

ACRPC

update

November 2018

Vermont Public Transit Plan

Thanks to those of you attended the Addison Regional Public Transit Forum!

VTrans is continuing to gather input on existing public transportation services, service gaps and challenges, and potential solutions from stakeholders and transit riders. Please visit the project website for more information and to provide feedback using an interactive survey:

www.vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/PTPP

Commission Calendar

Nov 14	7:00pm	Full Commission Meeting
Nov 15	7:00pm	Addison County Solid Waste Management District Meeting
Nov 28	5:00pm	Addison County Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC 8)-VT State Police Barracks
Nov 28	6:30pm	Executive Board Meeting
Post-poned		Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

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



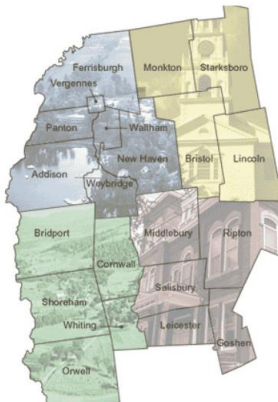
ACRPC Energy Plan Receives Certification from the Vermont Public Service Department

ACRPC is pleased to announce that on November 6, 2018, that the Addison County Regional Plan received a Certificate of Energy Compliance from the Department of Public Service. The Certificate of Energy Compliance, signed by Commissioner June Tierney notes, “I have affirmatively determined that the Addison County Regional Plan, duly adopted on July 18, 2018, complies with the energy Planning requirements set forth in 24 V.S.A. §4352.”

The Regional Planning Commission and its Energy Committee have been working to adopt this portion of the plan for almost 2 years. ACRPC’s adoption of the Energy Plan and the Public Service Department’s Certification of the Plan provides the following benefits. First, the Energy Plan, in context with the Transportation and Land Use sections of the Plan, provide a significant amount of statistical information policy analysis and recommended actions for the Region and its municipalities and citizens to take to reduce carbon emission causing increased incidents of severe weather.

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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.



Addison County Regional Planning Commission
14 Seminary Street
Middlebury, VT 05753

Phone: 802.388.3141
Fax: 802.388.0038

Updates & Events

Energy Plan Receives Certification (*continued*)

The Plan contains a lot of information and actions all of us can take locally to conserve energy, improve our economy and protect our natural resources. Second, it means that in any proceeding before the Public Utilities Commission to permit energy related projects, the Regional Plan will receive an extra layer of scrutiny by the Commission. In order for the Commission to grant a project a Certificate of Public Good, the Commission will need to review the plan and to interpret its guidance and policy with “Substantial deference” before granting the project a Certificate of Public Good. If the policies contained in the Regional Plan cause ACRPC to oppose a project, the Public Utilities Commission should support the

Regional Plan and will need powerful reasons to overrule its intention. Third, this also gives ACRPC the power to review local plans and determine whether those plans also merit “substantial deference” before the Public Utilities Commission. ACRPC has been working with a number of its member communities to develop municipal energy plans. It now has the authority to determine whether those plans also meet the standards required to receive an enhanced Energy Certificate.

Thank you to ACRPC’s Energy committee and all those who helped put this Plan together!

Updates & Events

Vermont Planners Association Fall Conference 2018

<https://www.vermontplanners.org/fall-conference-2018/>
December 7, 2018 at the Middlebury Town Offices

The Vermont Planners Association (VPA) is a non-profit advocacy and educational organization of planners and related professionals. They are dedicated to the advancement of community planning in Vermont at the local, regional, and state levels, to foster vibrant communities and a healthy environment.

VT Community Development Assoc. Fall Conference Workforce Development: Community-Based Strategies

<https://www.vtcda.org/fall-2018.html>

Wednesday December 5 from 9:30am to 3:00pm at the Hotel Coolidge, White River Junction

Learn about Vermont’s workforce today: What are the challenges and opportunities in ensuring a new generation can work to build tomorrow’s economy?

For more information contact Theresa Bachand at 802-229-9111 or tbachand@vlct.org

Addison County Nutrition World Café

Tuesday, December 11, 2018 from 3-5pm.

Counseling Service of Addison County, 109 Catamount Park, Middlebury, Vermont

The Vermont Department of Health would like to invite you to the “Addison County Nutrition World Café” on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 from 3-5pm. You will have the opportunity to visit with different food and nutrition resources while helping to identify gaps in nutrition services in Addison County.

For additional information contact the Vermont Department of Health, 802-388-4644



Funding Opportunities

Small Grants for Smart Growth

<http://vnrc.org/programs/sustainable-communities/small-grants-for-smart-growth/>

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Are you looking for funding to help with a local planning project? If so, check out VNRC's Small Grants for Smart Growth program!

The program provides seed money for community-based, local initiatives related to smart growth including:

1. Advocacy for better land use through municipal planning, regulations, or advocacy in the permit process; and
2. Smart growth initiatives in the following areas: downtown and/or village center development or revitalization; transportation; housing; conservation, including agriculture, forestry, and historic preservation.

Grants are expected to be in the range of \$500-\$1,500 per project. A second year of funding may be an option for some projects.

Applicants must be:

- Local or multi-town entities, such as a municipality, municipal commission or committee; non-profit organization; or citizens group that is either working with a non-profit or seeking 501(c)(3) status.
- From within the State of Vermont.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and require just a 2-page proposal. Applicants will usually receive a response from VNRC within 30 days.

Send materials and questions to: Kate McCarthy, Sustainable Communities Program Director, Vermont Natural Resources Council, kmccarthy@vnrc.org, (802) 223-2328, x.114

Vermont Outdoor Recreation Communities Grants

https://fpr.vermont.gov/VOREC_Community_Grant

Applications for funding will be accepted until December 14, 2018.

