











# Northwest Regional Planning Commission

155 Lake Street, Saint Albans, VT 05478

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

## Inside This Issue



VTrans Transportation Forum	1
	
Legislative Breakfast	1
	
Healthy People, Strong Communities	2
	
Annual Town Officers' Education Conferences	2
	
Brownfields Issues Wrapped up at St. Albans House	3
	
Northwest Medical Reserve Corps	3
	
Rail Trail Council Meeting	4
	
Announcing the Rail Trail's 2012-2013 Winter Photo Contest	4
	
List of Commissioners	4

## VTrans Transportation Forum

Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013  
6:30-8:00 pm

The Vermont Agency of Transportation and Northwest Regional Planning Commission invite you to attend a forum on transportation. Deputy Secretary of Transportation Sue Minter will be leading a public meeting to gather feedback on the agency's strategic goals, priorities and performance. VTrans staff will describe the agency's strategic plan and how progress towards goals is tracked, funding and other transportation challenges, and innovations and efficiency measures being deployed to help the agency achieve its mission to provide for the safe movement of people and goods in a reliable, cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner. The Agency is also interested in hearing about local and regional transportation issues. The feedback will help the agency update and prioritize its goals, track what matters most to the public and will inform the development of the statewide transportation plan.

**Meeting Location:** St. Albans Town Educational Center Library

**Meeting Date & Time:** March 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30-8:00 pm

### For Additional Information:

Joe Segale, PE/PTP

VTrans Policy & Planning Manager

[joe.segale@state.vt.us](mailto:joe.segale@state.vt.us)

802-828-3968



## Legislative Breakfast

Please join us for a conversation with area legislators

### Date & Time:

March 11<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

### Place:

St. Albans Historical Museum  
Church Street, St. Albans

### Hosted by:

- ☞ Franklin County Industrial Development Corp.
- ☞ Franklin County Regional Chamber of Commerce
- ☞ Northwest Regional Planning Commission
- ☞ Franklin Grand Isle Workforce Investment Board

### For Additional Information Contact:

Bethany Remmers email - [bethany@nrpcvt.com](mailto:bethany@nrpcvt.com)  
or phone - 802-524-5958.





## Healthy People, Strong Communities Project in Full Swing

Throughout January and February, NRPC and regional partners held a series of 14 meetings in communities throughout the region. These meetings build on the Community Dinner and Conversation held in September with the purpose of getting the public's ideas, concerns, and priorities related to community health, economic development, disaster resilience and implementation of the complete streets legislation. There has been a lot of interest and overall the meetings have been well attended. It is great to get people in the same room to talk about health, wellness, jobs and the future of the region. The information will be used to develop strategies for our new regional plan, which will be before the NRPC board in summer 2013, with the applications for implementation grants available in the fall.

In addition, partners Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation and Lake Champlain Island Economic Development Corporation are underway with the economic development strategies and have convened stakeholder groups to discuss how to build and retain jobs and support a thriving regional economy. UVM Center for Rural Studies is working on ways to measure our progress toward these goals over time.

Looking ahead to March, NRPC and partners will be holding additional stakeholder meetings focusing on youth, aging and low income communities for their input on the future of the region.

Feel free to contact Katelin Brewer-Colie ([kbrewercolie@nrpcvt.com](mailto:kbrewercolie@nrpcvt.com)) or Catherine Dimitruk ([cdimitruk@nrpcvt.com](mailto:cdimitruk@nrpcvt.com)) or by calling 802-524-5958 with any questions about the project. Like our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/healthyandstrongvt](http://www.facebook.com/healthyandstrongvt).

## 68th Annual Town Officers' Education Conferences Spring 2013

### Panel Discussion

### Great Communication: Whose Job Is It, Anyway? Leaders, Citizens and Inclusive Democracy

#### **Dates & Locations:**

April 3 - Hilton, Burlington  
April 17 - Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee  
April 24 - Grand Hotel, Killington

#### **General Information:**

- ☞ Registration begins March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- ☞ Registration fee is \$70.00  
(includes lunch and break refreshments)
- ☞ On-site registration begins at 8:00 a.m.
- ☞ Workshops sessions are 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information call Sally Cleveland at 802-773-3349 x 271 or toll-free at 800-281-6977, or by e-mail at [sally.cleveland@uvm.edu](mailto:sally.cleveland@uvm.edu).

