

ACRPC

update February 2015

VTrans Guidelines for Pedestrian Crossing Treatments: January '15 Update

The Vermont Agency of Transportation has released an updated version of their Guidelines for Pedestrian Crossing Treatments (Guidelines), which is now available on the VTrans web site. The Guidelines apply to both state highways and local roads, with the overall purpose of ensuring consistent treatment of pedestrian crossings statewide by providing guidance on the location of marked and unmarked crossings, and associated pavement markings and signs. The Guidelines supplement the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), with any conflicts between the

two documents giving deference to the MUTCD.

According to the Guidelines, the MUTCD and state statutes, any proposed crosswalk location must be reviewed to ensure conformance prior to the marking of pedestrian crosswalks on the state route system. In all instances, the installation and/or maintenance of crosswalk markings must gain written approval from the appropriate governing entity.

The Guidelines set forth a variety of conditions that should be satisfied for a number of items. These items include: all crosswalks, signalized approaches, stop-controlled approaches, and uncontrolled approaches (intersection of mid-block).

The Guidelines can be accessed here under the "Policy & Guidelines" category:

<http://vtransengineering.vermont.gov/publications>

VPA 2015 Call for Award Nominations!

The Vermont Planners Association (VPA) is seeking nominations for their 2015 awards. Award recipients can be nominated by a wide range of people including citizens, planners and other officials. Criteria under which a nominee should be considered for a specific award are distributed each year. This year, the categories are: Plan of the Year, Citizen Planner of the Year, Citizen Board of the Year, and Professional Planner of the Year. The deadline for all submissions is March 20th. If you have any questions or need assistance with your submission, feel free to contact Polly McMurtry at pmcmurtry@madriver.com.

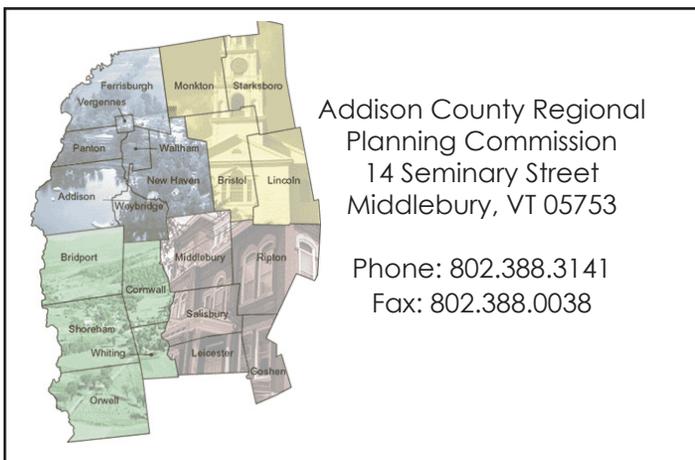
The Criteria and relevant forms can be accessed here: <http://www.vermontplanners.org/awards-recognition/award-criteria/>

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.

Commission Calendar

February 2015	11	7:30pm	Full Commission Mtg.
	18	4:30pm 7:00pm	Addison County River Watch Mtg. TAC mtg.
	25	6:30pm	Executive Board Mtg.

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



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

Phone: 802.388.3141
Fax: 802.388.0038

Solicitation for Local Investment Financing Proposals

The Local Investment Advisory Committee (LIAC), chaired by the State Treasurer, is accepting proposals for local investment financing from interested parties until March 2, 2015. Proposals for financing will be considered in the following areas: Housing and Energy, Transportation, Municipal Infrastructure and Financing Post-Secondary Education. Municipalities, social services providers, state agencies and authorities, regional planning commissions and similar organizations are eligible to apply.

Please see the Local Investment Advisory Committee Report for details pertaining to the work of the Committee, which can be accessed here:

<http://www.vermonttreasurer.gov/sites/treasurer/files/pdf/misc/LIAC%20Report.1.15.2015.pdf>

Federal Declaration for Addison County and Vermont

FEMA announced on Monday, February 3rd that federal disaster aid has been made available to the State of Vermont to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area affected by a severe winter storm during the period of December 9-12, 2014.

The President's action makes federal funding available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe winter storm in Addison, Chittenden, Essex, Franklin, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans, Rutland, Washington, and Windsor counties. Eligible costs include debris removal from public rights of way and repairs to public entities.

Many thanks go out to Addison County towns who were able to track their expenses during and following this storm. This accurate tracking allowed Addison County to be included in this declaration. Towns who would like to apply for reimbursement under this declaration should attend an Applicant's Briefing. Don't forget your town treasurer when attending since

much of the information given relates to documented expenses.

Applicant briefings closest to Addison County will be in Hinesbury and Rutland.

Hinesburg: February 10th at 1:00PM, Town Hall, 10632 VT Route 116.

Rutland: February 12th at 10:00AM, Rutland Regional Medical Center, CVPS/Leahy Community Health Education Center, 160 Allen Street.

For additional information, contact DEMHS at 1-800-347-0488 or Tim Bouton at 388-3141.

