



# NORTHWEST REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

## HIGHGATE TOWN REPORT - 2025

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### CONTACT

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### NRPC PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

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- Municipal plan and bylaw updates, technical assistance for local permitting
- Brownfields site assessments, cleanups and redevelopment plans
- Transportation planning and project management
- Water and wastewater project management
- Emergency preparedness, disaster recovery and resilience
- Energy conservation, renewable energy plans and projects
- Water quality planning, grants and project management
- Regional plans for growth and development
- Geographic Information System maps and data
- Downtown and village revitalization and community development

### ASSOCIATED PROJECTS MANAGED BY NRPC

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- Northern Vermont Economic Development District
- Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail
- Northwest Vermont Regional Foundation, Inc.
- Clean Water Service Provider: Missisquoi & Lamoille River Basins

### REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

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Anna Comiskey & Jack Pelkey

### TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Fredi Hayes

Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) is a governmental organization created by the municipalities of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. NRPC implements a variety of projects and programs to serve local, regional and statewide needs. All municipalities in the region have two locally appointed members of the Board of Commissioners.

### 2025 HIGHGATE TOWN PROJECTS

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- Provided technical assistance in local planning and zoning.
- Supported the town's efforts to achieve funding eligibility under the Federal Disaster Declaration for July 2023 storm.
- Initiated Lake Champlain Basin Program-funded study of the economic impact of water quality in Missisquoi Bay.
- Created an on-line zoning map.
- Provided the 2025 VTrans Highway and Community Maps.
- Supported the Northwest Communications Union District, in which Highgate is a member.
- Provided technical assistance for Franklin County Airport expansion project, which includes water/wastewater extension.
- Supported the town with the Village Core redevelopment, including coordinating with the site developer and funding brownfields corrective action plans, historic preservation compliance and support for cleanup funding applications.
- Provided project management support to the town for the community wastewater project which is in the final design phase.
- Assisted with implementation of a construction grant through the Municipal Energy Resilience Program.
- Completed a sidewalk inventory.
- Collaborated with the Planning Commission and Selectboard on regional future land use mapping for the 2026-2034 Northwest Regional Plan update, which will be the new process for maintaining Village Center Designation.

This year the Commission will assist our member municipalities with grant applications, project management, water quality project implementation, and local road permit compliance. NRPC will support local energy and climate planning, zoning bylaw updates, emergency preparedness, brownfields redevelopment and other needed services. NRPC will help promote the Missisquoi and Lamoille Valley Rail Trails and update its regional plan to support more housing. The Commission has no regulatory or taxing authority; however, each year we do request a per capita assessment in support of local and regional activities and to provide matching funds for state and federal programs.

Your continued support for NRPC is greatly appreciated. We are your resource – we are here to help with planning, zoning, transportation, project management, mapping or other needs.