



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FUNDING AVAILABLE TO AID CLEAN-UP AND REDEVELOPMENT OF BROWNFIELDS PROPERTIES

Chittenden County, VT – The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is pleased to announce the availability of funding and technical assistance under its Brownfields Program. The goal of the Program is to help properties that are blighted or vacant or underutilized because of potential petroleum or hazardous substance contamination get put to productive use again.

Since 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency has provided funds to the CCRPC for brownfields environmental assessment and cleanup planning for sites throughout the County. This assistance has helped property owners better understand the level of contamination on their property and devise and implement cleanup actions. This enabled them to secure necessary permits and financing to move to construction.

The CCRPC can assist property owners and potential developers of these “brownfields properties” first by conducting environmental studies and/or draft site clean-up plans and cost estimates and secondly, by helping identify sources of potential funding to clean up and redevelop the property. If a person owns or wants to develop a property that has or might have contamination issues, they can apply for assistance from the CCRPC Brownfields Program. Interested parties can find more information at the CCRPC’s brownfields webpage at <http://www.ccrpcvt.org/brownfields>.

Notable projects that have come to fruition in recent years include transforming a portion of the Burlington waterfront into a world-class skate park and the construction of a 44-unit affordable housing complex and a 28-unit apartment building with ground floor commercial space in the Old North End neighborhood. The program paid for several studies at the Richmond Creamery property which is now being demolished to make way for a new mixed-used development, funded an inventory of underground storage tanks in Winooski, and identified potential environmental conditions and concerns in the Essex Junction’s Village Center zoning district.

Funding for the Program is provided through competitive grants awarded by the US Environmental Protection Agency. Persons with questions about the Program such as the exact type of studies and plans that a property might need can contact Dan Albrecht, CCRPC Senior Planner, at dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org or (802) 846-4490 x*29.

The CCRPC provides planning and technical assistance in the areas of community development, transportation, agriculture, natural resources, housing, economic development, telecommunications and emergency management to the 19 municipalities of Chittenden County and the public, while remaining consistent with federal and state requirements. The collaboration between the CCRPC, Chittenden County municipalities and other related resources agencies results in the development and implementation of plans that support sustainable development and improve the region’s environment and quality of life. For more information about the CCRPC, please visit www.ccrpcvt.org.

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