

# ACRPC

*update*

July 2015

## Bristol Route 116 Bridge 6 Construction Project— Notice of Bridge Closure!

*Project Location: Town of Bristol on VT 116 at Little Notch Creek, approximately 2.6 miles south of the intersection of VT 116 and VT 17.*

This project is replacing the existing bridge with a new bridge that meets current design standards. The new bridge will be a Precast Prestressed Concrete Voided Slab Bridge, which has a relatively short construction period and comparatively low construction and maintenance costs. The bridge is being constructed with Accelerated Bridge Construction methods,

which will expedite construction and reduce disturbance to the public. There will be an allowable 28 day road closure with single lane closures prior to and following the bridge closure period.

**Bridge Closure Period** –The contractor has scheduled the bridge closure period to start on July 20th and end on August 14th, 2015. The bridge will be replaced during the closure.

**Detour** –During the bridge closure period, a traffic detour will be in effect and marked with directional signs.

- Motorists travelling south on VT 116 will be rerouted west on VT 17 to south on US 7 in New Haven through Middlebury to the intersection of VT 116 and US 7.
- Motorists travelling north on VT 116 will be rerouted north on US 7 through Middlebury and New Haven to east on VT 17 to the intersection of VT 17 and VT 116.

Construction on the project will continue after the bridge closure period ends and the bridge is re-opened.

Contact Francine Perkins, Project Outreach Coordinator, FRP Enterprises, LLC with any questions or concerns with regards to the project at 802-479-6994 or for recent updates visit [www.roadworkupdates.com](http://www.roadworkupdates.com).

Please see map of construction location on next page.

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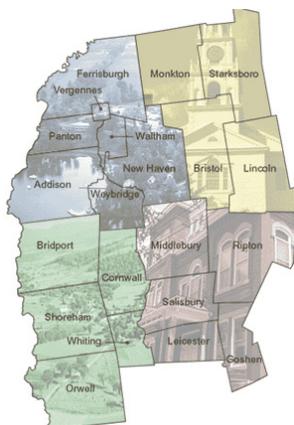
*This newsletter is financed through the State of Vermont Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the State of Vermont. All programs of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission are handicapped accessible.*

## Commission Calendar

July 2015

16	7:00pm	ACSWMD Mtg.
22	6:30pm	Executive Board Mtg.
		<b><u>NO AUGUST 2015 FULL COMMISSION MEETING</u></b>

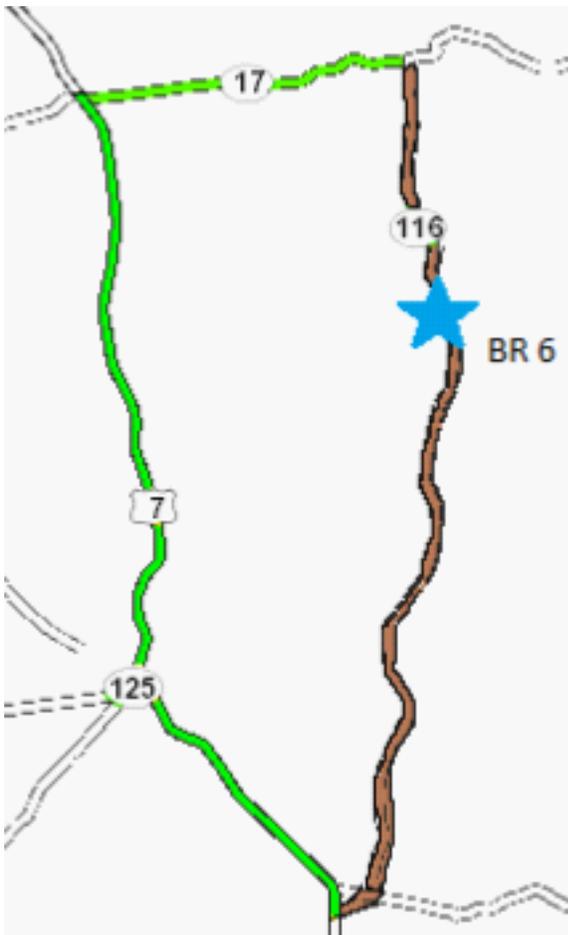
Meetings are held at ACRPC, 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, and are open to the public.



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

Phone: 802.388.3141  
Fax: 802.388.0038

# Grants, Events & Workshops



## **VTrans opens 2015 Bicycle and Pedestrian Program for Local Projects - Deadline Nearing!**

To show its continued support for bicycling and walking, VTrans has issued a solicitation for new bicycle and pedestrian projects. The intent of the VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program is to improve access and safety for bicyclists and/or pedestrians through the planning, design and construction of infrastructure projects. For a link to the VTrans 2015 Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Guide and Application, visit the VTrans website: <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/>, and look under the Spotlight heading. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications electronically, but they may submit hard copies. Either must be received,

post-marked or in hand by Friday July 17, 2015 at 1:00pm.

For any questions about this year's Bicycle and Pedestrian program or other VTrans initiatives related to bicycling and walking, contact Jon Kaplan, VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager, at 802-828-0059 or [jon.kaplan@state.vt.us](mailto:jon.kaplan@state.vt.us).

