

ACRPC

update

September 2016

Regional Transportation Plan Update

ACRPC continues to work with DuBois & King 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.

As part of the update process, a series of three public meetings will be held over the last two weeks of September in different areas of the region. These public meetings are intended to solicit input and feedback regarding the plan update from communities, the general public and interested stakeholders throughout the Addison County region and to ensure that no important elements are overlooked. Meeting dates, times, and locations are as follows:

- **Middlebury** – Tuesday, September 20th, 7:00PM, ACRPC, 14 Seminary St., Middlebury, VT 05753
- **Monkton** - Thursday, September 22nd, 7:00PM, Monkton Fire Department, 3747 States Prison Hollow Rd, Monkton, VT 05469
- **Shoreham** - Monday, September 26th at 7:00PM, Shoreham Elementary School; 130 School Rd, Shoreham, VT 05770

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) is looking for feedback from residents, commuters and businesses in Addison County on how our region’s transportation system is working and where changes or improvements are needed. This plan includes all modes of transportation, as well as freight traffic and issues. While any input is welcome, some of the types of input we are looking for might include:

- Where are poor conditions on our highway network detracting from efficient and safe transportation (i.e. congestion, restricted bridge, bad pavement)?
- Where is it unsafe or uncomfortable to walk or bike?

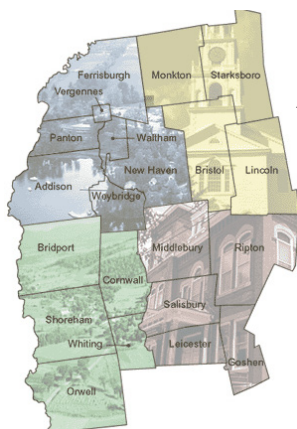
This newsletter is financed through the State of Vermont Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the State of Vermont. All programs of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission are handicapped accessible.

Commission Calendar

September 2016

14	7:30pm	Full Commission Meeting
15	7:00pm	ACSWMD Meeting
21	7:00pm	TAC Meeting
28	6:30pm	Executive Board Meeting

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

Workshops & Other Opportunities

- Where does speeding or noisy traffic impact the quality of life?
- Where would you want to ride a bus if service was available?
- What are some of the recent changes in the transportation network that you think really help?

Please take some time to consider how you use the transportation network in your community and leave a comment or a route that matters to you! If you have any further questions or are having difficulty leaving your comments, please send them to acrpc@dubois-king.com

Please contact Josh Donabedian at ACRPC with any questions or concerns at 388-3141 or jdonabed@acrpc.org.

Connecting Conservation Commissions Upcoming Events!

One region at a time, AVCC is partnering with Regional Planning Commissions and the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department to inspire conversations among nearby Conservation Commissions. In September, we're bringing these regional meetings to Lamoille and Windham Counties. Although these two events are targeted toward Conservation Commissions in the Lamoille and Windham regions, all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Lamoille County

September 14th 5:30-7:30pm
Lamoille County Planning Commission
(52 Portland Street in Morrisville, on the second floor)

Windham County

September 20th, 6:00-8:00pm
Newfane Union Hall

Learn more about the work of conservation groups and commissions within the region, explore collaborations with those working on similar projects, and collect ideas to bring home. We'll be doing an orga-

nizational mapping activity to figure out who is doing what in each town and across the region, including the specific needs of each conservation commission. What collaborative projects can be achieved in partnership across the region or even among a couple neighboring towns? How can AVCC, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, or your Regional Planning Commission help you achieve your goals?

For more information, contact:

- Monica Przyperhart (Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department's Community Wildlife Program) Monica.Przyperhart@vermont.gov
- Jens Hilke (Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions and Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department) jens.hilke@vermont.gov
- Lamoille: Pam DeAndrea (Lamoille County Planning Commission) pam@lpcvt.org
- Windham: Marion Major (Windham Regional Commission) mmajor@windhamregional.org

Apply for a 2017 Sustainable Design Assessment Team Project!

