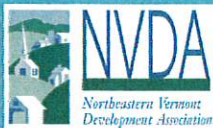


Staff Presentation

June 18, 2026
June Board Meeting
Eastside, Newport



1

Economic Development Service

- Responsible for annual business visits across the region both independently and with SOV officials
- Connects businesses with necessary resources for thriving and growth—VEGI, VTP, BGS, site needs, and financing
- Permitting review and assistance - local, Act 250, and Section 248

Dave Snedeker

2

EPA Brownfields Program Implementation

- Oversight and management of what has become a primary tool for facilitating redevelopments across the region
- Assisting business and housing growth with Phase 1 and 2 Environmental Assessments, Corrective Action Plans, and Cleanup activities

Dave Snedeker

3

Wheelock Town Plan Update

- Funded with an MPG
- Newly formed planning commission
- Heavy emphasis on public engagement
- Community survey yielding 104 responses



Alison Low

4

Guildhall Subdivision Regulations

- Statutory updates
- Unified development bylaws
- Drafted in anticipation of several pending subdivisions
- Funded with an MPG

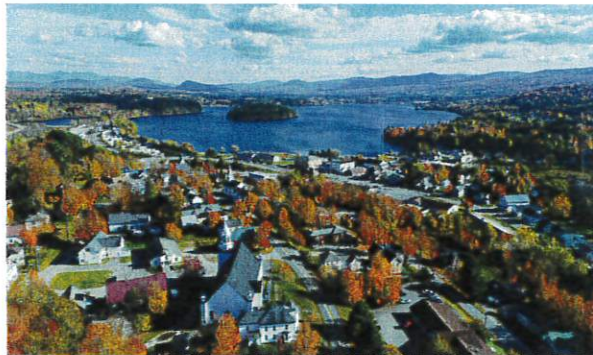


Alison Low

5

Brighton Town Plan Update

- Community Survey yielding 146 responses
- Future land use plan and map anticipates Tier 1B status
- 1,000+ acres of suitable infill development identified in Island Pond core
- Funded with an MPG



Alison Low

6

Tactical Basin Planning

- Review of Tactical Basin Plan updates for conformance with Regional Plan. Basins 6 (Missisquoi), 7 (Lamoille) and 16 (Upper Connecticut) were updated recently.
- Member of Memphremagog and Missisquoi Basin Water Quality Councils (BWQC); reviews and approves many non-regulatory water quality projects related to TMDL reduction
- Member of Connecticut River Joint Commission for water quality issues in the Connecticut River Basin
- Quebec/VT Steering Committee participant for bi-national water quality in the Memphremagog Basin

Beth Torpey

7

Use of Public Waters Rule Update

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) spread concern

- The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) updated Use of Public Waters Rule (UPW) in relation to wakeboats
 - The number of wakeboat eligible waterbodies was reduced from 30 to 18, with 11 being in the NEK, eight of those do not currently have AIS and five of them are eligible for A-1 reclassification as high water quality value waterbodies. Increased wakeboat traffic is anticipated.
 - The AIS spread prevention provision, the HomeLake Rule, was eliminated
 - Hot water decontamination is required, but proof of decontamination is not. Currently all of the decontamination stations are located at Lake Champlain
- Studies show an up to 16% decrease in tax base with introduction of AIS
- NVDA provided comments and recommendations on this update.

Beth Torpey

8

Road Foreman Meetings

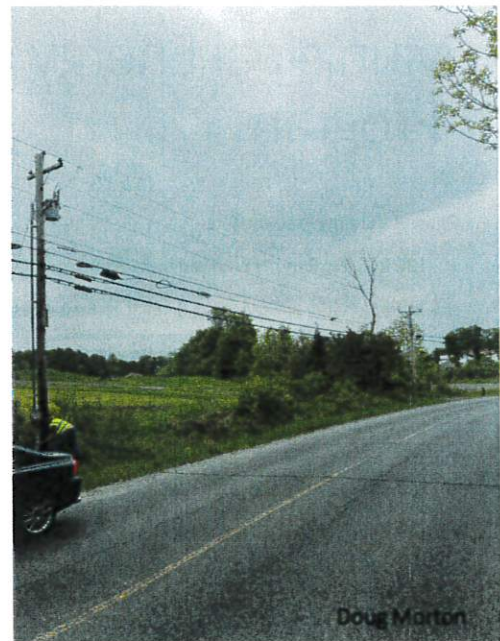
- Collaborate with VTrans, VT Local Roads and NEK Towns
- Work with Both District 9 and 7
- Focus on improving best management practices and providing outreach opportunities for training and funding (MRGP, Better Roads, Grants in Aid
- At least 2 in each district annually

