



Northwest Regional Planning Commission 2016 Town Report

Northwest Regional Planning Commission is a multi-purpose governmental organization created by the municipalities of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. NRPC implements a variety of projects and programs tailored to local, regional and statewide needs. All municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by two locally appointed members to the Board of Commissioners.

Northwest Regional Planning Commission Projects & Programs:

Municipal plan and bylaw updates and related technical assistance: Focus on predictable and effective local permitting through education and training, bylaw modernization and plan updates.

Brownfields: Complete environmental site assessments and fund clean-ups so properties can be sold, developed or re-developed to benefit the economy, create or protect jobs and increase housing opportunities.

Transportation planning: Coordinate local involvement in transportation decisions through the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and provide services such as intersection studies, corridor plans and traffic counts.

Emergency planning: Better prepare our region and state for disasters by coordinating with local volunteers and VT Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security on emergency planning, exercises and training.

Energy conservation and development: Implement projects to support municipal energy conservation to save energy and tax dollars, support job training programs and identify opportunities for renewable energy generation.

Watershed planning and project development: Implement water quality projects and programs to protect water resources, ensure safe water supplies, enhance recreational opportunities and address known sources of pollution.

Regional plans: Coordinate infrastructure, community development and growth at the regional level through the development, adoption and administration of a comprehensive regional plan.

Geographic Information System Services: Provide municipalities, state agencies and regional groups with mapping and data analysis in support of their projects.

Special projects: Complete special projects such as downtown revitalization, recreation paths, farmland preservation, economic development and affordable housing projects.

Grants: Provide assistance identifying appropriate grant sources, defining a project scope and writing grant applications.

2016 Highgate Projects:

- ☞ Provided planning and zoning technical assistance.
- ☞ Finalized a draft of a Capital Budget and Improvement Program.
- ☞ Updated the locally adopted Emergency Operations Plan.
- ☞ Coordinated with land slide risk analysis of Highgate with the Department of Public Safety, State Geologist, Norwich University, UVM's Transportation Research Center and local officials.
- ☞ Updated the E-911 poster map.
- ☞ Completed a road erosion and culvert inventory.
- ☞ Wrote a successful Municipal Planning Grant application for library and community center feasibility study.
- ☞ Initiated a Road Safety Audit Review for the intersection of VT Route 78 and St. Armand Road.
- ☞ Provided technical assistance to the Selectboard related to the redevelopment of the former Young Landfill.



This year the Commission will assist communities with water quality compliance and project implementation, complete a regional energy plan, implement our new regional plan and provide other needed services to our member municipalities. The Commission has no regulatory or taxing authority; however, each year we do request a per capita assessment from our members in support of local and regional activities and to provide matching funds needed for state and federal programs.

Your continued support for local and regional planning is greatly appreciated. NRPC is your resource -- please call on us for assistance with planning, zoning, transportation, mapping or other needs.