

## **Commission Calendar**

Date	Time	Event
	6:00pm	Natural Resources
Jan. 9		Committee Meeting
	7:00pm	Full Commission Meeting
Jan. 16	7:00pm	Transportation Advisory
		Committee (TAC) Meeting
Jan. 17	7:00pm	Addison County Solid Waste Management District (ACSWMD) Meeting
		,
Jan. 23	6:30pm	Executive Board Meeting
Jan. 30	7:00pm	LEPC Meeting (New Haven SP Barracks)

Meetings are held at ACRPC, 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, and are open to the public.



# Planning Grants Awarded to Four Area Towns

Municipal Planning Grants support local planning and community revitalization initiatives that build strong communities and improve Vermont's quality of life. Grants are awarded annually and administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Since 1998, the program has provided over \$12 million to 234 cities and towns. This year, approximately \$460,000 was awarded to 29 municipalities, including four towns in the Addison region:

#### **Bristol - Comprehensive Town Plan**

Bristol's inclusive and comprehensive town plan update will allow townspeople to build on their many assets and conserve what matters most. For more information, contact Kris Perlee,

zoningadmin@gmavt.net
Total Project Cost: \$17,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$15,000

## New Haven, Vergennes, Middlebury, and Bristol- Multi-town Cycling Route

Funding will engage multiple communities in planning a dedicated cycling route between Middlebury, Bristol, New Haven and Vergennes, improving safety and enjoyment for bikers. For more information, contact Barbara Torian, newhaventreasurer@gmavt.net

**Total Project Cost:** \$38,500 **Grant Funds Awarded:** \$35,000

This newsletter is financed through the State of Vermont Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the State of Vermont. All programs of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission are handicapped accessible.

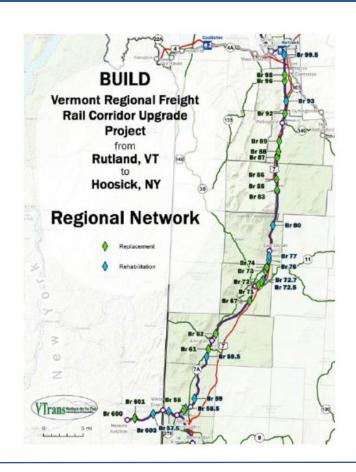
## **Events & Other News**

## Vermont receives \$20,000,000 for Regional Freight Rail Corridor Upgrade Project

https://www.transportation.gov/briefingroom/us-transportation-secretaryelaine-l-chao-announces-15-billion-buildtransportation

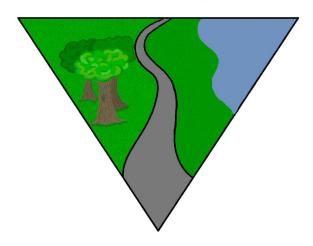
The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 appropriated \$1.5 billion for BUILD Transportation grants, including money to rehabilitate or replace approximately 31 railroad bridges over approximately 53 miles of track on the Vermont Railway's Western Corridor to support the national carload weight standard.

This work is occurring south of Addison County, but moving freight on the Western Corridor's rail takes truck traffic off Route 7, 22A and other state routes, reducing wear and tear and congestion on these roads and reducing transportation emissions.



#### Vermont Better Roads Manual

Clean Water You Can Afford



The manual can be obtained at: <a href="https://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads">https://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads</a>

#### **Better Roads Manual Update Now Available**

Over the course of the summer and fall a great deal of effort was made by VTrans staff to evaluate this manual, which hadn't been updated since 2009, and bring it into alignment with the recently issued Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP). The purpose of the manual is to provide guidance to Vermont municipalities and road maintenance decision makers on cost effective techniques and actions that can be used to enhance the resilience of municipal roads while protecting water quality in Vermont. It will assist municipalities with implementation of appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) required by the ANR Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP). These BMPs are high-lighted in the appropriate sections of the manual to inform municipalities of their permit obligations under the MRGP.

## **Funding Opportunities**

## **USDA REAP Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Program**

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/viewopportunity.html?oppId=310978

Closing Date for Applications: Jan 31, 2019

#### What does this program do?

Grantees assist rural small businesses and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting energy audits, and providing renewable energy development assistance (REDA).

#### Who may apply for this program?

- State and local governments;
- Federally-recognized Tribes;
- A land-grant college or university, or other Institutions of Higher Education;
- Rural electric cooperatives;
- Public power entities;
- An Instrumentality of a state, tribal, or local government;
- A Resource Conservation & Development Council (as defined in 16 USC §3451).

For more information, contact Ken Yearman, Jr. USDA Rural Development Energy Coordinator, Montpelier, VT

(802-828-6070, kenneth.yearman@vt.usda.gov)

#### **Vermont Ecosystem Restoration Grants**

https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/grants/ecosystem-restoration#Ecosystem%20Restoration
Application Due Date: March 11, 2019 by 4pm

(Please note: There will not be a January 10, 2019 grant round.)

DEC is requesting proposals for the design and construction of water pollution abatement and control projects that target nonpoint sources of pollution. This grant round will include funds from Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020.

