Shatney, Barre City (2026) Alice Farrell, (Barre Town) (2026)

**** Note that the Board only appoints the Board seats, other seats (Interested Groups as outlined in their Rules of Procedure) are appointed by the Brownfields Committee**

Clean Water Advisory Committee (2-year term ending 2027)

The Clean Water Advisory Committee includes Board members, municipal members and stakeholder representatives with staggered terms appointed by the Board. The proposed slate is:

<u>Board of Commissioner Representatives</u>	<u>Municipal / Stakeholder Representatives:</u>
John Brabant, Calais	Joyce Manchester, Moretown TAC Alternate
Mitch Osiecki, Middlesex Alt. – (Alternate Seat)	Chris Owen, Worcester (former PC Chair)
	Warren Coleman, Calais resident

CVRPC members with unexpired terms are: Richard Turner, Williamstown (2026), Ron Krauth, Middlesex (2026)

Municipal members with unexpired terms are: Alice Peal, Waitsfield Planning Commission (2026); Clark Amadon, Moretown Planning Commission (2026); Emily Ruff, Orange Energy Coordinator (2026)

Commission Appointments to Other Organizations

Basin Water Quality Council (staggered terms)

The Winooski Basin Water Quality Council includes 1 CVRPC Board representative + 1 alternate, 2 municipal representatives + 2 alternates, with staggered terms appointed by the Board. The proposed slate is:

<u>Board of Commissioner Representatives*</u> (3-year term)	<u>Municipal Representatives:</u> (2-year term – ending 2026)
	Vacant (alternate seat)
<i>*CCRPC appoints a representative and alternate from their Board as well</i>	Vacant (alternate seat)

CVRPC members with unexpired terms are: Richard Turner, Williamstown – alternate member (2027), Royal DeLegge (2027)

Municipal Representatives with unexpired terms are: Alice Peal, Waitsfield (2026); Annie Costandi, Essex (2026)

Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation Regional Project Prioritization:

CVRPC representation on the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation Regional Project Prioritization Committee includes 3 CVRPC Board members. The proposed slate is:

<u>CVRPC Board of Commissioner Representatives</u> (1-year term ending 2026):
Paula Emery (Plainfield) Doug Greason (Waterbury) Mitch Osiecki, (Middlesex Alt.)

Vermont Economic Progress Council (usually the Executive Director):

Proposed slate is:

Christian Meyer

Green Mountain Transit (usually the Executive Director or Transportation Planner):

Proposed slate is:

Christian Meyer Reuben MacMartin (alternate)

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Draft MINUTES
April 8, 2025

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 type="checkbox"/> Barre Town	Alice Farrell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northfield	Royal DeLegge
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Schulz, Alt
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warren	Jim Crafts
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Montpelier	Zoe Christiansen	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adam Zawistowski, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clarice Cutler, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington	Peter Carbee, Vice Chair
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Middlesex	Ron Krauth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacqueline Higgins, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mitch Osiecki, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/> Woodbury	Michael Gray
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montpelier	Mike Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worcester	Bill Arrand

Staff: Christian Meyer, Nancy Chartrand, Brian Voigt, Eli Toohey, Will Pitkin

Guest: Stephen Whitaker, Montpelier

Call to Order: Chair D'Amico called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm, a roll call was completed, and a quorum was present. It was noted that we have a new member from Warren – Jim Crafts.

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

Public Comments: Stephen Whitaker from Montpelier commented on the draft Project Review Committee Rules of Process that were included in the packet, noting the draft states adopted on April 8th, which he feels is premature due to agenda stating potential action. He also commented on use of language “will make a determination on behalf of the Board of Commissioners” he believes makes it an executive committee rather than an advisory committee, and the purpose states advisory committee.

Appointments for Vacant Executive Committee Seat: Chair D'Amico advised members that there was an opening on the Executive Committee with Alexis Leacock's departure. Christian Meyer read the section from the Bylaws that addresses the appointment process when there is an Executive Committee vacancy.

Chair D'Amico opened the floor to nominations; Alice Peal nominated Royal DeLegge of Northfield to the current term for Lexi's position. No further nominations were heard. Nominations were closed. Royal DeLegge was appointed as there were no other nominations. Royal was welcomed to the Executive Committee

Nominating Committee Report: Alice Peal provided a draft slate of the Officers and At-Large members of the Executive Committee. Chair: Peter Carbee, Vice Chair: Lee Cattaneo, Secretary/Treasurer: Janet Shatney, At-Large: Michael Gray, Jerry D'Amico, Doug Greason, and Royal DeLegge. She also advised that the final slate for

Executive Committee and other committees will be provided at the May Board meeting and there will be opportunity for additional nominations from the floor at that meeting.

