



ACRPC

update April 2010

Integrating Design-Build for Energy Savings for Non-Residential Buildings Thursday, April 22, 7-9 PM

Chris Huston, AIA and Andrea Murray, AIA, Green Building Design and Construction experts from Bread Loaf Corporation in Middlebury, will demonstrate how to save energy and operational costs in commercial, industrial and municipal buildings by integrating the building design process with the construction process. This is a must-see program to prepare for our energy constrained future and reduce your energy expenses!

ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Program: Challenges for Change Program Wednesday, April 14 at 7:30 PM

This month Adam Lougee, Executive Director of ACRPC, will be discussing the State Challenges for Change program currently before the legislature, the potential impacts it may have on the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, and what the Commission has been doing to respond to the initiative. The program will also tie into the Commission's Budget discussion, which will be discussed later in the evening during the Commissioners' Business Meeting. The public is invited to attend our monthly presentations and Full Commission Meetings. For more information, contact Adam Lougee at 388-3141 or alougee@sover.net.

Commission Calendar

April	5	7-9	Energy Committee
	7	8-12	ACRWC
	8	5:00	ACSWMD
	14	7:30	Full Commission
	20	7:30	Strategic Planning Committee AM
	21	7:00	Transportation Advisory Committee
	22	7-9	Energy Program: Design-Build for Energy Savings for Non-Commercial Buildings
	27	7:00	Natural Resources Committee
28	6:30	Executive Board	
May	3	7:00	Energy Committee
	5	8-12	ACRWC
	12	7:30	Full Commission
	19	7:00	Transportation Advisory
	20	7:00	ACSWMD
	26	6:30	Executive Board

ACRPC Hires Land Use Planner

On March 1, ACRPC added another member to their staff. Claire Tebbs was hired as a Land Use Planner to perform a lot of our land use work and grant writing for municipalities, which was part of our Strategic Planning initiative. Claire is a landscape architect who has done project management, village design, storm water design, and has an agricultural background. She has many valuable planning skills, as do all the members of our our staff. Claire can be reached at 803-388-3141 or ctebbs@sover.net.

Way to Go! Commuter Challenge

Leave your car at home and join the fun! Take the Way to Go! Commuter Challenge by walking, car pooling, biking or taking the bus to work or school the week of May 17 - 21. Sign up at www.waytogo.org or call 802-658-6060 x 1067 to win raffle prizes and win awards for your business, school or town!! Commute "green" and "clean" to reduce transportation pollution, save money at the pump, and improve your physical health.

Check out: www.connectingcommuters.org/ for the GO VERMONT free service that maintains a database of individuals who live, work or travel in or through Vermont and neighboring states and are seeking to commute to work via carpool, vanpool, transit or bicycle.

Learn more about the expanded ACTR Shuttle Bus Service at: www.actr-vt.org/

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

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

REV Distributed Generation Conference Wednesday, May 19, 2010

The Fourth Annual Distributed Generation Conference, sponsored by Renewable Energy Vermont, will be held on May 19 at the Equinox Resort in Manchester, Vermont.

The Conference will continue its focus on the role that local distributed generation projects will play in meeting the clean energy mandate. In addition, millions of dollars in smart grid investments will occur over the next decade.

Vermont has a unique opportunity to lead the nation in Smart Grid implementation. Vermont provides an excellent example for the region with its recently put in place feed-in tariff which has created an exciting opportunity for land owners, developers and installers to move forward on a variety of distributed generation projects: solar photovoltaic, wind, and biomass, hydro, and methane from land-fill sites.

At this must-attend event, attendees will learn about the opportunities and challenges associated with the implementation of a feed-in tariff program. For more information, go to: www.revermont.org/conference.html

Middlebury Earth Day Fair Sunday, April 25, 2010

The Middlebury Earth Day Fair will be held on Sunday, April 25 from 1:00 - 4:00 pm on the Town Green. Celebrate spring with music, local food, seed (and seedling) swapping, drumming, children's procession, and more. Sign up for the "Way to Go" Commuter Challenge. Take the water test. Learn about do-it-yourself energy-saving projects for your home.

The Earth Day Fair is hosted by the Middlebury College Sunday Night Group in collaboration with the Town of Middlebury and Addison County Relocalization Network (ACoRN) and support by Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op, American Flatbread, Farmers Diner and others. For details, call Middlebury Energy Coordinator, Laura Asermily at 388-9478 or email at lasermily@yahoo.com.

Statewide Food Summit April 10, 2010 Rutland Middle School

The purpose of the summit is to bring together stakeholders from the whole state to review and guide final drafting of the Farm to Plate Strategic Plan. Registration required - \$10 suggested donation to help cover costs - lunch served. Please email heather@vsjf.org to register. For more information, go to: www.vsjf.org/project-details/5/farm-to-plate-initiative

VLCT 2010 Town Fair

Save the date for the 2010 Town Fair. This year's event will be held on Thursday, October 7, at the Champlain Valley Expo. Information will be posted at: www.vlct.org/events/calendar/townfair/ as it becomes available.

