

CLEARER & SHORTER PLANS

Planning that Matters - 1 of 3



2015 Municipal Day – September 9, 2015

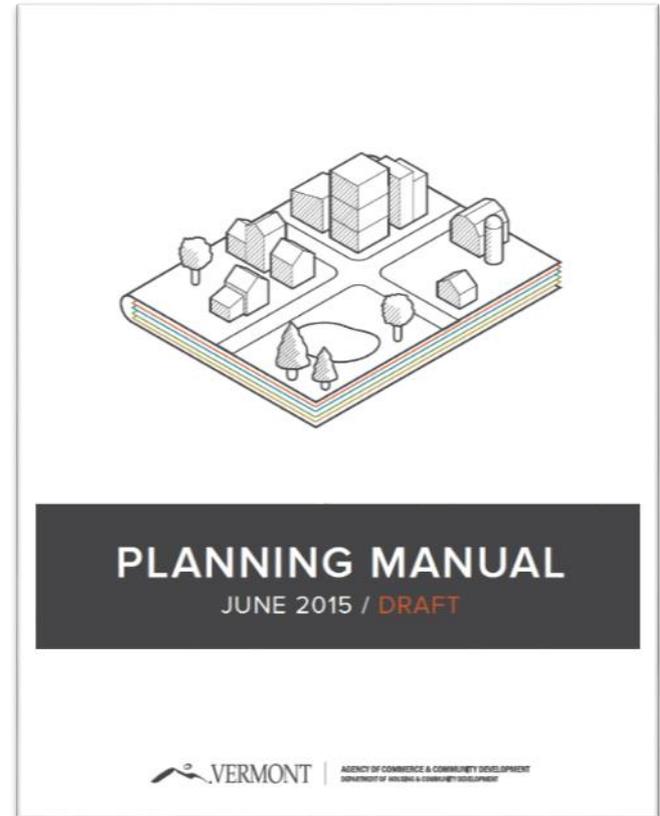
John E. Adams AICP
Agency of Commerce and Community Development

OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

○ **Municipal Plans in Vermont**

○ **Why Clearer & Shorter?**

○ **Planning Manual – 5 Steps**



No. 107.—AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR PLANNING COMMISSIONS IN CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

(H. 111)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

SECTION 1. *Creation and membership.* Any city, town or incorporated village is hereby authorized to create a

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PUBLIC ACTS

[No. 107

commission to be known as the municipal planning commission, by resolution of the voters at the annual city, town or village meeting or at a special meeting duly warned for the purpose.

When such a commission is created, it shall consist of five persons. The mayor, chairman of the board of selectmen, president of the village or chairman of the board of village trustees, as the case may be, shall be ex officio one of the members of the commission during his term of office. The other four commissioners shall be appointed in cities, by the mayor; in towns, by the board of selectmen; and in villages, by the village trustees. Said appointed commissioners shall be appointed for the term of four years, except that when the commission is created, one commissioner shall be appointed for a term of four years, one for a term of three years, one for a term of two years, and one for a term of one year. Any appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the unexpired term.

Sec. 2. *Expenses; assistance; reports.* The body creating a municipal planning commission shall, by ordinance or resolution, provide what compensation, if any, each of such commissioners shall receive for his services. The commission shall have authority to employ such expert and clerical assistance as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes for which it was created, provided that the total cost for the same shall not exceed the appropriation that may be made by the city, town or incorporated village for the use of said commission. Each city town or incorporated village is hereby authorized to make such appropriations as it may see fit for such compensation and assistance, such appropriation to be made by those officers or bodies in such city, town or incorporated village having charge of the appropriation of the public funds.

The commission shall make an annual report to the body which created it.

Sec. 3. *Powers.* The commission shall have power ~~except as otherwise provided by law:~~

1. To prepare or acquire a comprehensive plan for the future development of the city, town or incorporated village which shall be based primarily upon convenience, utility and public welfare.

When said plan shall be adopted by the voters of a city, town or incorporated village at the annual city, town or village meeting or at a special meeting duly warned for the purpose, it shall be known and designated as the official municipal plan; and no highway, street, bridge, viaduct, park, playground, square, statue, monument, street fixture, park fixture, sewerage system, water system, public building, or any other public improvement proposed to be erected

No. 108]

PUBLIC ACTS

95

or constructed wholly or in part from public funds and not included in said plan as adopted by the municipality, shall be authorized to be erected or constructed within the municipality until the location of the same has been submitted to the planning commission for its approval or disapproval.

Said plan shall be deemed to be approved by the commission if reasons for disapproval are not transmitted to the city council, selectmen, or village trustees as the case may be, within thirty days after they are received by the commission. In case of disapproval, the commission shall transmit its reasons for disapproval in writing to the city council, selectmen or village trustees who may, by a majority vote, overrule such disapproval.

2. From time to time to prepare and recommend to the proper officers of the municipality such amendments to the official municipal plan as in its judgment shall be necessary or desirable.