Regional Plan Update: Brian Voigt shared information on CVRPC's future land use map development. 6:46 – it was noted that this is preliminary work, and it is a statewide initiative with a tiered framework (1A, 1B, 2 and 3) and that guidelines for 1a and 3 are still pending from Land Use Review Board. The full presentation is available on our website with the meeting minutes. It was noted that VAPDA has been working on a methodology, recognizing that there are regional and/or local circumstances that may necessitate deviating from the recommended methodology. Brian reviewed all the different land use areas that will be considered and noted we are looking at rural categories first and will look at areas for increased densities and heightened development after that.

Discussion touched on village center designations, growth areas vs. growth centers, timing for designations, funding for infrastructure development. Alice Peal advised members that the Regional Plan Committee is also reviewing the future land use maps as they are being developed in conjunction with the Regional Plan update.

Brian noted staff has published a public survey for this process – link to survey: [here](#)

Project Review Committee Rules of Process: Will Pitkin provided an overview of the information included in the meeting packet. It was noted that the Rules of Process are in addition to the Committee Rules of Procedure and they are not the formal policy. The purpose of the rules of process is to add clarity and consistency in how the Commission participates in application review, and which projects staff brings to committee for review. It should be noted this doesn't exclude any project being reviewed. Christian followed up to state it doesn't change the way the committee operates but adds additional guidance and makes decision making more transparent. It was noted that projects determined to have substantial regional impact are assessed against the regional plan for conformity. It was also noted that the Board can always rescind any comments provided by the Project Review Committee, and that this is not a change in operations but is reflective of the current operations.

Peter Carbee moved to accept the rules of process for the Project Review Committee, seconded by Robert Wernecke. Discussion ensued as to whether or not the choice of words for the motion should be: adopt, ratify or reject. Peter Carbee amended motion to "adopt". Robert Wernecke stated he believed the motion stands at adoption. Vote called and passed unanimously.

Regional Housing Development Group Proposal: Eli Toohey provided an overview of the information outlined in the packet. The hope is to begin holding quarterly meetings in partnership with Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation (CVEDC) and the Green Mountain United Way (GMUW) to discuss in a thoughtful way what housing development projects look like in our region and how to push them forward. The goal is to find opportunities across sectors for collaboration.

Discussion included examples of single meetings that are occurring presently, but nothing happening on a continual basis in our region. This would encompass projects underway, projects that are needed, Act 181, ADU's, etc. It is an opportunity to share information across the region. It was confirmed that CVRPC would host meetings in conjunction with CVEDC and GMUW, and staff time would come from CVRPC as it directly aligns with our housing mandate.

Minutes – (3/11/25):

Richard Turner moved to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Don La Haye. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

Christian highlighted our upcoming workshops, trainings and survey as outlined in the packet.

Peter Carbee moved to accept the Staff and Committee reports, seconded by David Stapleton. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment: *Don La Haye moved to adjourn at 7:47 pm; seconded by Peter Carbee. Motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Chartrand, Office Manager

Upcoming Workshops – Trainings – Events – Regional Survey



Central Vermont Housing Development Roundtable and Workshops

Kick Off Meeting – May 21st 4:00 – 6:00 pm | Old Labor Hall in Barre City

CVRPC & CVEDC invite homeowners, builders & developers (of all scales), policymakers, resource protectors, planners and community members to come together to share knowledge and best practices, inspire housing solutions, network & collaborate, showcase ideas, and advocate for housing policies in a quarterly forum to workshop all things housing development in Central Vermont! [Register here](#)



REGIONAL PLAN FUTURE LAND USE SURVEY

We want to hear from you! Your input is essential in shaping the future of Central Vermont. Your thoughts and opinions will help the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission draft an updated Regional Plan and develop a map of future land uses. By sharing your opinions, you will help guide decisions that impact (residential, commercial and industrial) development in our region while protecting the natural and cultural resources that make Vermont unique.

The direct link to the survey is [here](#) and will be open until May 15, 2025.

CVRPC also hosted tabling discussions at libraries throughout the region in April.

If you have any questions, please contact Niki Sabado – sabado@cvregion.com | (802) 229-0380

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

Committee & Appointed Representative Reports, April 2025

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - *(Approves budgets, contracts and audits; adds/eliminates staff and contractors; amends personnel policies; approves policy actions; approves Commission agendas.) Currently meets each month on the Monday one week prior to the Board of Commissioners meeting at 4:00 pm. [5/5/25]*

- Authorized the Executive Director to sign the following grants/contracts: Lamoille County Regional Planning Commission for financial management services.
- Reviewed the FY26 draft budget and workplan
- Accepted the March 2025 unaudited financials.
- Approved the FY26 dental plan for employees
- Held an executive discussion to discuss personnel matters, no action taken.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE *(Responsible for nominating qualified candidates for election or appointment to the Executive Committee, Standing and Special Committees, and other organizations for which CVRPC appoints a representative.) Generally, meets February - April; scheduled by Committee*

- Met April 3rd and April 17th and May 5th
- Prepared a final slate for recommendation to the Board at their May 13th meeting

PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE - *(Determines Act 250/Section 248/Section 248a project conformance with the Regional Plan. Provides input and recommendations for projects with substantial regional impact.) Currently meets, as needed, on the fourth Thursday of the month at 4:00 pm.*

- Continued conversation regarding the definition of substantial regional impact in the Regional Plan.
- Heard updates on recent Act 250, Section 248, and Section 248a permit applications.
- Reviewed the Act 250 permit application for RK Miles' proposed new Berlin retail facility for possible substantial regional impact and conformance with the Regional Plan. Commented on the above to the Land Use Review Board District 5 Commission.
- Reviewed the Section 248a advance notice filing for Verizon's proposed cell tower in Washington that was an update of a previous advance notice filing with more detail in response to questions from the committee and Washington residents. The committee discussed whether the applicant had sufficiently answered the questions raised and whether the application conformed with the Regional Plan. Submitted further questions to the applicant CC the VT Public Utility Commission.
- Next meeting scheduled for 5/22/25 (as needed).

REGIONAL PLAN COMMITTEE - *(Develops and recommends updates to the Regional Plan - updated plan due August 2024). Currently meets on first and third Tuesday of the month at 4:00 pm.*

- Discussed the Future Land Use mapping methodology and progress on map development.
- Continued conversation regarding the definition of a Substantial Regional Impact in the Regional Plan.
- Discussed options for addressing short-term rentals in the Regional Plan.
- Received updates on the Community Outreach Survey.
- Next meetings scheduled for 5/6/25 and 5/20/25.

MUNICIPAL PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE - *(Reviews municipal plans for conformance to statutory requirements and recommends whether a plan should be approved. Reviews municipal planning process and recommends whether it should be confirmed. Reviews municipal plans for conformance with enhanced energy planning requirements. Provides guidance to municipalities about future plan updates and way to strengthen planning efforts.) Currently meets as needed dependent on receipt of plans for approval.*

- Did not meet

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – *(Oversees the CVRPC transportation planning program in accordance with CVRPC plans, policies and procedures, provides recommendations on funding and prioritization for the Vermont Agency of Transportation’s Capital Budget and State Transportation Improvement Program, acts as a liaison between local communities and the Vermont Agency of Transportation.) Currently meets 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm*

- Did not meet

CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - *(Identifies activities, policies and direction for CVRPC’s clean water support. Determines CVRPC direction and goals regarding the Lake Champlain TMDL, Tactical Basin Plans, and their relationship to the Regional Plan.) Currently meets the second Thursday of every other month at 4:00 pm.*

- Did not meet
- Next meeting scheduled: 8 May 2025. Topic: *Forest Road Inventories and Town Forest Management.*

BROWNFIELDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - *(Oversees CVRPC’s Brownfields Program. Prioritizes sites for assessment. Participates in hiring contractors. Recommends brownfield-related policy. Participates in public outreach.) Currently meets, as needed, 3rd Thursdays 10-10:30am*

- Brownfield Advisory Committee met on April 17, 2025, but did not have a quorum.
- The next Brownfields Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2025, 10-10:30 AM.