#### **See list of workshops for:**

- ☞ Selectboards
- ☞ Town Clerks
- ☞ Listers
- ☞ Librarians
- ☞ Citizen Volunteers and More

[www.uvm.edu/extension/toec](http://www.uvm.edu/extension/toec)

#### **There are two ways to register:**

1. Online at [www.uvm.edu/extension/toec](http://www.uvm.edu/extension/toec)  
(Register online and save \$10.00 per registrant!)

Payment options: credit card or check (no cash payments accepted.)

#### **If paying by check, the e-mail confirmation is your invoice.**

2. Print and complete the registration form and mail to:  
TOEC Registration  
UVM Extension  
1 Scale Avenue, Suite 55  
Rutland, VT 05701-4457

#### **Keynote Panelists:**

Honorable Jim Condos  
Vermont Secretary of State

Susan Clark, author,  
*Slow Democracy*

Sue McCormack  
Senior Associate  
Everyday Democracy

Charles L. Merriman, Esq.

Sandy Pinsonault  
Dorset Town Clerk

Georgette Wolf-Ludwig  
Fairlee Town Clerk

John Cushing  
Milton Town Clerk  
and Treasurer



## Brownfields Issues Wrapped Up at St. Albans House Commercial Space Ready for Occupation



*Before*



*After*

The St. Albans House is an important historic building on Lake St. in downtown St. Albans. The St. Albans Downtown Master Plan states that it is simply stunning and affords significant redevelopment opportunity. The building is ready to capitalize on that opportunity thanks to its purchase and ongoing redevelopment by local developer Jim Cameron, with financial support from the City of St. Albans, the Preservation Trust of Vermont, and NRPC in the form of Brownfields assessment funds. NRPC is happy to report that the Brownfields issues have been resolved for its planned use as commercial office space and residential apartments.

Formerly a hotel and disco amongst other commercial uses since it was built in the early 1840's, the building has been underused for the past several decades with its upper floors vacant and portions of the ground floor used for small commercial operations. The redevelopment will be a great asset for downtown St. Albans adding a beautiful façade, unique commercial space and high quality apartments.

### Northwest Medical Reserve Corps

The Northwest Regional Planning Commission, working in partnership with the Local Emergency Planning Committee #4, Franklin County Citizens Corps Council and the Vermont Department of Health, has received funding to help establish the Northwest Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). The MRC is a national network of local groups of volunteers committed to improving the public health, emergency response, and resiliency of their communities. When possible, MRC units collaborate with their local Citizen Corps Council to better protect, prepare, and serve their communities. Other components of Citizen Corps include the programs Neighborhood Watch, Volunteers in Police Service and Community Emergency Response Team.

The direction of the MRC program exists at the national (Office of the Surgeon General), state (Vermont Department of Health), and local levels. Each level has key personnel responsible for overseeing activities at their respective level. At the local level, each MRC unit is led by an MRC Unit Coordinator, who matches community needs—for emergency medical response and public health initiatives—with volunteer capabilities. Local coordinators are also responsible for building partnerships, ensuring the sustainability of the local unit, and managing the volunteer resources. Training will be offered by state and federal programs. In the coming months, the Franklin County Citizen Corps Council will be seeking a local coordinator to lead the MRC.

The MRC program seeks medical and public health professionals to assist with emergency preparedness and response efforts. However, other volunteers who have no medical or healthcare backgrounds also are needed to properly conduct emergency preparedness and response efforts. Community members without medical training can assist with administrative and other essential support functions. These volunteers give their time on an ongoing basis in coordination with other experts willing to donate their time and knowledge for special aspects of the effort.

If you would like more information about the Northwest MRC program, feel free to contact Shaun Coleman at 524-5958 or [scoleman@nrpcvt.com](mailto:scoleman@nrpcvt.com).

