LUCA is the only opportunity offered to tribal, state, and local governments to review and comment on the U.S. Census Bureau’s residential address list for their jurisdiction prior to the 2020 Census. The Census Bureau relies on a complete and accurate address list to reach every living quarters and associated population for inclusion in the census. The Census Address List Improvement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-430) authorizes the LUCA. The deadline to register for LUCA is December 15, 2017.

Who Can Participate?

Active, functioning governments are eligible to participate in LUCA. If your government lacks the resources to participate in LUCA, you can arrange for an organization, such as regional planning agency, to conduct your review.

Why Participate?

- Governments that participate in the LUCA operation help ensure an accurate decennial census count for their communities.
- An accurate count helps the federal government annually allocate more than $400 billion across 26 federal agencies for tribal, state, and local government programs and services.
- To help your community plan for future needs.

What is the LUCA Schedule?

- January 2017: Advance notification of the LUCA operation mailed to the HEO or TC of all eligible governments and other LUCA contacts.
- March 2017: LUCA promotional workshops began.
- July 2017: Invitation letter and registration forms mailed to the HEO or TC of all eligible governments.
- October 2017: Training workshops begin. Self-training aids and Webinars will be available online at the LUCA website.
News & Events

- December 2017: Deadline to register for LUCA.
- February 2018: Participation materials mailed to registered participants.
- August 2019: Feedback materials offered to participants with the results of address canvassing.
- April 1, 2020: Census Day.

Registration

The Census Bureau mailed LUCA invitations and forms to the TC or HEO for every legally functioning entity in the United States and Puerto Rico. We also mailed a copy of the invitation letter without forms to contacts who have participated in other geographic programs. Officials may designate a contact at their regional planning agency as the LUCA Liaison for their area, on the registration form.

To register for LUCA, TCs/HEOs should return completed forms to the Census Bureau by December 15, 2017. Please contact GEO.2020.LUCA@census.gov with questions about registering.

Save the Date! Addressing Forest Integrity in Municipal Plans

Is your municipality ready to address the newest statutory requirement for municipal plans? Municipal and regional plans adopted after January 1, 2018 must map and address forest integrity, including identifying areas for maintenance of forest blocks, wildlife habitat, and habitat connectors with an eye toward minimizing forest fragmentation and promoting health, viability, and ecological function of forests. Plans may include specific policies to encourage the active management of those areas for wildlife habitat, water quality, timber production, recreation, or other values or functions identified by the municipality.

Join us for a webinar series on what statute requires, finding data and mapping resources, examples from town plans throughout the state, and regulatory and non-regulatory activities municipalities can (and cannot) use to maintain forest integrity and connectivity.

Upcoming webinar dates include:

- November 28, 2017 from 2:00-3:30 pm
- December 18, 2017 from 12 noon-1:30pm
- January 29, 2018 from 6:00-7:30 pm
- February 12, 2018 from 2:00-3:30 pm

Webinar partners include the Vermont Departments of Forests, Parks and Recreation and Fish and Wildlife, Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, Vermont Natural Resources Council, and the Vermont Center for Geographic Information. Contact Clare Rock, rock@cvregion.com or 802-229-0389.

Municipal Road Management for Decision Makers

Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at Capitol Plaza, Montpelier.

Maintaining municipal roads is complex and expensive for all municipalities in Vermont. This workshop will help selectboard members, municipal managers and administrators, highway supervisors, public works directors and road commissioners learn the important intersections of policy decisions and technical aspects of highway design and the safety of employees working on roads. Vermont Local Roads’ excavator operator simulator will be available for attendees to practice digging skills. VLR Road Scholar Credits Available.

To see the full agenda and to register, visit here: https://www.vlct.org/event/municipal-road-management-decision-makers.

To view full listing of upcoming VLCT workshops, visit here: https://www.vlct.org/training-events.
Nearly $6 Million Awarded for Municipal Stormwater Mitigation

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is pleased to announce the award of nearly $6 million in federal and state grant funds to assist municipalities in their mitigation efforts through the Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Program.

“These grant funds will help support critical infrastructure improvements that are so important to the state’s clean water initiatives,” said Governor Phil Scott. “As we take an ‘all in’ approach to protecting Vermont’s waterways, I appreciate the work of VTrans to offer this grant program and support our municipalities.”

The program will fund 18 projects throughout the state and will help with a range of transportation issues that affect water quality, including scoping for phosphorous control plans, the purchase of high-efficiency sewer equipment, and the scoping, design, and/or construction of culverts, salt sheds, drainage systems, and other stormwater management practices.

