



**FY2013 ANNUAL REPORT
 to the
 CITY of BURLINGTON**

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The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is a 29-member board consisting of one delegate from each of the County's 19 municipalities; four at-large members representing the interests of agriculture, environmental conservation, business, housing/socio-economic; and representatives from the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Burlington International Airport (BIA) and a rail representative. The CCRPC appreciates the opportunity to work with its municipal members to plan appropriately for the region's future to protect the special quality of life that is shared throughout Chittenden County.

The CCRPC is a cooperative regional forum for the development of policies, plans and programs that address regional planning issues and opportunities in Chittenden County. The CCRPC serves as the region's federally designated metropolitan planning organization and is responsible to all citizens of the region to ensure the implementation of the best transportation plan for Chittenden County. The CCRPC also provides technical and planning assistance to its member municipalities and VTrans.

The FY14 CCRPC Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will invest more than \$4 million dollars in regional land use, transportation, emergency management, energy, water quality, natural resource, economic development, governance, education and outreach planning and technical assistance. The program leverages \$240,000 in municipal dues and local match contributions of \$80,000 to invest \$3.7 million in planning and technical resources in preparing for future projects in Chittenden County—a 10:1 return on investment.

The CCRPC serves its 19 member municipalities by working on both regional and municipal level projects. The next pages are divided into two sections: Regional activities and City of Burlington activities.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

- **ECOS Project** – With support from all Chittenden County municipalities, state agencies and 40 other partner organizations, the CCRPC adopted the ECOS Plan in July 2013 as the combined Regional Plan, Transportation Plan, and Economic Development Plan for Chittenden County (ecosproject.com).
- **Emergency Management** – CCRPC assists all municipalities with updating basic emergency operations plans (<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/em/>) and staffs Local Emergency Planning Committee 1 (LEPC 1) which consists of representatives from businesses, local government, emergency response organizations and citizen groups of Chittenden County municipalities

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<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/em/lepc/>.

- **Regional Climate Action Planning** – CCRPC completed the Climate Action Evaluation Matrix, the Emissions Inventory and incorporated transportation-related data and recommendations. A final plan is expected to be released in early 2014.
- CCRPC hosted a **Regional Energy Forum** in FY13 for municipal energy committees (<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/energy/>).
- **Transportation Improvement Program** – The Federal Fiscal Year TIP for 2014 through 2017 was adopted by the CCRPC in July 2013 (<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/tip>). The TIP is a prioritized, multi-year list of transportation projects in Chittenden County. To receive federal funds, each transportation project, program or operation must be authorized through the TIP. The FY14-FY17 TIP includes more than \$181 million in federal dollars for transportation projects within the county.
- **CIRC Highway Alternatives Task Force** – Upon Governor Shumlin’s announcement that the Circumferential Highway—as originally conceived—would not be built, the CCRPC has been leading CIRC Highway Alternatives Task Force (<http://www.circtaskforce.org/>). CCRPC staff, VTrans and the “CIRC Communities” (Colchester, Essex, Essex Junction, and Williston) are working on a series of projects and planning activities which will aid in meeting the original Purpose and Need of the CIRC Highway Project, which broadly stated are mobility, congestion, transportation demand, safety, livability, and economic development.
- **Transportation Demand Management** – The CCRPC, along with regional and state partners, launched **Go! Chittenden County**, a one-stop-shop for information and advice about our region’s transportation resources (www.gochittendencounty.org). The CCRPC participated in the 10th annual **Way to Go! Commuter Challenge** (www.waytogovt.org) the week of May 13-17 to encourage alternative transportation (non-single occupant vehicle travel) and demonstrate the environmental and financial benefits. Work also began on updating the regional **Intelligent Transportation System Plan** which describes how to best use telecommunications and computing technology to boost the efficiency of roadway, transit and emergency and maintenance vehicle response systems, and provide timely information on travel options.
- **Diversity & Equity Training** – CCRPC staff participated in “We All Belong,” a program of the City of Burlington’s Community & Economic Development Office, to help us create a more inclusive workplace and to more effectively serve Chittenden County’s ever diversifying community. Our Americorps Vista staff developed and hosted “Leadership for People of Color,” a leadership development program designed to prepare participants to become more actively involved in the decisions that impact our community.
- **Regional Technical Assistance** – Includes GIS mapping, model municipal plans, bylaw and ordinance revisions, Act 250 application reviews, grant administration, build-out analyses, orthoimagery acquisition, and improving the VT Online Bridge and Culvert Inventory Tool (<http://www.vtculverts.org/>). We also provide Transportation Technical Assistance, Scoping and Corridor Study programs to help individual communities address their transportation issues. Regionally significant projects in 2013 included: the Railyard Enterprise Project and North Avenue Corridor Study (Burlington); I-89 Exit 17 (Colchester); Exit 12/Grid Streets and VT

2A/Industrial Avenue to James Brown Drive (Williston); VT 116 Corridor Study (Hinesburg) and Park & Ride Planning in Williston, Essex, Jericho, Underhill and Colchester.

