

Planning Advisory Committee Agenda

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

2:30pm to 4:00pm

Meeting will be in person only at:

**CCRPC Main Conference Room
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202
Winooski, VT 05404**

Agenda

- 2:30 Welcome and Introductions, *Paul Conner***
- 2:31 Approval of February 14, 2024 Minutes***
- 2:32 FY25 CCRPC Unified Planning Work Program,* *Taylor Newton***
Review the draft FY25 CCRPC UPWP and provide any comments that you may have. New land use projects are highlighted in blue.
- 2:45 ARPA 3-Acre Permit Obtainment Assistance Program, *VT DEC Stormwater Program Staff***
The 2020 Vermont Stormwater General Permit 3-9050 required existing developments with 3 or more acres of impervious surface to obtain state stormwater permits. ARPA funding for design and permitting is now available to eligible 3-acre sites seeking to obtain Three-Acre Permit coverage.
- 3:00 Clean Water Service Provider (CWSP) Update, *Dan Albrecht (CCRPC, North Lake – Basin 5), Dean Pierce (NWRPC, Missisquoi & Lamoille – Basins 6 & 7), & Brian Voigt (CVRPC, Winooski – Basin 8)***
RPC staff will provide an overview of the [Clean Water Service Delivery Act](#), the [CWSPs and Basin Water Quality Councils](#), and current funding opportunities for non-regulatory projects to meet water quality goals.
- 3:30 Implementing Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, *Caroline Paske, State Hazard Mitigation Planner***
The [Chittenden County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) was readopted in 2022 and included a table of Prioritized Mitigation Actions. Please review the actions in [your municipal appendix](#) and come prepared to discuss any progress, challenges, or opportunities to apply for the current [Hazard Mitigation Grant Program](#).
- 3:45 BE Home Bill Local Zoning Changes, *Taylor Newton***
This will be an opportunity to review Chapter 117 changes in sections 9-20 of the [latest version of the bill](#) and discuss any questions or concerns.
- 3:50 Members Items Open Forum, *Members***
If anyone has anything they'd like to bring up with the group, please do so.
- 3:55 Other Business**
- 1. ECOS Plan Update.** CCRPC has delayed adoption of ECOS Plan until June 2025. CCRPC staff will spend early 2024 doing engagement specifically with underrepresented communities on the draft ECOS Plan. Staff will also spend the first half of 2024 working on developing municipal housing targets and updates to the regional future land use maps.

2. **Housing Targets Update.** Staff and the PAC working group continue to make progress and should be ready to present a draft methodology at the May PAC meeting.
3. **PAC 2024 Meeting Calendar.** Staff will review the PAC calendar for 2024 and solicit feedback on educational topics.
4. **Community Tree Planting Grants.** Applications are now open for the statewide [CTPG Program](#), which offers grants between \$5,000-\$75,000 to support tree planting in urban areas that advance equity.
5. **Regional Act 250/Section 248 Projects on the Horizon** - Please email Taylor and Darren information about projects on the horizon.

4:00 Adjourn

*** = Attachment**

NEXT MEETINGS:

Here are the future PAC meetings so you can hold the time in your calendars. Just keep in mind that sometimes we have to adjust these dates for various reasons:

May 8, 2024 at 2:30 PM hybrid – Housing Targets, LEAP data

June 12, 2024 at 2:30 PM hybrid – Housing Targets, Future Land Use Map

July 10, 2024 at 2:30 PM in-person – Municipal presentation

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) - MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday, February 14, 2024
TIME: 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Virtual Meeting via Zoom with link as published on the agenda

<u>Members Present:</u> Eric Vorwald, Winooski Cymone Bedford, Milton Linda Blasch, Jericho Chris Yuen, Essex Junction Cathyann LaRose, Colchester Aaron DeNamur, Shelburne Paul Conner, South Burlington	<u>Staff:</u> Taylor Newton, Planning Program Manager Sarah Muskin, Planner Darren Schibler, Senior Planner Melanie Needle, Senior Planner Dan Albrecht, Senior Planner Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager Bryan Davis, Senior Transportation Manager Jason Charest, Senior Transportation Planner Engineer (left early) Charlie Baker, Executive Director Eliana Fox, Transportation Planner (left early)
<u>Guests</u> Gregory Rowangould, UVM (left early)	

1. Welcome and Introductions

M. Needle called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

2. Approval of January 10, 202 Minutes

E.Vorwald made a motion to approve the prior meeting's minutes. Seconded by C.LaRose . No further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Housing Location Dissonance Study, *Gregory Rowangould, Ph.D. and Narges Ahmadnia, Ph.D. Candidate*
CCRPC recently partnered with the UVM Transportation Research Center to conduct a survey to better understand the potential impacts of Autonomous Vehicles (AVs), Electric Vehicles (EVs), and remote work on individual's housing location choices and travel behavior.

G. Rowangould presented the Chittenden County Housing Location Dissonance Study. The study tried to measure how satisfied or dissatisfied people were with where they live right now and considered how EVs, AVs, and Remote Work might impact the level of dissonance with housing choice. The study collected information about people's housing. The study collected data through an online internet-based survey (n=721). The sample turned out to be a representative distribution of geography, but females were vastly overrepresented. The survey asked preference questions, satisfaction questions, travel related questions, employment status, and demographics.

