

# ACRPC

*update* June 2016

## Addison County Regional Transportation Plan Update

ACRPC has hired DuBois & King to provide transportation planning consultant services to assist ACRPC in updating and rewriting the Addison County Regional Transportation Plan. A steering committee consisting of Transportation Advisory Committee delegates has been established to facilitate, assist and oversee the update process. The current Addison County Regional Transportation Plan was completed and adopted in May of 2008. This updated transportation plan will be adopted and incorporated into the

updated regional plan.

Among other things, the consultant will organize public meetings and work with ACRPC staff to solicit input and feedback regarding the plan update. At a minimum, this will include an initial project kick-off meeting, as well as a series of sub-regional meetings (combined meetings to be held in 4 communities around the county) to provide all communities the opportunity to comment on development of the draft plan. This process is intended to insure that town's citizens have a voice in the plan, and to make sure that no important elements are overlooked.

The consultant will work with ACRPC staff and steering committee to identify and ensure involvement in the development of the plan from other regionally significant groups, such as the Addison County Road Foremen, Addison County Walk-Bike Advisory Committee, ACTR, VTrans Rail & Aviation, etc;

All information, updates and public documents related to the Plan update can be found here:  
<http://acrpc.org/programs-services/transportation/>

## Commission Calendar

June 2016

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

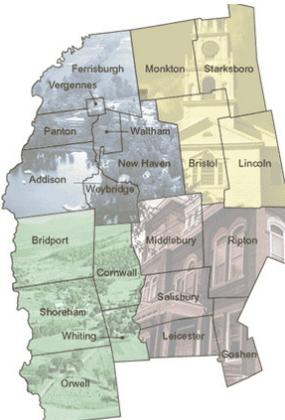
Meetings are held at ACRPC, 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, and are open to the public.

## 2016 VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Grant Opportunity

The Agency of Transportation is now soliciting applications for projects this year through the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. 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.

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# Grants, Events & Workshops

The Bike/Ped Program provides funding for either a scoping study or a design/construction project for the following facilities:

- Bicycle lanes (on-road facility delineated with pavement markings and signs)
- Shoulders (generally a minimum of 3-feet wide to accommodate bicyclists)
- Sidewalks
- Pedestrian crossing improvements, including median pedestrian refuge islands
- Pedestrian signals
- Improvements that address requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Shared-use paths (designed for use by both bicyclists and pedestrians)
- Pedestrian-scale lighting (not likely to rank highly as a standalone project, but eligible as a project component)

Projects may be combinations of any of the above facilities. Projects with the following emphasis will be considered favorably:

- Facilities that address a documented safety concern such as a high crash location
- Connectivity within overall bicycle and pedestrian networks
- Proximity and access to and within village centers and downtown areas
- Facilities that serve multiple uses e.g. access to businesses, residences and schools

In 2015, a “small projects” category was added that is funded with state dollars only and this type of project is eligible again this year. The intent of these projects is to implement necessary safety improvements like signs, pavement markings, crossing enhancements or on-road bike facilities through striping. These projects may be bid out or done by local forces. This category is not to be used to match federal funds on a larger project.

For a copy of the VTrans 2016 Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Guide and Application, visit here: <http://vtransengineering.vermont.gov/bureaus/mab/local-projects/bike-ped>.

You may also obtain a copy or ask any questions about the program or application process by contacting Jon Kaplan by phone at (802)828-0059 or email at [jon.kaplan@vermont.gov](mailto:jon.kaplan@vermont.gov).

As in previous years, there will be pre-application training sessions provided to potential applicants. It is strongly recommended that an official representative of the applicant attend one of these sessions. This year, the sessions will be provided as a webinar and attendees will log on to [vtrans.webex.com](http://vtrans.webex.com). The two sessions are scheduled on Tuesday May 24, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM and Thursday, May 26, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. You can participate in the training from any computer connected to the internet.

This year, it is preferred to submit applications in electronic format as Adobe .pdf files. Hard copy applications will still be accepted. Complete applications are due by 1:00 PM on July 15, 2016.

Applicants are strongly urged to work with your Regional Planning Commission. These organizations are invaluable resources and can help you refine your project.

## **SOUL Tree Steward Course - Essex Junction**

Are you interested in learning more about trees, tree care, and local stewardship of trees? Do you want to make a difference in your community?

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. This June the program will be offered in Essex Junction, VT at the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation Office.

The multi-class program is designed for individuals who are interested in:

- Enhancing their understanding of trees and proper tree care.

# Grants, Events & Workshops

- Understanding urban forestry as a field and in the context of Vermont.
- Being part of a cohort of regional citizens who are committed to improving their community's environmental, social, and economic quality through trees.

The course will cover tree health, identification, planting and maintenance, Vermont tree laws and policies, and management of roadside vegetation and town forests, among other topics. Participants are expected to attend all classes and to design and complete a volunteer project in their community.