The AIA Center for Communities by Design is now accepting applications for inclusion in the 2017 Sustainable Design Assessment Team Program. The AIA is committed to sustainable design that creates communities and buildings which advance enduring public and environmental well-being. The mission of the SDAT program is to provide technical assistance and process expertise to help communities develop a vision and framework for a sustainable future. The SDAT program upholds the AIA Design Assistance team values of utilizing a multidisciplinary team approach; ensuring the objectivity of all participating team members; and requiring broad, inclusive public participation and support.

The deadline to submit applications for the 2017 SDAT program is Friday, December 9, 2016. To view the application packet and other related resources, please visit the AIA Center for Communities by Design website here: <http://new.aia.org/pages/16091-2017-sdat-application>

Workshops & Other Opportunities

Rivers & Roads Tier II Roads Scholar Workshop

2-Day Workshop, 16 Environmental Hours

Participants will gain the skills needed to develop riverside infrastructure maintenance and repair to increase the stability of rivers and the lifespan of infrastructure. This two-day workshop includes lecture and related field work to help accomplish river infrastructure maintenance and development goals.

Locations

October 4 & 5, 2016 - Rutland Town Garage

October 18 & 19, 2016 - Wilmington Town Garage

Register online at:

www.localroads.vermont.gov

This two day workshop will be led by the following experts:

Todd Menees

River Management Engineer, Vermont DEC Rivers Program

Todd has contributed to the authorization of Stream Alteration Permits, providing technical assistance for in-channel activities for private and public landowners, assessing the stability of Vermont's rivers, overseen the design and construction phases of river related projects and river restoration projects, and provided trainings and technical assistance on the topic of river mechanics and the interaction of rivers and transportation infrastructure.

Stacy Pomeroy

River Management Scientist, Vermont DEC Rivers Program

Staci has contributed to the development of scientific methods to assess the stability of Vermont's rivers, provided technical assistance to geomorphic assessments and river projects, and conducted many trainings on river processes.

Rich Kirn

Fisheries Biologist, Vermont Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Rich is the coordinator for fish and aquatic organism passage and other aquatic habitat issues. Rich is one of a team of biologists responsible for managing the state fisheries which includes finding ways to minimize impacts of road projects and other development on aquatic habitat and fish populations.

Grant Programs

2016 VTrans Transportation Alternatives (TA) Grant Program

VTrans is pleased to announce that the 2016 Transportation Alternatives (TA) program is now open. This year, roughly 50% of the TA funding totaling \$1.1 million is reserved for environmental mitigation projects relating to stormwater and highways.

The Transportation Alternatives program provides funds to either develop scoping (feasibility) studies or to develop projects that lead to construction. All projects must demonstrate a strong transportation link. There is a required sponsor match of 20% for construction projects and 50% for scoping studies. Applicants may only apply for up to \$300,000 in federal funds for a total project cost of \$375,000. Scoping studies are typically in the \$15,000 to \$25,000 range of federal funding (\$30,000 to \$50,000 total).

The TA program provides funding for the following eligible activities:

- (A)** Construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of transportation, including sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle signals, lighting and other safety-related infrastructure, and transportation projects to achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).
- (B)** Construction, planning, and design of infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for non-drivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities to access daily needs.
- (C)** Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other non-motorized transportation users.
- (D)** Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas.
- (E)** Community improvement activities, including--
 - (i) historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities.

- (ii) vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide erosion control.

- (iii) archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project eligible under this title.

(F) Any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to--

- (i) address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff, including activities described in sections 133(b) (11), 328(a), and 329; or
- (ii) reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or to restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats.

(G) The Safe Routes to School Program under Section 1404 (SAFETEA-LU) (23 U.S.C. 402).

Construction of salt/sand sheds is potentially eligible under the environmental mitigation category. Eligibility for salt/sand sheds will be considered on a case by case basis based on proximity of the existing storage location to a major water body (generally within 50 ft). We recommend reviewing eligibility with VTrans prior to application submittal.

For a copy of the VTrans Transportation Alternatives Program Guide and Application, visit the website: <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/transport-alt>. You may also obtain an application, or ask any questions about the program or application process by contacting Scott Robertson at (802) 828-5799 or by email at scott.robertson@vermont.gov. Applications are due in-hand or by e-mail by 1:00pm on Thursday, October 20th, 2016.

Grant Programs & Workshops

2017 Municipal Planning Grants Program

The FY2017 Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) program has officially been announced, with applications due on October 31, 2016. The MPG program encourages and supports planning and revitalization for local municipalities in Vermont. Awarded annually and administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development, the MPG program works to strengthen Vermont by funding local planning initiatives that support statewide planning goals. Since 1998, the MPG program has provided over \$11 million to 232 cities and towns across Vermont to help breathe new life into communities, plan for future growth and development, and improve the quality of life.

Overview

This program encourages and supports planning and revitalization with grants for up to \$20,000 for a single municipality and \$35,000 for a consortium of two or more towns. Annual funding totals around approximately \$460,000. Since 1998, the Municipal Planning Grant Program has provided over \$11 million to 232 cities and towns across Vermont to help breathe new life into communities, plan for future growth and development, and improve quality of life.

Program Highlights

This year's Municipal Planning Grants were selected from 72 communities across the state requesting over \$770,000. Grants ranging from \$2,800 to \$20,000 will allow projects in Middlebury and Hartford to assess downtown parking needs, help Brighton bring upper floors of a landmark building back into use, and identify important natural resources in Johnson. Around the state, grant funding will help many small towns, including Chittenden, Stamford and Wolcott, develop strategies to minimize future risks and costs from floods and make the places where people gather, their downtowns and villages stronger and more resilient.

For state fiscal year (FY) 2017, the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will grant approximately \$457,000 to municipalities to promote community planning, revitalization and development activities that maintain Vermont's land use goal of compact settlements separated by rural lands. Projects that promote Vermont's historic settlement pattern will be given priority.

The maximum grant amount is \$20,000 for individual municipalities and \$35,000 for consortia. Applicants are required to provide a cash match for any grant request above \$8,000 (or \$15,000 for consortia). Projects requesting \$8,000 or less will require no matching funds. Grant funds are regionally apportioned, based on the percentage of municipalities with confirmed planning processes within each of Vermont's 11 regional planning commission (RPC) regions.

Important Links

- [FY2017 Application Page](http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/opportunities/funding/municipal_planning_grants/mpgfy17): http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/opportunities/funding/municipal_planning_grants/mpgfy17
- [Program Description](http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accd/files/Documents/strongcommunities/cd/mpg/CPR-MPG-ProgramDescription-FY17.pdf): <http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accd/files/Documents/strongcommunities/cd/mpg/CPR-MPG-ProgramDescription-FY17.pdf>
- [Application Questions](http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accd/files/Documents/strongcommunities/cd/mpg/CPR-MPG-ApplicationQuestions-FY17.pdf): <http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accd/files/Documents/strongcommunities/cd/mpg/CPR-MPG-ApplicationQuestions-FY17.pdf>
- [Instructions & Templates for Starting an Application](http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/opportunities/funding/municipal_planning_grants/mpgfy17): http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/opportunities/funding/municipal_planning_grants/mpgfy17
- [Guidance on Procurement](http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accd/files/Documents/strongcommunities/cd/mpg/CPR-MPG-Procurement-Guidance-): <http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accd/files/Documents/strongcommunities/cd/mpg/CPR-MPG-Procurement-Guidance->

Other News & Updates

Bob McNary of Ferrisburgh Passes Away at 73

It is with heavy hearts that we relay the news of Robert “Bob” McNary’s unexpected passing at his Ferrisburgh home on August 22nd. Born in Attleboro, Massachusetts in 1943, childhood summers spent on his grandfather’s farm inspired Bob’s love of dairy farming and the outdoors, eventually leading to his purchase of Eighth Elm Farm on Route 7 in Ferrisburgh along with his wife, Paulette. He cherished the opportunity to share his land and his love of the countryside with others.

Bob also adored his community and was a devoted civic servant. Over the years he was actively involved on a number of Ferrisburgh’s municipal committees and also served in various capacities with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission. Those who had the pleasure of working with him will remember Bob for his passion, dedication, and love of Vermont.

Bob’s full obituary is available on page 6 of the Monday, August 29th version of the Addison County Independent or on the online version, available here: <http://www.addisonindependent.com/obits>.