

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, October 21, 2015 - 6:00 p.m.
CCRPC Offices; 110 W. Canal Street, Suite 202
Winooski, VT 05404



5:30 BOARD TRAINING – Understanding our Budget

CONSENT AGENDA –

C.I Minor TIP amendment – Add Bike/Ped awards*

DELIBERATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order; Changes to the Agenda
2. Public Comment Period on Items NOT on the Agenda
3. Action on Consent Agenda (MPO Business) (Action; 5 minutes)
4. Approve Minutes of September 16, 2015 Meeting* (Action; 5 minutes)
5. FY2017 Dues Adjustment* (Action; 10 minutes)
6. Draft Comprehensive Energy Plan review and comment, Melanie Needle* (Action; 40 minutes)
7. Active Transportation Plan Update, Peter Keating (Information; 20 minutes)
8. Executive Director's Updates (Information; 5 minutes)
 - a. Monthly report (to be sent separately)
 - b. Selectboard/Council/Trustees Meetings scheduled
 - c. Updating MOU with VTrans and CCTA
 - d. Legislative Breakfast ideas
11. Committee/Liaison Activities & Reports* (Information, 5 minutes)
 - a. Executive Committee (draft minutes October 7th)*
 - ii. Act 250/Sec 248 letters*
 - b. Transportation Advisory Committee (draft minutes October 6th)*
 - c. All Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee (draft minutes September 9, 2015)*
 - d. Planning Advisory Committee (draft minutes September 9, 2015)*
12. Members' Items, Other Business (Information, 5 minutes)
13. Adjourn

The October 21st Chittenden County RPC meeting will air on Saturday, October 31, 2015 at 8 p.m. and repeat on Sunday, November 1, 2015 at 1am and 7am and available on the web at: <http://www.cctv.org/watch-tv/programs/chittenden-county-regional-planning-commission-53>

Upcoming Meetings - Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at our offices:

- Long Range Planning Committee – Wednesday, October 14, 2015; 4-6 p.m.
- Transportation Advisory Committee – Tuesday, November 3, 2015; 9:00 a.m.
- Joint Executive & Finance Committee, Wednesday, November 4, 2015; 5:45 p.m.
- All Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee - Thursday, November 5, 2015; 2:30 p.m.
- Planning Advisory Committee – Wednesday, November 18, 2015; 2:30 p.m.
- CCRPC Board Training - Wednesday, November 18, 2015; 5:30 p.m.
- CCRPC Meeting - Wednesday, November 18, 2015; 6:00 p.m.

*In accordance with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the CCRPC will ensure public meeting sites are accessible to all people. Requests for free interpretive or translation services, assistive devices, or other requested accommodations, should be made to Emma Vaughn, CCRPC Title VI Coordinator, at 802-846-4490 ext. *21 or evaughn@ccrpcvt.org, no later than 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.*

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

October 21, 2015

Agenda Item C.1: Consent Item

FY2015 Bike/Ped Program Awards

Issues: Add the new Bike/Ped program awards listed below to the FY16 year of both the FY15-18 and FY16-19 TIPs. The FY16-19 TIP has not yet been approved by FHWA so the FY15-18 TIP remains in effect.

| Project | Project Description | Federal Funds |
|--|---|---------------|
| Design/Construction Projects | | |
| West Lakeshore Drive Shared Use Path Project , Colchester (Amendment FY16-01, Project BP070) | Design and construct a separated multi-use path along West Lakeshore Drive from Church Road to Prim Road. Other project funding includes 2013 TA grant (\$250,000), 2015 TA grant (\$300,000), 2013 CCRPC Sidewalk grant (\$139,835) and a 2014 CCRPC Sidewalk grant (\$147,200). | \$431,345 |
| Colchester Avenue Shared Use Path , Burlington (Amendment FY16-02, Project BP092) | Design and construct a shared use path on Colchester Avenue from Mansfield Avenue to South Prospect Street. | \$77,840 |
| Browns Trace Multi-modal Connection , Jericho (Amendment FY16-03, Project BP065B) | Design and construct a shared use path along Browns Trace Road from Pratt Road to Lee River Road. This is Segment 2 of 4 to connect Jericho Center to MMU High School. Other project funding includes 2012 TA grant (\$255,400), 2015 CCRPC Sidewalk grant (\$50,000) and 2015 TA (\$48,000). | \$352,700 |
| Scoping Projects | | |
| Charlotte Town Link Trail Connections Study (Amendment FY16-04, Project BP093) | Conduct a scoping study | \$40,540 |
| Howard Street/South Winooski Avenue Intersection Improvements , Burlington (Amendment FY15-05, Project BP094) | Conduct a scoping study | \$40,540 |
| Village Connections Study , Jericho (Amendment FY16-06, Project BP095) | Conduct a scoping study | \$28,380 |
| Small Scale Projects – 80% State funds (no federal funds) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Colchester Avenue Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon, Burlington - \$18,800 › Village Center Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon, Williston - \$22,800 › Rectangular Raised Rapid Flash Beacon and Raised Crosswalk - \$24,800 | |

TAC Recommendation: Recommend that the Board approve the proposed TIP amendments.

Staff Recommendation: Recommend that the TAC approve the proposed TIP amendments.

For more information contact: Christine Forde
cforde@ccrpcvt.org or 846-4490 ext. *13

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
2 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
3 DRAFT

4 Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2015
5 Time: 6:00 p.m.
6 Place: CCRPC Offices; 110 W. Canal St., Suite 202, Winooski, VT 05404
7 Present: Bolton: Sharon Murray, Alternate Buel's Gore: David Scherr, Alternate
8 Burlington: Andy Montroll Charlotte: Jim Donovan
9 Colchester: Marc Landry Essex: Absent
10 Essex Junction: Absent Hinesburg: Andrea Morgante
11 Huntington: Barbara Elliott Jericho: Absent
12 Milton: Lou Mossey Richmond: Absent
13 St. George: Jeff Pillsbury Shelburne: John Zicconi
14 So. Burlington: Chris Shaw Underhill: Absent
15 Westford: Dave Tilton Williston: Deb Ingram, Alternate
16 Winooski: Mike O'Brien VTrans: Amy Bell, Planning Coordinator
17 Socio/Econ/Housing: Justin Dextrateur Conservation/Environment: Don Meals
18 Business/Industry: Tim Baechle
19 Ex-Officio: CCTA: Karen Walton, Gen. Mgr. BIA: Amanda Hanaway-Corrente
20 FHWA: Absent FTA: Absent
21 Rail: Absent
22 Others: Matthew Langham, VTrans Eric Smeltzer, Env. Scientist, DEC
23 Steve Carlson, CCTA Project Dev. Mgr. Henry Bonges, Milton Alternate
24 Ellen Kane, Richmond Selectboard Scott Moody, CCTV
25 Staff: Charlie Baker, Executive Director Dan Albrecht, Senior Planner
26 Eleni Churchill, Trans. Program Mgr. Bryan Davis, Sr. Trans. Planner
27 Marshall Distel, Trans. Planner Bernie Ferenc, Trans. Business Mgr.
28 Christine Forde, Sr. Trans. Planner Peter Keating, Sr. Trans. Planner
29 Regina Mahony, Planning Program Mgr. Melanie Needle, Senior Planner
30 Emma Vaughn, Communication Mgr.
31

32 The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by the Chair, Andy Montroll. Andy thanked Charlie for the
33 board training session which was held at 5:30 p.m. just prior to the meeting.
34

- 35 1. Changes to the agenda. There were none.
36
37 2. Public Comment Period for Items NOT on the agenda. There were none.
38
39 3. Action on Consent Agenda. There was a minor amendment on the Pearl Street Improvements
40 project in Essex Junction to move \$60,000 for right-of-way from FY16 to FY15. MARC LANDRY MADE
41 A MOTION, SECONDED BY JIM DONOVAN, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED
42 UNANIMOUSLY.
43
44 4. Approval of Minutes. SHARON MURRAY MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY CHRIS SHAW, TO
45 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2015, WITH CORRECTION IF ANY. Justin Dextrateur make a
46 clarification to page 4, line 29-30 to add "...vacancy rate in the urban areas in that it demonstrates a
47 strong market for more downtown infill housing development." Motion carried to approve the

1 minutes with correction, with abstentions from Debbie Ingram, John Zicconi, Amy Bell and Tim
2 Baechle.

- 3
- 4 5. State Rail Plan Comments. Peter Keating noted that VTrans has prepared an update to the state rail
5 plan and it is in the public comment phase. Because of concerns raised by Charlotte, we prepared
6 comments that were reviewed by the Executive Committee, TAC and back to the Executive
7 Committee. This is a summary of all of comments from this review. The comment period actual
8 ended yesterday, but VTrans has agreed to accept our comments tomorrow. Peter reviewed each
9 comment we propose sending to VTrans. The first paragraph talks about specific projects that are in
10 the plan that the MTP supports. The second paragraph deals with the Burlington Railyard Enterprise
11 project. The third paragraph talks about the Essex Junction passenger rail station. The fourth
12 paragraph relates to concerns raised by Charlotte and Shelburne related to what is being
13 transported and that local emergency management personnel need to be informed so that can be
14 prepared in case of an accident. The last paragraph asks that the rail plan complement local
15 municipal plans. A brief discussion ensued. Chris Shaw wondered in line with those concerns, the
16 rail cars have gone through upgrades to make them safer but the older cars from Canada are being
17 used here and we should be sure we monitor older rail equipment. Charlie noted that this plan
18 deals with investments in the rail lines and may not have an impact on that issue. When mentioned
19 that municipalities need to know what is being transported in the cars, Charlie said federal law
20 provides a process for that through the State. There is a limited right for the right people to know.
21 Andrea said we should explain that relationship about who owns the track and why we don't have
22 the information locally. Charlie said the plan is trying to set up priorities for state and federal capital
23 investments in rail. The State has ownership in some of the tracks, but not all. They do have
24 economic interest because of freight moving on the tracks. The state owns more track on the
25 western side of the state. Charlie noted that 150 years ago a lot of authority was given to railroads.
26 It was noted that municipalities bear the responsibility for any kind of accident, Charlie said along
27 with the state. Andrea feels it's really important for local officials to know that. Charlie said the
28 state emergency management people feel the responsibility for getting that information to locals
29 and for training. Peter said Charlotte and Shelburne have submitted much more detailed comments
30 to the state on this. Amy Bell said there is only one part of the state finding out which is Hazardous
31 Materials Section, Fire Safety Division. Justin said the All Hazards Mitigation Plan is another tool to
32 address these concerns. Jim Donovan said Charlotte did have more extensive comments that
33 included concerns from neighbors. They are suggesting one additional comment to this document.
34 He would like to add to the fourth paragraph – "Additionally the current and future placement of
35 storage siding for rail cars containing hazardous materials should be reviewed and an overall plan
36 for their location and use be created through a public process." Members agreed to add that
37 language. JIM DONOVAN MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY JUSTIN DEXTRADER, TO ACCEPT THE
38 COMMENTS WITH THE AMENDMENT TONIGHT. MOTION CARRIED WITH JOHN ZICCONI AND AMY
39 BELL ABSTAINING.

- 40
- 41 6. Downtown Burlington Transit Center Update. Karen Walton introduced Steve Carlson who is the
42 Project Development Manager at CCTA and is in charge of this project. Mr. Carlson reviewed the
43 history of the downtown transit center and the various locations looked at before settling on the
44 Cherry Street location. The facility is now under construction and is expected to be completed for a
45 grand opening late summer 2016. He answered questions from board members.

- 46
- 47 7. TMDL Update. Charlie Baker introduced Eric Smeltzer, who is an Environmental Scientist with the
48 Watershed Management Division of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. Mr.

1 Smeltzer gave an update on the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plan recently prepared by the
2 EPA. The Draft Plan is out for public review right now until October 15th. He distributed an
3 information sheet for municipalities. Lake Champlain is divided into 13 segments for phosphorus
4 monitoring. We need to do a TMDL because we don't meet our own state or federal standards. He
5 described various definitions: WLA – Waste Load allocation; LA – Load Allocation; MOS – Margin of
6 Safety; and various federal required permits and other regulations. There are several categories
7 that are new in “developed land.” EPA has added 5% as the MOS. He showed various tables
8 showing goals for TDML and reduction requirements. A 34% reduction is being required based on
9 new estimates of current load. Lengthy discussion ensued. It was noted that the feds are writing
10 this TMDL because they rescinded the 2002 Vermont TMDL plan after a lawsuit filed by
11 Conservation Law Foundation (CLF). Right now there is an annual limit of 55 metric tons for all the
12 wastewater treatment facilities in the Lake Champlain basin. In 2014 the total for all facilities was
13 about 18 metric tons, so even if the level was lower, we'll still meet it. Waste load allocations for
14 wastewater treatment facilities include Main Lake, Shelburne Bay, Burlington Bay, St. Albans Bay
15 and Missisquoi Bay. He gave load limits for large, medium and small facilities. He reviewed
16 flexibility DEC will use for wastewater discharge permits; the Vermont Clean Water Act (Act 64
17 2015), and Vermont phase 1 Lake Champlain TMDL implementation plan which includes:
18 stormwater runoff management; road related stormwater management; agricultural land water
19 quality; increased revenue and new clean water fund. Comments on TDML are due October 15th
20 and those have to go to EPA. Mr. Smeltzer then reviewed new stormwater requirements for
21 municipalities. He noted that we have a lot of work to do with all of these permits. EPA will look at
22 dates in their plan to be sure we meet the deadlines. Charlie noted that in 2016 & 2017 they will be
23 drafting rules for all of these permits. When asked if the percent reduction required would be
24 shown for each municipality, Mr. Smeltzer said no, it would be by watershed. Charlie noted that we
25 will be collecting information about each project in order to estimate and track progress.
26

27 8. Charge to Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC). Charlie noted this is a recommendation to
28 form an ad hoc committee. The TAC, PAC, Board, and MS-4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer
29 System) committees have talked about this. It would include representatives from CCRPC, municipal
30 reps, ANR, and the other MS4 organizations: UVM, VTrans, and Burlington International Airport.
31 Charlie reviewed the five activities this committee would undertake. We will piggyback this
32 committee with the TAC meetings to help reduce meeting travel, especially for rural communities
33 who may have the same rep on both committees. JOHN ZICCONI MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY
34 CHRIS SHAW, TO ACCEPT THE CREATION AND CHARGE TO THE CLEAN WATER ADVISORY
35 COMMITTEE. Andrea wondered where watershed communities fit in here. She wants to be sure we
36 don't lose this resource. Charlie said he hoped the information from the watershed organizations
37 could be used for watershed basin planning. Dan said the thought is that this is a new committee
38 and that we should keep it small for the first year. Charlie suggested a friendly amendment in item
39 1, b. to add “...and data collection activities, including information from watershed organizations, to
40 inform...” John and Chris accepted the friendly amendment. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
41

42 9. CCRPC Strategic Planning & ECOS Plan Update. Andy noted that when we first merged, we talked
43 about revisiting things in about five years to see how everything was going. He said he, Chris Roy
44 and Charlie had discussed this then talked with the Executive Committee. At first we were going to
45 jump in and have a board and staff retreat, but then we decided that we really didn't have to change
46 anything because everything seems to be going well. He wanted to bring it to the full board to see if
47 there were any thoughts about that. The Executive Committee thinks the status quo is going well
48 and we don't have to revisit at this time. Justin Dextradeur wants to be sure we understand that the

1 strategic planning process would have to do with board policy and organization. He agreed nothing
2 was needed at this time.

3 The ECOS Plan Update. Regina Mahony said we finished up the FY13 Regional Plan and had a review
4 shortly thereafter and we failed a couple of areas: childcare, relationship to other regions; and
5 utility/facilities. We have to address these issues and when we open the plan we'll have to include
6 the All Hazard Mitigation Plan as well. We are asking to reconvene the Long Range Planning
7 Committee (LRPC). We will open this up to do quick updates and then in 2018 will deal with the
8 larger issues for updating the regional plan concerning the MTP and CEDS.
9

- 10 10. Appointment of Members to serve on Committee. Andy Montroll noted the board packet
11 contained a memo showing the various committees and who he proposes to appoint to each one.
12 ANDY THEN MADE THESE APPOINTMENTS ADDING JIM DONOVAN AND CHRIS SHAW TO THE LRPC.
13

14 11. Executive Director's Update.

- 15 a. Monthly report. This will be mailed out by the end of the week.
16 b. Public Participation Plan. We're working to improve our public involvement. One area is with
17 the City of Winooski where we're reaching out to get low cost help to bring in folks who might
18 not normally get involved. We're also updating our website to provide better access for public
19 involvement.
20 c. MOU. There is a federal requirement for MPO's to have a Memorandum of Understanding with
21 the state agency of transportation and the transit authority. We are updating that agreement
22 which was last updated in the early 2000's.
23 d. Charlie distributed two documents we just became aware of. The first is a bill the legislature
24 passed in 2013 that specifically authorizes RPCs and RDCs to play a role in brownfield
25 transactions. He distributed the guidance on that. A week or so ago, he received a request for
26 CCRPC to take ownership of a brownfield property for a little while to be able to use grant
27 dollars to clean up. He talked to the Executive Committee who decided we should not get
28 involved. The developer is looking for a decision fairly quickly. Ellen Kane of the Richmond
29 Selectboard said they've been working on this brownfield site which has been vacant for 17
30 years. It is the former Richmond Creamery in the downtown area and is the last commercial lot
31 in their downtown. In the last six months a developer has shown interest, but it would cost
32 about \$500,000 to clean up the brownfield, and therefore they are looking to apply for a grant
33 to help fund the clean-up. The developer is proposing a mixed use development, with 60%
34 commercial and 40% residential. The Selectboard just agreed to have a public hearing on
35 interim zoning on September 28th. The rush is that if the building collapses this winter, the cost
36 of clean-up goes up exponentially. Andy said the Executive Committee discussed this a little, but
37 at the time we didn't have the background about the legislation regarding RPCs. We'd be willing
38 to help in any way, but that in the absence of better understanding our potential liability we
39 decided that it was not appropriate for us. When asked why the town can't purchase the
40 property, Charlie noted that the Town cannot get the same liability coverage that the RPCs or
41 RDCs can because the property is not in arrears to the Town. Discussion ensued. Don Meals
42 said there are other non-profits that are in the business of owning property for the short-term,
43 as well as GBIC and those should be the avenue to pursue. Ellen said they are talking to another
44 non-profit. Justin said that what he does with development during the day and serving on the
45 brownfields committee for a long time, he suggested that before we enter into anything we
46 should talk to an attorney to see what the real liability might be. Andy suggested that whether
47 we do this project or not, we should have an attorney review this legislation to see what this
48 would mean. Right now there doesn't seem to be any interest in CCRPC owning property.

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12. Committee/Liaison Activities and Reports. Minutes and reports are in the meeting packet.

13. Members' Items, Other business.

- a. Jim Donovan asked if there was any kind of action we took in terms of moving up the Section 248 hearing for TDI. Charlie said TDI did get approval for moving the hearing up, but the question has been sent to the communities to see how far they wanted to pursue this. Charlie said Charlotte is interested in pursuing the legislative route, we haven't yet heard from the other three towns.
- b. Andrea Morgante noted that 2015 is the Centennial of when communities were able to own town forests. Hinesburg has their celebration on September 26th with a fall festival and things will be happening in the town forests. She feels that municipal ownership has been very effective in maintaining these forests.

14. Adjournment. MARC LANDRY MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY JIM DONOVAN, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:00 P.M. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Ferenc

DRAFT

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

October 7, 2015

Agenda Item 5: Municipal Dues for FY17

FY2017 Municipal Dues

Background:

Each year the CCRPC assesses municipal dues that are primarily used to match federal transportation dollars for municipal and regional projects in Chittenden County. The dues levels are first reviewed by the Executive Committee and then recommended to the Commission for approval each year.

The municipal dues assessment amounts are distributed among the member municipalities based on the Equalized Education Grand List (EEGL). Even with no increase in total dues, the dues for each municipality are adjusted each year consistent with their proportion of the EEGL. The most recent EEGL issued by the State of Vermont for Chittenden County is used in the FY17 *Table 1*. A copy of the June 2015 Chittenden County EEGL is included for reference.

The CCRPC kept municipal dues level for fiscal years 2012 through 2014 following the merger. The CCRPC had pledged to do so during that transition period. The dues were increased by 1.8% in FY15 based on the change in the Employment Cost Index (ECI) for State and Local Government employee Compensation, which is published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The Commission decided to level fund the dues again for FY16.

The Executive Committee recommends a 0% increase over FY16 dues for FY17. After hearing the proposals from staff, the Committee thinks the FY16 dues level, of \$244,770, will be adequate in FY17 to match regional projects. Each municipality will note that while the overall dues amount is the same as this year, their individual dues levels will increase or decrease modestly based on changes in the EEGL.

The Executive Committee may recommend an increase in municipal dues levels in coming years to ensure an adequate match pool.

Recommendations:

The Executive Committee recommends a 0% increase in overall Municipal Dues for FY17, as detailed in *Table 1*, to the Full Commission for approval.

For more
information
contact:

Forest Cohen
fcohen@ccrpcvt.org, 846-449 ext. 19

FY16 to FY17 Municipal Assessments

TABLE 1

The proposed increase for FY17 is 0%

Proposed
0% Increase

| Municipality | EEG List | | EEG List | | 1/14 to 6/15 | 1/14 to 6/15 | CCRPC FY16 Assessment | Proposed 0% Increase | | |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| | January 2014 | % of County | June 2015 | % of County | \$ Change | % Change | | CCRPC FY17 Assessment | FY16 - FY17 \$ Change | FY16 - FY17 % Change |
| Bolton | 1,301,930 | 0.67% | 1,284,800 | 0.65% | \$ (17,130) | -3.28% | \$1,640 | \$1,584 | -\$56 | -3.41% |
| Buels Gore | 32,860 | 0.02% | 29,540 | 0.01% | \$ (3,320) | -13.38% | \$49 | \$36 | -\$13 | -25.67% |
| Burlington | 39,629,060 | 20.35% | 40,261,240 | 20.28% | \$ 632,180 | -0.32% | \$49,810 | \$49,641 | -\$169 | -0.34% |
| Charlotte | 8,959,750 | 4.60% | 9,066,970 | 4.57% | \$ 107,220 | -0.72% | \$11,259 | \$11,179 | -\$80 | -0.71% |
| Colchester | 19,961,340 | 10.25% | 20,343,340 | 10.25% | \$ 382,000 | -0.01% | \$25,089 | \$25,083 | -\$6 | -0.02% |
| Essex Jct. | 10,461,080 | 5.37% | 10,635,940 | 5.36% | \$ 174,860 | -0.25% | \$6,355 | \$6,340 | -\$15 | -0.24% |
| Essex Town | 13,350,880 | 6.85% | 13,698,650 | 6.90% | \$ 347,770 | 0.66% | \$23,556 | \$23,664 | \$108 | 0.46% |
| Hinesburg | 5,374,710 | 2.76% | 5,623,500 | 2.83% | \$ 248,790 | 2.59% | \$6,756 | \$6,934 | \$178 | 2.63% |
| Huntington | 2,151,060 | 1.10% | 2,143,650 | 1.08% | \$ (7,410) | -2.28% | \$2,692 | \$2,643 | -\$49 | -1.82% |
| Jericho | 5,722,130 | 2.94% | 5,808,960 | 2.93% | \$ 86,830 | -0.40% | \$7,196 | \$7,162 | -\$34 | -0.47% |
| Milton | 10,430,930 | 5.36% | 10,614,070 | 5.35% | \$ 183,140 | -0.16% | \$13,120 | \$13,087 | -\$33 | -0.25% |
| Richmond | 4,538,570 | 2.33% | 4,490,850 | 2.26% | \$ (47,720) | -3.01% | \$5,703 | \$5,537 | -\$166 | -2.91% |
| Shelburne | 14,669,600 | 7.53% | 14,891,440 | 7.50% | \$ 221,840 | -0.40% | \$18,431 | \$18,361 | -\$70 | -0.38% |
| South Burlington | 28,948,010 | 14.86% | 29,531,560 | 14.88% | \$ 583,550 | 0.09% | \$36,373 | \$36,412 | \$39 | 0.11% |
| St. George | 650,830 | 0.33% | 669,680 | 0.34% | \$ 18,850 | 0.95% | \$808 | \$826 | \$18 | 2.19% |
| Underhill | 3,741,460 | 1.92% | 3,761,990 | 1.90% | \$ 20,530 | -1.37% | \$4,700 | \$4,638 | -\$62 | -1.31% |
| Westford | 2,241,670 | 1.15% | 2,308,000 | 1.16% | \$ 66,330 | 1.01% | \$2,815 | \$2,846 | \$31 | 1.09% |
| Williston | 17,433,650 | 8.95% | 17,930,520 | 9.03% | \$ 496,870 | 0.90% | \$21,907 | \$22,108 | \$201 | 0.92% |
| Winooski | 5,174,000 | 2.66% | 5,424,150 | 2.73% | \$ 250,150 | 2.78% | \$6,511 | \$6,688 | \$177 | 2.72% |
| TOTAL | \$194,773,520 | 100.00% | \$198,518,850 | 100.00% | \$ 3,745,330 | 1.89% | \$244,770 | \$244,770 | \$0 | 0.00% |

Each town is assessed dues using their percentage of the Equalized Education Grand List. Their amount is determined by taking the total dues and multiplying it by the municipality's percentage of the total Grand List.

Equalized Education Grand List can be accessed at the Vermont Department of Taxes
<http://www.state.vt.us/tax/publications.shtml>

Equalized Education Grand List

2015 Values Based on 2014 Grand Lists

Post Appeals to Director - As Reported to the Agency of Education * June 2015

Chittenden

| Town Name | Total Taxable Parcel Count | Education Grand List | Education CLA | COD | Total Equalized Education Grand List |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------|--|
| Bolton | 758 | 1,317,825 | 102.57 | 12.28 | 1,284,800 |
| Buels Gore | 26 | 27,100 | 91.75 | 9.97 | 29,540 |
| * Burlington | 10,422 | 35,243,914 | 87.54 | 11.07 | 40,261,240 |
| Charlotte | 1,720 | 9,526,610 | 105.07 | 11.84 | 9,066,970 |
| Colchester | 6,719 | 20,032,437 | 98.47 | 7.61 | 20,343,340 |
| Essex Jct. | 3,395 | 10,664,678 | 100.27 | 5.59 | 10,635,940 |
| Essex Town | 4,263 | 13,769,967 | 100.52 | 5.59 | 13,698,650 |
| Hinesburg | 1,947 | 5,176,020 | 92.04 | 10.99 | 5,623,500 |
| Huntington | 896 | 2,200,256 | 102.64 | 6.65 | 2,143,650 |
| Jericho | 1,561 | 4,373,068 | 98.74 | 9.88 | 4,427,860 |
| Jericho ID | 458 | 1,362,941 | 98.74 | 9.88 | 1,381,100 |
| * Milton | 4,377 | 11,179,228 | 105.32 | 8.17 | 10,614,070 |
| Richmond | 1,664 | 4,457,231 | 99.25 | 10.53 | 4,490,850 |
| Shelburne | 2,874 | 14,674,289 | 98.54 | 7.99 | 14,891,440 |
| * South Burlington | 7,405 | 28,468,677 | 96.40 | 6.36 | 29,531,560 |
| St. George | 329 | 662,877 | 98.98 | 10.81 | 669,680 |
| Underhill | 1,057 | 3,194,064 | 101.81 | 4.39 | 3,135,780 |
| Underhill ID | 247 | 635,892 | 101.81 | 4.39 | 626,210 |
| Westford | 937 | 2,344,235 | 101.57 | 11.49 | 2,308,000 |
| Williston | 4,088 | 16,822,685 | 93.82 | 7.21 | 17,930,520 |
| * Winooski | 1,773 | 5,333,907 | 98.34 | 7.74 | 5,424,150 |
| County Totals | 56,916 | 191,467,901 | | | 198,518,850 |

* Municipality has active TIF district. For more information, refer to the Property Valuation and Review Annual Report



Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

October 21, 2015

Agenda Item 6: Action Item

Comprehensive Energy Plan comments

Background:

The Department of Public Service (DPS) recently completed a [Draft Comprehensive Energy Plan](#) (CEP). DPS is currently soliciting comments and hosting a number of public meetings. The Draft CEP can be reviewed and comments submitted at http://publicservice.vermont.gov/publications/energy_plan/2015_plan. The DPS is holding five public hearings on this draft. The local hearing was in Essex on October 13. The deadline for public comments is November 8, 2015.

