



REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ACRPC

update september 2003

commission calendar

SEPTEMBER	4	7:30 p.m. Local Government Committee Cornwall Town Office Agenda: Hearing, Cornwall Town Plan
	8	7:00 p.m. Natural Resources Committee ACRPC Office
	10	7:30 p.m. ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Location: Kirk Alumni, Middlebury Coll. Agenda: Outdoor Recreation
	15	7:00 p.m. Utilities, Facilities & Services Comm. ACRPC Office Agenda: Electricity
	16	6:30 p.m. GMNF Planning Meeting Holley Hall, Bristol Agenda: Wilderness
	17	7:00 p.m. Transportation Advisory Committee ACRPC Office
	18	8:30 a.m. VLCT Public Budgeting Workshop Suzanna's Restaurant, Berlin, VT
	19	12:00 p.m. Forum on Elderly Housing Community Services Bldg., Middlebury
	24	7:00 p.m. ACRPC Executive Board Meeting ACRPC Office
30	Municipal Planning Grants Due	
OCTOBER	8	7:30 p.m. ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Location: TBA
	15	7:00 p.m. Transportation Advisory Committee ACRPC Office
	20	7:00 p.m. Utilities, Facilities & Services Comm. ACRPC Office Agenda: Telecommunications
	21	6:30 p.m. GMNF Planning Meeting Holley Hall, Bristol
	22	8:30 a.m. Child Care Forum Kirk Alumni Center, Middlebury College
29	7:00 p.m. ACRPC Executive Board Meeting ACRPC Office	

Meetings are open to the public.

Minutes are available on-line at www.acrpc.org.
For further information, contact ACRPC at 388-3141.

Outdoor Recreation Plan Update

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) will be hosting a panel discussion at September's Full Commission meeting to gather information on future needs for outdoor recreation facilities and activities in the region. ACRPC will use this meeting to gather information from municipalities, recreation organizations and interested members of the public.



We want to learn more about trends in the demand for different types of recreation activities, identify any specific needs for additional or improved facilities and discuss ways to reduce conflict between different recreation activities and between recreation users and others.

This information will be incorporated into the state's Recreation Plan, currently being revised. That plan is used by the Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation to set priorities for funding outdoor recreation projects and facilities throughout the state. This is also valuable information for regional and municipal planning purposes.



In addition to the public meeting, ACRPC is distributing a recreation survey. The survey is available electronically at the ACRPC website, www.acrpc.org or by contacting the ACRPC office.

Representatives of a range of outdoor recreation interests will be participating in the panel. While it was not possible that every recreation organization or interest could be invited to participate on the panel, we are hoping that as many as possible will come to the meeting, join in the discussion, offer their input and complete a survey.



Strategic Plan Survey for Celebration Champlain

ACRPC is working with the other RMOs and RPCs in the Champlain Valley to create a Strategic Plan for Celebration Champlain. In 2009, the 400th anniversary of Champlain's arrival, communities around the lake will be prepared to hold commemorative events. We will have also created a lasting legacy of infrastructure improvements that will continue to serve our communities for years to come.

The Strategic Plan is the first step in that process. Our goal is to involve local communities in assessing their resources and limitations, and craft a plan for infrastructure improvements, programs and events to unify and rejuvenate the region.

As part of our efforts we are soliciting ideas for infrastructure or events from local organizations that believe investments are necessary to help them develop their businesses or attractions to help promote tourism in the region.

If you have an infrastructure need or idea and would like to fill out a survey please contact Mary Jeanne Packer or Bruce Brown at (802) 287-4284 or Adam Lougee at ACRPC at 388-3141. For further information, a much more extensive description of the project and work to date go to www.gwriters.com/byways.htm.

GMNF Plan Meetings

The next meeting to discuss the Forest Plan revision for the Green Mountain National Forest will be held September 16. The topic of discussion will be wilderness.

September's meeting will be from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Holley Hall in Bristol, refreshments will be served. October's meeting will be on the 21st and the topic will be vegetation and timber management.

For more information please contact Melissa Reichert at (802) 747-6754 or gmlplanrevision@fs.fed.us.

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.

Planning for Child Care

A Change to the Vermont Planning Law

In July a revision to 24 V.S.A. § 4302 took effect. A thirteenth statewide planning goal was added, "To ensure the availability of safe and affordable child care and to integrate child care issues into the planning process, including child care financing, infrastructure, business assistance for child care providers, and child care work force development."

Planning commissions that are currently rewriting or will be revising their local plans in the future will need to address this new goal.

There will be several opportunities to learn more about child care issues in the region and planning for child care in upcoming months.

First on October 22, the Addison County Workforce Investment Board will be hosting a child care forum. For more information contact Patty King of the Workforce Investment Board at 388-7951.

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns will be addressing this new planning require-

ment in one of their interactive TV workshops. Look for further information on that from VLCT this fall.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy currently being drafted for Addison County contains information and strategies related to provision of child care in the region. For more information on that document contact the Addison County Economic Development Corporation at 388-7953.

The Utilities, Facilities and Services committee of the Regional Planning Commission completed work on a draft subsection of the regional plan that includes information on child care in the region and proposed goals, objectives and actions. That draft Health and Safety section should be available for public review by the end of September. For more information contact Brandy or Tim at ACRPC, 388-3141.

As always, ACRPC staff is available to assist planning commissions in gathering information for municipal plans or working through the planning process.

Elderly Housing Forum

The Addison County Continuum of Care will be hosting a panel discussion on elderly housing needs on September 16. The forum will run from noon to 1:30 p.m. and food will be provided. The meeting will be at the Community Services Building located on Boardman Street in Middlebury.

Commuting Statistics

The Census Bureau has released the town-level statistics on where people live and work from the 2000 Census. Some of the highlights include:

Approximately 13,000 Addison Region residents work in the region, about half of them work in Middlebury.

Approximately 4,000 Addison Region residents commute to work in Chittenden County and approximately 1,000 people living in Chittenden County commute into the Addison Region to work.

Municipal Planning Grants

The FY04 Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) deadline for FY03 is September 30. The MPG program funds technical assistance for town planning, implementation of plans and ordinances, encouragement of citizen participation and education, and innovative demonstration planning projects.

This year, around \$56,000 will be available for the Addison Region and municipalities can ask for up to \$15,000.

For those towns whose plans are expiring within the next year or so, this is an excellent opportunity to receive funds to support the rewriting and re adoption process. Other activities eligible for funding include updating zoning regulations and working towards a village center or downtown designation.

If you have any questions or would like assistance with applying, please contact Brandy Saxton at 388-3141 or by email, bsaxton@sover.net.