3. To recommend to the governing authority of the municipality such ordinances, resolutions or bylaws for the division of the municipality into districts or zones based upon the height, ground area and use of buildings and structures as may be consistent with existing law.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect from its passage.

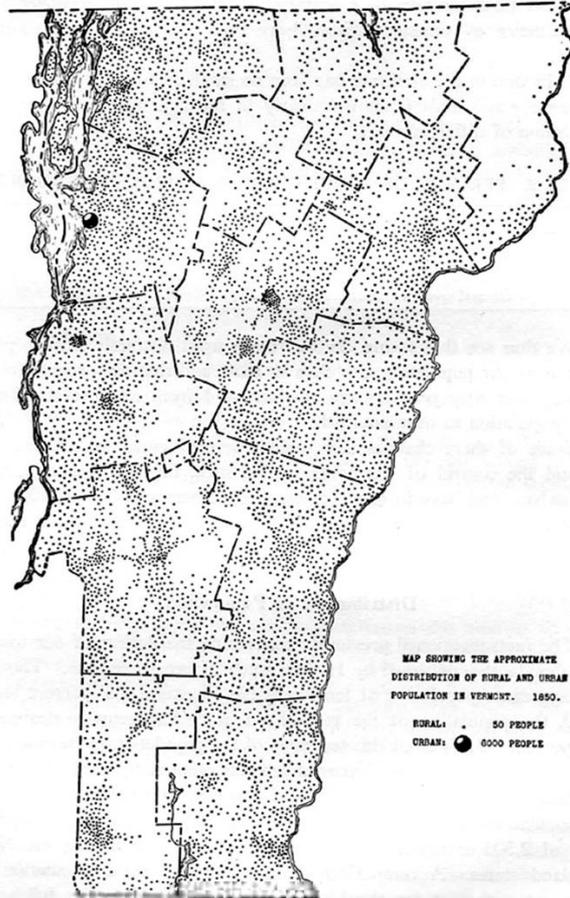
Approved February 22, 1921.

MUNICIPAL PLANS IN VERMONT

Planning Act of 1921

Municipal Plans in Vermont

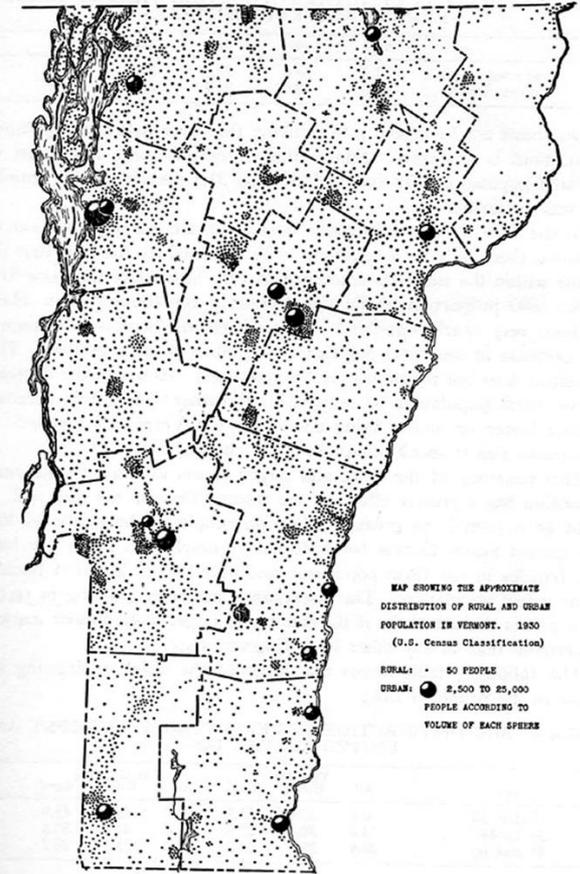
PLANNING ACT OF 1921



MAP SHOWING THE APPROXIMATE DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION IN VERMONT. 1850.

