



# Northwest Regional Planning Commission

155 Lake Street, St. Albans, VT 05478

Phone: 802-524-5958/800-564-5958 Fax: 802-527-2948 [www.nrpcvt.com](http://www.nrpcvt.com)

## Inside This Issue



LEAD Program Accepting Applications 1



VTRANS Federal Stimulus Package Website 1



Planning Commissioners Summer Retreat 2



Annual Planning & Zoning Training 2



Summit on the Future of Vermont 3



VT Western Corridor Transportation Management Plan 3



NRPC Calendar 4



Town Officers' Education Conferences 4



List of Commissioners 4

## Franklin-Grand Isle L.E.A.D. Program Accepting Applications



The Franklin Grand Isle L.E.A.D. (Leadership, Education, Aptitude, Development) Program is seeking program applicants for the 2009-2010 session, which will begin in September of 2009.

L.E.A.D. is a 10-month long leadership development program for individuals in the two-county area. This unique program is designed to give potential community leaders the training and confidence to become leaders in northwest Vermont. Day-long seminars are held once a month, and each session is focused on a different topic. Sessions include: human services, economy & environment, government & politics, community leadership, law & justice, education, communications & media, and health care.

In addition to the monthly sessions, there will be two group projects: one focused on a leadership style during the first few months of the session; the second focused on a community project during the last few months of the program.

In the course of four sessions of L.E.A.D., over 70 individuals have completed the program, many of whom have gone on to serve on community boards, be promoted within their companies, and successfully run for local and statewide offices.

Registration is limited to 20 individuals each year. The registration fee to participate in L.E.A.D. is \$650. Scholarship assistance is available.

The application deadline is May 1, 2009. If you would like an application to enroll, please contact the Franklin County Regional Chamber of Commerce at 524-2444 or [info@fcrccvt.com](mailto:info@fcrccvt.com).

## Vermont Agency of Transportation Federal Stimulus Package Website

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) has published a website dedicated to the Federal Stimulus Package, also known as the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act: [www.aot.state.vt.us/stimulus](http://www.aot.state.vt.us/stimulus). The website includes a summary of the funds available to transportation projects in Vermont, the types of projects that are available and the federal requirements attached to these funds. The site also includes a list of projects that VTrans has recommended to be completed using the first phase of stimulus funds. It will be continually updated as new information becomes available.

# Planning Commissioners Summer Retreat

Do you serve on your Town's Planning Commission?

Looking for an opportunity to network with other planning commissioners across the state, while gaining innovative and inspirational information to bring back to your respective community?

Consider attending the Planning Commissioners Retreat this June on Lake Fairlee!



The Planning Commissioners Retreat is being coordinated by the Vermont Law School's Land Use Institute. It will be held at the Ohana camp on Lake Fairlee, VT from Friday June 5th to Saturday June 6th. The setting is a treat. Keynotes include Secretary of State Deb Markowitz and VT Law School land use professors: Tim Duane and Sean Nolon. Individuals will be rewarded for their volunteerism and gain advanced training. Space will be limited to 45 attendees.

NRPC will sponsor two local planning commissioners from the region to attend the event for free! Take advantage of this great opportunity, unscramble the following planning phrase (TTERPOC LRRAU TRAHEACRC) and call or email Greta (524-5958 or [gbrunswick@nrpcvt.com](mailto:gbrunswick@nrpcvt.com) by April 22<sup>nd</sup>) to be entered into a drawing. Two planning commissioners will be chosen from a drawing of those that call with the correct unscrambled phrase. For more information, visit this website: [http://www.vermontlaw.edu/Academics/Environmental\\_Law\\_Center/Institutes\\_and\\_Initiatives/Land\\_Use\\_Institute/Events.htm](http://www.vermontlaw.edu/Academics/Environmental_Law_Center/Institutes_and_Initiatives/Land_Use_Institute/Events.htm)

## NRPC Annual Planning and Zoning Board Member Training

**For planning commissioners, zoning board of adjustment  
members, and development review board members.**

A training focusing on the basics of local development review and land use planning, including roles and responsibilities of municipal boards and officials, the purpose of different types of development review, and conducting effective meetings and development review hearings. Appropriate for new board members and experienced board members who would like a refresher.