“We are pleased to offer this new grant program to assist municipalities with their stormwater mitigation goals,” said Joe Flynn, Transportation Secretary for VTrans. “We are committed to doing our part to improve the quality of state waters.”

To view all awarded projects, or for additional information on VTrans’ Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Program, visit vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/Municipal-Highway-and-Stormwater-Mitigation-Program. There will be another opportunity to apply for funding through this program in the summer of 2018.

Vermont Route 17 Bridge Replacement Project Weybridge – New Haven Bridge Over Otter Creek

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) in conjunction with CCS Constructors, Inc. will be replacing Bridge 8 on VT Route 17 over the Otter Creek in New Haven, Vermont. The new bridge that will be slightly longer and include two 11’ travel lanes with 4’ shoulders on each side. Also included in this bridge replacement project will be a new fishing access north-west of the bridge. This fishing access will include parking and a boat launch.

Beginning October 9, 2017, CCS will begin preliminary construction work. This work should have little to no impact on the traveling public. Work will resume in 2018 and will include a closure to thru traffic on Route 17 beginning June 4, 2018 until August 03, 2018. During this closure motorists will be detoured via signage using VT Route 7 and VT Route 22A. The anticipated completed date is October 04, 2018.

Prior to work commencing in 2018 a public meeting will be held at a time/place to be determined. This meeting will allow people to learn more about the project and ask any questions that they may have.

Anyone with questions/concerns regarding the project may contact Stephanie Barrett, Public Outreach Coordinator at 802-862-6085 throughout the project. If you would like to receive a weekly update of the contractors anticipated work schedule please email sbarrett@coibsinc.com your request.
VTrans and ACCD Announce $200k in Planning Funds to Increase Transportation Options that build vibrant community centers

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) are pleased to announce the Better Connections (BC) Grant Program is accepting applications.

Annually, the program grants approximately $200,000 in planning funds to help cities and towns (outside of Chittenden County) build more livable, walkable and strong communities. Grant Applications are due January 31, 2018 with all applicants required to participate in a pre-application meeting with BC Program Managers prior to December 31, 2017.

“Vermonters depend upon their transportation system to provide access to work, school, shopping and other activities. We need to collaborate with communities and coordinate public polices and investments in order to grow our economy and improve quality of life for all Vermonters,” said Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn. “This inter-agency collaboration is doing just that by supporting communities to plan and grow in a way that integrates transportation and land use planning with economic development decision making.”

“This exciting agency partnership aligns state and local transportation investments to strengthen the economy, improve our quality of life and make Vermont more affordable for families and businesses” said Housing and Community Development Commissioner Katie Buckley.

Last year’s round of the Better Connections Grant Program funded three projects that are in progress: the Town of Brighton is developing a plan to improve the streetscape and create more opportunities for residents and tourists to walk, shop and enjoy the scenic beauty of Island Pond; the City and Town of St. Albans are developing a plan to improve safety and accessibility along Route 7, strengthening the connection between the downtown and its northern commercial and employment centers, and improving transportation options for the region’s most vulnerable; and the Town of Windsor is creating an action plan to guide downtown commercial and industrial redevelopment, improving housing affordability in surrounding neighborhoods, and exploring ideas to reconnect to the Connecticut River - making Windsor a great place to live, work and do business.

For more information, contact Richard Amore at 802-828-5229 or Jackie Cassino, at 802-272-2368 and visit the grant website here: vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/better-connections.

Natural Shorelands Erosion Control Certification Trainings this November

When and Where:
• Wednesday, November 8, 2017: Associated General Contractors of Vermont, Montpelier, VT, 8:00AM TO 4:00PM
• Wednesday, November 15, 2017: Lake Champlain Sea Grant and UVM Extension, Essex State Regional Offices, Essex Junction, VT, 8:00AM TO 4:00PM

Why?
Vermont has over 1400 miles of lakeshores with some of the greatest residential density and development pressure in the state. This voluntary certification course teaches landscaping techniques that control stormwater runoff and conserve wildlife habitat, which are essential shoreland development practices for protecting Vermont lakes.

Certified Participants
Will be listed on the Agency of Natural Resources web site; given priority for certain ANR grant funded shoreland projects; and awarded professional development credits, including four non-soil credits for Licensed Designers.
Approaching Grant Deadlines

**Featuring**
- Shoreland BMPs
- Native Plants
- Permitting
- Green Infrastructure
- Bio-Engineering
- Landscaping Materials & Suppliers
- Road Maintenance Rules

To register contact David Addeo at [David.Addeo@vermont.gov](mailto:David.Addeo@vermont.gov) or 802-490-6153.

