

September,
2021

ACRPC

update

This Month's Calendar

Digital calendar located at
<http://acrpc.org/calendar/>

Date	Time	Event
Wed. 8	7:00pm	Full Commission Meeting
Wed. 15	6:30pm	TAC meeting
Thurs. 16	7:00pm	ACSWMD
Wed. 20	8:15pm	ACTR/Tri-Valley Transit Board
Wed. 22	12:00pm	EMD Roundtable
Wed. 22	6:30pm	ACRPC Executive Board

All meetings are offered in hybrid form and open to the public. Unless otherwise noted the physical location for all meetings is the ACRPC Office at
14 Seminary St, Middlebury, VT



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 ADA accessible.

American Rescue Plan Funding

The state has begun distributing Local Recovery Funds from the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) and Addison County municipalities should have their second portion of ARPA money by Labor Day.

Municipal and County funding can be used in several recovery categories, especially infrastructure. In addition, there is substantial **ARPA state funding being allocated through different agency programs** that may overlap or complement the projects your town wants to accomplish. Your town has **3 years to use the funds**, so **be patient and strategic!**

Holding a public meeting to discuss community desires for strategically using this funding for transformative upgrades is strongly recommended. Your Town Plan is also a great place to find priority ideas.

If you are looking to spend a portion of your funding quickly, please **consider an investment in Maple Broadband and high-speed internet** for your community. National data indicates that Fiber-to-the-Premise networks drive economic development through job creation and retention, increased housing values (up to 3.1%¹) and documents a 4:1 rate of return on fiber broadband investments; every \$1 dollar invested in fiber broadband returns \$4 dollars to the local economy.

For more information, see: <https://acrpc.org/ARPA/>
For questions, please contact ACRPC Planner, Andrew L'Roe at alroe@acrpc.org



Announcements

Regional Housing Plan Completed

The ACRPC is excited to share the 2021 draft update of the Regional Population and Housing plan. The plan summarizes and illustrates the changes, trends and characteristics of the region's population and housing stock over the last decade. The past year, however, was a challenging time to project what might occur in the future, specifically in the realms of population and housing. Inserted throughout the document are 'Covid-19' boxes that highlight unforeseen effects the pandemic has had on our community, such as increased in-migration, a steep rise in housing costs and rehabilitation projects completed with Coronavirus Aide, Relief, Economic Security (CARES) Act funding.

The plan's goals, objectives and implementation actions, crafted to support, advocate and guide the region's communities, are the result of a productive and collaborative work of the ACRPC's Housing Committee: Tim Davis, Tim Bouton, Tim Cook and Ellen Kurrelmeyer, along with ACRPC Community Planner, Katie Raycroft-Meyer. The staff at ACRPC would like to dedicate this plan to Ellen, who sadly passed away in April 2021.

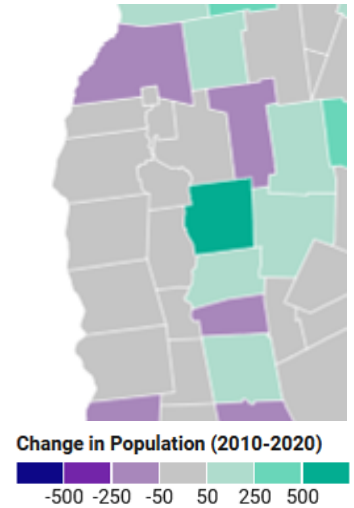
The plan is available for review at:
https://acrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/pop-and-housing_draft_09_01_21.pdf



Addison County Regional Population Grows in 2020 Census

The Addison County Regional population increased from 36,200 in 2010 to **36,703** in 2020, a growth rate of **1.39%**

Additional Census and American Community Survey information will be released in the next several months.



<https://vcgi.vermont.gov/data-release/2020-census-data>

NBRC Grants go to Addison County Communities

The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) invests in economic and infrastructure projects. In August 2021 they awarded grants to:

- Town of Middlebury—\$600,000 for the replacement of a critical water transmission main to provide reliable potable water supply and fire suppression to the Downtown business district.
- Town of New Haven—\$350,000 for the relocation of the historic New Haven Rail Station from its current site to a location adjacent to the Town Office

Maple Broadband signs Agreement with Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom to manage and deliver fiber network services
Congratulations to Maple Broadband on a huge advance in their mission to provide critical infrastructure to the region! Securing a local reputable network operator advances their ability to provide service by years! A press release with additional information can be found here:
<https://www.maplebroadband.net/news/maple-broadband-announces-network-management-agreement/>

Events



ENERGY ACTION NETWORK

2021 NETWORK SUMMIT

SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

**Achieving a Just, Thriving, and
Sustainable Future for Vermonters**

<https://www.eanvt.org/events-and-initiatives/2021-ean-summit/>
September 15

The Summit brings together EAN members and partners, Vermont legislators, leaders in State government, representatives from Vermont's federal delegation, philanthropists, and other thought leaders - to connect, strategize, and learn from one another. You can learn more about the agenda, pricing options, and COVID considerations on the EAN website.

Citizens' Institute on Rural Design

**Rural Design Webinar: Models and Practices for
Meaningful Community Engagement**

<https://www.rural-design.org/webinars/models-and-practices-for-meaningful-community-engagement>
September 15, 2:00 pm

What does meaningful community engagement work look like for your rural community? In this webinar you will have a chance to share your best engagement strategies and learn new ways to strengthen your community engaged design work. They will also talk about engagement in the context of COVID-19 and practices for building greater inclusivity. The webinar will be facilitated by Jamie Horter, a rural artist working in community-engaged art.

Emergency Manager Roundtable

Wednesday, Sept 22, 12:15-1:30pm

Zoom and In-person at the ACRPC Conference
Room, 14 Seminary St, Middlebury

This gathering for municipal emergency management Directors, Coordinators, and Select-board Chairs will provide an overview and discussion of several funding programs available this year for resilient infrastructure and planning. We will also work on goals for the new Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) which replaces the previous LEPC.

**For more information, contact ACRPC planner
Andrew L'Roe at alroe@acrpc.org**

2021 Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference

<https://vem.vermont.gov/conference>

September 14, 15 & 16, 2021

The 2021 Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference will be held virtually.

All attendees must pre-register in order to receive conference link. Registration is now available through the Learning Management System. Don't have an LMS account? You can sign up for one! Have questions? **Contact
Hillarie Scott at: hillarie.scott@vermont.gov**



**Vermont Coverts
Woodlands for Wildlife**

Vermont Coverts: Crawling out of COVID

<http://vtcoverts.org/sept2021.html>

September 25, 9:30-4:30pm

Join VT Coverts in Shrewsbury, Vermont, on September 25 for their "Crawling out of Covid" workshop and annual meeting!

Events

**Bristol Selectboard Meeting and Survey
for VT 116-Lincoln Rd/Briggs Hill Rd
Intersections and Bartlett Falls Parking**
<http://bristolvt.org/community-survey-for-the-vt-116-lincoln-road-and-briggs-hill-road-intersections-and-bartlett-falls-parking/>

Poor sight distances at the Lincoln Road/Route 116 intersection result in crashes and near-crashes. The Briggs Hill Road intersection with Lincoln Road can be dangerous and harrowing, particularly in winter conditions. And parking at Bartlett Falls along Lincoln Road, and sometimes in the road, creates hazardous conditions for motorists and visitors.

What are some potential improvements that could be made? We want to hear from you about your thoughts on the alternatives developed as part of this study as well as your input on the project area. Please let us know what you think! Take the community survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Bristol-Intersection>

The Selectboard will be reviewing the results of this survey and the final recommendations of the study on **Monday, September 13**, in person at Holley Hall and remotely via Zoom.

For more info, contact Town Administrator Valerie Capels at townadmin@bristolvt.org or Jenny Austin, P.E., at jaustin@dubois-king.com

SAVE THE DATES

2021 Conservation Summit: Caring for Vermont's Land

https://vtconservation.com/conservation_summit/

A fall webinar series exploring stewardship, recreation management, forest carbon, equity and access, and indigenous perspectives.

- Wednesday Sept 22, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
- Wednesday Sept 29, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
- Wednesday Oct 6, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
- Wednesday Oct 13, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
- Wednesday Oct 20, 7- 9 pm- KEYNOTE



<https://www.vlct.org/event/town-fair>

From practical advice to visionary insight, Town Fair 2021 is your opportunity to connect with colleagues, learn about new products and services from virtual exhibitors, win prizes, and hear from topic experts about the issues most important to municipalities right now.

Join for a hybrid conference, starting with a full day of in-person training, networking, and annual meetings, followed by an entire week of virtual trainings and exhibitors.

- **September 29: Town Fair In-Person Day**
- **October 4-8: Virtual Town Fair**

For questions, contact Event Coordinator (802) 229-9111, info@vlct.org

2021 Northern New England Planning Conference



<https://nne.planning.org/meetings/conference/>

Wednesday October 13 - Friday October 15

Burlington, Vermont

The theme for this year's conference is:

Envisioning a New Normal

How we see the world and our communities: in reality, as we imagine them, and ultimately in how the two views intersect.

Questions to: David White, Conference Chair,
dewhite@burlingtonvt.gov

Grants & Funding

Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grant Programs

<https://vem.vermont.gov/funding/mitigation>

Cost Share: 75% federal, 25% local non-federal

For both programs, application **opens Sept 30** with state deadline of **December 17, 2021**:

Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)

Eligible Projects: Home buyouts, floodplain restoration, culvert projects, Local Hazard Mitigation Planning grants, etc. In addition, this year under BRIC, applicants can apply for **Project Scoping** or **Direct Technical Assistance**

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

For **Project Scoping** to develop community flood mitigation projects that reduce future NFIP flood claims and for **Community Flood Mitigation Projects** to address community flood risk to reduce future NFIP flood claims.