RURAL: • 50 PEOPLE
URBAN: ● 5000 PEOPLE

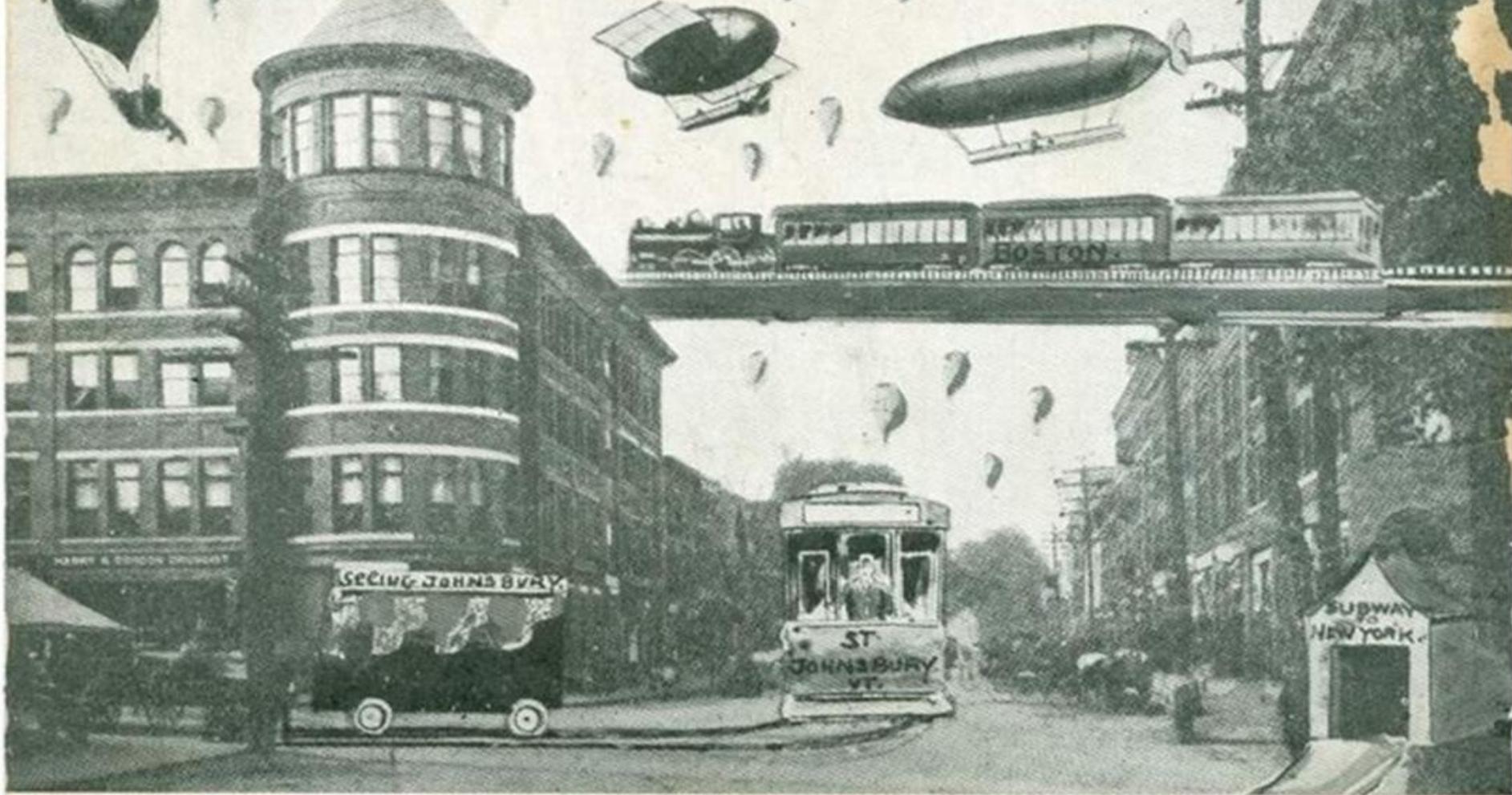
FIG. 1. This map shows the approximate distribution of the 214,126 people who lived Vermont in 1850. Comparison with Fig. 2 shows the shifting of population to town areas and its concentration in the cities and larger villages.



MAP SHOWING THE APPROXIMATE DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION IN VERMONT. 1930 (U.S. Census Classification)

RURAL: • 50 PEOPLE
URBAN: ● 2,500 TO 25,000 PEOPLE ACCORDING TO VOLUME OF EACH SPHERE

FIG. 2. This map shows the approximate distribution of the 359,611 people who lived in Vermont in 1930. Though rural population has decreased materially since 1850, the population of the state as a whole has increased more than 14 percent.



Published by Randall's Department Store

Railroad Street, North, St. Johnsbury, Vt., in the Future

MUNICIPAL PLANS IN VERMONT

Planning Act of 1921

If a municipality chooses to plan, it shall...



MUNICIPAL PLANS IN VERMONT

PLANNING & Development Act – 1967 & 1988 Amendments



State Planning Goals

The state has 14 specific planning goals.



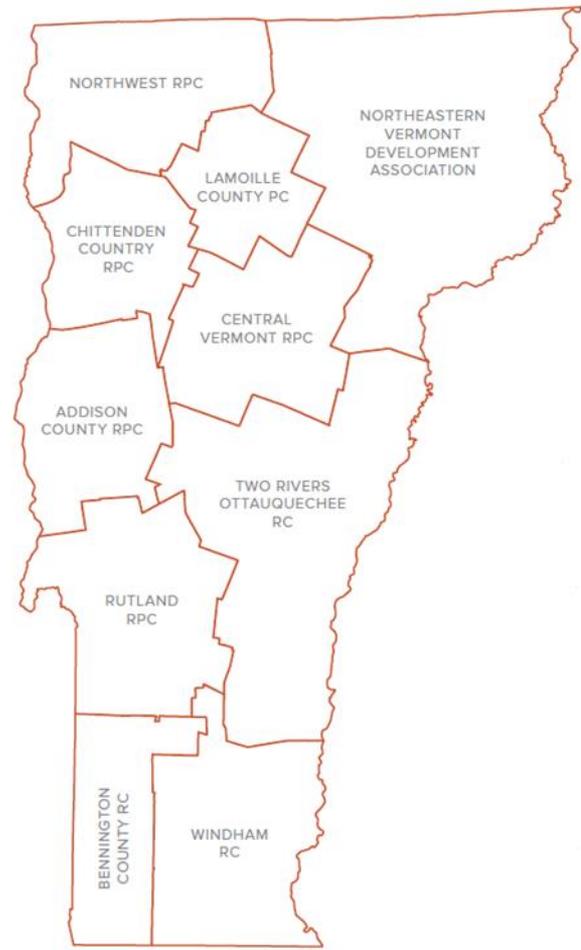
Regional Plans

Regional plans must be consistent with the state planning goals.