Doug Morton

9

Data Collection Services

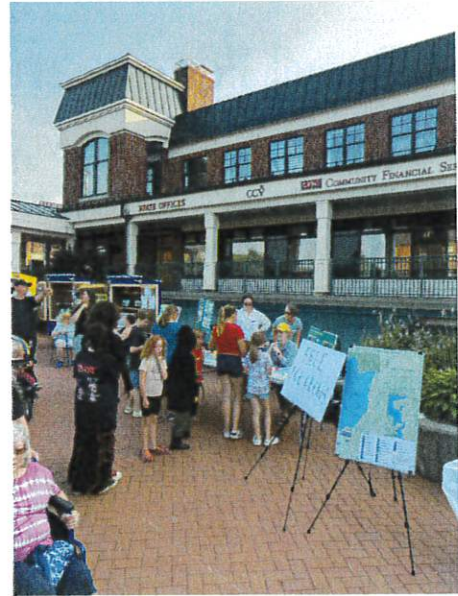
- Municipal Road General Permit Road Erosion Inventories
- VT Culvert Inventory Updates
- Traffic counts
- Speed Counts
- Rail Trail monitoring and culvert Inventories



10

Rail Trail Councils

- Lamoille Valley Rail Trail and Beebe Spur Rail Trail Councils
- Coordinating VTrans grant to provide amenities and trailhead development to LVRT communities
- Assisted with the development of both LVRT and BSRT management plans



Doug Morton

11

Municipal Energy Resilience Program

Phase 1 - Energy Assessments

- 130 Building Reports received by 50 Municipalities

-Identified energy conservation & reliance measures

NVDA helped schedule and coordinate visits, collect historical utility data for analysis, and walk-through the results with town stakeholders.

Phase 2 - Mini Grants - \$4,000

- 33 Municipalities received community capacity building grants

NVDA helps organize energy fairs, create direct mailers, marketing materials for events, and connect municipalities with ADA consultants



Carter Finegan

12

MERP Phase 3 - Implementation Grants

- \$11,430,216 awarded for to 39 towns & 83 buildings

Project work includes: HVAC systems, thermal envelope upgrades, LED lighting & controls, solar arrays, and ADA improvements

Support includes: drafting & posting RFPs, connecting stakeholders with contractors, answer reimbursement questions, submit VDHP paperwork, quarterly report assistance, navigate grant amendment requests, coordinate with other resources & partners, communicate updates with BGS, and host monthly "MERP Think Tanks".



Carter Finegan

13

Updating Groton's Town Plan

- Project is possible through a Municipal Planning Grant
- Update of all chapters, data, maps, and community survey
- Groton is most interested in boosting the town's economy through
 - Capitalizing on visitors of the state forest
 - Attracting new businesses to the town center
 - Making the town center more walkable
 - Improving town aesthetics

Groton Town Plan

Adopted: May 18, 2017

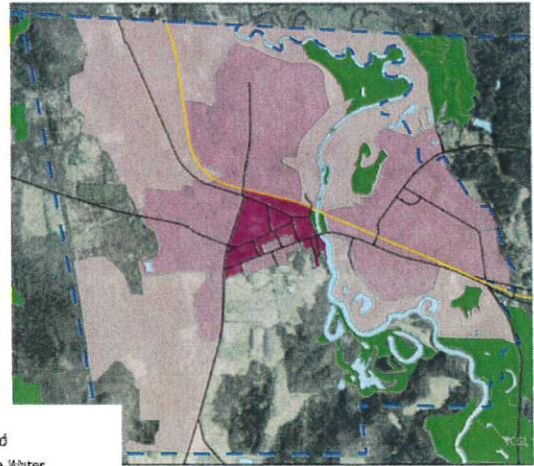


Cathlin Driscoll

14

Troy Municipal Planning Grant for Subdivision bylaws

- Project grew out of Act 181 conversations with Town of Troy
- Town is interested in Tier 1B
- The planning grant is to develop subdivision bylaws, to make Troy 1B eligible
- 1B would make meeting the Selectboard's goal of more housing easier
- Town retains the right to adopt or not adopt subdivision bylaws and opt or not opt into 1B



— Roads
 — Railroad
 Surface Water
 Village Centers*
 Planned Growth Areas*
 Village Areas*
 Conservation
 Municipal Boundaries
 *Tier 1B Eligible

Liam Abbate

17

Jay Municipal Planning Grant (MPG)

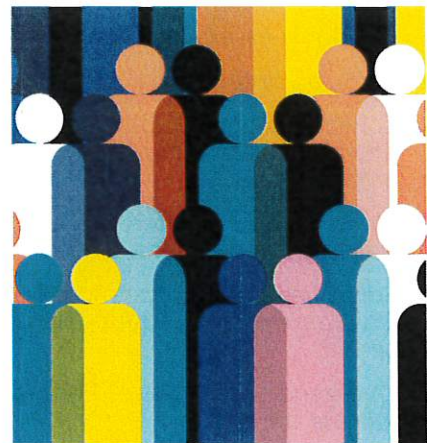
Resilient Jay: A Town Plan Focused on Climate Resilience

Combination of a town plan and Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)

First of its kind in Vermont

Identifies overlaps in plans and combines to build a stronger, more integrated plan.

