

2014 Regional Plan Updates

First Round of Public Hearings

Town Office, Fairlee, Vermont—April 28, 2014

Present:

Jim Bulger (Topsham)
Laurent Veilleux (Fairlee)
Pete Fellows (TRORC)
Samantha Holcomb (TRORC)
Ellie Ray (TRORC)

The public hearing was called to order at 6:45pm.

All present were asked to introduce themselves.

TRORC staff introduced the purpose of the meeting and briefly explained the work that had been done in the Regional Plan update process. Staff explained that comments would be collected at the hearing, but they could also be submitted to up to two weeks after the date of the hearing.

TRORC staff turned the meeting over to the attendees, asking them for their comments.

Jim Bulger (Topsham) submitted the following comments:

- Regarding the Housing Chapter: Topsham has only a few “good” places for development in the village centers. There is a need for elderly and affordable housing in Topsham, but unsure where these types of development could be located in East or West Topsham. Also, seniors want to stay within the confines of their towns/communities, so how can housing help to accommodate their wishes?
- Regarding the Child Care Services Section: Mentioned the Sugar Maple Preschool in East Corinth and the fact that some children from Topsham attend.
- Regarding the Flood Resilience Chapter: Jim was somewhat discouraged that there was little mapping of wetlands and the presence of endangered and threatened species in Topsham.

TRORC staff explained the contents and purpose of the “How The Plan Relates” chapter, in case there were any comments on the topics discussed within; there were none.

After all comments from the attendees were recorded, TRORC staff explained that there would be additional updates to the Regional Plan, which would be ready for public comment in 2015.

TRORC staff asked if there were any lingering comments or questions; there were none.

The public hearing adjourned at 7:10pm.