



ACRPC

update May 2012

ACRPC Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 9

Tourterelle Restaurant, New Haven

This year's event will be held at Tourterelle Restaurant and the theme is local food. Highlights include a farm tour, delicious dinner, and a talk by Ellen Kahler. Full schedule:

Farm Tour, 3:30 - 5:00: Meet at Tourterelle's parking lot at 3:30 and ACRPC will take you VIA an ACTR bus on a tour of several local agricultural businesses.

Social Hour, 5:15: Hors d'oeuvres

Speaker, 6:00-6:45, Ellen Kahler, Executive Director of the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, will speak about building the infrastructure necessary to maintain and attract farmers and food businesses.

Dinner (Buffet), 6:45 - 7:45

Business Meeting, 7:45

See attached for details. Please RSVP to Adam Lougee (alougee@acrpc.org) as soon as possible.

ACRPC Welcomes New Transportation Planner Daryl Benoit

Daryl spent almost 10 years with the former Chitenden County MPO (which recently merged with Chitenden County RPC), after tenures with the Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI), the University of Vermont, the Center for Rural Studies (CRS), and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). Daryl received his M.A. in Geography from the University of Leeds, focusing on urban modeling.

At CCMPO he worked in technical support of communities on local roads issues, served as the agency freight planner, webmaster & transportation data manager, and worked on park & ride, bicycle & pedestrian, and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) efforts. He represented the former CCMPO on the regional Brownfields Advisory Committee and the Lake Champlain Byways Committee. Daryl further specializes in the areas of GIS and web-based application development, and is a matriculating "Roads Scholar" with the Vermont Local Roads Program.

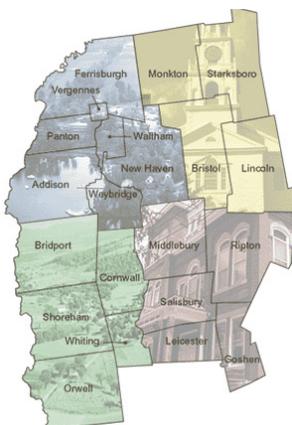
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Commission Calendar

May 2012

9	3:30 - 9:00	Annual Meeting at Tourterelle Restaurant (New Haven)
17	7:00	Addison County Solid Waste Management District Meeting
21	7:00	ACORN Energy Coop Board
23	6:30pm	ACRPC Executive Board
24	7:00	Energy Forum: Implementing Municipal Audits
29	5:00-6:30	ACORN Network Board

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

Panton Commissioner Passes Away

We are sorry to announce that Michael Oscar Hermann, a delegate to the Regional Planning Commission from the Town of Panton died on Wednesday, April 18, 2012. His obituary notes that, “His devoted family was at his side following a brief and valiant struggle with intestinal cancer diagnosed in July of 2011. Michael was a beautiful man, inside and out, and deeply cherished by his family and friends. He lived well and he died with dignity and grace, teaching new lessons about life, love, and compassion. He was a youthful 65 years of age.”

ACRPC thanks Michael and his family for his time and devotion to planning in the region and in the Town of Panton. We also remember him for his intelligence, wit and gregarious presence at our Commission meetings. As per Michael’s wishes, ACRPC will make a donation in his name to The Opera Company of Middlebury, P.O. Box 803, Middlebury, VT 05753 on behalf of the Commission.

Electric car-charging stations arrive in town

by Andrew Stein, Addison Independent

Last month the Addison County Regional Planning Commission installed two charging stations for electric and plug-in vehicles on the east side of their Seminary Street building in Middlebury.

The chargers are part of a larger project to introduce and test the feasibility of electric and plug-in vehicles in Vermont. The planning commission last year outfitted a used Toyota Prius with an extra 5-kilowatt battery that gives the car up to 100 miles to the gallon.

The planning commission’s car will charge up at the stations, and there’s room for three other vehicles. Each of the two stations has a 120-volt and a 240-volt outlet for charging. The stations, manufactured by a company called Coulomb Technologies, were purchased from a Massachusetts distributor.