#### **Environmental Justice Small Grants Program**

https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-small-grants-program

Full proposal due date: February 15, 2019

The EJSG program awards grants that support community-driven projects designed to engage, educate, and empower communities to better understand local environmental and public health issues and develop strategies for addressing those issues, building consensus in the community, and setting community priorities. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 50 grants (5 per EPA region) of up to \$30,000 each. Grants are for 1-year projects. Eligible entities for this opportunity are incorporated nonprofit organizations, including, but not limited to, environmental justice networks, faith-based organizations, and those affiliated with religious institutions;

For more information, contact Sharon Wells (wells.sharon@epa.gov)

#### **EPA FY19 Brownfields Grants**

https://www.vlct.org/news/epa-fy19-brownfields-grants
Applications Due: Thursday, January 31

Assessment Grants: funding for developing inventories of brownfield sites, prioritizing sites, conducting community involvement activities, conducting planning, conducting site assessments, developing site-specific cleanup plans, and developing reuse plans.

Cleanup Grants: up to \$500,000 to address one brownfield site, or multiple brownfield sites, contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum), and/or petroleum. Applicants may submit one Cleanup Grant proposal each competition cycle.

**Multipurpose Grants:** provide funding to carry out a range of eligible activities. Applicants can apply for up to \$800,000.

#### **Vermont Watershed grants**

https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/grants/wa tershed-grants

Grant application deadline: February 15, 2019

Municipalities, local or regional governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations, and citizen groups are eligible to receive Watershed Grants for work on public or private lands. Grant funds are available for water-related projects that:

- Protect or restore fish and wildlife habitats
- Protect or restore water quality, and shorelines:
- Reduce phosphorus loading and/or sedimentation as part of DEC's Clean Water Initiative objectives:
- Enhance recreational use and enjoyment;
- Identify and protect historic and cultural resources:
- Educate people about watershed resources; or
- Monitor fish and wildlife populations and/or water quality.

#### **Rural Fire Protection Grant Program**

https://www.vacd.org/programs/rural-fireprotection/

Application deadlines of February 1st, April 1st, June 1st, and August 1st, 2019.

The Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force is pleased to announce the 22nd year of funding for towns to improve fire suppression capabilities.

The installation of **new** dry hydrants & other types of rural water supplies is still the priority of the program, but eligible projects also include repair/upgrade, replacement, relocation of existing rural water supplies, and new "drafting site" development, (including access development, stepping stones, etc.). The maximum grant award is \$5,000 per project or system; a 25% local match is required.

For more information, contact Troy Dare, Program Manager (802-828-4582. dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com)

## **Tools & Trainings**

**Local Emergency Management Director Course Time:** 12:00-4:00 PM (1200-1600) 4hrs x 2

**Dates:** 1/23 and 1/24, 2019

Location: ACRPC Conference Room.

14 Seminary St, Middlebury VT 05753

**Instructor:** Max Kennedy

Course for Local Emergency Management Directors (EMDs), required for state EMD

certification

**Local Emergency Management Plan workshop** 

**Time:** 12:00PM - 1:00 PM (1200-1300)

Date: 2/13/2019

Location: ACRPC Conference Room.

14 Seminary St, Middlebury VT 05753

Instructors: Max Kennedy, Andrew L'Roe This workshop will assist town Emergency Management Directors (EMDs and EMCs) to complete the LEMP forms required for 2019.

ICS 402 - Incident Command System Overview for Executives/Senior Officials

**Time:** 9:00AM-12:00PM (0900-1200)

**Date:** 3/27/2019

Location: State Police Barracks Conference Rm 2490 Ethan Allen Hwy, New Haven, VT 05472

**Instructor:** Max Kennedy

This course provides an orientation to the Incident Command System (ICS) for Executives and Senior Officials (including elected officials, city/county managers, agency administrators, etc.).

You can register for any of these courses via the VT Learning Management System

(http://vem.vermont.gov/training/trainingprogram/lms)

# Who's Who on the Addison County Regional Planning Commission?



### Mary Cullinane, Weybridge

1. What Town do you live in now and where else do you have connections?

I live in Weybridge— near Monument Farms Dairy. I own, along with my business partner, Community Barn Ventures, which is based in Middlebury. We work with small businesses across Addison County and beyond, helping them achieve their business goals. Our work provides us with the opportunity to connect in different ways with people and organizations throughout our region.

2. Why are you interested in serving on the Regional Commission?

Our region is at a critical juncture. Working to insure we are creating a strong foundation, enabling economic growth and a high standard of living is something that I want to contribute to and support in any way I can. The Regional Commission, through effective planning and policy can and does have a direct impact on our success in this area.

3. What are some of your favorite places in Addison County?

I love where I live. I appreciate the hidden gems that can be discovered throughout Addison County – Whether it is a hike up Snake Mountain, a great dinner at the Arcadian in downtown Middlebury, hanging out with friends at the Snow Bowl or walking around the main streets of Bristol, Vergennes, and Middlebury – we have a lot to offer. But I must say, my favorite thing is the sunset view, I get to see every night, from my backyard... priceless.

4. Do you have a Life Mantra or Bucket-List item?

My dad taught me: Work Hard, Be Nice, Say Thank you.

Hard work has served me well. Kindness is always the best choice. And I am incredibly grateful for those I have encountered, the work I have been able to do, and the places I have been able to call home.

5. What kind of projects would you like to see the Commission support?

I believe we can honor our past AND build for a sustainable future. I would like to see the Commission have a strong voice and proactive nature in painting the picture of what Addison County can be with great planning – great energy and great people. The team has worked so hard and I look forward to supporting their work moving forward.