Municipal Plans

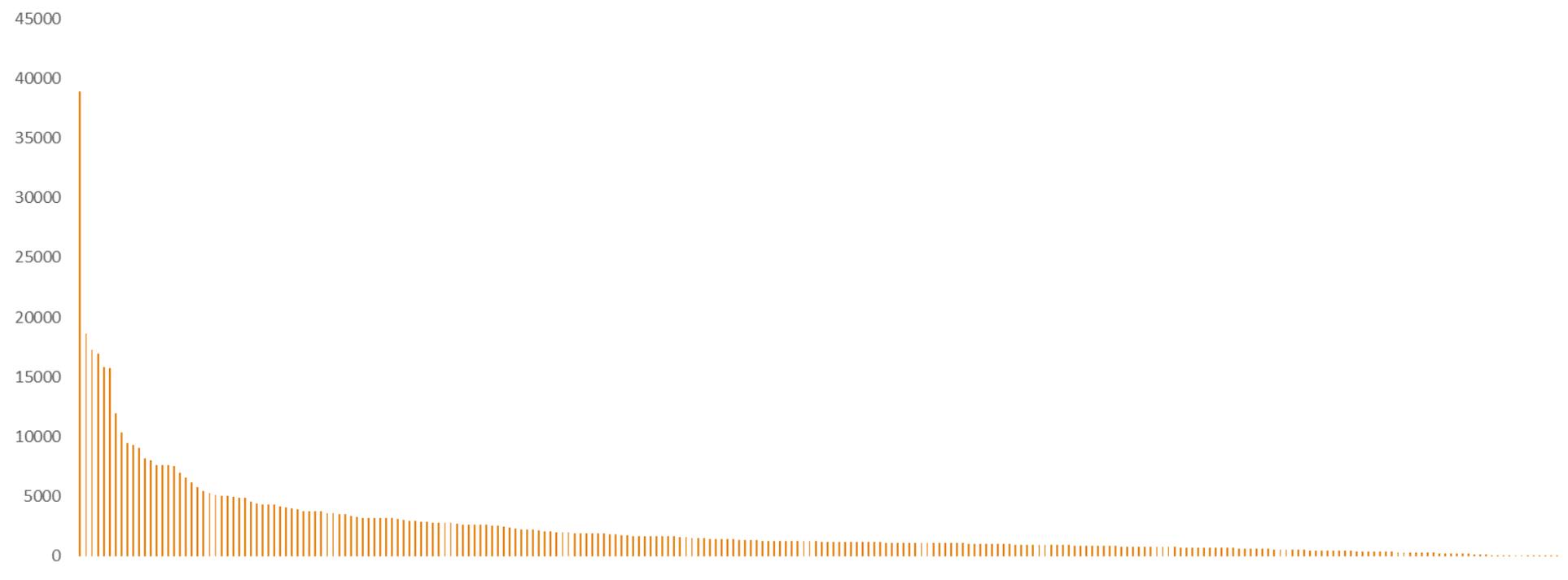
In order to have a regionally approved plan, municipal plans must be compatible with the regional plan and consistent with the state planning goals.