Ideally, we would have a subcommittee of the board review the plan and develop comments. However, given the timing, the Executive Committee asked staff to review and draft comments.

Staff reviewed the 380 page document with an eye towards topics that align with CCRPC's mission and are within our level of understanding of energy policy. The draft comments on the next pages are presented for board review and consideration.

Staff Recommendation:

Review comments, revise as necessary, and submit to Department of Public Service.

For more Information:

Melanie Needle, 846 4490 ext. *27, mneedle@ccrpcvt.org

DRAFT COMMENTS

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Overall, the Draft CEP aligns with the strategies and actions in the Chittenden County ECOS Plan and the Chittenden County Climate Action Guide. In particular, this Draft CEP maintains the 2011 CEP established goal of meeting 90% of the state's energy needs through renewable sources by 2050 and proposes the following additional set of goals:

- Reduce total energy consumption per capita by 15% by 2025, and by more than one third by 2050.
- Meet 25% of the remaining energy need from renewable sources by 2025, 40% by 2035, and 90% by 2050.
- Three end-use sector goals for 2025: 10% renewable transportation; 30% renewable buildings; and 67% renewable electric power.

These goals correspond well to ECOS action 3.2.2.4 which focuses on reducing total energy consumption, GHG emissions, and increasing renewable energy generation. Many of the specific recommendations on ways the state can support or implement the goal to achieve 10% of transportation energy from renewable sources also match with the ECOS action 3.2.2.6 to reduce single occupancy vehicle trips, expand walking and biking infrastructure, and support the expanded adoption of electric vehicles.

The remaining contents of this memo focuses on specific technical comments related to the land use, building energy, and transportation components in the Draft CEP.

5. Land Use and Siting

In very general terms the Draft acknowledges the role land use planning can play in meeting the state energy goal. However, it does not provide specific examples of what a municipality can do to work in tandem with the state to achieve these goals. The Draft could benefit from referencing the Energy Planning & Implementation Guidebook for Vermont Communities published by VLCT and VNRC, which includes guidance on what a community could do regarding energy (page 21- 35 of this guide). Moreover, the following changes to the Siting and Land Use Principles sections on page 54 of the Draft are recommended below. Consider also changing the heading of this section to recommendations. Chapter 5 Land Use and Siting is the only chapter that refers to its next steps as principles and not recommendations. If there is a reason for this, please include it in the discussion.

Consider adding the text underlined to the land use principle 1

1. Energy and non-energy land use planning should be integrated as much as possible at the local, regional, and state levels. If a municipality desires, municipal plans should provide clear and unambiguous policies to influence decisions of the PSB in certificate of public good proceedings. Where plans are clear, the PSB should give them 'substantial consideration' in the siting process.

7. Heat for Buildings

7.4.5.2 Building Energy Ratings & Labeling

This section recommends that the steps necessary to implement both residential and commercial energy efficiency building ratings and labeling are continued. In general, we support this effort to better inform buyers of the long term energy costs.

7.4.6.2 Building Energy Standards

This section highlights the role the residential (RBES) and commercial (CBES) building energy standards have in ensuring that existing and new buildings are meeting or exceeding a stated level of efficiency. The RBES has been in effect since 1997 and the CBES since January of 2007. Act 89, in 2013, required compliance with a “stretch code” by Act 250 applicants and encouraged municipalities to adopt the “stretch code” or local energy standards that go beyond State standards. To maintain consistency in energy standards across the state and not inequitably burden builders that build projects subject to Act 250 or build in certain municipalities; we recommend deleting recommendation (4) on page 113 and replacing it with: the DPS should work to have consistent energy standards regardless of jurisdiction.

7.4.6.3 Act 250 Energy Efficiency Criteria

This section discusses that Act 250 applicants must comply with criterion 9(f) which states that the projects must comply with the energy stretch code. Act 250 developers should not be held to a different standard. If a higher building energy standard is desired, adopt it statewide. Please see our previous recommendation.

8.4 Transportation Efficiency through Land Use Strategies

To improve consistency with other sections, consider retitling 8.4.2 – “Land Use Strategy Recommendations.”

On page 130, please add some discussion to note that the Strong Communities, Better Connections program is for communities outside Chittenden County and that CCRPC runs a similar program for their member municipalities.

There should also be a recommendation to track the results of these land use programs by annually tracking where new development occurs relative to state designations and regional plan future land use maps. It is difficult to determine if policies are achieving their desired result without such data.

8.5 Reduce VMT through Increasing Transportation Choices and Increasing Transportation Efficiency

There is general agreement with all the background information and recommendations presented in this section. However, most of these subsections except 8.5.3 do not have recommendations. These sections typically discuss what VTrans is currently doing to further transportation choices. Each subsection should provide recommendations even if they are only to continue making the investments that VTrans and municipalities are making.

Other Considerations

Recommendation 5 on page 224 mentions the need to continue to work with energy committees, Vermont Energy and Climate Action Network (VECAN), and others to provide tools and training to enhance local and regional energy planning, community-led project development, and regulatory process participation. Given that energy committees and VECAN are so vital to the state reaching its energy goals consider adding another section to chapter 11, Meeting Vermont’s Electric Demand, or earlier in the document that strengthens the CEPs connection to these entities. The role Vermont citizens and businesses have in changing their behavior and preferences is a necessary ingredient to accelerating change. With the right resources, Energy committees and VECAN can successfully educate and inspire Vermont residents. A section is needed that focuses on the behavior, thinking, and decision making of individuals and organizations and what is needed to call Vermonters to action to make the transition to a renewable future.

Finally, CCRPC is looking forward to working with the DPS to develop a strong energy element that ascertains Chittenden County’s renewable energy potential as well as comprehensively addressing their energy needs in order to help the State achieve its energy goals and to resolve conflicts on energy siting prior to the permitting process. The nature and intent of this kind of work is a way for individuals and towns to come together in a collaborative way and feel ownership of the State’s goal and is an educational opportunity for both opponents and proponents of renewable energy.

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
3 MEETING MINUTES
4 **DRAFT**

5 Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2015
6 Time: 5:45 p.m.
7 Place: CCRPC offices; 110 W. Canal Street; Suite 202; Winooski, VT 05404
8 Present: Andy Montroll, Chair Michael O'Brien, Secretary-Treasurer
9 John Zicconi, At-Large Lou Mossey, Immediate Past Chair
10 Jeff Carr, Finance Committee* Charlie Baker, Executive Director
11 Forest Cohen, Business Manager Regina Mahony, Planning Program Manager
12 Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager
13 *Jeff Carr was in attendance for the Audit Agenda item only.
14

15 The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by the Chair, Andy Montroll.
16

- 17 1. Changes to the Agenda/Members' Items: Items 6 and 4 on the agenda were moved before item 3,
18 as reflected here in the minutes.
19
- 20 2. Approval of September 2, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. LOU MOSSEY MADE A
21 MOTION, SECONDED BY JOHN ZICCONI, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2015.
22 MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
23
- 24 3. Draft MOA with VTrans and CCTA. Charlie indicated that we've been working with VTrans and CCTA
25 on updating this MOU. This may be a Memorandum of Agreement rather than Memorandum of
26 Understanding after review by VTrans legal counsel. Charlie began to provide a brief overview of
27 each section and the changes that were made. John asked for a tracked change document so he
28 could more easily understand the differences between this version and the old version. Amy
29 clarified that there is no deadline for this, however it would be helpful to wrap up within this
30 administration. Charlie suggested that he continue to highlight the amendments as a preview and
31 we will add this to the November Executive Committee agenda for action. Paragraph 5 under
32 Section 4 is entirely new for Transportation Improvement Districts. The section that has changed
33 the most is Paragraph 4, Under Part II – UPWP to more accurately reflect our current practice. Mike
34 asked for a clarification on section d. of Paragraph 2 of Part IV, which is about seeking a formal
35 municipal recommendation of a preferred alternative for "State-owned assets." A version with
36 revised sections highlighted will be provided to the Executive Committee at their next meeting.
37
- 38 4. Draft FY2015 Audit review and comment. Forest distributed the draft FY2015 Audit. He noted that
39 there were no findings or recommendations. Forest indicated that Charlie and he will be meeting
40 with Fred Duplessis, a principal at the firm that conducted our audit, to get clarity on the new
41 pension liability which is intended to share the State's liability with all of the program participants.
42 Our liability contribution is based on VMERS program actuarial assumptions of the present value of
43 our obligation down the road. We have about a \$56,000 income loss on paper for FY15, and
44 \$22,329 is based on the new pension liability. It isn't actually an expense that we incurred, however