## **Vermont Public Service Department to Update the State's Comprehensive Energy Plan**

*July Forums Intended to Solicit Public Input on Vermont's Energy Future*

The Public Service Department will be holding a series of public forums around the state in July to solicit Vermonters' thoughts on how the state can meet its energy goals – and energy needs – in the coming years. The input will inform the next revision of Vermont's long-range, Comprehensive Energy Plan. A final plan is due to the Legislature in December.

“In 2011, Vermont established a widely supported goal of getting 90 percent of our energy from renewable sources by 2050. Now, we want to hear more from Vermonters on how they think we should prioritize possible pathways and tools to meet this important goal,” said Asa Hopkins, the PSD's Director of Energy Policy and Planning.

The state plan, which was last updated in 2011, will also incorporate some of the findings of the Total Energy Study, completed by the PSD last year. One of the PSD's goals for the updated plan is to establish nearer-term targets that balance technology constraints, cost, carbon considerations and community concerns. The PSD will also host a series of forums, soliciting further public input, when a draft is available. Those will likely take place in September and October.

“We've made tremendous progress in advancing our renewable energy and energy efficiency goals, while keeping energy costs stable and low, and there is still more progress to be made,” said PSD Commissioner

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Christopher Recchia.

The forums run from 5:30 pm to 8 pm. (Refreshments start at 5:30 and the official program starts at 6.)

Dates and locations for the regional forums include:

- **Thursday, July 16** -- Middlebury (Town Hall Theater)
- **Monday, July 20** -- Manchester (Manchester Community Library)
- **Thursday, July 23** -- St. Albans (Bellows Free Academy)

For more information on the CEP, visit: <http://www.energyplan.vt.gov> or contact VECAN Coordinator Johanna Miller at 802-223-2328 ext. 112 or [jmiller@vnrc.org](mailto:jmiller@vnrc.org).

## State Rail Plan Details Priorities for Upgrading Freight

The Vermont Agency of Transportation's DRAFT State Rail Plan has been completed and two public meetings will be held to review the plan's recommendations and receive public feedback. Public meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, July 13 at 6:30 PM – Essex Junction (Village Offices, 2 Lincoln St.)
- Wednesday, July 15 at 6:30 PM – White River Junction (Hotel Coolidge, 39 S. Main St.)

This plan updates the State Rail & Policy Plan, completed in 2006, and conforms to the Federal Rail Administration's requirements for state rail plans specified by the Passenger Rail Investment Improvement Act of 2008 (PRIIA). Other state planning efforts and collaborative input from the public and rail stakeholders has informed the development of the plan.

For more information, or to provide input to the State Rail Plan, please contact Costa Pappis at: [costa.pappis@state.vt.us](mailto:costa.pappis@state.vt.us) or 802-828-5790.

Additional information on the Vermont State Rail Plan

can be found at: [www.rail.vermont.gov](http://www.rail.vermont.gov).

## FY16 Municipal Planning Grant Announced

Communities all around Vermont are using Municipal Planning Grants (MPGs) through the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development to make villages more vibrant, solve infrastructure challenges and engage citizens in addressing common concerns. This year, thanks to the accomplishments of the towns and cities receiving grants and despite the difficult state budget, the legislature kept MPG funding constant, making \$457,482 available for MPGs statewide.

Up to \$20,000 will be awarded to eligible municipalities chosen through a competitive selection process. See the FY16 MPG Program Description for details on eligibility, funding and the competitive criteria (<http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accd/files/Documents/strong-communities/cd/mpg/ProgramDescriptionpdf>). Grant applications are due September 30, 2015.

A wide range of municipal planning activities are eligible for funding but projects that fit into one of the following priorities will have a higher likelihood of receiving grant funds.

1. Municipal Plan updates for the purpose of:
  - Addressing inconsistencies with statewide planning goals or the Regional Plan
2. Bylaw updates for the purpose of:
  - Correcting clear conflicts with the Municipal Plan
  - Implementing the flood resilience recommendations of the Municipal Plan
3. Special Projects for Designated Areas (Downtowns, Village Centers, New Town Centers, Neighborhood Development Areas or Growth Centers)

All applications must be submitted through the online grants management system that will be available for use by August 1st. You are strongly urged to develop the application off-line first. Please use the Sample

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Application located on the MPG webpage ([http://accd.vermont.gov/strong\\_communities/opportunities/funding/municipal\\_planning\\_grants/mpgfy16](http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/opportunities/funding/municipal_planning_grants/mpgfy16)) to work out the details of your project and the narratives for your application. As of this year, any person in a Grant Administrator role may now submit an online application.

The format of the online application system has been updated. Training on using the system and preparing a good MPG application will be offered through GoTo-Meeting on Thursday, August 6th from Noon – 12:45. Contact Annina Seiler for more information and to register. Space is limited.

If you have questions or need assistance with your MPG application, please contact Claire Tebbs at ACRPC at [ctebbs@acrpc.org](mailto:ctebbs@acrpc.org) or 802-388-3141.