



# ACRPC

*update*

July 2005

## commission calendar

JULY	13	7:30 p.m. ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Location: Vergennes Opera House
	27	7:00 p.m. ACRPC Executive Board Meeting Location: ACRPC Office
AUGUST	31	7:00 p.m. ACRPC Executive Board Meeting Location: ACRPC Office

**REMINDER**  
There is no Full Commission meeting in August.

## ACRPC Appointments

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission would like to thank the towns of Bridport, Cornwall, Starksboro and Waltham for returning complete annual update packages.

ACRPC would also like to remind those municipalities that have not returned ACRPC appointment forms that their representatives to the commission need to be appointed in writing by the end of June for ACRPC's July 2005 to June 2006 term. Appointment forms have NOT been received from:

Addison	Bristol	Lincoln
Middlebury	Panton	Ripton
Salisbury	Shoreham	Vergennes

If you need another form, please contact the ACRPC office at 388-3141.

Meetings are open to the public.

Minutes are available on-line at [www.acrpc.org](http://www.acrpc.org).  
For further information, contact ACRPC at 388-3141.

## Access Management

As all of you know, our region, as well as the rest of the state, is facing an ever-increasing problem in regards to maintaining a transportation system that moves us efficiently, safely, and with as little local impact as is possible. Due to such things as rising construction costs, permitting challenges, and even right-of-way constraints, it is getting increasingly difficult to increase roadway capacity through new construction. This makes it imperative that we adopt & implement policies and regulations that will maximize the efficiency and safety of our existing roadway network. Good access management policies and regulations are an invaluable tool in achieving this end.

Access management is defined as: "The systematic control of the location, spacing, design, and operation of driveways, median openings, interchanges, and street connections to a roadway." Its purpose is to provide vehicular access to land development that preserves safety, efficiency, as well as community character.

To achieve this, a variety of strategies are used: (1) limit the number of conflict points, (2) separate the conflict points, (3) remove turning vehicles from the through lanes, and (4) preserve capacity and speed.

There are many specific things that a town or municipality can do to promote this. Zoning regulations which encourage shared driveways, access easements, shared parking, aligned driveways, safe driveway geometry, and dedicated turn lanes where appropriate, combined development and road access in larger growth areas, and proper provision for transit access.

Good access management has been proven to be a key element in building healthy communities and businesses. There are many ways that you can take these very basic rules and customize them to meet the needs of your community. If you, your organization, or your town, are interested in learning more about access management and how it can be integrated into your community planning, contact Richard Kehne at Addison Regional Planning Commission, 388-3141. He will be glad to visit your community and do a more detailed presentation on access management and the opportunities it offers to ensure that your transportation system continues to serve your local needs.

## ACRPC Recognizes Long-Standing Commissioners

At its annual meeting at the Dog Team Tavern on May 11, 2005 ACRPC took some time to recognize its long-standing members. Don Shall, the Chair of the Commission, thanked all of the commissioners for committing their time to serve their communities. He noted that each commissioner's continued involvement and thoughtful debate will help to make Addison a better place to live for all its citizens. He summarized that local political involvement is crucial to our ability to guide our own policies and destiny.

Next, Don recognized those delegates that have consistently served their community and the region for significant periods of time.

Don asked Delegates with more than 5 years of service, but less than 10 years to rise:

- A. Bill McQuillan, Cornwall 2000;
- B. Don Shall, Cornwall Current chair and former Treasurer, 2000;
- C. Jan Albers, Weybridge 2000;
- D. Ellen Kurrelmeyer, Whiting, a former Secretary and Vice Chair of the Executive Board, 1998.
- E. Judy Kowalczyk, Alt. Ripton, formerly a citizen representative with the Otter Creek Audubon Society 1998;
- F. Peter Grant, Bristol 1997;

Don asked Delegates with more than 10 years of service, but less than 20 years to rise:

- A. Allen Karnatz, Alternate from New Haven 1995;
- B. Robert Blanchard, Alternate from Ferrisburgh, 1995;
- C. Jim Peabody, Bristol 1995;
- D. Charlie Huizenga, Monkton 1993;
- E. John Chamberlain, Alternate Weybridge 1993;
- F. Tom Yager, Waltham, outgoing Executive Board Vice Chair, 1993;
- G. Thea Gaudette, Monkton, Outgoing at large member of the Executive Board, former chair, vice chair and secretary 1992;
- H. Edward Payne, Bridport, former Vice Chair of the Executive Board 1992;
- I. Harvey Smith, New Haven, former Chair and Vice Chair of the Executive Board 1992;

Don asked Delegates with more than 20 years of service to rise:

- A. Bill Sayre, Bristol Village 1985, Bristol Town 1989, Former Chair, Vice Chair Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Board
- B. Karl Neuse, Middlebury, Alternate 1984, Delegate 1987, Commission Attorney during its creation, Former Chair during the drafting of the first plan and current Treasurer;
- C. Fred Dunnington, Middlebury Alternate 1983, Delegate 1984 Former Chair and Treasurer.

Don thanked the Delegates again. He also thanked Pauline Cousino, the Commission's financial manager and longest serving employee, with over 30 years of Service to the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, for serving as staff's memory and compiling the tenure data above.

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*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.*

## Brownfield Funding Available

The Sites Management Section (SMS) through a grant from USEPA will be providing targeted site assessments of brownfield properties throughout Vermont. Recipients will receive a Site Investigation Report (SI), conducted by one of the state contracted environmental consultants, which will describe any potential environmental contamination on the property and put forth recommendations for the next phase of investigation, if necessary.

The SMS is currently seeking applications for candidate sites. Applications are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until available funds are exhausted. For more information call Matthew Becker, Vermont DEC, Waste Management Division at 802-241-3449 or [matthew.becker@](mailto:matthew.becker@)

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## Vergennes Intersection Study Underway

ACRPC is sponsoring a feasibility study that will address congestion and safety problems in the area around the 22A - MacDonough Drive intersection in Vergennes. A recent study determined that a signal at this intersection is warranted; however, the steep grade creates a problematic situation for trucks. Resource Systems Group, Inc. has been selected to do the study, and a local concerns meeting will soon be scheduled to provide opportunity for further feedback. For further information, contact Richard Kehne at ACRPC, 388-3141.

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## Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program

The National Park Service (NPS) has just announced a program to provide assistance to communities to conserve their local natural resources and develop new close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities through the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA).

The RTCA program can help with partnership-building to achieve community-set goals, organizational development, assessing resources, developing concept plans, public education and participation, and identifying potential sources of funding. RTCA does not provide direct grants. For further information about RTCA go to [www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca).