

Regional notes

Regional Notes is published by Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission informing you of regional events and update you on the latest studies and plans related to improving and enjoying Chittenden County's quality of life. Please use these resources. CCRPC's mission is to serve its constituents through an effective regional planning process characterized by communication, facilitation, collaboration and technical assistance. We hope *Regional Notes* helps to fulfill that need.

A LOOK AT 2009

2009 was a positive year for Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission. Here are some highlights:

Air Quality

- Drafted a report with CCMPO on local and regional strategies to maintain air quality

Brownfields

- Completing the following Brownfields projects: Browns Court Phase II Environmental Site Assessment, Moran Center Building Interior Corrective Action Plan, Richmond Creamery, and 157 South Champlain Street

Emergency Management

- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC #1) prepared its first Strategic Plan
- Conducted workshops on Shelter in Place
- Supported municipal Emergency Operation Plans and Incident Command System (ICS) 300 trainings
- Performed Stream Geomorphology assessments and maps
- Revised the Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan

Energy

- Held the first Regional Energy Forum in April 2009
- \$250,000 of federal funding was obtained to fund a Regional Energy Grant Program to assist municipalities with local and regional energy projects

Lake Champlain Byway

- Provided staff support and managed several National Scenic Byway grants to benefit the traveler and local residents

Municipal Support

- Assisted with bylaw revisions and Build-Out analyses
- Facilitated a Regional Policing study
- Developed capital programs and budget systems

Natural Resources

- Completed a *Natural Areas Strategic Planning Guide*

- Worked with ANR to identify potential wetland restoration sites in parts of the Winooski watershed
 - Developed GIS data and maps

WHAT'S NEW

Chittenden County Energy Grant Process Moves Forward

CCRPC has received 22 applications for the Chittenden County Energy Grant with a total of \$966,470 of funds requested. Projects range from weatherization projects to feasibility studies to education on alternative transportation systems. Applications will be reviewed by staff and CCRPC's Energy Committee with an expected decision by February 22nd. The wide array of projects submitted highlights the variety of energy work being conducted in Chittenden County. We look forward to reviewing these applications.

South Burlington Receives City Center Designation

South Burlington recently joined the town of Colchester as the only two designated New Town Centers in the state. The designation, granted by the Vermont Downtown Development Board on January 25th, provides the city with eligibility to apply for additional programs offered by the state, including tax increment financing (TIF), Vermont Neighborhood designation, or Growth Center designation.

The area approved as the New Town Center includes approximately 100 acres of land in the area locally known as the home of the future "City Center" located on land between Dorset Street, Williston Road, and Hinesburg Road. The New Town Center designation is one of three basic designation tools available to communities in Vermont, alongside the popular Designated Downtown and Designated Village programs that many cities and towns in Chittenden County have joined over the past decade.

For any questions concerning these programs, contact [Charlie Baker](#) at CCRPC or Paul Conner, Director of Planning and Zoning for the City of South Burlington at pconner@sburl.com or (802) 846-4106.

CERT Volunteers Sought

The Chittenden County Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) is seeking volunteers to join together to make our community a safer place to live. The goal of the CERT Program is to train citizens in emergency response skills such as emergency traffic control, fire safety assistance, light search and rescue, disaster medical assistance and team organization techniques. Using the training obtained in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members are able to assist others during and following an emergency event. CERT members are also encouraged to support emergency first response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their communities. If you are interested in becoming a CERT team member attend one of their meetings (see Calendar below) or contact Jim Fuller, CERT Director at j.fuller@ymail.com

CCRPC Comes to Channel 17

CCRPC's Full Commission Meetings, held the fourth Monday of every month, are now being taped and aired by CCTV and shown the Saturday following the meeting at

1:00pm on Channel 17. The meetings can also be streamed from CCRPC's website. Click on "Meetings" on the left sidebar, then 2010 Full Commission Meeting Minutes. A clickable agenda is provided for convenient topic-specific viewing.

PLANS AND DOCUMENTS FOR REVIEW AND COMMENTS

Public Comment Invitation

Public comments are invited on Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit 3-9014 (2010) for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. This draft general permit establishes requirements, standards, prohibitions and management practices for discharges of stormwater from regulated small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is preparing to reissue General Permit 3-9014 (first issued in 2003) and is providing a 45-day public comment period on the draft permit from January 22, 2010 through March 8, 2010. Please [click here](#) for details or download the document at www.vtwaterquality.org. Contact Jim.Pease@state.vt.us or call him at (802) 241-3780. A public informational meeting on the draft permit will be held on February 16, 2010 from 6pm - 8pm at Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission office. (See Calendar below for details.)