The reason the planning commission chose the Cou-



lomb stations, said Kevin Behm, assistant director of the commission, is because they come with advanced software to track energy usage and environmental savings.

“We can see the kilowatt-hours used, we can track the frequency of (station) use, and the greenhouse gas emissions used,” he said.

Interested users can also see if the charging stations are available via the Internet — at chargepoint.net — where all Coulomb stations, which are on the Chargepoint network, can be seen. Another website, plugshare.com, shows even more charging stations, including some at the home of regular citizens who are open to people charging there.

The planning commission will begin to apply a small fee for use of the stations in a month or so. But for now local residents will be able to use them for free.

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Grants / Events

Electric Vehicle Charging Station Ribbon Cutting

May 14, 11:00 - 1:00

ACRPC Office, 14 Seminary St., Middlebury

ACRPC's charging stations have been installed and a special event is planned for May 14th to kick off Way to Go! week. See the charging stations in action and learn about electric cars and ACRPC's electric vehicle demonstration project.

Highlights include:

- Speakers from US Representative Peter Welch's Office, Efficiency Vermont and others
- Opportunity to test drive several new electric cars, including the Nissan Leaf and the Chevy Volt
- Free food

Hope you can make it!

Mark your calendars for the 2013 Vermont Transportation Enhancements Program

- Applications will be available online - May 31, 2012. A direct mail and email announcement will be sent to our database of interested organizations.
- Letters of intent are due - July 13, 2012. Organizations interested in applying for a grant are required to furnish a letter of intent with a brief project description. There is no obligation to apply, but failure to send the letter by that date will disqualify the application.
- Annual mandatory training sessions via Vermont Interactive Technology (VIT) locations statewide - September 4, 2:00 to 4:00pm and September 5, 5:00 to 7:00pm. Applicants must attend one of the two training sessions within the last two years to be eligible to apply. A complete list of VIT sites throughout Vermont will be published online.
- Applications are due - October 5, 2012. Sixteen copies of your application, with attachments are due or postmarked on the due date to the Agency of Transportation, Montpelier, VT.
- Projects are selected by the TE Committee at their annual meeting - December 2012.
- Awards are announced - January 2013.

For more information contact Daryl Benoit, ACRPC Transportation Planner at dbenoit@acrpc.org or 388-3141.

Turning Municipal Audits into Projects

Thursday, May 24, 7:00pm

ACRPC Office, 14 Seminary St., Middlebury

All energy and municipal leaders are invited to a special energy forum organized and hosted by ACRPC. ACRPC has partnered with Efficiency Vermont and the EPA to help Addison County municipalities implement energy retrofits. During the past couple of years ACRPC helped over 85% of the towns in Addison County complete audits on town offices, school, fire stations, and other municipal buildings. But few have implemented these audits.

This forum is designed to address several key hurdles and to empower communities to improve their buildings to save money and carbon, while increasing the building's comfort and safety.

Presenters will address three key issues:

1. *How to pay for it.* Peter Adamczyk from Efficiency Vermont will present on financing and grant opportunities for municipalities, as well as payback / cashflow.
2. *How to track it.* Cynthia Veit from the EPA will present on Portfolio Manager, a free tool for benchmarking, tracking, and analyzing energy use in municipal buildings.
3. *How to prioritize it.* Jared Moats from Structural Energy Conservation will talk about how to decipher an audit and prioritize the work.

Events

Lake Champlain Bridge Celebration

May 19 - May 20

Chimney Point State Historic Site, VT and Fort St. Frederick at Crown Point State Historic Site, NY



There are less than three weeks until the Grand Celebration of the Lake Champlain Bridge! Much planning and effort has gone into making it a great bi-state, community-focused event. The events kick off Saturday morning, May 19th at 9 a.m. with an opening ceremony and close on Sunday at dusk with the “Lights on the Lake” fireworks spectacular. There are two full days of activities in between -- and they're all free.