MUNICIPAL PLANS IN VERMONT

Regional Approval of Plans

Population



POPULATION OF VERMONT TOWNS

Population

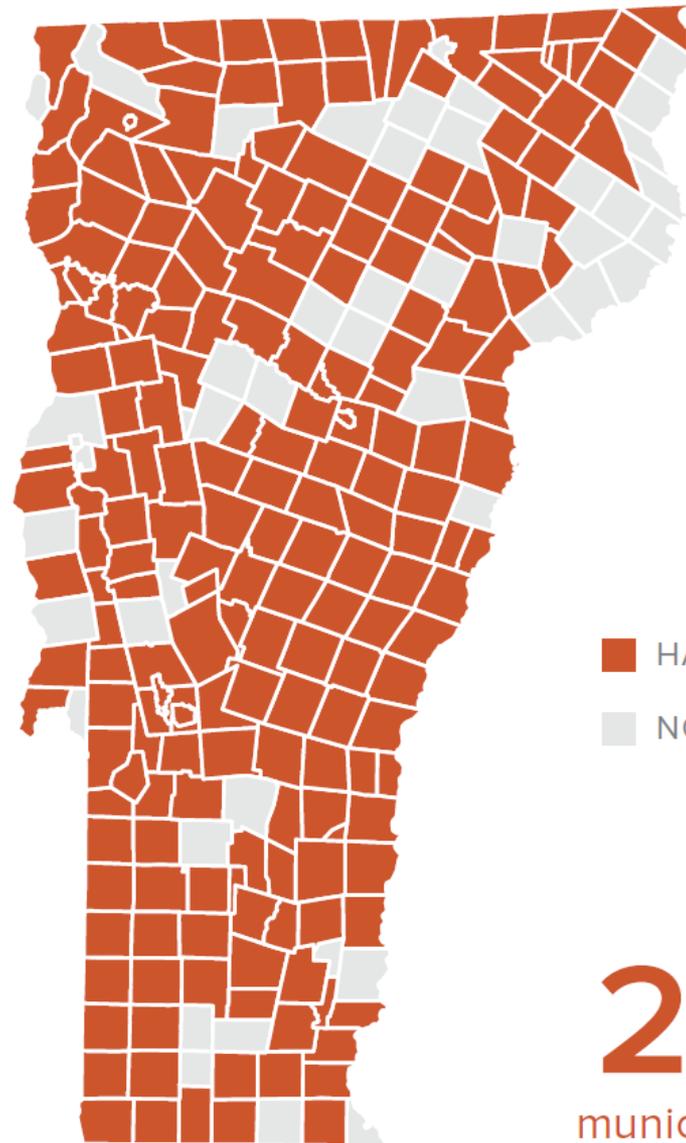
Median population: 1,222



POPULATION OF VERMONT TOWNS

Municipal Plans in Vermont

Regionally approved plans



■ HAVE A PLAN
■ NO PLAN

209
municipal plans

Municipal Plans in
Vermont



\$90 Billion

Property Value



PLAN PITFALLS



PLAN PITFALLS

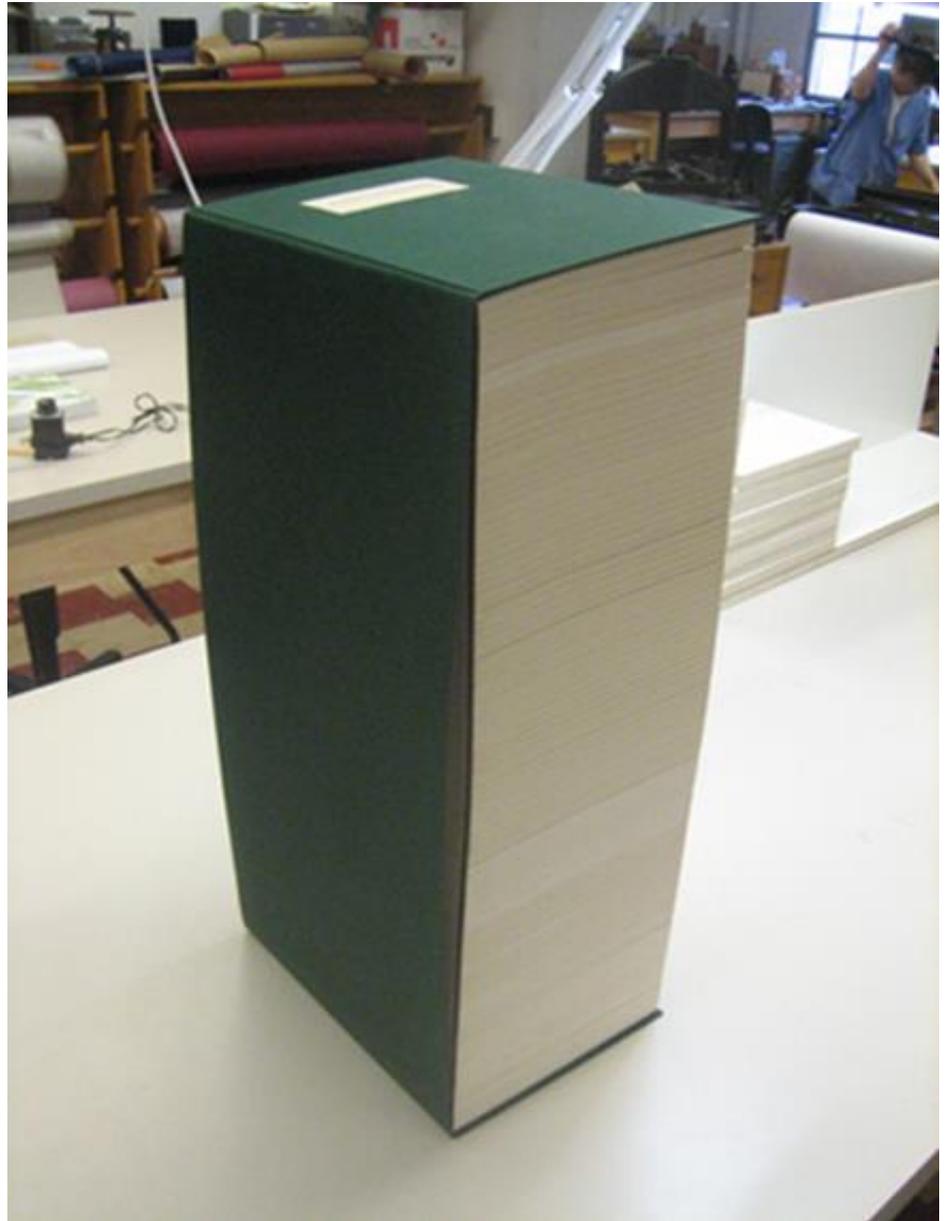


**Parking
For
Drive-Thru
Service
Only**

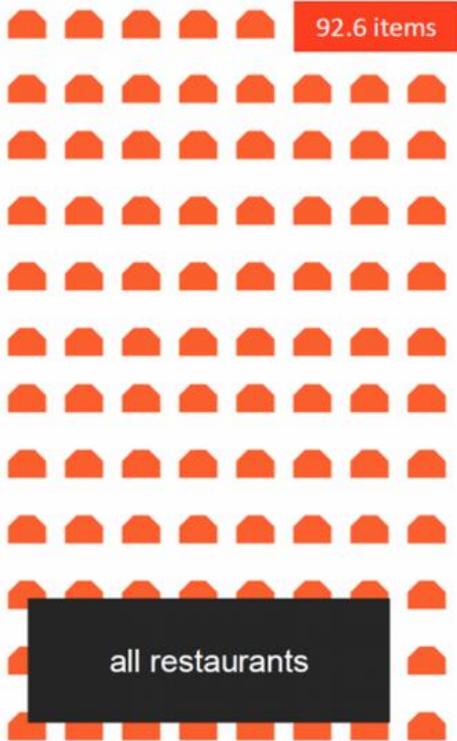
Thank You

PLAN PITFALLS

Why Shorter & Clearer?



New restaurants feature smaller, focused menus that emphasize exceptional quality in each item