Help Choose New Bike Map Cover Art

Burlington Department of Public Works has 3 options for new cover art for the 3rd edition of the bike map. If you'd like to vote on your favorite, please visit the DPW website: <http://www.dpw.ci.burlington.vt.us/transportation/bikewalk/> or contact nlosch@ci.burlington.vt.us

UPCOMING EVENTS

Incident Command System Training - February 8 - 10

The Vermont State Police Academy is offering free Incident Command System training to persons involved with emergency planning, response or recovery efforts and to people in supervisory or lead roles during an incident. Receiving ICS training is one of the requirements needed to be in compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). [Click here for details](#) or contact Gail Billings at the Vermont Police Academy at 802-483-6228.

Underhill Flats/Riverside Community Forum – February 8

The Towns of Jericho and Underhill will hold a community forum on the future of the Underhill Flats/Riverside Village on Monday, February 8, 2010 from 6:00 to 9:00pm in the Browns River Middle School Cafeteria. Anyone interested in the future of Underhill Flats/Riverside is encouraged to attend for a discussion of the next steps needed to continue making the village a wonderful place to live, study, play, and run a business. Light fare/refreshments will be provided. For more information and to RSVP, contact Jericho Town Planner Seth Jensen at 899-2287 ext. 104 or sjensen@jerichovt.gov (link to full p.r. on website)

Railroad Avenue Revitalization Group – February 10

The Railroad Avenue Revitalization Group is holding a forum on February 10th at 5:30pm at Essex Junction High School to discuss ideas for energizing the Railroad Avenue area. The group's vision dovetails well with ideas the Village has had for the reconfiguration of Five Corners area for which the Village has applied for an Energy Grant. That's real Town Planning! Sketch Plans are available in the Brownell Library.

MS-4 Permit and TMDL Forum – February 11

Pete LaFlamme, Mary Borg, Jennifer Callahan, and Jim Pease will present information on the recently issued draft MS-4 permit and the six minimum measures as well as information on the TMDL. This meeting will be held in CCRPC's Large Conference Room from 10am until noon.

First Annual "Share the Love Birthday Bash" Fundraiser - February 12 CarShare Vermont Rocks (and Raises Money)

CarShare Vermont, Vermont's first and only nonprofit car-sharing organization invites you what will be a great party--and first annual Share the Love Birthday Bash on Friday, February 12. Visit <http://carshare.winwinapps.com/> to learn more, buy your tickets and see future events. All ticket and auction sales will directly support Vermont's one and only local, nonprofit car-sharing organization <http://carshare.winwinapps.com/>. It will be a shin-dig to remember, even for the Valentine's Day adverse, and it will support a terrific organization.

The love-themed festivities include a silent auction (with many artsy, fun, useful, and unique items, including paintings, prints, and pottery, wine, services, spa treatments, and some undisclosed gems...), yummy food, cash bar, songs about love, salsa dancing, a kissing booth (with a photographer!), the ladies of House of LeMay and so much more.

What: CarShare Vermont's Share the Love Birthday Bash & Silent Auction
When: Friday, February 12, 2010 from 7pm to 10pm
Where: Main Street Landing's Union Station @ One Main St., Burlington, VT

Public Meeting – February 16

A public informational meeting on the Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit 3-9014 (2010) for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems will be held on February 16 from 6pm - 8pm at Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Large conference Room, Winooski.

Third Annual Chittenden County Planning Conference – March 5

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission is convening its third annual Planning Conference at University of Vermont Davis Center on Friday, March 5 from 8am to 4pm. Dr. Reid Ewing, Research Professor from the National Center for Smart Growth, University of Maryland, is scheduled to speak after lunch. [Please click here for more details](#) . Questions? Contact Dan Senecal-Albrecht at 846-4490 x29 or email at dsenecal-albrecht@ccrpcvt.org .

CALENDAR

Regional Plan Update Committee
Tuesday, February 2, 2010
5:30pm
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT

CCRPC Energy Committee Meeting
Monday, February 8 and 22, 2010
5:30pm
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT

CERT Meetings
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
6:00pm to 8:00pm
South Burlington Public Works Building
Landfill Road (off Patchen Road)

Tuesday, March 23, 2010
6:30pm to 8pm
Hinesburg Fire Station
10340 Route 116

Public Informational Meeting on the
Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
Tuesday, February 16, 2010
6:00pm to 8pm
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT

Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 17, 2010
7:00pm
Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT

Regional Stormwater Education Program
Thursday, February 18, 2010
Education Seminar
10:00am
Steering Committee
11:00am
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Meeting
Monday, February 22, 2010
6:00pm

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT

If you have suggestions or activities that you would like us to include, please let us know by contacting Leslie Bonnette at 846-4490 x21 or lbonnette@ccrpcvt.org.