**Tuesday, May 5, 7:00pm to 9:00pm in Grand Isle County  
at the Fish Hatchery Conference Room in Grand Isle**

It is located on Vermont Route 314 across from the Lake Champlain Transportation Co. ferry to Plattsburgh, NY. The conference room is the first left past the Visitor Center, after the bathrooms.

and

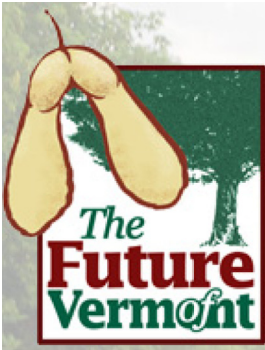
**Thursday, May 7, 7:00pm to 9:00pm in Franklin County  
at the Abbey Restaurant**

The Abbey is located at 6212 VT Route 105 in Sheldon.

Please RSVP by Monday April 27th to Greta or Deb at 524-5958, [gbrunswick@nrpcvt.com](mailto:gbrunswick@nrpcvt.com), or [dperry@nrpcvt.com](mailto:dperry@nrpcvt.com). Look for information at [www.nrpcvt.com](http://www.nrpcvt.com)

### The workshop will cover:

- 1) **History and Legal Context of Planning and Zoning in Vermont**
- 2) **Roles and Responsibilities for all the Players**
  - Planning Commission
  - Board of Adjustment
  - Development Review Board
  - Zoning Administrator
  - Selectboard
- 3) **Types of Review**
  - Permitted Uses
  - Conditional Uses
  - Site Plan Review
  - Subdivision Review
  - Variances
  - Appeals
- 4) **Conducting Effective Meetings and Hearings**
  - Open meeting law
  - Legislative & quasi-judicial public hearings
  - Executive & deliberate session
  - The role of chair



Vermont Council on Rural Development presents:

# Summit on the Future of Vermont

Pre-Summit Presentation, April 9, 2009 ~ Vermont State House, Montpelier

Summit on the Future of Vermont, May 11, 2009 ~ Dudley Davis Center, UVM, Burlington

Special Evening Session, May 11 2009 @ 7pm ~ Ira Allen Chapel, UVM, Burlington

The Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) invites you to join them, and hundreds of Vermonters, at the Summit on the Future of Vermont. The Summit will unveil the findings of the Council on the Future of Vermont's ubiquitous statewide conversation on the values, goals, and priorities of Vermonters as they look to address the challenges and opportunities ahead.

**When:** Monday, May 11, 2009

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Where:** Dudley Davis Center  
UVM Campus  
Burlington, Vt. 05401

**Fee:** \$40.00 ~ Summit and Lunch

**RSVP:** Registration Deadline is **April 20, 2009**

**To Register:** <https://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Register/IdentityConfirmation.aspx?i=51bbc391-8511-443b-a604-ccd64eb53158>



### Working Stakeholder Session Breakouts:

- |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Agriculture   | Forestry and Industry    |
| Civic Life    | Healthy Vermont          |
| Clean Energy  | Higher Education         |
| Demographics  | K-12 Education           |
| Digital Age   | Land Use and Development |
| Diversity     | Preserving the Balance   |
| Economic Plan | Public Transportation    |

*Breakout sessions have limited capacity  
Please register early!*

## Vermont Western Corridor Transportation Management Plan

The goal of the Western Corridor Transportation Management Plan is to identify the most effective ways to improve the transportation system in western Vermont over the next 20 years. The project area is a broad corridor encompassing the rail network and Route 7 and extends from the Canadian border through Franklin, Chittenden, Addison, Rutland and Bennington counties. Traffic volumes in the Western Corridor are forecast to grow 30-40% from 2005 to 2030. Truck traffic is anticipated to grow at a higher rate than auto traffic, about 60-80% in a similar time period. Currently, only 8% of all goods shipped in Vermont (by weight) is done by rail. In the future, that percentage is expected to remain the same though there are opportunities to expand rail shipping for certain sectors including wood products, chemicals, petroleum products, animal feed and paper products.

