

# ACRPC News

June 2002



REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION



## SPRING WORKSHOPS



The Addison County Regional Planning Commission is hosting a series of workshops for local officials and interested citizens. The workshops are free and open to the public.

You can register by returning the postcard sent out with last month's newsletter or by contacting Brandy at the ACRPC office (388-3141 bsaxton@sover.net)

### Development Review Boards

**\*\* please note the date & location of this workshop have changed \*\***

**Presenter:** Deborah Markowitz, *VT Secretary of State*

**Time & Place:** Tuesday, June 11, 7 p.m., Ilsley Library, Middlebury.

Secretary of State Markowitz will cover the differences between the planning commission/zoning board of adjustment system and the planning commission/development review board system. She will discuss the responsibilities of each board and talk about what is required to switch from the pc/zba to the pc/dr. There will be time for her to answer your questions.

### Community Projects

**Presenter:** Steve Libby, *Consultant & Project Manager w/ the VT Design Institute*

**Time & Place:** Thursday, June 13, 7 p.m., New Haven Town Hall.

Steve Libby will give advice and techniques for getting a successful community project up and running. Steve will provide examples from successful projects in other communities and offer some suggestions on how to get organized and build support for projects. He will also briefly discuss some of the resources, such as grants and technical assistance, that are available for community projects.

### ACRPC Appointments

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission asks its member municipalities to annually appoint delegates and alternates to the commission for a term beginning July 1 and ending June 30.

As of the end of May, we **have not** received appointment letters from the selectboards of the following towns:

<b>Addison</b>	<b>Ripton</b>
<b>Bristol</b>	<b>Salisbury</b>
<b>Cornwall</b>	<b>Starksboro</b>
<b>Middlebury</b>	<b>Weybridge</b>
<b>Orwell</b>	

Appointment forms were mailed out in our March annual update package. If you need another form, please contact us.

Lack of representation weakens the commission as a whole and prevents all the region's communities from having a voice in its decisions.

We need to receive written notification of your appointed delegation by the end of June or your seats will be considered unfilled.

***Thank you to all the municipalities who have returned completed annual update packages.***

June

## Calendar

July

**11** 7:00 p.m. DRB Workshop with Sec't of State Markowitz. Ilsley Library.  
**12** 7:30 p.m. Full Commission Meeting. Kenyon Lounge, Middlebury College.  
**13** 7:00 p.m. Community Projects Workshop. New Haven Town Hall.  
**19** 6:00 p.m. Airport Meeting. Middlebury Terminal Building.  
 7:00 p.m. Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting. ACRPC Office.  
**26** 7:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting. ACRPC Office.

**10** 7:30 p.m. Full Commission Meeting. Location TBA.  
**17** 7:00 p.m. Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting. ACRPC Office.  
**31** 7:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting. ACRPC Office.

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**Addison County Regional  
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# Project Impact Update

## Weather Radios to be Distributed throughout Region

Through the cooperation of Main Street Stationery Inc. of Middlebury and Project Impact, Tim Bouton has purchased 70 NOAA weather radios for distribution throughout the region.



The radios will be made available to all schools and other high priority locations in our region to serve as early warning for possible emergencies.

Originally, only 60 of these radios were to be available, but Main Street Stationery was able to negotiate a price with their supplier, Radio Shack, to reduce our price by over 25 percent.

These radios utilize the latest SAME technology, which allows the unit to be programmed to receive only the alerts which apply to our area.

Tim is in the process of developing a list of those sites and welcomes any suggestions to ensure blanket distribution throughout the region. Some possibilities include: town emergency managers, town garages, town offices, fire departments, police departments, and others in addition to the schools.

There should be enough radios so that each town will receive at least three for their use.

## Draft of Region-Wide Mitigation Plan to be Available Soon

As reported in April's newsletter, ACRPC has hired Ross Nagy and Darryl Murdock to generate a region-wide mitigation plan for the Addison Region.

It will consist of an umbrella plan that will cover generalized hazards affecting the entire region, such as an earthquake or winter storm.

In addition, each municipality will have its own local plan to address its specific hazards, such as flood hazard areas or road sections prone to washouts.

The completed and adopted plans will enable municipalities to be eligible for increased FEMA aid in the event of a disaster. It will also make them eligible for Pre-Disaster Mitigation funding, which is proposed to exceed \$300 million nationwide in the coming year.

Upon completion, the Addison Region will be the first region in Vermont to have such a plan in place and will serve as a model for the remainder of the state.

Ross and Darryl report that they have completed nearly half of their local interviews and are well on their way to a plan completion date of June 1.

They plan to unveil a first draft for comment at the May LEPC meeting and at the June Full Commission meeting.

The draft plan will be available at the ACRPC office for review or online at [www.acrpc.org](http://www.acrpc.org).

We hope to complete this entire process, including final draft and adoption, prior to the next round of federal funding.

## Roundabout Seminar

Mr. Roundabout, Michael Wallwork, the designer of the Montpelier and Manchester roundabouts, will be giving a seminar on June 11 at the Howe Center in Rutland.

The seminar will include an introduction to roundabouts and their history, information on where roundabouts are appropriate, the capacity of roundabouts, design for bike and pedestrian safety, maintenance and cost comparisons and case discussions of potential roundabout sites.

The workshop, which will run from 9 am to 4 pm, will cost \$30 and includes lunch and refreshments. The Rutland Regional Planning Commission is handling registrations.

For more information contact them at 800-464-7900 or ACRPC's Transportation Planner, Garrett Dague, at 388-3141.

## Airport Meeting

VTrans will hold a series of public meetings to provide an update on projects completed or underway. They will also review and take comments on the airport project ranking list for development of the FY04 budget.

Current activity levels will be discussed and an update on airport security will be provided.

The local meeting will be held in the Middlebury Terminal Building on June 19 at 6 pm.

## Summer Traffic Counts

ACRPC is looking for towns who would like a traffic count analysis performed in their community this summer.

Last summer counts were completed in Leicester, Shoreham and Vergennes.

To request a traffic count, call Garrett Dague at 388-3141.