Has the potential to improve community engagement, make plans more attainable for towns with minimal administrative capacity, provide a more holistic approach to town planning, and utilize alternative funding to write plans.



Molly Dockter

18

Vermont Bond Bank Small System Capacity and Resiliency Program (SSCRP)

Statewide program funded by the Bond Bank, facilitated by Addison County Regional Planning Commission, and carried out by regional planning commissions.

NEK= 38 systems identified, all contacted, 14 with robust dialogue, more to come!

Phase 1: Identify and contact all small water systems in region; collect administrative, financial, and water capacity data on voluntary basis; identify level of support.

Phase 2: Guided by Phase 1 knowledge. Possibilities include facilitated trainings & roundtables to boost regional collaboration; identifying political & growth boundaries; assistance with grant writing.



Molly Dockter

19

NEK Regional Emergency Management Committees (REMCs)

Caledonia-Essex and Orleans-Essex REMCs

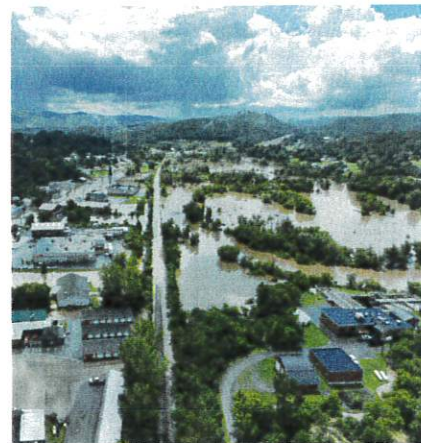
Focus on fostering regional capacity and dialogue.

Communication between communities during “blue sky times” equates to improved response during emergencies.

Meetings held in different locations to promote on site learning and collaboration.

Continued communication and support from VEM to maintain operations during the current under-funded period.

Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) funding still on hold.



Molly Dockter

20

Brighton Housing Infill Map

- Using NVDA's proposed Future land use map, located vacant and large lots that could be used to create new housing.
- Looked at various parameters that could limit development and excluded those parcels.
- Supports how to zoning could meet new housing targets, without creating new development outside of downtown area.

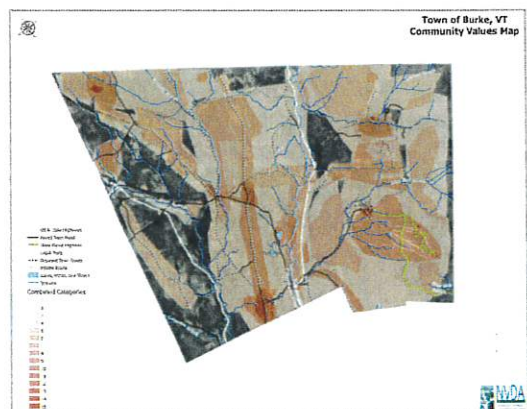


Tracy McIntyre

21

Burke Community Values Mapping

- Members of the Burke community identified areas that are important. This included Recreation, Scenic, Community, Historic, and Ecological.
- The data was combined and individual heat maps for each classification was created.
- The classifications were combined to produce an overall heat map of important areas.
- These maps will be used to help inform the development of a new town plan.



Tracy McIntyre

22



Outreach and communications plan for Do North/NVDA entrepreneurship support - better storytelling to showcase our work and the business success stories in the Northeast Kingdom!



Northeast Kingdom Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Building - ecosystem mapping and the development of strategic plan to coordinate regional economic development partners.



Partnership with Hula on the Innovation Ecosystems Track this September to build strategic relationships that accelerate the flow of capital, talent, and innovation into Vermont and the Northeast Kingdom.

Annie McLean & Owen Davie

23

Economic Development

Downtown Development

Technical support for downtown organizations and community development projects throughout the Kingdom.

Regional Priority Project Development

Advancing transformative projects across the Northeast Kingdom through strategic planning, funding support, and regional coordination.



Annie McLean & Owen Davie

24

Business Support

BizBuild Cost-Share Program

Direct funding to startups and small businesses in the Northeast Kingdom to access to expert training and professional services to help them launch, grow, and succeed.

Tax Credit Assistance

Assistance to business owners with Downtown and Village Center Tax Credit Program applications to access unlock funding for redevelopment of 2026 Downtown and Village Center Tax Credit Program



Annie McLean & Owen Davie

25



Informal, collaborative workshops designed to help budding entrepreneurs and business progenitors develop their ideas, and pitch them to potential investors, collaborators, and customers



A 10-week program designed to help the Kingdom's up and coming entrepreneurs develop a business plan, identify customers, and create a market ready minimum viable product



Shark Tank™ style pitch competition aimed at showcasing the region's most promising entrepreneurs. Participants pitch their business ideas in front a live audience and judge panel in competition for cash prizes

Annie McLean & Owen Davie

26