The NRPC is serving on the project steering committee along with the Chittenden County Metropolitan Organization (CCMPO), four other regional commissions, VTrans, stakeholders groups (including rail, trucking and other businesses) and a project consulting team. The project is funded through a Federal appropriation directed at improving rail in western Vermont. The committee has identified five broad goals for the Western Corridor.

The project steering committee has identified strategies to address these goals. Based on public input, these strategies will be prioritized and used to identify next steps. For more information contact Bethany Remmers at [bethany@nrpcvt.com](mailto:bethany@nrpcvt.com).

### The five broad goals for the Western Corridor are as follows:

- Goal A:** Maximize highway system efficiencies and increase safety in Vermont's Western Corridor
- Goal B:** Improve freight movements in the Western Corridor
- Goal C:** Increase public transportation use and enhance regional connectivity for passenger travel
- Goal D:** Support corridor investments that promote economic vitality in the region
- Goal E:** Preserve the quality of life of communities along the Western Corridor

## Northwest Regional Board of Commissioners

Alburgh Town:	Terry Tatro
Alburgh Village:	Andrea Beaderstadt One Vacant Seat
Bakersfield:	Nancy Hunt One Vacant Seat
Berkshire:	Claude Charron One Vacant Seat
Enosburg Falls:	Raymond Larose Richard Roberge
Enosburgh:	Ronald Duso Lloyd Touchette
Fairfax:	Randy Devine Colleen Steen
Fairfield:	William Kittell Marilyn Savoy
Fletcher:	Bruce Douglas One Vacant Seat
Franklin:	Doug Clark Dan Larivee
Georgia:	Jerry Baitz Kirk Waite
Grand Isle:	AnneMarie Demars David Borthwick-Leslie
Highgate:	Pete Paquette Richard Trombley
Isle La Motte:	Sylvia Jensen One Vacant Seat
Montgomery:	Barry Kade Darlene Marrier
North Hero:	Pete Johnson John Lambert
Richford:	Kim Collins Melissa Wells
St Albans City:	David Peirce Lazarus Scangas
St Albans Town:	Bob Johnson Paul Larner
Sheldon:	Richard Brouillette Patrick Howrigan
South Hero:	Michael Guernsey Glen Wright
Swanton Town:	Harold Garrett Robert Manning
Swanton Village:	Christopher Leach Neal Speer

## NRPC APRIL CALENDAR

April 8, 5:30pm, Policy/Project Review Meeting, NRPC Conference Room

April 9, 7:00pm, TAC Meeting, NRPC Conference Room

April 29, 7:00pm, NRPC Board Meeting, WIB Site, Robin Hood Dr, Swanton

## Spring 2009 Annual Town Officers' Education Conferences

April 9th - Lyndon State College, Lyndonville

April 13th - St. Michael's College, Colchester

For selectboard members; planning, zoning, and development review board members; conservation commissioners; regional planners; library trustees; listers; town clerks and treasurers; and other municipal staff and volunteers.

### General Information

- Pre-Registration is required and begins February 18, 2009
- Register online (<http://regonline.com/2009toec>) and save \$5.00 or mail in paper registration form. Forms can be obtained by calling Mary Peabody at 802-223-2389 x13. Registration fee is \$60.00 (lunch included)
- Conference doors open at 8:00am
- Opening session is at 8:45am
- Workshop Sessions are 9:45am-3:30pm

### Just a sample of workshop sessions include:

- Sustainable Development for Small Towns & Communities
- Act 115 Changes
- Land Conservation: Impacts and Opportunities at the Municipal Level
- Intro to Community Preparedness
- Tools for Reducing Municipal Building and Facility Energy Costs
- The Environmental Court
- The Highly Effective Selectboard
- Municipal Law Basics: What Every Local Official Should Know About the Law
- Vermont Enhanced 911 Board Update & Municipal Roles & Responsibilities



155 Lake Street  
Saint Albans, VT 05478