- Completed the **Chittenden County Truck Freight Network Analysis** which examined current and emerging truck movement patterns and problems across the county and developed a plan for phased improvements to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of goods, management and operations into the future.
- Assisted municipalities with implementation of **Lake Champlain Byways** program and facilities.
- Completed an **Electric Vehicle Charging Station Planning Analysis** to determine the most appropriate locations for future EV charging facilities.
- **Education & Training** – The CCRPC continued hosting meetings and online webinars open to municipalities and regional partners covering topics such as Trenching & Excavation Safety Training, Confined Spaces Training, Complete Streets presentations, Town Road & Bridge Standards, ICS/EOC Interface course, ICS 300 course, federal Transportation Alternatives program, Planning Ethics and Law Review, Experimentation for Advancing Best Practices, and Economic Benefits of Walkable and Bike Friendly Communities.

CITY OF BURLINGTON ACTIVITIES

In FY2013, the CCRPC provided the following general assistance to Burlington:

- Centennial Brook Flow Restoration Plan (Burlington/South Burlington)
- Centennial Brook Watershed Build Out Project (Burlington/South Burlington)
- Continued assisting with soils management activities related to redevelopment of Moran/Waterfront North. This work is coordinated with CEDO and is being funded by CCRPC's Brownfields Assessment grant.
- Continued work on gap analysis of previous environmental site assessments of the Urban Reserve ("North Forty"). This work is coordinated with CEDO and is being funded by CCRPC's Brownfields Assessment grant.
- Continued Phase 2 environmental site assessment of a Champlain Housing Trust property on Bright St. This work is being funded by CCRPC's Brownfields Assessment Grant.
- Reviewed Burlington's PlanBTV for conformance with regional ECOS Plan.
- Included City on all pertinent emergency planning, training and grant opportunities.
- Provided ongoing staff support to the Chittenden County Stream Team (ccstreamteam.org) and Chittenden County Regional Stormwater Education Program (<http://www.smartwaterways.org>) to facilitate multi-municipal cooperation to comply with EPA stormwater permit requirements for Public Participation and Involvement.

The CCRPC provided the following transportation assistance to Burlington:

- Island Line project coordination (Burlington/Colchester)
- Champlain Elementary Safe Routes to School Feasibility Study

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- Downtown Improvement District Transportation Study
- Waterfront Bikepath Intersection Analysis – Project underway
- Bike Path reconstruction project consultant review and selection
- Traffic Counts
 - Intersections: <http://www.ccrpcvt.org/data/traffic.php?town=BURLINGTON&yrs=N&year=2011&count=TM>
 - Roadways (AADT): <http://www.ccrpc.us/data/traffic.php?town=BURLINGTON&yrs=N&year=2011&count=ATR>
 - Bicycle & Pedestrian: <http://www.ccmpto.us/data/bikeped/>

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP – projects included in the State’s Four Year Construction Program)

- Burlington Waterfront Bike Path Realignment
 - \$125,000 Transportation Enhancement award in 2010 to realign and improve the bike path near the Moran Plant.
- Burlington Waterfront Transportation Improvements
 - \$4 million in Federal Highway and Federal Transit funds for transportation improvements on Burlington’s waterfront.
- Burlington Wayfinding Improvements
 - \$375,000 for fabrication and installation of city-wide wayfinding signs.
- Champlain Parkway
 - \$24 million construction project to begin in Federal fiscal year 2014
- Church Street Improvements Phase 4
 - \$974,000 to complete electrical upgrades as part of \$7 million in Federal Highway funds for improvements to the Church Street Marketplace.
- Main Street Mid-Block Crosswalk improvements
 - \$136,000 for mid-block crossings between Willard and Union streets using 2009 Transportation Enhancement award
- Shelburne Street Roundabout
 - \$2.9 million for roundabout to be constructed at Shelburne St/South Willard St/St. Paul St

Scoping

- Railyard Enterprise Project – Project underway
- Prospect Street/Pearl Street/Colchester Ave
- I-89 Exit 14 Slip Lane & Intermodal Facility Scoping Study (South Burlington/Burlington)

Corridor Studies

- North Avenue Corridor Study (from North Street to Plattsburg Avenue) – Project underway
- South Winooski Ave and Main Street Circulation Studies – Project underway

Transportation Demand Management

- Regional Transportation Demand Management pilot project (Go! Chittenden County) with local and regional transportation partners including:

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- Park It Pledge hosted by CarShare Vermont – Project underway
- Employee Transit Pass Pilot Project for three Burlington employers (CCTA) – Project underway
- Planning for Regional Multi-modal Transportation Hub at Price Chopper shopping center on Route 7 featuring CCTA transit stop, CarShare VT pod, and bicycle lockers – Project underway

Bicycle/Pedestrian

- Specific projects noted previously
- Staff maintains working relationship with Burlington Walk/Bike Council

City of Burlington Representatives to CCRPC

- CCRPC representative and current Vice Chair – Andy Montroll, *past* City Council member
- Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) – Nicole Losch, Department of Public Works
- Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) – Harris Roen
- UPWP (Work Plan) Development Committee – Andy Montroll
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee – Nicole Losch

For further information about the CCRPC please visit <http://www.ccrpcvt.org/> or contact CCRPC Executive Director, Charlie Baker, cbaker@ccrpcvt.org, 802-846-4490 x23.

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