WINOOSKI BASIN WATER QUALITY COUNCIL - *(Establishes policy and makes decisions for the Clean Water Service Provider (CWSP) program regarding the most significant water quality impairments that exist in the basin and prioritizing the projects that will address those impairments based on the basin plan.) Currently meets the third Thursday of every month at 1:00 pm.*

- Did not meet
- CVRPC is currently seeking two municipal representatives to be appointed as alternates on the Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council (BWQC). Please contact Brian Voigt at voigt@cvregion.com if you or anyone you know may be interested in applying. Submissions due: 1 May 2025.
- Next meeting scheduled: 15 May 2025

VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (VAPDA)

- Discussed general business and areas of committee work
- Coordinated planning for spring regional planners meet-up
- Associates from VTrans, ANR, DPS and ACCD
- The new draft zoning administrator’s handbook is being reviewed
- Let’s build Homes joined the meeting to talk about their programs and how they hope to double home production.
- RPCs discussed plan submission timelines to the Land Use Review Board

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT BOARD – VAPDA Representative

Staff Participated in the quarterly meeting. Items on the agenda included:

Awards for the Downtown Transportation Fund

Approval of a village designation for Sudbury

Approval of a downtown boundary area amendment for Poultney

VERMONT ECONOMIC PROGRESS COUNCIL

No Central Vermont activity.

GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT

The GMT Board of Commissioners conducted the following business:

- Approved service adjustment to the Montpelier MyRide
- Previewed forthcoming urban service adjustment
- Moved on other administrative actions

CENTRAL VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

- Staff participated in monthly meeting.

MAD RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT

- Staff participated in the April meeting. Staff presented on the Act 181 and changes to the Future Land Use Areas map and its implication on Act 250 and state designations.

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

P: 802-229-0389

Staff Report, April 2025 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:

- Wrightsville Beach Recreation District – Provided interim administrative support as WBRD onboards the new Beach Director. Continued to host board meetings and provide technical assistance. (Lincoln)
- Barre City:
 - Transit-oriented Development (TOD) – participated in community planning charrette and roundtable discussions, led by consultant TPUDC for Barre City downtown master planning area. (Reuben, Niki)
 - Reviewed draft deliverables for RAISE TOD Riverton Village Master Planning project. (Reuben)
 - Working with the Friends of the Mathewson Playground to fund tree planting.
- Berlin – Provided comments and guidance to Berlin in the update and implementation of their municipal plan follow a regular consultation.
- East Montpelier- provided support for the Town plan update process and options for adoption. (Niki)
- Montpelier – Developing and planning agenda for the Municipal Plan Review Committee to review the draft Montpelier municipal plan.
- Moretown – review of subdivision regulations for Neighborhood Development Area (NDA) suitability and technical assistance for meeting with the Waterbury Planning Commission to introduce NDA collaboration. (Niki)
- Plainfield:
 - Help prepare and submit Detailed Damage Inventory Reports for Brook Road Federal Highway Aid Network reimbursement process. Helped craft RFPs for permanent reconstruction projects. (Keith)
 - CDBG – Disaster Relief Funding Planning meeting with Plainfield Grants Committee Director. (Eli)
 - Worked with the town on a Neighborhood Development Area (NDA) application with Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) – determining boundary, natural resource inventory, sidewalk and water and sewer policy inclusions. (Niki)
- Northfield – Ongoing coordination and review of draft deliverables for Federal RAISE grant to fund TOD Villages Master Planning. (Reuben)

Regional Planning and Implementation:

- **Training: Maximizing Flood Relief Money and Protecting Community Investments (5/7/25):**
Description: Staff developed training for municipalities to learn about the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and why you should care. Staff provided an explanation of the regulatory framework; what a municipality can do to gain the benefits of the program and highlight key legislation including what's next for Vermont in flood preparedness. Following a presentation and discussion, staff offered in-person municipal consultations.
- Reviewed Central VT Solid Waste Management District 2025 Solid Wastewater Implementation Plan and submitted Regional Plan conformance letter of support (Lincoln).
- Reproduced Penn Studio inundation mapping analysis. (Reuben)
- Facilitated Regional Plan Committee and Project Review Committee meetings (Brian, Will).
- Reviewed definitions of substantial regional impact from previous CVRPC documents and other RPCs, continued editing new draft definition for Board consideration with Project Review Committee, Regional Plan Committee, and staff input (Will)