The program's purpose is to make grants from \$10,000 up to \$100,000 available to help one or more Vermont communities fully leverage their local outdoor recreation assets to achieve a status of being a truly "outdoor recreation friendly community" as envisioned by the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) steering committee. VOREC's goals are to:

- Grow the outdoor recreation related business opportunities
- Increase participation in outdoor recreation activities
- Strengthen the quality and extent of outdoor recreation resources
- Increase stewardship of outdoor recreation resources

Grant funding can be used for a variety of purposes with the result being a community(ies) that can show measurable success supporting and growing their local economies through leveraging outdoor recreation. The successful community(ies) will be showcased as prototypes (aka "Pilots") for a longer-term community designation program with the goal of raising the economic tide for all recreation-oriented communities.

For questions contact: Becca Washburn, 802.793.3432 becca.washburn@vermont.gov

Funding Opportunities

Partnership Project Development Block Grant

<https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/grants/ecosystem-restoration>

Application due: December 3, 2018 by 4:00 pm

This funding is perfect for those projects that need a little extra work to be taken to the next step of preliminary design, final design or implementation.

If you have River Corridor Plans, Stormwater Mapping Reports, Stormwater Master Plans, etc. that have fallen by the wayside due to lack of project development funding, this is your opportunity.

DEC is requesting proposals for clean water project development, including coordination between landowners, municipalities, and other potential project partners. Up to \$45,000 is available for this block grant.

For information, contact Shalini Suryanarayana, 802-461-6175, shalini.suryanarayana@vermont.gov

Ecosystem Restoration Woody Buffer Block Grant

<https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/grants/ecosystem-restoration>

Application due: December 3, 2018 by 4:00 pm

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is requesting proposals to oversee the development and implementation of priority, cost-effective, native woody buffer plantings. In total, \$215,000 is available for the Ecosystem Restoration Woody Buffer Block Grant Pilot. Of this, \$175,000 is available for project implementation and \$40,000 is available for project development costs.

For information, contact Shalini Suryanarayana, 802-461-6175, shalini.suryanarayana@vermont.gov

Better Connections Grant Program

<http://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/better-connections>

**Grant Applications are due January 31, 2019
All applicants required to participate in a pre-application meeting prior to December 31, 2018.**

As part of an ongoing partnership to revitalize community centers and increase transportation options, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) in collaboration with the Agency of Natural Resources and the Vermont Department of Health are pleased to announce that the Better Connections (BC) Grant Program is now accepting applications. Annually, the program grants approximately \$200,000 in planning funds to help municipalities (outside of Chittenden County) build more livable, walkable and strong communities.

Grant Timeline:

- * Pre-application meeting deadline: Dec. 31, 2018
- * RPC confirmation of municipal planning process: January 31, 2019
- * Application Deadline: January 31, 2019 @ 4:00 pm
- * Award Decisions: March 15, 2019

For more information or to schedule a pre-application meeting, contact program managers Richard Amore, at 802-828-5229, or Jackie Cassino, at 802-272-2368

Funding Opportunities

Lake Champlain Basin Program 2018 Local Implementation Grants

<http://www.lcbp.org/about-us/grants-rfps/request-for-proposals-rfps/#local>

Electronic application due by 4:30 pm, Tuesday, November 20th, 2018

The Lake Champlain Basin Program, in cooperation with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission, is pleased to announce the 2018 LCBP Local Implementation Grant program. The LCBP anticipates awarding more than 75 grants totaling more than \$890,000 to local organizations, municipalities, and educational institutions. The grants will support projects that advance the goals of the long-term Lake Champlain management plan.

Grants will be awarded in five categories:

- Pollution Prevention & Habitat Conservation Grants (*up to \$20,000 per award*)
- Aquatic Invasive Species Spread Prevention Grants (*up to \$15,000 per award*)
- Small Education and Outreach Grants (*up to \$10,000 per award*)
- Large Education and Outreach Grants (*\$15,000 – \$50,000 per award*)
- Organizational Support Grants (*up to \$4,000 per award*)

Proposal submissions should be made via email to grants@lcbp.org.

Tools & Trainings

Vermont Agency of Human Services database
www.Humanservices.vermont.gov/ahs_community_profiles

Each profile is available for viewing at 3 different levels of sub-geography: County, AHS District Office (DO), and Hospital Service Area (HSA). You can compare trends over time, by geography, and in relation to state averages.

AHS is welcoming feedback at AHS.COCommunityprofiles@vermont.gov

Vermont Parcelization Website
<https://vtforettrends.vnrc.org/>

The Vermont Natural Resources Council (VNRC) released a report this fall that systematically tracks how parcel ownership is changing in Vermont, revealing where — and the rate at which — the breaking up of parcels (called “parcelization”) is occurring in our forests. The report, *Tracking Parcelization Over Time*, is accompanied by a website that allows viewers to select and visualize a range of metrics from the parcelization database. The website provides year-to-year data at the town and county level showing that Vermont’s large, undeveloped forest parcels are shrinking, and identifies key parcelization trends from 2004-2016.

A report and executive summary can be viewed at <https://vtforettrends.vnrc.org/reports>

Regional Construction Updates

Seymour Street/Pulp Mill Bridge Sidewalk Project out to Bid for Construction Next Spring

The Towns of Middlebury and Weybridge have officially put the joint Seymour Street/Pulp Mill Bridge Road sidewalk project out to bid. A pre-bid meeting of potential contractors was held. Final bids are due by Tuesday, November 20th at 10:00 a.m. At that time, we will open the bids and announce the lowest apparent bidder. We will enter a contract with the winning lowest bidder over the winter for a spring construction start. The contract documents require that the sidewalk be completed by July 19, 2019.

For more information regarding the project please call Adam Lougee, ACRPC Municipal Project manager at 802-388-3141.