



TWO RIVERS-OTTAUQUECHEE REGIONAL COMMISSION

3117 Rose Hill, The King Farm, Woodstock, VT 05091
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May 2010

TRORC Receives USEPA Grant

TRORC is pleased to announce that we have received a \$400,000 grant from US Environmental Protection Agency to fund assessments of sites suspected to be contaminated with hazardous materials or petroleum. Through the environmental site assessment process, brownfields sites can re-enter the local economy as useful and valued properties.

Assessments of brownfields properties is an important component of TRORC's economic development program. These studies, and the eventual cleanup and reuse of brownfields sites, improve the local economy through job creation, contributes to the tax base, reduces health threats, and avoids new development being pushed to undeveloped sites outside of our region's villages and downtowns.



By assisting public entities who may be acquiring sites and covering the costs of site assessment, TRORC is removing a major impediment to redevelopment of abandoned, idle, or under-used properties in our region. Vermont law offers municipalities an option to take ownership of abandoned properties to promote a fuller range of redevelopment without acquiring the associated ownership liability.

To participate in the TRORC Brownfields program, redevelopers must have a reuse in mind and the site must not be owned by whomever caused the contamination. For more information, please contact Sally Hull at 457-3188.

Town Baseline Energy Study

TRORC is seeking the assistance of our towns in collecting data for our regional baseline energy study. This study will attempt to collect energy use data from every municipality in the TRORC region. Using this data, we hope to identify areas in which towns can dramatically reduce energy expenses without spending an excess of funds to do so. In order for the RPC to collect the data for this study, we will need permission from our towns to obtain the information from their power company. Representatives of these local power companies have indicated that they will also need the account numbers for each municipally owned building (or lighting in the case of streetlights) in order to more easily locate the information.

Selectboard members, Town Managers and Energy Committee members should be receiving a memo requesting assistance and appropriate information release forms in the mail in the near future. We are hoping that every community will participate in this program with a limited amount of effort required.

If you have questions about the TRORC Regional Baseline Energy Study, please contact Chris Sargent at 457-3188 (x12) or csargent@trorc.org.



Wellborn Ecology Town Planning Workshops

In 2009, TRORC received a grant from the Wellborn Ecology Fund to develop an educational curriculum and train municipal officers in our 30 town region on the interface of ecology with town planning and development review.



Through a series of four workshops, TRORC staff will train town officials on how to put ecological considerations on equal footing with the other issues in the development review process. Our training program will allow municipal officials to incorporate green development into municipal planning and development review activities. To do this, town officials and ecological stakeholders will be instructed about the review process itself, the various

inputs to this process (plans, advisory inputs), and the ecological considerations and expert resources that are available.

Our workshop schedule is as follows:
May 20 - Subdivision Review, Woodstock Town Hall
May 27- Zoning Bylaws, Bradford Academy
June 3 - Open Space Planning, Chelsea Public School
June 10 - Town Plans, Rochester Town Office

All workshops are free and run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided. Residents of the TRORC region are encouraged to attend! Please contact Sally Hull for more information at 457-3188.



Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission
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Staff Members

Peter G. Gregory, AICP - Executive Director
 Liza F. Wilson - Office Manager
 Pete Fellows, CFM - GIS Manager
 Kevin W. Geiger, AICP, CFM - Senior Planner
 Sally M. Hull - Regional Planner
 Chris Sargent, AICP - Regional Planner
 Rita Seto - Regional Planner
 Chuck Wise, AICP - Sr. Transportation Planner

FY 2010 TRORC Representatives

Barnard - Gerald Fredrickson, Gerry Botha (Alt.)
 Bethel - Yaroslav Stanchak, Olena Stanchak (Alt.)
 Bradford - Nancy Jones, Bobette Scribner (Alt.)
 Braintree - Mark Bannon
 Bridgewater - Nelson Lee, Jr., Norman Martin, II (Alt.)
 Brookfield - No rep
 Chelsea - Carl Pepperman, Cherylanne Linaris (Alt.)
 Corinth - Frank Roderick
 Fairlee - Larry Gatto (Alt.)
 Granville - No rep
 Hancock - No rep
 Hartford - Lori Hirshfield
 Hartland - No rep
 Newbury - Larry Scott, Scott Labun (Alt.)
 Norwich - Jamie Hess
 Pittsfield - Jerry Drugonis
 Plymouth - Jim Allen (Alt.)
 Pomfret - William Emmons
 Randolph - Joe Voci, Ken Hafner (Alt.)
 Rochester - Larry Straus
 Royalton - David Brandau, Walter Hastings (Alt.)
 Sharon - Paul Haskell
 Stockbridge - Mark Doughty, Bill Edgerton (Alt.)
 Strafford - Steve Campbell, Guy Denechaud (Alt.)
 Thetford - Jim Masland, Donn Downey (Alt.)
 Topsham - Thomas Flannigan
 Tunbridge - Arnold Castagner, Michael Sacca (Alt.)
 Vershire - Bill Baylis
 West Fairlee - Jim Brigham, Nate Pero (Alt.)
 Woodstock - Charles Wilson
 At-Large Members - Joan Goldstein (GMEDC)
 - Christine Walker (UVLSRPC)

Project Updates

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plans (PDMs)

In 2007, we began updating our regional and local Pre-Disaster Mitigation plans that comply with FEMA and Vermont Emergency Management regulations. The last nine town PDM plans have been submitted to FEMA for initial review and we hope to have them approved by FEMA and adopted by the towns by September 2010.

2010 Basic Emergency Operations Plans (BEOPs)

As part of our annual update, towns will be sent a draft version of their current BEOP. Please contact Rita Seto at rseto@trorc.org if you have any questions on PDMs or BEOPs.

Street Light Inventories



TRORC has been working with the Town of Hartford on a street lighting project which began with an initial analysis of street lights that were recommended to be turned off. The Town shut off 40% of their lights. TRORC has been looking at additional reviews of light-emitting diode (LED) technologies, working with Green Mountain Power and Central Vermont Public Service officials on street light data, investigating light ownership along US Route 5, and responding to citizen comments. There have been several towns inquiring about doing similar street light reviews. Contact Chuck Wise for more information.

News & Upcoming Events

May 25 – 2010 Upper Valley Energy Committee Roundtable
 May 26 – Next TRORC Board of Commissioners meeting
 June 4 – Symposium on Sustainability: Retrofitting Historic Buildings
 June 4 – 2011 Transportation Enhancements applications due
 June 4 – RFQ: TRORC seeking energy auditors to conduct municipal energy audits due
 June 17 – Next LEPC12 meeting
 July 8 – Next TAC meeting
 July 12 to 13 – Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training
 July 20 – VCGI's Introduction to GIS Training Workshop

For more information, please visit our website:

www.trorc.org/events.html

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