The study found that about half of households in Chittenden County are housing dissonant. 70% of people in the suburbs were dissonant, only 31% of town centers residents were dissonant. For suburban and rural areas, transportation-related factors and fuels costs are a large source of dissonance. Town centers have the least amount of dissonance. The largest sources of dissonance in town centers were housing cost, fuels cost, energy use, etc. Main sources of dissonance for urban centers are congestion, space, housing cost, energy.

The study takeaways were: 1) Location dissonant rural and suburban households are looking towards town centers to increase their access to amenities 2) Urban households were mostly consonant with their residence, although there are some factors that cause some level of discontent 3) The impact of working from home on housing choice is less clear, given that suburban households had lower but still positive housing dissonance score on proximity to work and school.

P. Conner asked if there was capacity to analyze this same data through different lenses, with the interest being around issues other than transportation (for example, this data could give information about parks and open spaces). G. Rowangould responded that the study team did not have the capacity to investigate "why" respondents

responded the way they did. He added that data could be cross tabulated and looked at in different combinations and said that subsets of data could be shared if people are in contact with him.

4. Brownfields Program Update

D. Schibler and D. Albrecht gave PAC a Brownfields Program Update. They started by sharing background on brownfields in general, and where CCRPC funding sources. They discussed Phase I Environmental Site Assessments, and how this step establishes the legal track record that a potential purchaser is not responsible for site pollution. They also discussed Phase II ESAs and Cleanup Planning.

P. Conner asked if the funding cycle is on-going, D. Schibler answered yes, but it is a little element of first come first serve. D. Schibler shared the process for project selection and requested that PAC members share this information with their communities. He shared that there is a \$40,000 per site cap. He encouraged PAC members to find more information on the CCRPC website.

5. Legislative Update

C. Baker shared that VPA and VNRC have an intern who tracks information that may be of interest to planners. He shared that there is an open meeting law discussion about allowing for remote and hybrid meeting options to continue (S.55). Furthermore, the Legislature may require all meetings to be hybrid, which may be a challenge for towns with low technological capacity, but the bill may include grant funding to address this. The Vermont League of Cities and Towns and Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies are advocating for meetings of committees or other bodies without full decision-making power to be allowed to be virtual, especially for RPC committees.

C. Baker also shared there is a county governance study that is in senate-gov-ops (Hardy is a sponsor). He discussed that (S.213) the floodplain river corridor's proposal is likely coming out of the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee (SNRE) this week.

C. Baker discussed that S.308 in SNRE is the closest to including the recommendations of the three major studies that were required by the HOME Act. The BE HOME Act will be voted out of Senate Economic Development this week. This bill contains a short-term exemption for Act 250 jurisdiction by raising the threshold for the number of housing units within a certain number of years. C. Baker had advised the bill's sponsor (Sen. Ram-Hinsdale) to focus on short-term rather than long-term fixes to Act 250 in this bill, but it's unclear if that advice will be followed.

C. Baker also discussed the other bills that came out of the HOME Act, noting that Rep. Sheldon who chairs House Environment & Energy (H.687) did not include the recommendations of the designation study in her bill but instead drafted separate provisions that significantly increase Act 250 jurisdiction in areas intended for natural resource management protection (referred to as Tier 3 and Tier 2, respectively, in the Natural Resources Board study). Rep. Sheldon seemed to be more hesitant about the bill's provisions after C. Baker and M. Needle presented maps demonstrating the geographic impacts of these provisions.

H.683, the bill to reform the state designations program, is also in House Environment and Energy and is generally considered overcomplicated compared to what the study proposed.

E. Vorwald added that the BE HOME bill has changed drastically in the last week. C. Baker noted that terminology used in the bills is all different which is leading to some confusion.

T. Newton informed members that he is giving testimony to the House Government Operations and Military Affairs on the municipal authority for regulating alcohol retailer density. He noted that the authority is vague and complicated.

6. PAC Meeting Structure, Educational Topics for 2024

To be discussed in March.

7. Members Items Open Forum

None.

8. Regional Act 250/Section 248 Projects on the Horizon

D. Schibler requested PAC members give a warning about projects on the horizon.

9. Other Business

1. **ECOS Plan Update.** CCRPC has delayed adoption of ECOS Plan until June 2025. CCRPC staff will spend early 2024 doing engagement specifically with underrepresented communities on the draft ECOS Plan. Staff will also spend the first half of 2024 working on developing municipal housing targets and updates to the regional future land use maps. CCRPC staff and the Housing Target Working Group plan to have a full PAC update by March.
2. **Development Activity Report – 2023.** CCRPC Staff has sent out an email request for housing and commercial development built in calendar year 2023 soon. Please return data to CCRPC by March 1st.
3. **UPWP Committee Update-** UPWP committee should have recommendations ready by April. CCRPC does not know yet how over or under subscribed we are in terms of budget.

D. Schibler adjourned the meeting at 4:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sarah Muskin.