ACRPC Hires Josh Donabedian as New Transportation Planner

ACRPC is pleased to announce that it has hired Josh Donabedian as its new Transportation Planner. Josh comes to ACRPC from the Burlington Housing Authority, where he worked in housing development and asset management. He recently received a Masters in Environmental Law and Policy and a Juris Doctorate from Vermont Law School. In addition to transportation and energy planning, Josh also has a strong interest in sustainable agriculture and food systems development issues throughout Vermont. In his free time, Josh enjoys being as active and outdoors as much as possible, exploring new areas of Vermont, and on the weekends can often be found hiking with his dog Denali. He is very excited about his new role as Transportation Planner and is deeply invested in the future of Addison County. Josh can be reached here at the office at 388-3141 or by e-mail at jdonabed@acrpc.org. Please reach out to Josh to welcome him to the Addison Region.

Events/Grants

Community Forum on Efficiency Vermont's Future Direction

Efficiency Vermont Director Liz Gamache will be holding a forum in February in Brandon to seek input on its three-year plan. Each forum will feature a brief presentation, followed by open discussion. A light supper will also be provided. They are seeking input on the following topics:

- What programs and initiatives are working well? What needs improvement?
- What should our top priorities be for the next three years?
- How can we better serve all Vermonters and help them reduce energy costs?
- What should we be doing to support the state's goal for 90% renewable energy by 2050?

The forum will be held on Thursday, February 19th at Neshobe Elementary School, 17 Neshobe Circle, Brandon, from 6:00-7:30PM. RSVP is requested, but not required. For more information and to register, please call 1-888-921-5990 or visit: <https://www.encyvermont.com/About-Us/three-year-plan>

SOUL Tree Stewards Program Registration

The Stewardship of the Urban Landscape (SOUL) Tree Steward Program trains stewards and advocates for the trees, forests, and green spaces in which we live, work, and play. Course topics include tree biology, health, and identification, tools for assessing and understanding trees in your community, and the components of a vibrant urban/community forestry program. With 15 years of course offerings and more than 400 program participants, this educational and leadership training is a great opportunity for engaged Vermont citizens.

SOUL is offered by the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program, a joint initiative of University of Vermont Extension and the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, & Recreation. The program includes four Wednesday evening classes and one full-day Saturday class, all offered in-person at the Middlebury

UVM Extension office. Participants are expected to attend all five classes.

When: Every Wednesday from March 18th and April 8th, 5:30-8:00pm and Saturday, April 18th, 9:00am-4:00pm

Where: Middlebury UVM Extension Office, 23 Pond Lane, Suite 300, Middlebury, VT

Cost: Early registration is \$50 (by 2/27); \$60 after 2/27

Registration details: Registration fee covers guest speakers, program materials, and lunch on the Saturday session. Registration limited to 25 participants. For more information and to register visit:

<http://www.vtcommunityforestry.org/get-involved/tree-stewards/2015-soul-program-information>

Riverwatch Training in Middlebury

A training for Addison County river monitors will be held on Saturday, March 28, from 8:00-11:00am at the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (14 Seminary St., Middlebury; 388-3141). The Addison County River Watch Collaborative has been working for over 20 years to monitor the quality of area rivers, streams and creeks. Volunteers collect water samples – which then go to the Vermont D.E.C. laboratory – once a month from April to September.

Sample days are usually one Wednesday morning per month (about 7:00-9:30) during spring & summer. We welcome volunteers to help sample on the Otter Creek, Middlebury River, Lemon Fair River, New Haven River, Lewis Creek, and Little Otter Creek. If you have an interest in the health and wellbeing of our local watersheds, and would like to assist in collecting samples, please join us for this training session. Local Bagels & Coffee will be served. For more information, call or email coordinator Matthew Witten at 802-434-3236 or mwitten@gmavt.net.

Events/Grants

“Embrace the Roundabout” Workshop

This one-day workshop focuses on the all-modes “intersection safety belt” conducted by American pioneer roundabout designer and researcher Mark T. Johnson, PE. Johnson works regularly with local governments and communities through the public meetings and hearings it takes to bring new technology to fruition, change that increases vastly both safety and service to our streets and highways for all who walk, bike or travel by motor vehicle. Workshop topics include: (1) ABSs of Roundabout Design, (2) Recent Design Developments, (3) Intersection Case Analyses (including one or more from Burlington), (4) Gaining Public Acceptance and Support, and (5) Other topics such as land use and economic benefits, traffic calming, scenic quality, and roundabout corridors.

Location: Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015.

Time: Sign-in from 8:00-8:45AM, Workshop from 8:45AM-4:00PM.

Online Registration:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/7rqmc9/4W>

Homeland Security Funding Opportunities

The Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security (DEMHS) has opened three funding opportunities for first responders for Federal Fiscal year 2015: (1) communications equipment, (2) special operations equipment, and (3) law enforcement equipment. DEMHS will be holding several grant outreach meetings in February to provide program updates, answer questions on allowable items for application and to assist in the development of applications. Applications will not be reviewed unless all requirements are met at the time of application review. For more information, please contact Jessica Stolz, Homeland Security Program Manager at DEMHS: Jessica.Stolz@STATE.VT.US.

The complete RFP and Grant applications can be accessed here: www.hsu.vermont.gov/funding