#### *NRPC Staff*

*Executive Director*  
*Catherine Dimitruk*

*Assistant Director*  
*Bethany Remmers*

*Office Administrator*  
*Amy Adams*

*Senior Planner*  
*Shaun Coleman*

*Senior Planner*  
*Greta Brunswick*

*Regional Planner*  
*Allison Stori*

*Regional Planner*  
*Katelin Brewer-Colie*

*Regional Planner*  
*Kevin Schwenzfeier*

*GIS Technician*  
*Emily Hubbard*



## Northwest Regional Board of Commissioners

Alburgh Town:	Terry Tatro Vacant Seat
Alburgh Village:	Andrea Beaderstadt Vacant Seat
Bakersfield:	Dennis DeBevec Bill Irwin
Berkshire:	Claude Charron Richard Ross
Enosburg Falls:	Michael Manahan Richard Roberge
Enosburgh:	Ronald Duso Vacant Seat
Fairfax:	Randy Devine Colleen Steen
Fairfield:	Jason Booth Marilyn Savoy
Fletcher:	Lynn Douglas Mary Jane Featherstone
Franklin:	Yvon Dandurand Clark Hubbard
Georgia:	Jerry Baitz Kirk Waite
Grand Isle:	Edvin Gelinias David Borthwick-Leslie
Highgate:	Richard Noel Tom Racine
Isle La Motte:	Paul Hinman Sylvia Jensen
Montgomery:	Carol McGregor Vacant Seat
North Hero:	Vacant Seat Vacant Seat
Richford:	Harold Foote Melissa Wells
Saint Albans City:	Lazarus Scangas Jeff Young
Saint Albans Town:	Robert Hughes William Nihan
Sheldon:	Patrick Howrigan Greg Stebbins
South Hero:	Bob Buermann Michael Guernsey
Swanton Town:	Harold Garrett Robert Manning
Swanton Village:	Christopher Leach Neal Speer

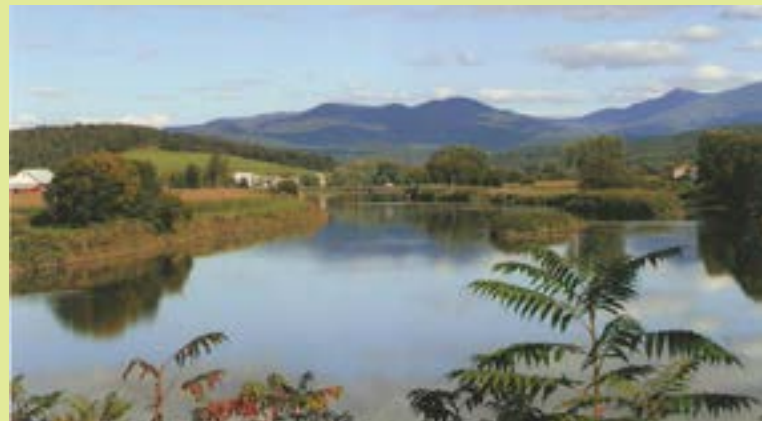
## Rail Trail Council Annual Meeting

The Northwest Vermont Rail Trail Council will hold its next regular business meeting on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00p.m. at the Sheldon Elementary School, Poor Farm Road, Sheldon Springs, Vermont. All are welcome. Please contact Cynthia at 933-8851 or at [cynthiascott@myfairpoint.net](mailto:cynthiascott@myfairpoint.net) for more information.



## Announcing the Rail Trail's 2012-2013 Winter Photo Contest!

Don't forget to bring your camera with you when you go out on the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail this winter. The Council would love to see the trail and its snowy surroundings through your eyes! Winter photos taken on, of, or from the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail are eligible and must be submitted by Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013. See our website [www.mvrailtrail.com](http://www.mvrailtrail.com) for contest guidelines and entry form, or contact us at (802) 524-5958 for more information.



*Previous Winner*  
*"Looking East" - B. Morgan*



155 Lake Street  
Saint Albans, VT 05478