



REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ACRPC

update

august 2003

commission calendar

AUGUST	13	7:00 p.m. Utilities, Facilities & Services Comm. ACRPC Office
	19	7:30 p.m. Local Government Committee Salisbury Town Office Agenda: Hearing, Salisbury Town Plan
	27	7:00 p.m. ACRPC Executive Board Meeting ACRPC Office
	28	6:30 p.m. Upper Otter Creek Watershed Council Rutland Town Municipal Bldg., Rutland
SEPTEMBER	4	7:30 p.m. Local Government Committee Cornwall Town Office Agenda: Hearing, Cornwall Town Plan
	8	7:00 p.m. Natural Resources Committee ACRPC Office
	10	7:30 p.m. ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Location: TBA Agenda: Outdoor Recreation
	15	7:00 p.m. Utilities, Facilities & Services Comm. ACRPC Office Agenda: Electricity
	17	7:00 p.m. Transportation Advisory Committee ACRPC Office
	24	7:00 p.m. ACRPC Executive Board Meeting ACRPC Office

Emergency Equipment Funds Awarded

The State Department of Public Safety has announced awards for emergency response equipment purchases. Addison Region towns receiving awards for their first response agencies include Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Middlebury, New Haven, Orwell, Ripton, Salisbury, Starksboro, Vergennes, Weybridge and Whiting. The awards for the Addison Region total nearly \$420,000 well over half of what had been originally requested. Congratulations to all successful applicants.

Middlebury River Assessment Complete

The final report for the Middlebury River geomorph assessment has been delivered to ACRPC by Kristen Underwood of South Mountain Consulting in Bristol. The report reviews the results of this two- year Project Impact effort to assess the stability and quality of the river. The study can be used to steer stabilization and restoration projects along the river for years to come.

Among areas identified for future attention are sections of the river behind the village of East Middlebury as well as along Peddler Bridge Road, Wagon Wheel Road and the Robert Frost trail in Ripton. The report will be available for review at the ACRPC Office and ACRPC has retained the consultant to provide several public outreach meetings in the fall to further educate the public on this approach to hazard mitigation.

Planning for Regional Responses

The Addison County Emergency Planning Committee with help from ACRPC's Tim Bouton is embarking on a complete evaluation of the region's emergency response capabilities and operations plans. The group hopes to expand existing approaches to emergency response by encouraging the development of specialty teams made up of existing first responders from varied organizations.

These specialty teams could be built around uncommon responses that need a high degree of training like mountain rescue, hazardous materials, water rescue and confined space rescue. In addition to specialty teams, the group also hopes to help coordinate future grant purchases to ensure all agencies in the region have access to the equipment needed to support their mission.

Once completed, the operations plan will also provide a framework for all of the regions first response agencies in their response to large scale disasters. Representatives from each of the first response disciplines will be asked to be a part of this planning effort to ensure all views are represented.



GONE FISHIN'

Reminder: There is no Full Commission Meeting scheduled in August.

Meetings are open to the public.
Minutes are available online at www.acrpc.org.
For further information, contact ACRPC at 388-3141.

Municipal Planning Grants

The FY04 Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) deadline for FY03 is September 30. The MPG program funds technical assistance for town planning, implementation of plans and ordinances, encouragement of citizen participation and education, and innovative demonstration planning projects.

This year, around \$56,000 will be available for the Addison Region and municipalities can ask for up to \$15,000.

For those towns whose plans are expiring within the next year or so, this is an excellent opportunity to receive funds to support the rewriting and readoption process.

Other activities eligible for funding include updating zoning regulations and working towards a village center or downtown designation.

In order to apply, municipalities must have a current, regionally adopted plan. If you have any questions or would like assistance with applying, please contact Brandy Saxton at 388-3141 or by email, bsaxton@sover.net.

GMNF Plan Meetings

The next meeting to discuss the Forest Plan revision for the Green Mountain National Forest will be held August 19. The topic of discussion will be biodiversity, wildlife and ecosystem management

August's meeting will be from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Howden Hall in Bristol, refreshments will be served. (Note the change in location.)

GMNF meetings in September and October will be back at Holley Hall. The topics for those two meetings will be wilderness in September, followed by vegetation and timber management in October.

For more information please contact Melissa Reichert at (802) 747-6754 or gmflplanrevision@fs.fed.us.

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ACRPC Committee Appointments

Act 250 Committee:

Chair: Fred Dunnington

Members: Thea Gaudette, Jeremy Grip, Ellen Kurrelmeyer, Steve Revell, Tom Yager

Economic Development Committee:

Chair: Jim Peabody

Members: Brian Bauer, Bob McNary, Jeanne Montross, Karl Neuse, Andrea Ochs, Bill Sayre, Harvey Smith, Linda Stearns

Local Government Committee:

Chair: Thea Gaudette

Members: Margaret Barnes, Alden Harwood, Bill McQuillan, Karl Neuse, Edward Payne, Donald Shall

Natural Resources Committee:

Chair: Harvey Smith

Members: Elizabeth Golden, Peter Grant, David King, Judy Kowalczyk, Ellen Kurrelmeyer, Jason Oleet, Edward Payne, Steve Revell, Bill Sayre, Tom Yager

Transportation Advisory Committee:

Chair: John Emerson

Members: Margaret Barnes, Chad Chamberlain, Elizabeth Golden, Peter Grant, Bob McNary, Tommy Thompson, Tom Yager and members appointed by the municipalities

Utilities & Facilities Committee:

Chair: Ellen Kurrelmeyer

Members: Thea Gaudette, Jeremy Grip, Laurel Kritkauskay, Andrew Manning, Bill McQuillan, Andrea Ochs, Jim Peabody

Transportation Planning Studies Awarded

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) heard presentations at their July meeting to determine which planning studies will be funded for the upcoming fiscal year. The TAC has decided to fund the following three projects.

\$17,500 for Highway Structures Inventories of all road culverts, retaining walls and short bridges on Class 1, 2 and 3 Town Highways for the towns of Waltham, Monkton, Orwell and Ferrisburgh.

17,500 for an evaluation of the Route 7 / Exchange Street intersection in Middlebury.

This study will evaluate safety and traffic timing improvements, including traffic and turning movements, warrants for signal installation and alternative treatments, including a roundabout.

\$15,000 for a feasibility study in Orwell to evaluate connecting the existing sidewalk network to the Town Hall, Green and Offices, and evaluate parking needs at the Town Offices. To supplement a Recreation Trails grant already awarded to the town to study a multiuse path connecting the school to the ball field, this study will design and engineer a bridge for this path to cross a stream and wetland near Route 22A.

Utilities, Facilities & Services Committee Update

The Utilities, Facilities and Services (UFS) Committee has completed work on the first of four subsections of the Utilities, Facilities and Services section of the Regional Plan. That first subsection covers the topics of water supply, wastewater and solid waste.

Draft copies of that subsection have been sent to all town offices and has been posted on the ACRPC website, www.acrpc.org. To request a copy, please contact the ACRPC office.

ACRPC Reps

ACRPC would also like to remind those municipalities that have not returned appointment forms that their representation to the commission has lapsed.

ACRPC representatives need to be appointed annually for a term running from July 1 to June 30. Appointments need to be sent to ACRPC in writing.

Appointment forms have not been received from: Goshen, Leicester, Starksboro, Vergennes and Weybridge. If you need another form, please contact the ACRPC office at 388-3141.