- Regional Future Land Use Survey - Visited and tabled at ten libraries in the region to hear from the public and town staff and volunteers on land use, housing, transportation, and conservation-related issues. (Niki)
- Land Use Review Board (LURB) meeting – Met with the LURB to discuss progress toward completing the CVRPC regional plan and Future Land Use Area Map and how we are meeting the intent of statute (Brian, Niki, Eli, Will)
- Future Land Use Areas Map: continued development of Future Land Use Area Map for the central Vermont region. Participated in Future Land Use Working Group meeting to discuss Tier 1B status and housing targets. Met with the Land Use Review Board to discuss progress to date and ongoing challenges to map development. (Brian, Niki, Eli, Will)

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

- Participated in VT Bond Bank Capital Planning Forum
- Housing Development Roundtable kickoff meeting planning with Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation and panelists from building and development sectors. (Eli)

Act 250

Act 250 is Vermont's development and control law, established in 1970. The law provides a public, quasi-judicial process for reviewing and managing the environmental, social and fiscal consequences of major subdivisions and development in Vermont through the issuance of land use permits. The RPC is a state designated statutory party and participates in permit application review for all major applications and projects with substantial regional impact.

- Staff tracked all regional applications for substantial regional impact.
- No major projects applications were received.
- Reviewed Act 250 permit application with possible substantial regional impact with the Project Review Committee; determined that the application did not have substantial regional impact and did conform with the Regional Plan; submitted comments to the Land Use Review Board District 5 Environmental Commission.
- Reviewed precedents of Act 250 permits that were appealed in court to inform substantial regional impact definition in Regional Plan.

Section 248

Section 248 of Title 30 requires companies to obtain a permit (Certificate of Public Good) from the VT Public Utility Commission before beginning site preparation or construction of electric transmission facilities, electric generation facilities and certain gas pipelines within Vermont. CVRPC participates in the permit application review process when there is a hearing or when substantial regional impact is established.

- Staff tracked all regional applications for substantial regional impact.
- No permit applications with substantial regional impact or hearings were received.

Section 248a

Section 248a of Title 30 requires companies to obtain a permit (Certificate of Public Good) from the VT Public Utility Commission before beginning site preparation or construction of telecommunications facilities within Vermont. CVRPC participates in the permit application review process when there is a hearing or when substantial regional impact is established.

- Staff tracked all regional applications for substantial regional impact.
- Reviewed Section 248a advance notice filing with possible substantial regional impact with the Project Review Committee; submitted questions to the applicant.

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

- Kickoff meeting for 53 Granite Street Phase I with Barre City and KAS Environmental. (Eli)
- Update meeting with Department Environmental Conservation for 63 Sawmill Rd, Cabot site. (Eli)
- UConn TAB Training – Brownfields Funding for Local Planning. (Eli)
- Met with Warren about Town Garage Phase I. (Eli)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HAZARD MITIGATION

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

Local/Regional Planning:

- Local hazard mitigation planning:
 - Updating Emergency management Director and Regional Emergency Management Contact lists
 - CVRPC staff are currently working under contract to draft Local Hazard Mitigation Plans for the following member municipalities: East Montpelier, Berlin, and Warren (Keith, Lincoln, Pamela)
- Provided technical assistance and grant writing on the applications for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program in Montpelier, Cabot, and Barre City (Keith, Will).
- Attended climate action plan meeting for town implementation advocacy with emergency management focus.
- Participated in THRIVE-Emergency Preparedness and Crisis Response meeting with VEM and AHS (Sam & Keith)
- Met with UVM SAFER Apps virtual roundtable to discuss development of tools for mitigation, education, and advanced notice of threats from flooding
- Attended Waterbury Flood Resiliency meeting to discuss projects and path forward for municipality and funding of projects.
- Participated in Montpelier Deerfield neighborhood meeting to discuss options for community since loss of FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant. Attempting to determine path forward and steps that can be taken without a study.
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program
 - Staff are currently providing grant application technical assistance to the towns of: Middlesex, Plainfield, and Woodbury (Lincoln & Brian)
 - Attended post-construction site visit in Middlesex with the construction engineer, contractor and Agency of Natural Resources and Natural Resources Conservation Service staff.
- Staff participates in monthly statewide coordination meetings between the RPCs and VEM.

TRANSPORTATION

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

Field Services:

- Interviewed planning tech applicants, made initial job offers, secured 2nd hire. (Keith)
- Began scheduling traffic counts for summer season. (Keith)

Public Transit:

- See Committee Report for participating in GMT Board of Commissioners work.
- Participated in GMT public meetings regarding proposed Montpelier-Berlin service changes. (Reuben)

Municipal Assistance:

- Provided outreach to towns for Municipal Roads General Permit- Road Erosion Inventory Funding. (Keith)
- Met with Waitsfield to discuss Meadow Road Bridge and municipal options. (Keith)
- Assisted East Montpelier in applying for Road Erosion Inventory funding. (Keith)
- Reviewed scoping study for Calais Kent Hill Road Culvert for possible funding opportunities and sizing. (Keith)
- Updated demonstration project design and met with Calais to plan next steps. (Reuben)

Regional Activities:

- Attended Municipal Roads General Permit and VT Local Roads meeting at Barre City Place. (Keith)
- Met with VTrans staff to discuss bike and pedestrian funding for region. (Keith and Reuben)
- Participated in Statewide Travel Demand Model update advisory meeting. (Reuben)
- Ongoing management of Mad River Path feasibility study. (Reuben)

- Preparing scope, workplan, and kick-off materials for Safe Streets and Routes for All (SS4A). (Reuben)

NATURAL RESOURCES

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

Tactical Basin Planning Assistance: Provide outreach regarding the Vermont Clean Water Act and RPC Tactical Basin Planning Support through regional, sector-based workgroup coordination, technical assistance to municipalities and participation in water quality trainings.

- Participated in the following meetings & trainings:
 - Vermont Natural Resources Council Dam Taskforce Meeting: USGS Presentation on updated Flood Mapping and partner roundtable on dam removal projects and funding availability.
 - Department of Environmental Conservation:
 - Flood Manager's Drop-in Discussion: "River Corridor Protections Reducing Our Exposure to Flood Hazards" with the Nature Conservancy and Lake Champlain Sea Grant.
 - Clean Water Conversation: "Clean Water Initiative Program Forestland Practices" with the Department of Forest Parks and Recreation Watershed Forestry Program.
 - Department of Forest Parks and Recreation: "Forest Road and Trail Erosion Inventory Introductory Training"
 - Coordination meeting with New England Environmental Finance Center, University of New Hampshire Stormwater Center, and Lake Champlain Sea Grant to plan a series of stormwater learning sessions focused on the identification of technical assistance needs, connecting communities with funding resources and training exercises featuring site visits to completed projects.
- Conducted targeted outreach to municipalities that have not adopted River Corridor Bylaws, including Barre City, Barre Town, Marshfield, Moretown, Roxbury, Washington, Waterbury and Worcester.
- Invited Planning Commissions and Zoning Administrators to CVRPC's May 2025 Municipal Training focused on National Flood Insurance Program compliance, Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map updates, river corridor planning and the Department of Environmental Conservation's Rivers Program "No Adverse Impact Model Bylaw".
- Prepared a draft FY26 workplan and submitted to the Basin Planner for review.
- Communicated with Vermont Natural Resources Council regarding state date resources that can assist with identifying and prioritizing dams for rehabilitation or removal.

Clean Water Service Provider: CVRPC serves as the [Winooski Basin Clean Water Service Provider \(CWSP\)](#) to identify, develop, design, implement, operate & maintain non-regulatory water quality restoration projects. Efforts strive to meet or exceed federal pollution targets for the Lake Champlain Basin as identified through the [Clean Water Service Delivery Act 76](#).

- Program Administration:
 - Master Agreement Addendums:
 - Vermont Land Trust: Master Agreement Addendum 3 was issued for the implementation of the John Fowler Road Berm Removal project.
 - Pre-qualification of Engineering & Construction Contractors
 - Lincoln AgriSource LLC, Farm Timber Harvesting: Executed three-year Master Agreement.
 - Attended monthly Clean Water Service Provider Program meeting to discuss best practices for administering Operations & Maintenance funding and the Clean Water Service Network Action Plan.
- Outreach & Education:
 - Cabot: corresponded with municipal staff regarding potential culvert replacement project opportunities.
 - Orange: corresponded with municipal staff regarding potential funding for roadway improvements.
 - Northfield: communicated with municipal staff regarding Operations & Maintenance funding for an existing stormwater project.