VLCT would love your input as they plan the workshop agenda for the 2010 Town Fair. What types of training would you like to see? Please take a moment to suggest topics for workshops in the following categories:

Personnel Management
Ethics/Conflicts of Interest
Town Government Basics
Municipal Budgeting & Finance
Regionalism/Mutual Aid
Elections and Town Records Issues
Planning and Zoning Issues
Water Quality Updates
Any other topics you are interested in

Send your suggestions to Jessica Hill, VLCT at jhill@vlct.org or call at 802-229-9111.

Reusing Historic Properties Responsibly & Profitably

The Historic Windsor, Inc. Preservation Education Institute is presenting a three-day, hands-on workshop about the redevelopment of historic buildings. The workshop runs from Wednesday, May 5 through Friday, May 7, from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. Evenings may include homework and group projects.

The workshop will teach you how to:

- Fund the preservation of historic buildings for commercial and civic gain
- Perform detailed research on land records, financing, local real estate conditions, government regulations, and market needs
- Make an effective presentation to funders
- Create a successful preservation project

The Stephen Jacob House, built in 1784 and recently acquired by Historic Windsor, Inc. to serve as the site for on-site preservation skills training by its Preservation Education Institute, will be the case study.

The instructor is Donovan Rypkema, Principal, Place Economics, and author of *The Economic of Historic Preservation and Feasibility Assessment Manual for Reusing Historic Buildings*.

Tuition is \$330 for HWI member and government agencies; \$375 for others. Limited scholarship assistance is available. Tuition includes text, lunch and refreshments daily. Reserve early at www.preservationworks.org.

Census Jobs

Census time is here! Questionnaires have been delivered and the Census Bureau is continuing to recruit for full-time and part-time census workers. They offer great pay at \$12.25 per hour, flexible hours, paid training and reimbursement for work-related expenses, like mileage. They need your help in ensuring that there will be census workers from your neighborhood. They hire locally, because local workers know their communities best! Please encourage your residents, friends and family members to consider working on Census 2010.

All Census applicants are required to take a 1/2 hour basic skills test. Links to the application materials you will need (including a practice test) can be found at: <http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/application-material/> Census applicants are also required to bring 2 forms of identification to the test session. For a list of proper identifications and for more information on Census jobs, visit their website at www.2010censusjobs.gov. To sign up for a test, call their toll-free Jobs Line number at 866-861-2010.

If you have questions or would like more information, please call their Partnership department at 617-223-3610. Thank you for your help in supporting the largest civilian mobilization in history. Together we can make a difference. It's in our hands.

VT Telecommunications Plan

The Vermont Department of Public Service has made available for comment the Final Draft of the Vermont Telecommunications Plan. The public is invited to comment on the Plan. The final draft is posted on the web at <http://public-service.vermont.gov/telecom/2010FinalDraftTelecomPlan%20.pdf> and is available at ACRPC offices and on request from the Department of Public Service.

For more information, contact: Deborah.Shannon@state.vt.us or 802-828-0547.

River Corridor Planning Guide

The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources has published a new River Corridor Planning Guide to identify and develop river corridor protection and restoration projects. The guide is available at: www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/rivers/docs/rv_rivercorridorguide.pdf and at the ACRPC office.

Impact of Wind Power Report

The Department of Energy has published a study on the Impact of Wind Power Projects on Residential Property Values in the United States, which is available at the ACRPC office and at: www.vermontelectric.coop/content/Berkeley_Wind_Study.pdf

Regulations for Hydroelectric Facilities

Regulations governing streamflow protection for hydroelectric facilities and additional information are available at the ACRPC office and at: www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/rivers/hm/rv_flowprotection.htm

Town Health Officers' Workshop Wednesday, May 5 Capitol Plaza, Montpelier

VLCT will offer training for Town Health Officers which will focus on the legal requirements and fundamental roles of town health officers, and will discuss state resources available to them, as well as other timely topics. For registration and other information, visit www.vlct.org/eventscalendar/upcomingevents/ or call 800-649-7915 or email info@vlct.org.

Centennial Celebration of the Green Mountain Club

The Green Mountain Club celebrated their one hundredth birthday on March 11, 2010, commemorating a century of protecting and maintaining Vermont's Long Trail. James P. Taylor outlined his dream of "a high highway, a mountain footpath over the sky line of Vermont" in 1909, and invited influential Vermonters to meet with him at the Van Ness House in Burlington on March 11, 1910 to form "the Green Mountain Club, which would make the Vermont mountains play a larger part in the life of the people. The work of the Club would be to awaken an interest in the mountains of Vermont, to encourage mountain Climbing, to make trails, build shelters, and aid in the preparation of maps and guide books." The work of the Club continues to be to: "1) Maintain a beautiful world-class hiking trail in close partnership with public land managers; and 2) give it away for free to anybody crazy, bold, and energetic enough to follow the white blazes." (Long Trail News, Spring 2010)

Celebrations continue through the summer with many wonderful events:

Friday, May 7, 5 pm - Dinner at Trapp Family Lodge
Reservations: contact Shawn Kelley at 802-244-7037 x33

Saturday, May 22 - GMC Annual Meeting at their offices in Waterbury Center

Friday, July 16 - BBQ Supper and Barn Dance at the Fancy Grade Barn in South Londonderry

Saturday, July 17 - Sunday, August 15 - Long Trail Relay Hike - four weeks of guided day hikes spanning the entire length of the Long Trail.

Go to: www.greenmountainclub.org for more information on all of the Green Mountain Club's activities.

Grants

Save America's Treasures Grant Program

The Save America's Treasures program is one of the largest and most successful grant programs for the protection of our nation's endangered and irreplaceable cultural heritage. Grants are available for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites. Intellectual and cultural artifacts include artifacts, collections, documents, sculpture, and works of art. Historic structures and sites include historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects.

Grants are awarded to Federal, state, local, and tribal government entities, and non-profit organizations through a competitive matching-grant program, administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

You must register on Grants.gov in order to submit an application. Registration on Grants.gov can take up to four weeks, so register now. The deadline for applications is May 21, 2010.

For more information, visit www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/index.htm.

Lake Champlain Roadside Drainage Grant

The LCBP seeks proposals for a study to quantify the loadings from priority pollutants to Lake Champlain, including phosphorus and sediments. Output generated from this project will allow the award recipient to quantify the total phosphorus and sediment load that is contributed by a roadside drainage network in a targeted sub-watershed within the Lake Champlain Basin. The award recipient will use these findings to qualitatively assess the impact of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce sedimentation and nutrients entering roadside waterways.

Funding for this Request for Proposals (RFP) is from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Up to \$100,000 is available for this project, which supports the goal of reducing phosphorus pollution into Lake Champlain, as outlined in the LCBP long-term management plan, Opportunities for Action. Proposals are due on May 3, 2010.

The RFP can be found at: www.lcbp.org/PDFs/2010Grants/Roadside_drainage_impacts_RFP_03.3.10.pdf

Municipal Planning Grants

Municipal Planning Grants will be available this year to provide assistance for town planning and implementation. Information about the program is available at: www.dhca.state.vt.us/Planning/MPG.htm. For assistance, contact Claire Tebbs at ACRPC at 388-3141 or ctebbs@sover.net.

USDA Rural Development "Local Food" Funding Opportunity

'Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food' is a USDA-wide effort to create new economic opportunities by better connecting consumers with local producers. It is also the start of a national conversation about the importance of understanding where your food comes from and how it gets to your plate.

The 'Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food' initiative includes supporting local farmers and community food groups; strengthening rural communities; enhancing direct marketing and farmers' promotion programs; promoting healthy eating; protecting natural resources; and helping schools connect with locally grown foods. Do you see an opportunity where you live? Do you need \$ to move forward?

Consider the Community Facilities Program which:

- Offers direct and guaranteed loans and grants designed to finance the development of over 80 different types of essential community facilities serving rural areas.
- Facilities include, but are not limited to, hospitals, elderly care facilities, child care centers, fire and rescue stations, vocational and medical rehabilitation centers, schools, public transportation infrastructure, and projects that support local and regional food systems.
- Eligible applicants include rural communities and non-profit organizations.
- Loans are made at below-market, fixed interest rates.
- Grants are limited to projects with high financial need that serve low income communities.
- Eligible expenses include land acquisition, construction of facilities, necessary fees, and equipment.
- Community must be under 20,000 in population.
- Grants range from 15%-75% and require matching funds.

Eligible projects that support local and regional food systems include but are not limited to:

- Food Banks/Shelves – purchase building and equipment, purchase vehicles for food delivery, renovations, and new construction
- School Cafeterias – purchase equipment, renovations, and central processing and distribution centers.
- Farmers Markets - purchase building, renovation, and new construction.
- Community Gardens – purchase real estate and infrastructure to connect to the water sources and/or provide irrigation.
- Community Kitchens – purchase equipment, renovations, or new construction.

Contact Karen Lynch at karen.lynch@vt.usda.gov or 802-828-6044 for more information.

To determine if your community is eligible, go to: www.rur-dev.usda.gov/vt/Community_Programs/VT_Census_List_for_Web.pdf