Download the full schedule at http://www.champlain-bridgecommunity.org/pdfs/Schedule_Events.pdf.

Way to Go! Promotes Transportation Options

New Prizes Available!

Week of May 14th

Registration is open for the eighth annual Way to Go! Statewide Commuter Challenge, which will take place May 14-18, 2012. This event encourages the use of healthier, more earth-friendly transportation, and less expensive alternatives to driving alone. Everyone who commits to walk, bike, telecommute, carpool, take the bus or use any alternative to driving solo will be entered in multiple drawings to win great prizes - Burton snowboards, overnight stays, restaurant gift certificates, yoga passes, spa treatments, bike tune-ups, golf and ski passes and more. Online registration is fast and easy at www.waytogovt.org. If you register by 1

May, you will be entered into an initial raffle to win a third generation iPad!

Who will win this year's “Carbon Cup” trophy? This award, new just last year, is presented to the community and businesses that demonstrate both strong participation and significant reductions in transportation emissions during the Way To Go! week.

Last year, in just one week, more than 3,200 Way to Go! participants saved over 450,000 commuting miles, reduced emissions by 350,000 pounds, and saved more than \$90,000 in transportation expenses.

The long term goal is to have the state save at least 500,000 pounds of transportation pollutants, so be sure to register today at www.waytogovt.org. Everyone who joins will help Vermont achieve that goal. You should register even if you already use commuting options other than a personal vehicle.



As in past years, businesses and communities will compete for 2012 Way to Go! awards. Go head-to-head with others to see who can encourage the highest percentage of employees to walk, bike, telecommute, carpool or take the bus from May 14-18. The winning employers and communities will receive awards at a ceremony later in the summer. Join the fun.

Calling All Cyclists!

A Multitude of May Events

Green Up Day: Sat. May 5, Chipman Hill

Thanks for walking and riding the roads to scoop up litter this day and other days and helping rehab TAM trails. Rehab Time Challenge: After any green-up day work, there's an invite for mountain bikers to speed down Chipman Hill and see how you rank against the locals with radios and stopwatches. Bring your cowbells & refreshments to cheer folks on. For more

Events

details, contact Middlebury Bike Club President Scott Mallory (smallory@velco.com).

“Connect the Dots” Ride: Sat. May 5, 9:00am, Middlebury College Twilight Hall to Snowbowl

Join Midd College SNG (Sunday Night Group environmental club) students in a ride up to the Ripton Snowbowl & back to commemorate Connect the Dots Day. It is one of several events happening worldwide organized by www.350.org. SNG is hosting festivities up by the ski slope (from 12-2pm) since it is one noticeable climate change dot close to home. For more info, contact Lucas Braun (lbraun@middlebury.edu). For other Connect the Dots events in Vermont, visit www.350vt.org.

Way to Go! Commuter Challenge Kick-Off Ride: Thur. May 10, 4:00pm, Middlebury Town Gym

Join fellow cyclists in mass for a fun, safe 20 minute ride through downtown to show support for Bike Friendly Middlebury initiatives and announce the Way to Go! Commuter Challenge. Gather afterwards at 51 Main to learn more and exchange ideas.

National Bike to Work Day: Fri. May 18, 4:00pm, Middlebury Town Gym

Join fellow cyclists in mass for another fun, safe 20 minute ride through downtown to show support for National Bike to Work Day, Bike Friendly Middlebury initiatives and conclusion of the Way to Go! Commuter Challenge. Gather afterwards at 51 Main to exchange stories and ideas.

Middlebury Green Drinks

Friday May 4, 5:30pm

51 Main, Middlebury

Middlebury Green Drinks has moved from the third Wednesday to the first Friday of the month. Relax, network, imagine what can come next for a green and Bike Friendly Middlebury. Announce and display your initiatives. Bring a friend. See www.GreenDrinks.org for more on this global social networking movement.