1 we had to add it in as an expense line in our books. We may consider pulling this out as a separate
2 line item. Charlie pointed out page 9 of the report, to explain that we are seeing different numbers
3 depending on how they describe the pension liability. It is hard to understand how that translates
4 to \$22,000 in expense and so staff will be seeking further clarification. The footnote about pensions
5 in the report are the VMERS assumptions about pension liabilities (page 19 “pension plan note”).
6 The pension liability will adjust every year based on what level the VMERS program is funded. It will
7 show up as a negative figure, unless the group is 100% funded, but it isn’t actually an expense.
8

9 Jeff explained that overall the audit looked like good news to him. Charlie and Forest explained that
10 they’ll work with the auditors to get the indirect rate schedules straightened out as FY14 figures are
11 included, and didn’t need to be. Jeff indicated that it is great to see that we are in such great shape
12 now and it was hard to imagine based on where we were eight years ago. Lou remembers that the
13 RPC was borrowing money every month.
14

15 The Auditor will attend the November Executive Committee and Board meetings to discuss the
16 Audit.
17

18 5. Act 250 & Section 248 Applications:

- 19 a. GMP Solar – Williston, LLC Docket #8562. Regina noted this is a Section 248 application in a rural
20 planning area. We’ve seen other solar farms in the Rural Planning area and found them to be
21 consistent with the Plan. There are no transportation issues. The Town of Williston’s Planning
22 Commission found the project to be consistent with an objective of the Town Plan; the
23 Selectboard did not take any position on the proposal. The EC was emailed the draft letter, and
24 it was sent in on September 15, 2015 to meet the deadline. JOHN ZICCONI MADE A MOTION TO
25 APPROVE THE LETTER TO THE DEC#4. SECONDED BY LOU MOSSEY AND THE MOTION CARRIED.
26 b. Cider Mill II, South Burlington, Application #4C1128-4. Regina reviewed this Project described
27 as master plan review of Cider Mill II, consisting of 109 housing units. This application seeks
28 review and approval of Phase 1 and partial review of Phases 2, 3 and 4. The Project is located at
29 1580 Dorset Street and 1699 Hinesburg Road, in South Burlington, VT. Regina and Charlie
30 explained the location of the project and the connection between Dorset St. and Hinesburg
31 Road (VT 116). The project has received approval from the City of South Burlington’s
32 Development Review Board. Regina noted two transportation comments – recreation path
33 consistency and a left hand turn lane on Dorset St. into Cider Mill Drive. There was some
34 discussion about the road access and connections. LOU MOSSEY MADE A MOTION, SECONDED
35 BY JOHN Z., TO AUTHORIZE THIS LETTER BE SENT TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD. MOTION
36 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, MIKE O’BRIEN ABSTAINED.
37 c. TDI. Regina indicated that at the last meeting we discussed the potential for proposing a
38 legislative fix that would clarify taxing authority for underwater utilities for the lakefront
39 communities, if our member communities are interested in taking this step. Regina reported to
40 the Executive Committee that we have two Selectboards interested in legislative exploration,
41 and two Municipal Managers that while not opposed to exploring a legislative change, don’t find
42 this issue to rise above other pressing municipal concerns. In addition, concerns about potential
43 implications about potential liabilities have been raised. Regina asked the Executive Committee
44 if they’d like Staff to continue to pursue this issue or not. Charlie suggested that we should keep

1 aware of the efforts of Addison County RPC and let our legislators know about any proposed
2 legislation. John raised concerns about whether there are actually any property boundary issues
3 here, so the liability issue is a moot point. If we really don't own the land at all then we
4 definitely shouldn't tax it. Charlie suggesting that the ownership issue is arguable and not easily
5 concluded. Executive Committee suggested that we keep a watch on it and keep the
6 information flowing, but not put significant effort into leading the charge.
7

- 8 6. FY2017 Dues adjustment. The local dues assessment is presented each year for adjustment. The
9 dues for each municipality will change each year even with no increases as the proportional share of
10 the dues is based on the updated Equalized Education Grand List. Charlie explained a bit of the
11 history of keeping the membership dues at a net zero for three years after merger. There was an
12 increase last year (FY15), and this year was flat (FY16). Forest explained his memo and described
13 two options for FY2017 membership dues – flat or an increase of 2.2%. Andy asked what the logic
14 was behind the 2.2% and Forest explained that the Employment Cost Index for state and local
15 government employees was used. We could maintain the dues as they are currently as it doesn't
16 appear that we are in need of additional dues at this point. However we don't want to preclude
17 asking for an increase in the future if its needed, or putting it off to the point where the ask would
18 be for a large increase.
19

20 Andy indicated that a small increase could be manageable. John asked how we decide what we
21 need. Mike asked if we would leave federal funds on the table for not having more municipal dues
22 to match. Charlie said that it is possible because we've shifted match on projects and away from
23 municipal dues (aka municipalities need to match their own local projects by 20%). If we had more
24 regional dues perhaps we could pull more federal money. JOHN MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY
25 MIKE, RECOMMENDING A 0% DUES INCREASE FOR FY17 TO THE BOARD. THE MOTION PASSED
26 UNANIMOUSLY.
27

- 28 7. Comprehensive Energy Plan – comments. We do not currently have comments, however Charlie
29 asked whether the EC is comfortable with Staff comments or whether we should bring this to the
30 Board for a discussion, as we don't necessarily anticipate any large policy that are different than
31 what we've stated in our ECOS Plan. This is a 5 year update to the Plan. The EC decided to put this
32 on the full Board Agenda. Comments are due on November 9th.
33

34 8. Chair/Executive Director's Report:

- 35 a. Water Quality contract update. Charlie noted that Forest and Dan have been working on our
36 contracts for our ANR water quality contract and the sub-contracts with the other RPCs.
37 b. Municipal meetings & reports. Charlie has been setting up meetings with the City
38 Councils/Trustees/Selectboards to check in and has kept each Board member informed of their
39 municipal meetings. Andy would like the full schedule.
40 c. Legislative Breakfast. Charlie asked the EC to start to think about topics. The format is going to
41 be the same as last year as we seemed to get good feedback on it. Lou suggested that we
42 coordinate with the municipalities. Andy suggested that we have a limited amount of time so
43 we should keep it focused on RPC issues. Charlie indicated that we were actually focused on
44 municipal issues last year. Charlie suggested that it could possibly be a networking session even

1 if there aren't any specific topics to address. Potential bills could be a 10-year municipal
2 planning bill and the Council of Governments bill. Charlie will talk with towns to see if there are
3 other issues that should be discussed. It's possible that we might only decide to do this before
4 each biennium.

5
6 9. Agenda Review – October 21, 2015 meeting. Members reviewed the proposed agenda. It was
7 noted we should add more time to the Comprehensive Energy Plan discussion.

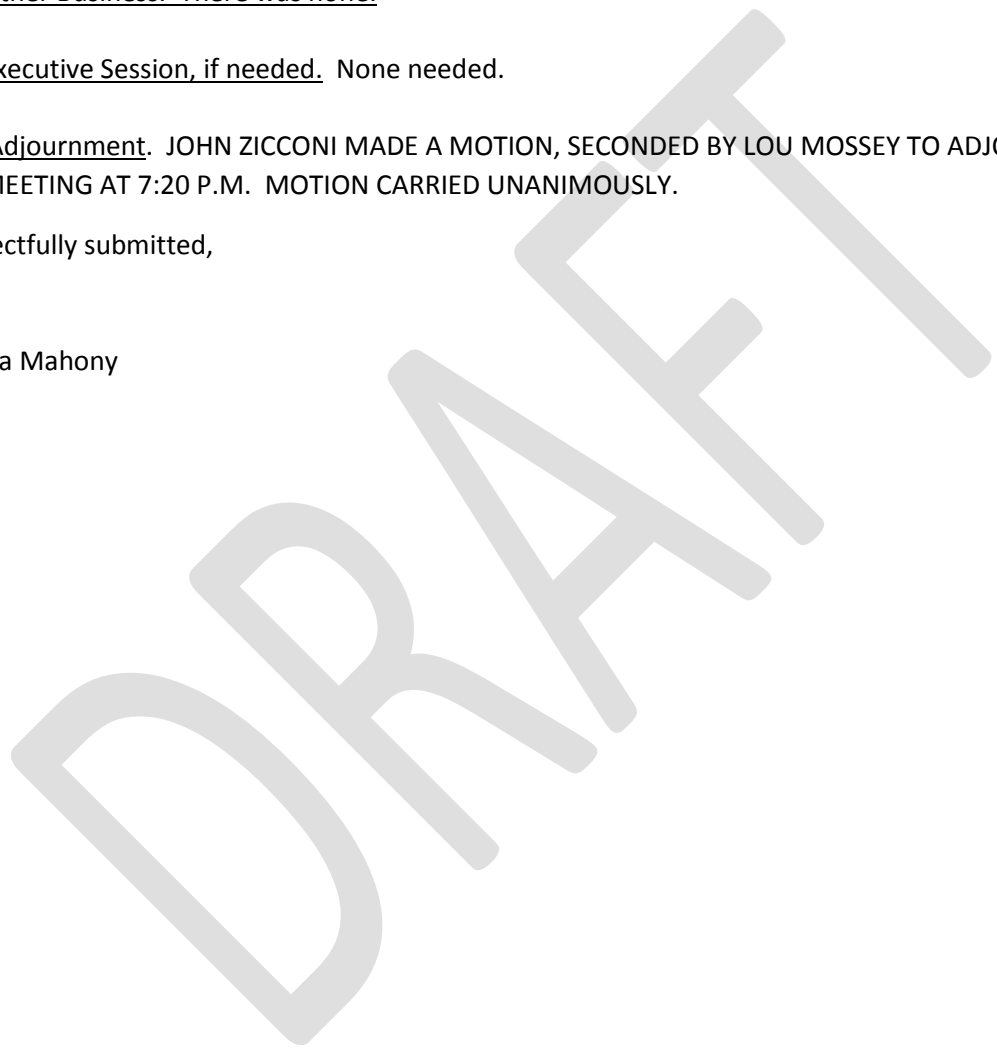
8
9 10. Other Business. There was none.