The June 2016 SOUL course dates:  
Wednesdays, June 8, 15, 22, & 29 from 5:30-8:30pm.

## *Registration*

Participants must pre-register and attend all classes. The course cost is \$30 before May 25th, \$40 afterwards. Registration is limited to 25 participants. Learn more about the SOUL Tree Steward Program at [vtcommunityforestry.org/get-involved/tree-stewards](http://vtcommunityforestry.org/get-involved/tree-stewards).

Questions or to register, contact Gwen Kozlowski at [gwen.kozlowski@uvm.edu](mailto:gwen.kozlowski@uvm.edu) or (802) 656-6646. To request a disability-related accommodation to attend, please call by May 18th.

## **2016 Downtown and Village Center Tax Credits**

Vermont's Downtown and Village Center tax credit program is one of the primary benefits of Downtown and Village Center designation, and supports revitalization seen in community centers across the state.

In 2016, \$2,200,000 in state income tax credits are available to projects that enhance the historic character and improve building safety of older and historic commercial buildings in these designated communities. The credits support general rehabilitation work, code compliance work, data and network wiring, and exterior improvements, and may be combined with the federal program.

Applications for the next round of tax credits are due Friday, July 1, 2016 by 4:30 pm and the Vermont Downtown Board will make its allocation decisions when it meets July 25, 2016.

The application is now available on our website here: [http://accd.vermont.gov/strong\\_communities/opportunities/revitalization/downtown](http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/opportunities/revitalization/downtown). Applications can be submitted electronically to [caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov](mailto:caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov) or to:

Caitlin Corkins  
State of Vermont  
Division for Community Planning & Revitalization  
One National Life Drive  
Davis Building, 6th Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

Please feel free to call or e-mail if you have any questions regarding the application or the program itself.

## **Addison County Construction Updates**

### Route 7 Resurfacing - Middlebury to Ferrisburgh

- Project Code: NH SURF(55)
- Beginning at northern Class 1 limit in Middlebury and extending north 18.4 miles to Ferrisburgh/Charlotte town line
- Per VTransparency, construction period from July 2016 – January 2017; specific start date not listed yet
- Project Manager: Jonathan Harrington, 802-828-2839, [jonathan.harrington@vermont.gov](mailto:jonathan.harrington@vermont.gov)

### Route 7 Rehabilitation/Reconstruction - Charlotte

- Project Code: Charlotte FEGC 019-4(20)
- Beginning at Ferrisburgh/Charlotte town line and extending north 2.90 miles
- Per VTransparency, construction period from August 2016 – July 2018; specific start date not listed yet, but preliminary work to begin late in season 2016 with heavy construction to begin spring/summer 2017; Josh to check back in for updated proj-

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ect schedule in late June

- Project Manager: Kenneth Upmal, 802-828-3594, ken.upmal@vermont.gov

## Route 125 Paving

This paving project begins on Route 125 at mile marker .767 and extends east for approximately 6.5 miles to the intersection of Routes 125 and 100 in Hancock. Work to be performed includes cold planning, reclaiming, correcting super elevation deficiencies, paving, pavement markings, guardrail and drainage improvements.

*Traffic Delays.* Reclaim, shoulder and excavation operations will require lane closures and alternating one way traffic around the construction packages. Traffic control personnel will be present to assist in maintaining traffic flow. Motorists should anticipate traffic delays while traveling through the project and plan accordingly. Please allow for extra time in your travel plans.

*Bicycles & Motorcycles.* Of notable concern is the potential hazard for bicyclists and motorcyclists along this route, and as a result of the unsuitability of road surface for travel by bicycle, it is strongly recommended that cyclists find an alternate route of travel until crews have paved the road surface within the project limits.

## Route 74 Resurfacing

According to VTransparency, Route 74 has officially been added to the Summer 2016 district paving program. It shows that it will be completed in two separate segments: (1) the Cornwall portion from Route 30 to the Shoreham town line and (2) from Route 22A west to the lake. Preliminary project preparation continue, with 9 culverts due to be replaced beginning first week of June. The project manager and construction period have not yet been posted, so stay tuned to future newsletters for additional information.

## Orwell Bridge project

- Project Code: Orwell STP Deck (41)
- Replacement of deck and minor related work on

bridge 4 in Orwell over North Fork Creek

- Construction Period: May 2017 - Sep 2017
- Project Manager: Jennifer Fitch, 802-828-3042, jennifer.fitch@vermont.gov

*Statewide Construction Project Information available at the following links:*

- <http://vtransparency.vermont.gov/>
- <http://vtransmaps.vermont.gov/projectinfo/map.htm>
- <http://vtranscontracts.vermont.gov/construction-contracting/>