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**FY2019 Vermont Better Roads Grant Program**
**November 17th**
The Better Roads Program provides technical support and grant funding to municipalities in order to promote the use of erosion control and maintenance techniques that save money and protect water quality in Vermont.

There are four categories of grants all of which require a local match of 20%:
- **Category A**: grants are for inventories of roadway erosion and/or stormwater management issues and capital budget planning, max award $8,000
- **Category B**: grants are for correction of road related erosion and/or construction of stormwater management projects, max award $20,000
- **Category C**: grants are for the correction of streambank and/or slope related problems, max award $40,000
- **Category D**: grants are for roadway structures and culvert upgrades, max award $60,000

Applications for funding will be accepted until November 17th, 2017 at 4:30 PM.

To learn more about the grant program or to download an application, please see the attached documents or visit their website here: [http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads](http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads).

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**FY2018 VTrans Transportation Alternatives Program - November 22nd**
The FY 2018 Transportation Alternatives Grant Program is open and will be providing funding to municipalities in order to assist in their efforts of improving the quality of state waters. Grants funded through this program must have a transportation link and eligibility is determined as, “any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff.”

The program will have $2.2 million available to award, and federal funding will have a cap of $300,000 per project with a 20% local match required. Applications must be received on or before November 22nd, 2017. More information regarding the program, eligibility, or application is available here: [http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/transport-alt](http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/transport-alt).

If you have any questions, require application assistance, or wish to explore eligible projects with ACRPC staff, please do not hesitate to contact Nikki Boudah ([nboudah@acrpc.org](mailto:nboudah@acrpc.org)) or Josh Donabedian ([jdonabed@acrpc.org](mailto:jdonabed@acrpc.org)). You may also contact Scott Robertson at VTrans with any questions or for additional information at (802) 828-5799 or by email at [scott.robertson@vermont.gov](mailto:scott.robertson@vermont.gov).
Approaching Grant Deadlines

2017 Local Implementation Grant Programs
November 15th & 20th

The Lake Champlain Basin Program, in cooperation with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission, is pleased to announce the 2017 Local Implementation Grant programs, including the following groups of grants:

Grant Applications due November 15th, 2017:
• Education and Outreach Grants (up to $10,000 per award)
• Organizational Support Grants (up to $4,000 per award)
• Pollution Prevention & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Grants (up to $25,000 per award)
• Aquatic Invasive Species Spread Prevention Grants (up to $15,000 per award)
• Community Resilience Grants (up to $20,000 per award),

Grant Applications due November 20th, 2017:
• CVNHP Local Heritage Grants (up to $2,500 for local or $5,000 per award for regional projects)
• CVNHP Making of Nations Grants (up to $5,000 per award)

The LCBP anticipates awarding more than 50 grants, reflecting over $500,000 to support local community involvement in the implementation of the comprehensive management plan Opportunities for Action: An Evolving Plan for the Future of the Lake Champlain Basin (plan.lcbp.org). Funds to support these awards are anticipated from the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and the US Environmental Protection Agency through agreements with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission.

Grant Guidelines are available in the grants section on the LCBP website at http://www.lcbp.org/grants with more information about how the grant program works, to help you prepare a competitive application. Application Forms are provided in Microsoft Word format. Please review all of the materials provided within the

Grant Guidelines carefully before beginning your application. Organizations with existing LCBP-funded projects are eligible to apply for new funding only if all project deliverables and obligations under the existing and past awards are fully up-to-date and the projects are in good standing. All grant proposals that have a fieldwork component must provide some assurance that appropriate invasive species spread prevention measures will be included in the project design. Please follow the grant application instructions carefully.

Applicants are encouraged to contact LCBP staff for assistance prior to the preparation of project proposals. LCBP staff do not make award decisions and can assist applicants in interpretation of the RFP instructions and guidelines. All completed applications must be received electronically at grants@lcbp.org by the appropriate deadline indicated in the associated RFP. Paper copies of proposals will not be accepted. Award notifications should be expected by January, 2018.

If you would like to receive a printed or email version of this RFP, or if you would prefer not to receive these notices from the LCBP, please contact us at 802-372-3213 or at grants@lcbp.org.