

# ACRPC

update February 2017

## VTrans Better Roads Program Officially Open!

For the 20th year in a row, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) has made funding available for the Better Roads Program. This program provides technical assistance and funding to promote the use of erosion control and maintenance techniques that save money while enhancing and protecting water quality around the state. Four different categories of grants are available:

**Category A.** Planning grants to conduct an inventory of roads and/or culverts and identification of road-related erosion and/or stormwater problems affecting water quality. Sites identified must be prioritized for future repair with a budget plan to correct these problems over a period of time.

Maximum award: \$8,000.

Local match required: \$2,000 or 20% of total project cost

**Category B.** Correction of a Road-Related Erosion Problem and/or Stormwater Mitigation/Retrofit for both gravel and paved roads. Examples include stone or grass-lined ditches, road drainage turnouts, stone check dams, splash pools, catch basins, and Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) management practices.

Maximum award: \$20,000.

Local match required: \$5,000 or 20% of total project cost.

**Category C.** Correction of a slope-related road erosion problem. Examples include stream bank stabilization, lake shore stabilization, retaining walls, or road bank stabilization.

Maximum award: \$40,000.

Local match required: \$10,000 or 20% of total project cost.

**Category D.** Structure/culvert upgrades. Eligible projects include repair, replacement or upgrade of an existing large structure or culvert, or replacement of a series of smaller culverts.

Maximum award: \$40,000.

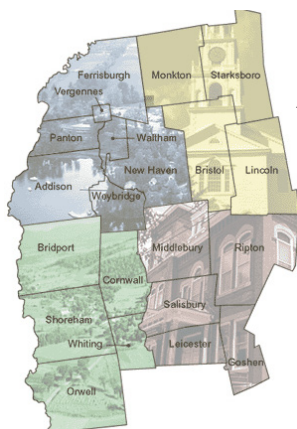
Local match required: \$10,000 or 20% of total project cost.

## Commission Calendar

February 2017

8	7:00pm	Full Commission Meeting
15	7:00pm	TAC Meeting
16	7:00pm	ACSWMD Meeting
22	6:30pm	Executive Board Meeting

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

*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.*

# Grants, Workshops & Other Opportunities

The deadline to submit a grant application is Friday, March 17, 2017. Download a grant applications from the VTrans website here: <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/high-way/better-roads>.

New to the program this year is an additional technician and regionalization of program assistance. Linda Blasch, who was the Better Backroads Technician at the Northern Vermont Resource Conservation and Development Council from 2005- 2010, will be the contact for municipalities in VTrans districts 1, 3, 5, and 8; and Alan May will be the contact for municipalities in districts 2, 4, 7 and 9. However, both Linda and Alan will cross lines to help ensure that all towns can get the help they need.

During February and March, the Better Roads Program will be hosting workshops around the state for towns to learn more about grant funding opportunities and the Better Roads grant application process. Details and locations are on the Better Roads website, (<http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads>).

For more information, questions, or help with Better Roads grants, please contact Linda Blasch (802-498-7216 or [linda.blasch@vermont.gov](mailto:linda.blasch@vermont.gov)) or Alan May (802- 828-4595 or [alan.may@vermont.gov](mailto:alan.may@vermont.gov)).

You may also contact Josh at ACRPC with any questions or to request assistance with an application at 388-3141 or [jdonabed@acrpc.org](mailto:jdonabed@acrpc.org).

## Downtown Transportation Fund

The application deadline for the next round of Downtown Transportation Fund grants is March 6, 2017. This year, \$335,000 is available to designated downtowns with a maximum award of \$100,000 per community.

The program funds streetscape improvements, bicycle and pedestrian projects, electric vehicle charging stations, transit facilities, utility relocation, way-finding signage, street lighting and ADA access improve-

ments. For more information about the Downtown Transportation Fund, including program description, application guidelines, and examples of past successful projects, please visit here: <http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/downtown-transportation-fund>.

## Town Plans That Matter

Join the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development for a webinar on Wednesday, February 15 at 12:15 pm and check out the Vermont Planning Manual for advice on crafting a plan that drives town decisions towards achieving goals, from safe and walkable neighborhoods to protecting forest blocks and revitalizing villages. For specific guidance on plans that can influence Section 248 permitting for energy generation facilities, see the Department of Public Service website (<http://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/act-174-recommendations-and-determination-standards>) and participate in your Regional Planning Commission trainings (<http://vapda.org/Publications.html>).

You may register for the webinar here: <http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/municipal-planning-grant/training>.

You may access the Vermont Municipal Planning Manual here: <http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/town-future/municipal-planning-manual>.

## Agency of Commerce & Community Development Resources

Planning Atlas: <http://maps.vermont.gov/ACCD/PlanningAtlas/index.html?viewer=PlanningAtlas>

Municipal Planning Database: <http://planningatlasdatabase.vermont.gov/Resources/Show-Resources-Table.aspx>

# Grants, Workshops & Other Opportunities

Training Opportunities & Conferences: <http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/events>

Funding Opportunities: <http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding>

## Aquatic Nuisance Grant Program ~ Last Call! ~

The Vermont Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-in-aid grants program is now accepting applications for project year 2017 projects addressing aquatic invasive and nuisance species. The applications are due no later than Wednesday, February 8th, 2017. These grants provide financial assistance to municipalities and agencies of the state for aquatic invasive and nuisance plant and animal management programs – control, spread prevention, and educational projects. Funding for Grant-in-aid Grants comes from a portion of annual revenues from state motorboat registration fees and often federal funds. For the 2017 program, an estimated \$500,000 is available.

For a project to be considered for funds in 2017, a completed application package should be submitted in electronic format (PDF preferred), clearly marked, and emailed to David Pasco ([david.pasco@vermont.gov](mailto:david.pasco@vermont.gov)) by 4:30 PM on Wednesday, February 8, 2017.

The 2017 application and instructions are available on line at: <http://www.dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/aquatic-invasives/funding>. To request an application or for further information, you may also contact Ann Bove directly at 802.490.6120.

## 2017 Addison County Legislative Breakfast Schedule

Date	Location	Town
Feb. 6	Grange Hall	Bridport
Feb. 13	American Legion	Middlebury
Feb. 18	Parish Hall	King Street, Vergennes
Feb. 27	Town Hall	Whiting
March 4	American Legion	Bristol
March 13	Pratt Memorial Library (279 Main St.)	Shoreham
March 20	<i>**Governor's Breakfast**</i> American Legion	Middlebury
March 27	Congregational Church	Maple Street, Salisbury
April 3	<i>**Ag Lunch**</i> Grange Hall	Bridport
April 10	Congregational Church	Weybridge
April 17	American Legion	Bristol
April 24	Parish Hall	King Street, Vergennes
June 5	Grange Hall	Bridport

- All events are sponsored by Bridport Grange #303 and Addison County Farm Bureau, with support from the Addison County Chamber of Commerce and Addison County RPC
- All breakfasts start at 7:00am, with programs running 7:30 - 8:45am
- Luncheons will run from 12:00 - 1:45pm
- Purchase of breakfast is not required to attend, but helps to defray costs incurred by event hosts

## Grants, Workshops & Other Opportunities

Give your HOME some love  
this February



With a HEAT Squad  
Energy Audit!

*Looking for some Valentine's Day ideas?  
Have a drafty home?  
Live in Addison County?*

**Call HEAT Squad today to heat up  
your February with a HALF OFF  
Energy Audit - JUST \$75!**

Let HEAT Squad help you fall in love with your home all over again, and learn how to receive up to **\$2,500 in rebates from Efficiency Vermont** for energy efficiency upgrades. Mention this ad when calling. Valid for Addison County homeowners only when scheduled between February 14<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

[heatsquad.org](http://heatsquad.org)

**(802) 797-8604**