AVERAGE MENU SIZE

Source: Datassential MenuTrends™



WHY SHORTER & CLEARER?



WHY SHORTER & CLEARER?



WHY SHORTER & CLEARER?

Another book on a shelf?

Studies show that effective plans:

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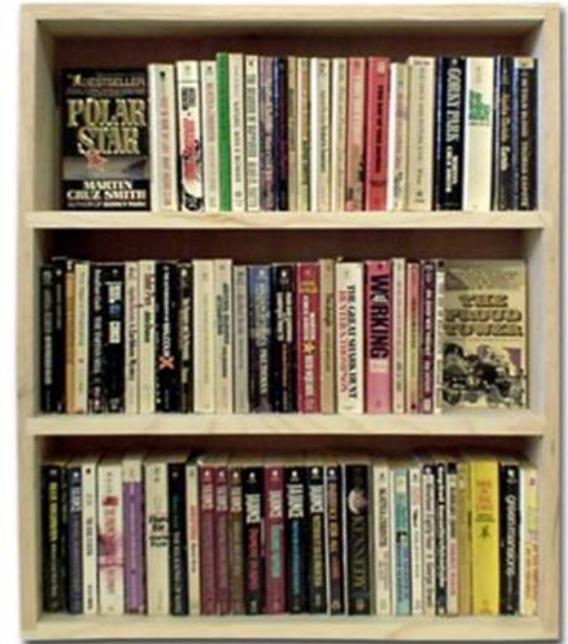
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Clearly document a
community's shared vision

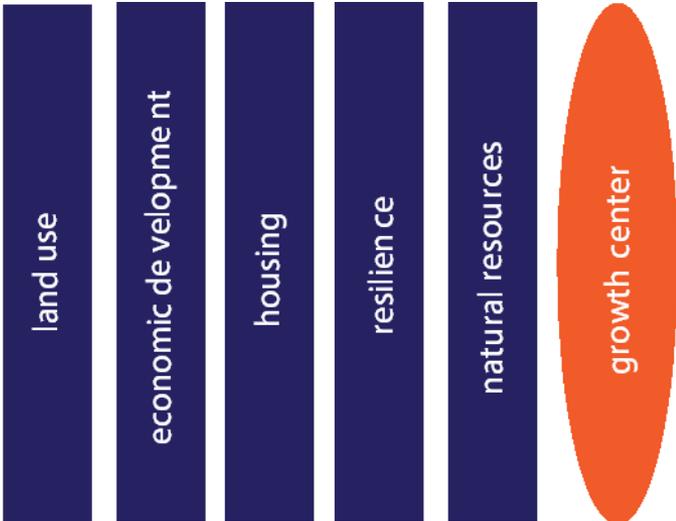
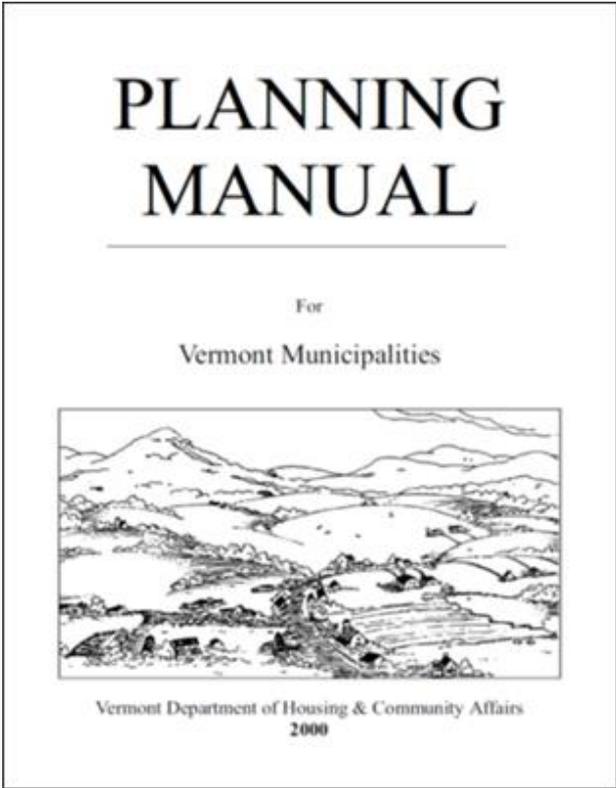
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Accurately represent community goals
and include measurable objectives

