



2013 Town Report

The Regional Commission is a multi-purpose governmental organization formed by and serving the municipalities of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. 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 implements a variety of projects and programs tailored to local, regional and statewide needs.

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.

In Fairfax the Northwest Regional Planning Commission:

- ☞ Conducted a community meeting under the Healthy People, Strong Communities project to gather input and share ideas on economic development, community health, bike and pedestrian safety, disaster resilience and the overall future of the community.
- ☞ Provided project management and \$6,650 in grant funds for the weatherization retrofit of the Fire Station.
- ☞ Met with the planning commission as part of the enhanced municipal consultation process to review the town plan, identify training needs and discuss local and regional priorities.
- ☞ Assisted with updates to the Basic Emergency Operations Plan.
- ☞ Completed the Town Plan updates and the Village Vision project; reviewed Town Plan for regional approval and confirmation.
- ☞ Assisted documenting and submitting Tier 2 Hazardous Materials reports.
- ☞ Provided zoning technical assistance.
- ☞ Began updates to the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- ☞ Updated the E-911 poster map, road atlas and road map.
- ☞ Created Town of Cambridge E-911 poster map and atlas for Fairfax Rescue.



This year the Commission will further develop our Healthy People, Strong Communities project to promote economic development and community health, including providing over \$200,000 in implementation grants to community groups and adopting a new regional plan. We will also continue our programs in local and regional planning and project implementation and will 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.