- Waterbury: participated in Waterbury Flood Roundtable to discuss water quality restoration project ideas and funding resources.
- Coordinated with Transportation Planner to distribute Clean Water Service Provider Program flyer at the Central Vermont Annual Road Foreman Meeting.
- Drafted outreach letter to clean water partners sharing Clean Water Service Provider outreach materials.
- Department of Environmental Conservation coordination:
 - Basin Planner: discussed phosphorous-crediting methodology for culvert replacement and strategic wood addition projects and assessing potential projects in Waterbury.
- Sub-award Administration:
 - Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission:
 - Huntington River Select Reaches – Project Development: Scope and develop 15 riparian buffer planting, river corridor protection, berm removal and stormwater projects along select reaches of the Huntington River.
 - The project consultant is preparing for site inspections which will be completed in May 2025.
 - Friends of the Winooski River:
 - Coburn Road Floodplain Restoration – Final Design: Restore floodplain connectivity by removing a small berm and streambank armoring at a site that was severely damaged by the July 2023 floods.
 - No updates to report.
 - Basin 8 Strategic Wood Additions – Final Design: Design four strategic wood addition projects along select reaches of headwater streams and tributaries to the Winooski River.
 - Received revised deliverables and closed out the project.
 - Fecteau Riparian Buffer Planting: Plant trees and shrubs in the 1.25-acre upstream end of the floodplain situated between the agricultural fields and nearby residence. The project will result in a 50' – 150' riparian buffer averaging 400 stems / acre.
 - No updates to report.
 - John Fowler Road Riparian Buffer Planting: Plant trees and shrubs on 1.25 acres of a former hayfield situated along the main stem of the Winooski River. The project will result in a 50' riparian buffer averaging 400 stems / acre.
 - No updates to report. This project will be completed once the Vermont Land Trust John Fowler Road Berm Removal project has been implemented.
 - Huntington Acres Buffer Planting: Plant trees and shrubs on 1.25 acres of land on parcels that were bought out by the Federal Emergency Management Agency following a flood event. The project will result in a 150' riparian buffer averaging 300 stems / acre.
 - No updates to report.
 - Tyler Place Buffer Planting: Plant trees and shrubs on 1.5 acres of land owned by the Jericho Land Trust. The project will result in a 50'+ riparian buffer averaging 400 stems / acre.
 - No updates to report.
 - Lamoille County Conservation District:
 - Upper Little River – Project Development: Identify and develop up to 15 riparian buffer planting, stream / floodplain restoration, river corridor easement and wetland restoration projects in the Upper Little River Watershed.
 - No updates to report.
 - Vermont Land Trust:
 - John Fowler Road Berm Removal – Final Design: Complete the final design of a berm removal project that will reconnect ~4.5 acres of floodplain along the main stem of the Winooski River in Marshfield.
 - Received final deliverables and closed out the project.

- Meetings & Trainings
 - Department of Environmental Conservation:
 - Clean Water Conversation: “Clean Water Initiative Program Forestland Practices” with the Department of Forest Parks and Recreation Watershed Forestry Program.

CVRPC Water Quality Restoration Projects:

- Berlin Riparian Buffer Planting and Culvert Replacement – Project Development: The Berlin Conservation Commission and CVRPC are developing nonregulatory, water quality restoration projects that will reduce the amount of phosphorus entering local waterways. This project is focused on identifying culvert replacement and riparian buffer planting opportunities.
 - Coordinated with Municipal Staff, Conservation Commission, landowners in preparation for the engineer’s preliminary site visits to priority riparian buffer and culvert replacement projects.
- Waitsfield (Floodplain Restoration Project Development): The Waitsfield Conservation and Planning Commissions, in collaboration with CVRPC, are developing nonregulatory, water quality and flood resilience projects along the reaches of the upper Mad River. This project is focused on developing floodplain reconnection projects on four municipal- and two privately-owned parcels.
 - No updates to report.
- Marshfield Road Gully Stabilization and Culvert Replacement (Calais): This project will produce a final design to stabilize a gully and identify a suitable replacement structure for an undersized, perched culvert.
 - Corresponded with landowner regarding design work for culvert replacement.

CVRPC Stormwater Projects:

- Upper Winooski Stormwater Implementation (Calais):
 - Worked with contractor to complete Risk Assessment form. Received outstanding administrative materials and completed construction contract.

