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Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission Receives National Association of Development Organizations 2015 Innovation Award

WASHINGTON, DC – The Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC), based in Woodstock, Vermont received a 2015 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Research Foundation for the *East Central Vermont: What We Want*.

East Central Vermont: What We Want is the product of a three-year planning process funded by a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant from the Department of U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, an interagency partnership consisting of HUD, the Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The program's goal was to support planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments in a manner that empowers jurisdictions to consider the interdependent challenges of: (1) economic competitiveness and revitalization; (2) social equity, inclusion, and access to opportunity; (3) energy use and climate change; and (4) public health and environmental impact. TRORC works on programs and projects in many areas, but the overarching themes are municipal assistance and regional efforts.

NADO is a Washington, DC-based association that promotes programs and policies that strengthen local governments, communities, and economies through regional cooperation, program delivery, and comprehensive strategies. The association's Innovation Awards program recognizes regional development organizations and partnering organizations for improving the economic and community competitiveness of our nation's regions and local communities. Award-winning projects were honored during NADO's 2015 Annual Training Conference, held October 24-27 in New Orleans, LA.

"For nearly 30 years, NADO's Innovation Award has provided regional development organizations the opportunity to be recognized for their hard work and dedication to promoting economic development in rural and small metropolitan communities across the country. Building on the unique strengths and challenges of each region and community, award recipients continue to promote sustainable economic growth not only now, but for many years to come. And I am pleased to announce that this year over 100 regional development organizations were selected to receive NADO's 2015 Innovation Award," said NADO 2014-2015 Board President Terry Bobrowski, Executive Director of the East Tennessee Development District in Alcoa, TN.

For more information about the award-winning project, contact Kevin Geiger at the Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission at (802) 457-3188.

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Since 1967 the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) has provided advocacy, education, networking, and research for the national network of 540 regional development organizations. NADO members provide professional, programmatic and technical assistance to over 2,300 counties and 15,000 municipalities.