For questions, contact ACRPC Emergency Planner **Andrew L'Roe**, alroe@acrpc.org

SFY21 Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Grant Program

<http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/Municipal-Highway-and-Stormwater-Mitigation-Program>

Applications must be received by **Oct 1, 1pm**

Contact **Ross Gouin** VTrans Muni Assistance Section ross.gouin@vermont.gov, (802) 595-2381

VHCB Housing Funding

<https://www.vhcb.org/our-programs/housing/arpa-sfr>

Application Due Dates:

- **November 10, 2021** for Jan 26 consideration
- **February 25, 2022** for May 13 consideration

Non-profits, municipalities, and cooperative housing organizations are eligible to apply for state VHCB funding, supplemental and base. Private and non-profit housing developers, municipalities, and cooperative housing organizations are invited to apply for the federal ARPA-SFR funding as well as federal HOME Program and National Housing Trust funding administered by VHCB.

Contact **Jenny Hyslop**, Housing Director, 828-5539, jenny@vhcb.org

2022 Growing Urban Forests in the Face of Emerald Ash Borer Grants

<https://vtcommunityforestry.org/programs/financial-assistance/2022-growing-urban-forests-face-emerald-ash-borer-grants>

Applications due Friday, October 29th

These cost-share grants of between \$3,000 and \$15,000 will support:

- Tree planting in the public right-of-way or in public spaces; and
- The establishment or enhancement of municipal tree nurseries

For application questions, contact **Elise Schadler**, (802) 522-6015, elise.schadler@vermont.gov, for Project Development Questions: **Joanne Garton**, (802) 249-4217 or joanne.garton@vermont.gov

Grant Deadline Reminder

(more information in previous newsletters, <https://acrpc.org/newsletters/>)

Municipal Planning Grants AND Special FY2022 Funding for Bylaw Modernization

<https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/municipal-planning-grant>

Applications due **Monday, November 1st, at 6pm**

Please contact ACRPC's **Katie Raycroft-Meyer** at 802-388-3141 or kraycroftmeyer@acrpc.org

Tools & Training

Vermont Tier 2 & Tier 3

Rivers & Roads Training Program

Tier 2 River and Roads workshops:

October 12th & 13th at VTrans Training Center (VTTC) at 1716 Route 302 in Berlin

Tier 2 is a two-day training and is both indoors and outdoor. Bring, or wear, appropriate field clothes and waterproof boots or old sneakers you can get wet! Each day will be indoors for slide shows and class exercises and river flume table demonstrations and outdoors on rivers and streams to observe in the field what we've seen and discussed indoors.

Open to all municipal staff, state staff, construction contractors, engineers, consultants, regional planning commission staff, conservation districts, and others working with communities on river and road related issues.

Tier 3 River & Roads- Advanced Flood Recovery & River Management Training Modules:

At the VTrans Dill Building at 2178 Airport Rd, Berlin, Vermont

- November 3- Sediment & Wood Removal;
- December 1- Bridge & Culvert Replacement;
- January 20- Floodplain Restoration;
- February 17- Channel Stabilization;

Tier 1 and Tier 2 River and Roads trainings are a prerequisite to register for Tier 3.

Each training subject is a one-day class. There is no requirement to take them all and/or one topic prior to the other.

Contact Staci Pomeroy (802-490-6191, staci.pomeroy@vermont.gov), or Todd Menees, todd.menees@vermont.gov, 802-345-3510).



Regional EV Charging Infrastructure Location Identification Toolkit (ILIT)

<https://www.georgetownclimate.org/articles/regional-ev-charging-ilit.html>

The Regional EV Charging Infrastructure Location Identification Toolkit for the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Southeast states provides resources to support state and local government planning for more equitable and informed investments in electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. The Regional EV Charging Infrastructure Location Identification Toolkit (ILIT) includes interactive maps and an Excel-based modeling tool to help planners visualize existing EV fast charging stations and identify priority locations for additional EV charging infrastructure investments.



Backyard Woods Course

<https://vtcommunityforestry.org/program/education/backyard-woods-course>

October 1-November 30

The Vermont Backyard Woods Course is designed for homeowners with less than 25 acres who want to learn more about the woods in their backyard: what's in it, who (wildlife) uses it, and how they can become better caretakers. Course is free of charge. This is a self-paced course, hosted online and accessible when you have time to complete the materials

Contact Gwen Kozlowski at 802-651-8343, ext 506 or gwen.kozlowski@uvm.edu