604b Water Quality Program: Compile assessment-based priority projects for integration with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Watershed Project Database. Additional work activities include enhanced regional planning for water quality as it related to climate change, flood resilience, and environmental justice. Project stakeholders include the municipalities served by the CVRPC, watershed and land conservation groups, the Agency of Natural Resources, the Winooski Clean Water Service Provider and its Basin Water Quality Council, and the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District.

- Reviewed Northfield stormwater retrofit locations in Open Geodata map for inclusion in DEC Watershed Project Database.

Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map & Flood Bylaw Updates: Outreach and technical assistance to municipalities to support the adoption of new FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps and update municipal flood hazard bylaws.

- Staff updated 2023 NFIP bylaw checklists in preparation for the May 2025 CVRPC Municipal Training on flood insurance for the towns of Duxbury, Williamstown, Woodbury, and Moretown.
- Attended quarterly check-in meeting with Program Administrator and other Regional Planning Commissions to discuss workplan progress.

CLIMATE & ENERGY

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

Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) Implementation Phase *grant agreements fully executed 12/16/24*

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); **7 towns received \$2,475,644.44 in awards**

*****In the Process of drafting this section of the staff report, technical issues arose and most updates on climate and energy work were lost. A summary will be included in next month's packet. Please do not hesitate to contact the program staff listed above with any questions.**

Municipal Planning and Implementation

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant:

Regional Energy Planning and Implementation

- Participated in Energy Action Network event, Building for the Future: Challenges and benefits to ensuring new housing in Vermont is clean, energy-efficient, and cost-effective. (Eli)

Vermont Climate Council Climate Action Plan Update: participated as member of Just Transitions Sub-Committee & Cross-Sector Mitigation Liaison (thermal working group); Technical Advisory Group Cap&Invest Study- attended Treasurer's findings discussions along with representatives from CA, Quebec, NY, and Washington.

Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant:

GIS – Geographic Information System Mapping

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

- VAPDA: attended Enterprise Geospatial Consortium meeting to discuss plans for the Vermont Spatial Data Infrastructure, web service migrations and the VT 248a Permitted Sites interactive map.
- East Montpelier: began development of map set for Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Montpelier: assisted with data uploads to the Agency of Commerce & Community Development and the Vermont Open Geodata Portal.
- Plainfield: prepared a map of a potential alternative truck route to help with post-disaster recovery decision-making. Prepared an [interactive map](#) of disaster recovery sites listing all projects and their current funding sources. Met with intern to discuss workplan for the coming year.

OFFICE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office:

- Conducted interviews for Municipal Planner
- Made job offers for Summer Planning Technicians, scheduled to start in May and June
- Provided staff support to FY26 Nominating Committee
- Coordinated purchase of new

Upcoming Meetings:

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

May

May 5	4 pm	Executive Committee
May 6	4 pm	Regional Plan Committee
May 8	4 pm	Clean Water Advisory Committee
May 13	6:30 pm	Board of Commissioners
May 14	5:00 pm	Regional Emergency Management Committee
May 15	10 am	Brownfields Advisory Committee
May 15	1 pm	Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council
May 20	4 pm	Regional Plan Committee
May 21	4 pm	Housing Development Roundtable and Workshop
May 22	4 pm	Project Review Committee
May 27	6:30 pm	Transportation Advisory Committee

June

June 2	4 pm	Executive Committee
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June 3	4 pm	Regional Plan Committee
TBD	TBD	Municipal Plan Review Committee
June 10	6:30 pm	Board of Commissioners Annual Meeting – location TBD
June 17	4 pm	Regional Plan Committee
June 19	10 am	Brownfields Advisory Committee
June 19	1 pm	Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council
June 24	6:30 pm	Transportation Advisory Committee
June 27	4 pm	Project Review Committee

RECENT CVRPC NEWS HEADLINES

Click on a week to read more about the headlines listed. *To receive Weekly News via email, sign up on our [website](#).*
Visit CVRPC's web site at www.centralvtplanning.org to view our blog and for the latest publications and news.

April 11th

- Maximizing Flood Relief Money & Protecting Community Investments
- Spring Input Sessions on Vermont's Climate Action Plan
- Future Land Use Survey Tabling Sessions around the Region
- VTrans - Show Me The Money Guide
- Disaster Recovery Funding Update
- Town of Warren LHMP Public Meeting

April 25th

- Winooski Flood Resilience Collaborative
- Forest Road Projects & Town Forest Management
- Regional Plan & Future Land Use Map Update