TRORC November News & Notes!

Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission

News & Notes
November 2022

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PROJECT UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Former Pomfret Town Clerk's Office

Forest Block Training

Town plans have been required since 2018 to take into account large blocks of forest and how they connect. These blocks are critical to healthy ecosystems, clean water, as well as the wood products industry. Join Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Regional Commission on the evening of November 17th to learn why these areas are important, how to consider them in town plans, and what you can do through subdivision regulations to allow for sustainable development and preserve forests. This training is free and open to the public. Town leadership is highly encouraged to attend.

Zoom meeting details can be found here.

Please reach out to icheney@trorc.org with questions.

Local Emergency Management Plan Adoption Status

Several towns within the TRORC region have not updated their Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP) this calendar year. These annual plans are due to Vermont Emergency Management in May each year. Failure to adopt these can cost your town money during disasters.

Check your town's status on the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources website here. Directions on how to adopt a Local Emergency Management Plan can be found on the TRORC website here or you can contact Sydney Steinle for assistance at ssteinle@trorc.org

3CVT Updates and Upcoming Events
Cornerstone Creative Community (3CVT) completed the fifth and final business workshop at the end of October. This was a series for creatives, entrepreneurs and small business owners in the TRORC region and beyond. These workshops included information from field experts on Grant Writing, Branding, Marketing, Internet Presence, and Budgeting. Over 100 people engaged in these workshops and presentations can be found here under Business Development Trainings.

This winter, 3CVT is planning two cross-sector events, focused on Education and Outdoor Recreation. Additionally, 3CVT encourages creatives to utilize the 'Elevate My Brand' Toolkits located under Technical Assistant on the 3CVT Website! Keep up with 3CVT on our Listserv here and Facebook here.

Bethel Trailfest | Photo by: Meghan Asbury, TRORC

Upcoming Capital Budgeting and Programming Training by TRORC

TRORC will be holding a Capital Budgeting and Programing training via Zoom in late November or early December. The training will be held after 5PM to accommodate participants' schedules. The training is geared towards Planning Commissions, Selectboards, and Treasurers, aimed at increasing Town capacity to create and maintain Capital Budgets and Programs. The workshop will cover the basics of Capital Budgeting and Programming, the importance of reserves, and ties to Town Plans, among other concepts. Further details and the Zoom link will be made available on the TRORC Calendar.

TRORC offers a variety of in-person and virtual workshops throughout the year and has downloadable PowerPoint presentations, white papers, and links to videos of presentations available on its website.

For more information about this upcoming training, contact Sydney Steinle at 802-457-3188 ext. 3006 or via email at ssteinle@trorc.org.
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Quechee Gorge | Photo by: John Knox

VTrans US Route 4 Corridor Study Survey (Hartford-Woodstock)

VTrans in partnership with numerous regional, municipal, and community stakeholders, is conducting a US Route 4 Corridor Plan in late 2022 – early 2023. The Plan covers the US Route 4 corridor between Hartford and Woodstock, in the towns of Hartford, Hartland, and Woodstock. VTrans has prepared an Online Survey that solicits your observations and concerns regarding US Route 4. This survey will run until mid-December 2022. Visit this website for information and link to the Online Survey. Please distribute the survey link to anyone who uses US Route 4 and would like to provide comments. [https://vtrans.vermont.gov/corridor/US4-Hartford-Woodstock](https://vtrans.vermont.gov/corridor/US4-Hartford-Woodstock)

If you have issues accessing this survey, please feel free to reach out to Matthew Arancio, VTrans Planning Coordinator at [matthew.arancio@vermont.gov](mailto:matthew.arancio@vermont.gov).

TRORC IS HIRING!

Intermunicipal Regional Energy Coordinator

The Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) in Woodstock, Vermont is seeking an enthusiastic person to continue our highly successful multi-town energy program. The position is responsible for developing, procuring, and managing town-level energy projects such as audits, community solar, replacing fossil fuel heating systems, EV charging stations, and community education projects.

Applicants must have excellent public speaking skills, be adept at written communication and basic math, be proficient in Microsoft Office, have a public service-attitude, a sense of humor, the ability to operate independently, and be able to grasp technical concepts quickly. This position requires a college degree, reliable vehicle, and possible experience in construction management, grant writing and management, energy projects, and/or working with municipal government.

More information, including how to apply, can be found [here](https://app.robly.com/archive?id=c859ebeb1e09b875bb187e2b78b88466&v=true).

Planner

The Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) in Woodstock, Vermont is seeking a self-motivated person to take on energy and town planning projects. The position is responsible for varied duties, including town-level energy projects replacing fossil fuel heating systems, land use planning, flood disaster planning, and transportation.
Applicants must have excellent public speaking skills, be adept at written communication and basic math, be proficient in Microsoft Office, have a public service-attitude, a sense of humor, the ability to operate independently, and can grasp technical concepts quickly. A college degree and some experience in managing projects is required. Experience in construction, grant management, energy projects, AICP accreditation, and/or working with municipal government is a plus. The position requires a reliable vehicle for field work and attendance in-person or remote, at local night meetings.

More information, including how to apply, can be found here.

Office Assistant

The Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) in Woodstock, Vermont, is seeking a detail-oriented person to join our team. The Office Assistant will be responsible for handling office correspondence, file management, occasional fieldwork, mailings, creating reports, maintaining contact lists, and other duties as assigned by the Finance Manager.

More information, including how to apply, can be found here.

Internships

TRORC welcomes college interns interested in the work of TRORC. Interns assist or lead projects in areas as diverse as land use, water quality, forest protection, GIS, climate change, transportation infrastructure, housing policy, or emergency management. TRORC has no formal intern application form, and accepts interns on an as needed basis given budget and space constraints. Prospective interns should first familiarize themselves with our work through our website, and then email kgeiger@trorc.org expressing interest in working at TRORC at least two months in advance of a possible start date. Interns selected to apply will be required to submit a faculty letter of recommendation and a resume. Interns are encouraged to seek financial support from their institution for the internship, but we also have a modest budget for hourly pay.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

VTrans Better Roads Grant

VTrans announced the SFY2024 Better Roads Grant for categories B, C and D (ditching and culverts, bank stabilization and large culverts). The Vermont Better Roads Program promotes the use of erosion control and maintenance techniques that save money while protecting and enhancing water quality around the State. Please note that the application scoring of the Better Roads Program is intended to be in line with the State’s Clean Water Act (Act 64), as well as the Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP). In an effort to prioritize funding for projects that are providing significant water quality improvements, applicants must indicate whether or not the projects that they intend to construct will be in full compliance with the MRGP. For more information: https://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads. Applications are due Friday Dec. 16, 2022. For application assistance, please contact Rita Seto rseto@trorc.org.