10
11 11. Executive Session, if needed. None needed.

12
13 12. Adjournment. JOHN ZICCONI MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY LOU MOSSEY TO ADJOURN THE
14 MEETING AT 7:20 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

15 Respectfully submitted,

16
17
18 Regina Mahony



October 8, 2015

Warren E. Foster
District Coordinator
440 Asa Bloomer State Office Building
Rutland, VT 05701

RE: Cider Mill II, South Burlington; Application #4C1128-4

Dear Mr. Foster:

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission's Staff and Executive Committee have reviewed this Act 250 application for a Project described as master plan review of Cider Mill II, consisting of 109 housing units. This application seeks review and approval of Phase 1 and partial review of Phases 2, 3 and 4. The Project is located at 1580 Dorset Street and 1699 Hinesburg Road, in South Burlington, VT. The project has received approval from the City of South Burlington's Development Review Board. **We offer the following comments:**

The project is located within the Suburban Planning Area as defined in the Chittenden County Regional Plan, entitled the *2013 Chittenden County ECOS Plan*. We find this project to be consistent with the Planning Areas for the following reasons:

1. The Suburban Planning Area is identified in the Plan as an area planned for growth, and therefore this project helps implement Strategy #2 of the Plan which calls for 80% of new development in the areas planned for growth.
2. The project is proposed to be served by municipal water and sewer service, and is located within 0.25 miles of a CCTA transit route on Hinesburg Road (though it is approximately 1.0 mile from a bus stop).
3. The density and uses are consistent with the local regulations.

Therefore, we find this project to be in conformance with the Planning Areas of the *2013 Chittenden County Regional Plan*.

We also find that this project meets the requirements of Criterion 9(L). We find that this area does not meet the exact definition of "existing settlement". Therefore, under Criterion 9(L), the applicant must show that any project outside an existing settlement:

- i. Makes efficient use of land, energy, roads, utilities and other infrastructure, and either:
- ii. Will not contribute to strip development, or
- iii. If the project is "confined to" existing strip development, it incorporates infill and minimizes the characteristics of strip development.

Because this proposal is located within the municipal water and sewer service area, is clustered close to Cider Mill I, and is compact in design we find that this proposed project is making efficient use of land, energy, roads, utilities and other infrastructure. Secondly, we find that this proposed project is residential and therefore not contributing to strip development.

Regarding transportation, the proposal includes sidewalks throughout the development and a 10' wide recreation path connection to Hinesburg Road (Rte. 116). However, the 10' wide recreation path feeds the 5' wide sidewalks, then later connects back with recreation paths in Cider Mill I. We recommend the consideration of a consistent 10'

recreation path connection to Cider Mill I recreation paths. In addition, the Transportation Impact Study identifies the need for a left hand turn lane into Cider Mill Drive, and we don't see this improvement identified in the proposed mitigation. It appears this was called for in association with Cider Mill I and this left hand turn lane has not yet been built. We recommend revisiting this to determine if this is still an appropriate mitigation measure.

Due to the detailed level of development review in most Chittenden County municipalities and the environmental permit reviews at the Department of Environmental Conservation, CCRPC will give specific attention in its Act 250 reviews to the type of use and the Planning Areas section of the *2013 Chittenden County ECOS Plan*. While there are many other topics covered in the *2013 Chittenden County ECOS Plan*, there has been significant analysis at the Regional level regarding transportation impacts. The CCRPC will also focus its attention on transportation, where appropriate, in accordance with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, which is within the *2013 Chittenden County ECOS Plan*.

These comments are based on information currently available; we may have additional comments as the process continues. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charlie Z. Baker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charlie Baker
Executive Director

Cc: CCRPC Board
Certificate of Service

September 15, 2015

Mrs. Susan M. Hudson, Clerk
Vermont Public Service Board
Drawer 20, 112 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

RE: GMPSolar – Williston, LLC, Docket No. 8562
Certificate of Public Good- Section 248 Permit Application

Dear Mrs. Hudson:

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission has reviewed the Section 248 application submitted by GMPSolar – Williston, LLC, Docket No. 8562, for a Certificate of Public Good ("CPG") to construct a 4.69 MW net-metered solar electric generation facility near Mountain View Road in Williston, Vermont. The proposal has been presented to both the Williston Planning Commission and Selectboard. The Town of Williston's Planning Commission found the project to be consistent with an objective of the Town Plan; the Selectboard did not take any position on the proposal.

This project is located in the Rural Planning Area as defined in the 2013 Chittenden County Regional Plan, entitled the *Chittenden County ECOS Plan* (the Plan). The Plan specifically states that "The Rural Planning Area...provides for low density commercial, industrial, and residential development...that is compatible with working lands and natural areas." The Plan is not intended to prescribe uses and we find that this project – which will not permanently change the use of the land or negatively impact the ability of surrounding lands to remain in agricultural use—is not inconsistent with this planning area. We understand that the project will not result in the disturbance of any Class 2 or Class 3 wetlands and that a 50' buffer will be maintained between the Class 2 wetlands on the site and any construction. Furthermore, when taking into consideration the energy goals and actions within the Plan that aim to increase renewable energy generation, we find this project to be in conformance with the 2013 Chittenden County Regional Plan.

Due to the detailed level of analysis of renewable energy facilities and its impacts by the Public Service Board, CCRPC will only give specific attention in its Section 248 reviews to the type of use and the Planning Areas section of the *2013 Chittenden County ECOS Plan*. While there are many other topics covered in the *2013 Chittenden County ECOS Plan*, there has been significant analysis at the Regional level regarding transportation impacts. The CCRPC will also focus its attention on transportation, where appropriate, in accordance with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, which is within the *2013 Chittenden County ECOS Plan*. We do not have any transportation related comments for this petition.

These comments are based on information currently available; we may have additional comments as the process continues. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Charlie Baker
Executive Director

cc: CCRPC Board

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
2 TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES
3

4 DATE: Tuesday, October 6, 2015
5 TIME: 9:00 a.m.
6 PLACE: CCRPC Offices, 110 West Canal St. Winooski, VT
7

8 **Members Present**

9 Bruce Hoar, Williston
10 Bryan Osborne, Colchester and TAC Chair
11 Barbara Elliot, Huntington
12 Dennis Lutz, Essex
13 Amy Bell, VTrans
14 Dean Bloch, Charlotte
15 Dick Hosking, VTrans – District 5
16 Katelin Brewer-Colie, Bicycle/Pedestrian
17 Dean Pierce, Shelburne
18 Chris Jolly, FHWA
19 Amanda Hanaway-Corrente, BTV
20 Sandy Thibault, CATMA
21 Trevor Lashua, Hinesburg
22 Robin Pierce, Essex Junction
23 Justin Rabidoux, South Burlington
24 Martin Lee, Burlington
25

Staff Present

Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager
Christine Forde, Senior Transportation Planner
Jason Charest, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer
Bryan Davis, Senior Transportation Planner
Charlie Baker, Executive Director
Sai Sarepalli, Transportation Planning Engineer
Peter Keating, Senior Transportation Planner

Others Present

Gina Campoli, VTrans
Jackie Cassino, VTrans

26
27 **1. Consent Agenda**

28 The consent agenda item was moved to the deliberative agenda to make a correction on the memo
29 describing TIP amendments.
30

31 **2. Approval of Minutes**

32 A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
33

34 **3. Public Comments**

35 There were none.
36

37 **3A. TIP Amendments**

38 These were moved from the consent agenda to correct the federal fund figure for one of the projects. The
39 amendments reflected recent VTrans Bike/Ped program awards for design/construction, scoping and
40 small scale projects. Nine awards went to Chittenden County municipalities. The scoping project amount
41 to Jericho was changed from \$38,380 to \$28,380. With the correction made, DEAN PIERCE MADE A
42 MOTION TO APPROVE THE TIP AMENDMENTS, SECONDED BY ROBIN PIERCE. THE
43 MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
44

45 **4. Vermont Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP) Draft**

46 Gina Campoli of VTrans presented the transportation component of the CEP. She explained that the plan
47 took a three pronged approach:

- 48 1. Transportation system energy efficiency through:
- 49 • Land use and development patterns that reduce trip distances,
 - 50 • Mobility alternatives to single occupancy vehicles - transit, passenger rail, ridesharing,
51 vanpooling, car sharing, biking, walking, as well as shifting from truck to rail freight

- 1 • Home-based work and telecommuting.
- 2 2. Increased energy efficiency through improved vehicle technology.
- 3 3. Increasing the use of renewable and less carbon intensive fuels, such as electricity, bio-fuels and
- 4 CNG.

5 Gina also revealed the proposed transportation performance goals related to the state's transport sector
6 including,

- 7 • Reducing transportation energy use,
- 8 • Increasing the share of renewable energy in transportation,
- 9 • Holding VMT per capita to 2011 levels,
- 10 • Reducing the SOV share of commute trips,
- 11 • Significantly increasing the number of EVs on the road.

12 Other topics addressed and discussed included:

- 13 • Most popular vehicle models in VT,
- 14 • The relative energy intensities of various transportation modes,
- 15 • Declining gasoline and VMT trends and their impact on tax revenue, and
- 16 • VT budget and revenue obstacles.

17 Gina's presentation generated much discussion and comment. She noted that the comment period on
18 CEP is open until early November and a public hearing will take place at the High School in Essex
19 Junction on October 13th.

20

21 **5. Burlington International Airport Update**

22 Amanda Hanaway-Corrente, TAC member and BTV's Director of Engineering and Environmental
23 Compliance, distributed copies of the Airport's 3 – 5 year capital projects list with map locations, and
24 briefly went over each:

- 25 • Taxiway projects A, G and K to relocate and/or address FAA and general aviation concerns
- 26 • Airfield projects to improve aprons at two locations, improve/lease North Hanger (south of the
- 27 main terminal), and Glycol system upgrades which are contingent on planning and relocation of
- 28 taxiway A.
- 29 • Non-Airfield projects to address noise mitigation (house removal and berm construction), a new
- 30 quick Turnaround facility to the north of the terminal now used as a car rental agency car wash
- 31 and potential new hotel above the southern section, or to the north, of the parking garage.
- 32 • Terminal Building projects that would see improvements to the second floor and TSA operations,
- 33 and moving customs from the south end of the airport into the main terminal.
- 34 • A maintenance project to expand the facility that houses and maintains snow removal equipment.
- 35

36 **6. VTrans Statewide Park and Ride Facilities Plan**

37 Jackie Cassino, VTrans Planning Coordinator, presented this project underway since summer 2014. She
38 described the plan's purpose then went over its goals, to:

- 39 1. Document and summarize the characteristics, condition and utilization of existing facilities,
- 40 2. Identify current asset management concerns,
- 41 3. Identify and evaluate future funding needs for capital, maintenance, and operations,
- 42 4. Investigate alternative funding scenarios to maintain existing facilities and for additional
- 43 facilities,
- 44 5. Prioritize where to make both current facility investments and strategic future investments, and
- 45 6. Recommendations in the Park and Ride Facility Plan should support the Agency of
- 46 Transportation's Vision.

47 She then went over the plan development process describing the timeline, critical steps and oversight
48 committees. Next she described an extensive list of current conditions of state and municipal park and
49 rides statewide as well as projected future needs and the locations of that need. Jackie also provided

1 details on maintenance and operations challenges as well as budget limitations. She next went into
2 recommendations that included process (parties to engage), data collection needs, design features,
3 maintenance and operations changes, and concluded with locations in need of added capacity and areas
4 currently dealing with unmet needs. VTrans will next be developing program guidelines that include:

- 5 (1) Refine and utilize the prioritization methodology.
- 6 (2) Continue to evaluate highway projects for opportunities to establish P&R lots.
- 7 (3) Prioritize medium (40-79 space) and large (80+ space) lots.
- 8 (4) Develop P&R Design Criteria to identify required features such as signage, lighting, transit
9 shelters, bicycle parking, and pedestrian crossings.

10 Comments are being accepted over the next month or so and Dave Pelletier of VTrans will be assigned
11 with moving forward the Plan recommendations.

12 **7. Status of Projects and Subcommittee Reports**

13 Bryan Osborne referred members to the project list on the back of the meeting agenda and asked members
14 for comments or any questions.

15 **8. CCRPC September Board Meeting Report**

16 The Board met on September 16th and approved a TAC recommended TIP amendment, approved a
17 revised version of the VTrans Rail Plan comments, and heard a CCTA presentation on the status of the
18 Downtown Burlington Transit Center.

19 **9. Chairman's/Members Items**

20 Dennis Lutz asked if other communities have been approached by Verizon or other providers about
21 adding units to cell towers as is happening in Essex. No other members described anything similar.

22 The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

23 Respectfully submitted,

24 Peter Keating
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Chittenden County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Review/Update Committee Meeting
DRAFT MINUTES

Date: **Wednesday, September 9, 2015**
Time: **3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
Location: **Main Conference Room, CCRPC Offices, Winooski**

Attendees: Dan Albrecht (CCRPC), Regina Mahony (CCRPC), Lee Krohn (CCRPC), Emily Nosse-Leirer (CCRPC), Jeannine McCrumb (Charlotte), Sarah Hadd (Colchester), Karen Purinton (Colchester), Barbara Young (St. George), Paul Conner (So. Burlington), Melissa Manka (Westford), Ken Belliveau (Williston), Dave Bergeron (Winooski), Staci Pomeroy (ANR), Holly Dominie (FEMA Region One)

1. **Call to Order, Introductions and Changes to the Agenda**
2. **Public comments on items not on the Agenda** – No one from the public was in attendance.
3. **Review and Action on Minutes of May 13, 2015** – Sarah Hadd made a motion, seconded by Dave Bergeron to approve the May 13, 2015 minutes. No discussion. MOTION PASSED.
4. **Review Hazard Identification List**

Dan Albrecht reviewed the proposed list of changes to the Hazards. The All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Review/Update Committee (AHMP Committee) discussed and decided on the following amendments as described here:

- There was consensus to remove Landslides/Rockslides, however Staci Pomeroy suggested that this should be discussed under FEH because we do experience land and rock slides.
- There was a discussion to change the title of Severe Thunderstorm to reflect that this is not the same time as a winter storm. While there was no consensus, options were discussed: Severe Summer Storm/Severe Weather Storm/Significant Rain Event.
- There was a discussion about whether Wildfire should stay. Dave Bergeron felt that forest management plans call for leaving a lot of materials in our forests and it is really dry right now, so wildfires are a real possibility. There was consensus to leave this in and evaluate it.
- Discussion regarding Dam Failure – we don't have any high risk dams (so isn't this likely to be a high risk); same thought for Rock Cuts.
- Paul Conner suggested that invasive species be expanded to include diseases as we do have some tree diseases that we are contending with.
- There was a discussion about drought – this should not be identified under extreme temperature since it is more precipitation related and the issue really is more about ground water loss (could also be a problem for fire pond loss). There was consensus to include this under "Loss of Water Service" but re-title to be more general since it isn't always "Service". In addition, there was consensus to move radiological under the Water hazard. Discussion that a number of hazards should be consolidated under the category of Water: algal blooms, etc.
- There was a discussion regarding a new category of Loss of Other Fuels and Pollution. There was consensus to add these.
- There was consensus to consolidate high winds and lightning with severe storm (or similar title to be determined).
- There was consensus to consolidate Military Ordinance Incident into Haz Mat.

- There was a discussion about Crime, and whether it should be more specifically described as an Opiate issue. Suggestion to keep Crime as the broad category and then maybe add some language about opiate addiction being a medical problem and not a crime.

Melissa Manka had a question about whether these changes will be made in the local Annex as well. Dan Albrecht indicated that these changes will be made at the local level accordingly, unless a municipality would like to keep a particular hazard.

5. Review Key Hazards Risk Estimation Scoring Matrices

The AHMP Committee reviewed the scoring matrices. Holly Dominie suggested to think about your vulnerability when assessing a score from a mitigation perspective, not necessarily preparedness. The All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Review/Update Committee (AHMP Committee) discussed and decided on the following amendments as described here:

- For Natural Hazards: change the Environmental Damage score from zero to 1 for both Severe Storm and Extreme Temperature. There was some discussion regarding the social equity component of extreme temperatures considering heating and cooling is very expensive and sometimes not an option for lower income populations. Ultimately the Committee decided to keep it as is, as it is scoring pretty high already in comparison to other risks.
- For Technological Hazards: There was some discussion about septic loss over winter in extreme cold temps. Some Water Service Loss scores were discussed now that we are looking at that category more broadly. change Probability of sewer service loss to 4 (from 5) and for both Pollution and Water Service change the Property Damage score to 1 (from 0)
- For Societal Hazards: the Health & Safety Consequences were changed to 2 for Crime and Civil Disturbances (from 1) and to 3 for Terrorism (from 1); and for both Economic Recession and Key Employer Loss to 1 (from zero). For the Property Damage score, changes were made in the Crime category to 1 (from zero) and for Terrorism to 3 (from 1).

The Committee reviewed the overall comparison of scores and there was consensus on the final scoring.

6. Review Mitigation Strategies

Dan Albrecht described FEMA's feedback on mitigation strategies v. preparedness strategies. There was some discussion regarding preparedness and whether there is some use in including it as well, just listed separately or described in the analysis. Melissa Manka explained that in Westford they need these things explained somewhere so that everyone knows what to do in an emergency; their LEOP is not sufficient for this. Dan Albrecht reviewed the rest of the comments from FEMA, and high level thoughts from CCRPC regarding changes to the Strategies. The key is to keep the strategies focused on hazard mitigation and what CCRPC is going to actually going to do at the Regional Level. Dan Albrecht explained that there are certain aspects of CCRPC's workplan that we'll add in here. For example, these projects include a GIS prioritization tool (infrastructure data, FEH data and aquatic fish passage data all in one GIS map to help with infrastructure prioritization), Community Rating System assistance, Hazardous material database for first responders. Staci Pomeroy expressed concern about emergency shelter locations and how folks know where these are, and which they'd go to (she lives a ½ mile from the school in Westford). Perhaps this information would make the most sense in their local plans. Melissa Manka explained again that the LEOP is a list of phone numbers and nothing more, it really isn't helpful in an emergency. Holly Dominie explained that there are some pretty good LEOP's out there, however they don't do an assessment of preparedness – so the Local AHMP's are a good location for this; just make it clear between what are Mitigation Strategies v. Preparedness.

7. Next Steps

- a. Agency review of draft *2016 Plan*. Holly Dominie described the process for FEMA review.

- b. Do we maintain college appendices (UVM, Champlain College and St. Michaels College)? Dan Albrecht explained that there was a discussion that came up about this during the last review. These Annexes currently exist as appendices to the Municipal Annexes. Looks like the current ones are more about preparedness than mitigation but they should be assessed for vulnerability and mitigation strategies should be identified if needed. CCRPC will look into this and discuss it with Burlington and Colchester and figure out what the implications are of keeping updating these or removing them.
- c. Incorporation into the ECOS Plan Update – Regina Mahony explained that we will need the Chittenden County AHMP Strategies for incorporation into the ECOS Plan by November. CCRPC will figure out timing for this coordination and set the meeting date for the next AHMP Committee accordingly.

Adjourn – the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:20pm.

DRAFT

1 CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
2 PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES
3

4 DATE: Wednesday, September 9, 2015
5 TIME: 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
6 PLACE: CCRPC Offices, 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT

Members Present

Joss Besse, Bolton
Paul Conner, South Burlington
Ken Belliveau, Williston
Dana Hanley, Essex
Jeannine McCrumb, Charlotte
David White, Burlington
Alex Weinhagen, Hinesburg

Melissa Manka, Westford
Dean Pierce, Shelburne
Sarah Hadd, Colchester
Karen Purinton, Colchester

Staff

Regina Mahony, Planning Program Manager
Lee Krohn, Senior Planner

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8
9 **1. Welcome and Introductions**

10 Joss Besse called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. .

11
12 **2. Approval of July 8, 2015 Minutes**

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14 Paul Conner made a motion, seconded by Dean Pierce to approve the July 8, 2015 minutes. No further
15 discussion. MOTION PASSED.
16

17 **3. Permit Tracking Research Update**

18 Lee Krohn provided an overview of his research to date on the permit tracking software systems. The options
19 are quite varied in complexity and cost. Some use NMERC – the users have reported very differing opinions
20 on the usefulness of this system, and you can't attach documents. It is affordable (about \$2,000), but not
21 customizable. Lee received rave reviews from Barre City about their system, and experienced a live demo
22 from Janet Shatney, Barre's main user of the system. They use Citizen Serve – it is affordable (about \$1,800
23 per year/per license), links to the grand list, customizable, 24-7 help response system, customizable forms,
24 abutter landowner notification, town logo, etc. You can do a simple data dump into an excel spreadsheet if
25 they go away or if it doesn't work for you over time. Janet Shatney would be happy to answer questions as
26 she has been using it for a number of years. The PAC verified that they would still like this information in a
27 memo so that they can customize this for budget conversations with their Selectboards. CCRPC will provide
28 this information in a memo to the municipalities. Jeannine reminded CCRPC Staff that Charlotte is also using
29 a very simple access database – it can be clunky but helpful and is a good option for a small town. This will
30 be added to the research spreadsheet/memo. Sarah asked about the software Citizen Serve uses to link to the
31 grand list, and if that software is proprietary? This led to questions about whether Barre has a live link to the
32 grand list or whether there is a regularly scheduled data dump. CCRPC will follow-up with these questions,
33 prepare a memo and provide it to the PAC members.
34

35 **4. Act 250 – Municipal Impact Fee Discussion**

36 Regina explained, in some circumstances, the District Commission has begun to impose payment of fair share
37 transportation mitigation fees to municipalities through the use of Act 145. We knew that this would be used
38 for State capital projects with payment to VTrans, but not for municipal projects. Regina stated that we
39 wanted to alert you of this because it is unclear whether this is being coordinated with the municipalities or
40 not. Ken Belliveau mentioned the Transportation Improvement District demonstration project that CCRPC
41 will be working on with Williston. The point is to clearly define the transportation improvement needs
42 between both the State and the Municipality so that each development can be assessed a fair fee, and avoid
43 "double dipping". Regina Mahony explained that it may be a good idea for each municipality to review the
44 draft permits to monitor this, however CCRPC will be doing the same and will alert each municipality when
45 we see a draft condition. In addition, the PAC asked that we communicate with the District Commission and
46 let them know that those conditions need to be coordinated with the municipalities.

1

2 5. Essex 2015 Comprehensive Plan

3 Joss Besse opened the public hearing. No one from the public was in attendance. The public comment period
4 was closed.

5

6 Regina Mahony summarized the Staff comments that were completed by CCRPC Staff, Emily Nosse-Leirer.
7 Regina mentioned that CCRPC Staff comments were previously provided to the Essex Planning Commission
8 in time for their public hearing, and amendments were made accordingly as explained in the Staff report.

9 Overall, the update looks great with an Action Plan in the front chapter and quite a reduction in content to
10 make it more user friendly. Regina explained that Staff found that the Plan meets the requirements of the
11 elements and is consistent with the goals, despite some of the responses in Essex's Appendix A submittal.

12 Dana Hanley explained that there are sections that they felt should be improved somewhere down the line
13 including JAM Golf outfall and agriculture. The main goal of this re-write was to make it more usable, shorter
14 and strategic with the Action Plan. For the Action Plan they asked the Town Departments to give them a list
15 of what they are actually going to do. Implementation is right up front, with funding options. They've
16 received lots of positive feedback so far.

17

18 Alex Weinhagen asked about the maps. Dana Hanley explained that they are located within the text rather
19 than at the end, and when it is graphically designed they will pop up and take up the whole page. Alex
20 Weinhagen also asked how the Town is handling the existing agricultural land that isn't protected by
21 floodplains or other natural resource protections. Dana Hanley explained that they've worked on conservation
22 subdivision regulations that are good, but tough. Brandy Saxton developed the state-of-the-art regulations.
23 They ran into some opposition from the Public Works Department, and some developers. The density would
24 have increased but it also would have really protected a number of resources. At that point the municipality
25 was side-tracked by the Saxton Hill changes and haven't been able to return to it yet. Alex Weinhagen
26 expressed concern that some of the economic development goals could put some real growth pressure on the
27 the rural parts of Town.

28

29 Paul Conner asked about the tasks in the Action Plan - to what extent will the Selectboard vet those? Dana
30 Hanley explained that these implementation actions are more up-front and center than they've been before, so
31 she isn't quite sure what they'll want to do with them. Sarah Hadd expressed that it is really great to see a
32 sustained vision in Essex, with a focus on implementing it.

33

34 Paul Conner made a motion, seconded by Sarah Hadd, that the PAC finds the draft 2016 Essex Town Plan, as
35 submitted, meets all statutory requirements for CCRPC approval, and that the municipality's planning process
36 meets all statutory requirements for CCRPC confirmation. Upon notification that the Plan has been adopted
37 by the municipality, CCRPC staff will review the plan, and any information relevant to the confirmation
38 process, for changes. If staff determines that changes are substantive, those changes will be forwarded to the
39 PAC for review. Otherwise the PAC recommends that the Plan, and the municipal planning process, should be
40 forwarded to the CCRPC Board for approval. No discussion. MOTION PASSED.

41

42 6. Regional Act 250/Section 248 Projects in the Horizon

- 43 • Didn't get to this.

44

45 7. Other Business

46

47 a. Next meeting is on Veteran's Day (November 11th) – this is a holiday for many members so CCRPC Staff
48 will reschedule the November meeting.

49 b. Long Range Planning Committee Reconvened for ECOS Plan Updates – Regina Mahony explained that
50 we need to do some amendments to the ECOS Plan and we need 1 or 2 PAC members. Jeannine
51 McCrumb and Paul Conner will represent the PAC on the LRPC.

52 c. We also need UPWP Committee Reps. The PAC discussed that they are happy with Joss Besse and Ken

- 1 Belliveau remaining on the UPWP as they have in years past.
2 d. Melanie will soon be sending out requests for information on new development for 2014 to update the
3 ECOS indicators.
4

5 **7. Adjourn**

6 Ken Belliveau made a motion, seconded by Paul Conner to adjourn the meeting. No discussion. MOTION
7 PASSED. The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m. The next meeting date is to be determined.

8
9 Respectfully submitted, Regina Mahony

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