



REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ACRPC

update

October 2007

commission calendar

October	10	3rd Annual Vermont Biodiesel Workshop Location: UVM Davis Center, Burlington More info: www.vermontbiofuels.org
	10	7:30 pm ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Location: ACRPC Office 14 Seminary St., Middlebury
	15	Flood Hazard Conference Location: Vermont Law School, S. Royalton More info: www.vermontlaw.edu/landuse
	17	7:00 pm Vermont Transportation Board Hearing Transportation Advisory Committee Location: ACRPC Office 14 Seminary St., Middlebury
	23 to 25	Growth and Character Conference Location: Main St. Landing, Burlington Information: www.communitymatters.org
	27	8:30 Assoc. of Vt. Conservation Commissions Annual Celebration Location: Vermont Technical College Information: www.avccvt.org
November	31	6:30 pm ACRPC Executive Board Meeting Location: ACRPC Office 14 Seminary St., Middlebury
	14	7:30 pm ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Location: ACRPC Office 14 Seminary St., Middlebury
	28	6:30 pm ACRPC Executive Board Meeting Location: ACRPC Office 14 Seminary St., Middlebury
	30	Vermont Planning Conference Location: Vermont College & Union Institute, Montpelier

Municipal Education Grants

The Municipal Education Grant (MEG) program has been initiated by the Vermont Land Use Education and Training Collaborative as a way to assist volunteer boards and commissions with the performance of their duties in land use planning and regulation. The fund is designed to bring trainers directly to a community so that all members of the land use boards and commissions have the opportunity for basic training and on-going education. A maximum of \$800 is available per town through the MEGs, and the program has a rolling application throughout the fiscal year. The DHCA Community Planning and Revitalization Division administers this program. The application and a list of trainers and training topics are available at their website. <http://www.dhca.state.vt.us/Planning/MEG.htm>

Ancient Roads Grants

The Ancient Roads grant program was initiated by the Vermont legislature through the passage of Act 178, in 2006. The Act included a grant program to assist municipalities on researching and mapping their town highways, trails, and unidentified corridors. A total of \$75,000 is authorized for Ancient Roads grants for FY 2008. The application deadline for the FY' 08 Ancient Roads Grant is November 16, 2007 (postmarked). A copy of the Ancient Roads grant application, (including background on Act 178, guidance for community mapping projects), and a variety of resources and helpful links are available at their website: <http://www.dhca.state.vt.us/Planning/AncientRoadsGrantProgram.htm>

Meetings are open to the public.

Minutes are available on-line at www.acrpc.org.

For further information, contact ACRPC at 388-3141.

Vermont Transportation Board Hearing

Wednesday, October 17 at 7:00 pm, ACRPC Office

The Vermont Transportation Board will hold a public hearing at ACRPC's office in Middlebury on October 17 at 7:00 pm to obtain public comment on the development of state transportation policy. The mission of the Transportation Board is to oversee the Vermont Agency of Transportation, state transportation planning, capital programming, and program implementation. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Please come share your comments about Addison County's transportation network.

Northeast Conference on Flood Hazards, Liabilities & Opportunities

On October 15, Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission, along with the Vermont DEC River Management Program, Vermont Law School and its Land Use Institute, and VLCT, is co-sponsoring a conference at the Vermont Law School to provide municipal officials and attorneys from Vermont and surrounding states with key information they need to understand both the flood hazards in Vermont and the liabilities associated with municipal and landowner actions. The conference is free of charge for municipal officers (planning commissioners, Selectboards, zoning administrators, etc.) thanks to a generous grant from the DEC River Management Program. For others, the fee is \$35 for general registration, and \$125 for those seeking CLE Credit. For more information please go to <http://www.vermontlaw.edu/elc/landuse/>.

Vermont's Energy Future Workshops

In 2012, contracts providing for two-thirds of the state's electric power begin to expire. This leaves the future source of Vermont's electricity open for discussion and examination. Choices about the future will have to be made and will weigh trade-offs among cost, reliability, environmental impact, large and small scale generation, and in-state versus out-of-state sources. Five evening public workshops will be held in locations throughout the state this fall. The workshops are free, but registration is required and you may do so on-line at www.vermontenergyfuture.info or call the Dept. of Public Service at 1-800-622-4496 (in-state) or 802-828-2332. For specific questions, please email Susan Rivo at susan@raabassociates.org. All workshops will begin at 5:30 p.m. with light dinner fare and a prompt start at 6 p.m. The regional workshops will be held on the following dates in the following locations.

Oct. 3 St. Johnsbury Elementary School
Oct. 18 National Life Building, Montpelier
Oct. 30 Rutland Intermediate School, Rutland

Oct. 17 South Burlington High School
Oct. 29 Dean Technical Center, Springfield

Grants for First-Time Homebuyers in Addison County

The Addison County Community Trust's (ACCT) Homeland Grant Program is available to help first-time homebuyers purchase a single-family home in Addison County. Buyers who use these down payment grants will share their appreciation with future generations, helping to keep the home affordable to the next buyers. The amount of a grant is 20% of the purchase price of the property, up to \$40,000. The Middlebury South Village (M.S.V.) is a new, mixed-use development in the heart of Middlebury that offers affordable housing to the workforce of Addison County. The Addison County Community Trust has teamed up with NeighborWorks of Western Vermont to provide grants and financing opportunities that help low- and moderate-income families realize their dream of homeownership in M.S.V. In an effort to make this neighborhood truly affordable, they have increased their maximum grant amount to \$65,000. Home prices start at \$215,900, but with a Homeland grant, a qualified buyer would only need to finance \$150,900. Call Terry or Elise at 388-9080 for more information about either programs. They also have materials for employers interested in promoting this program to their employees.