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Identify specific actions to achieve
goals and objectives.





Existing fragmented planning process

PLANNING MANUAL

Planning Manual

Goals:

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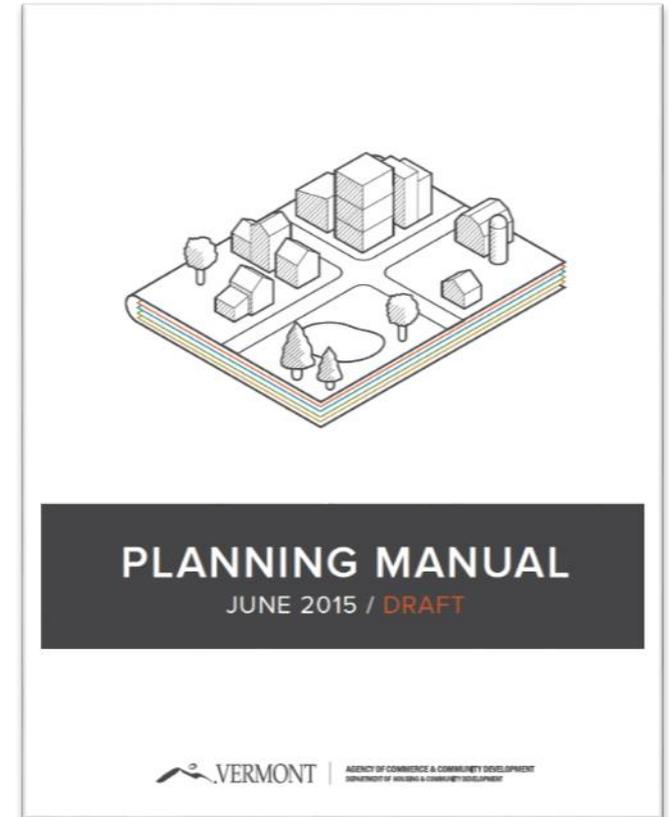
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Emphasize creation of clear vision community wants

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Provide guidance for communities with existing plans and support small municipalities with limited resources.

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Focus on implementation and measurable objectives.



Planning Manual

Modules:

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The Municipal Plan

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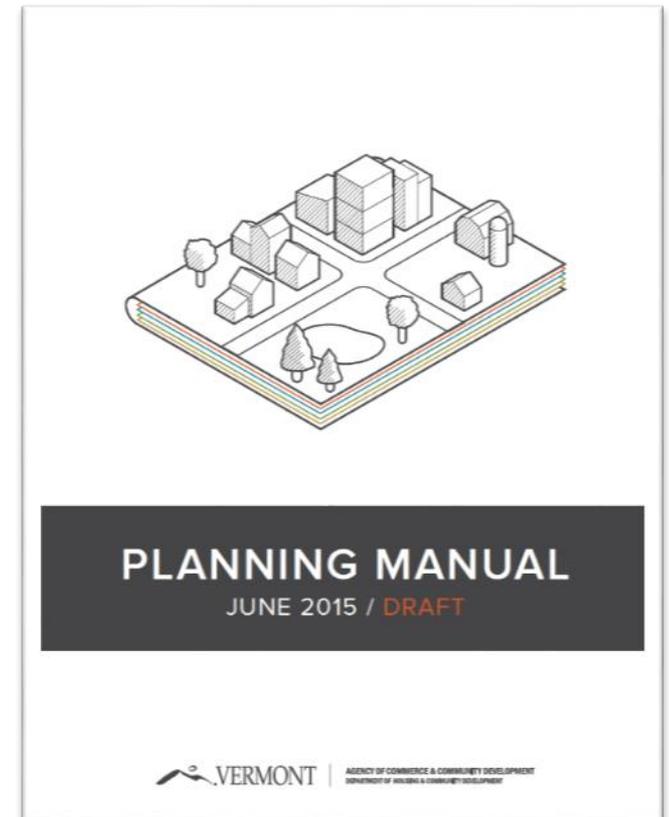
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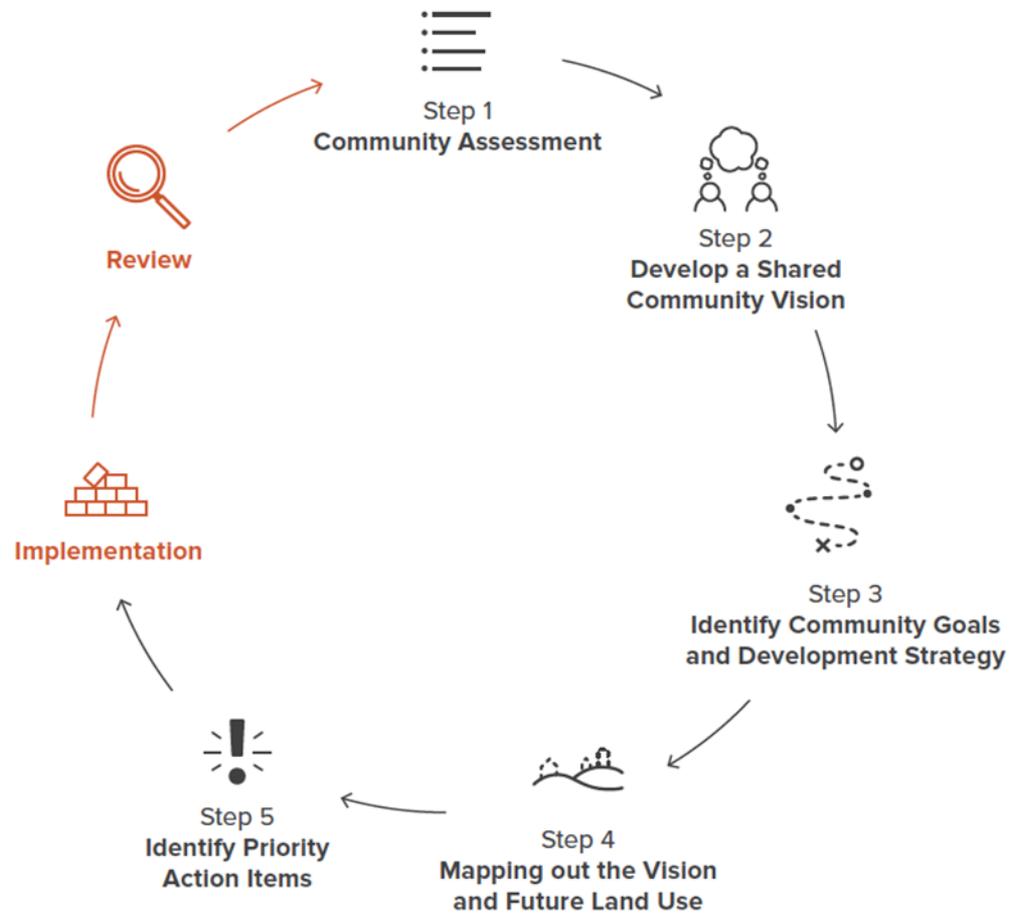
State Designation Programs

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Implementation tools and best practices



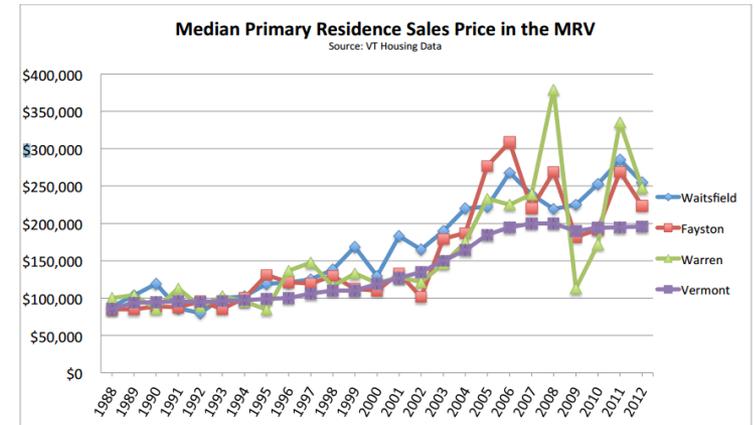
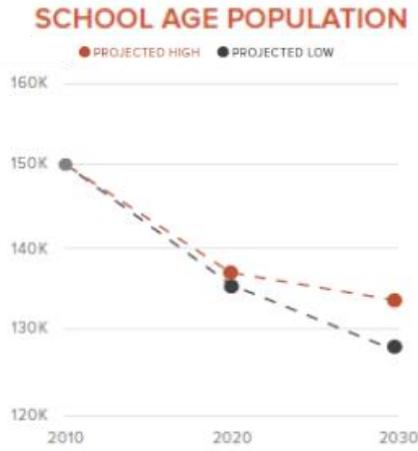
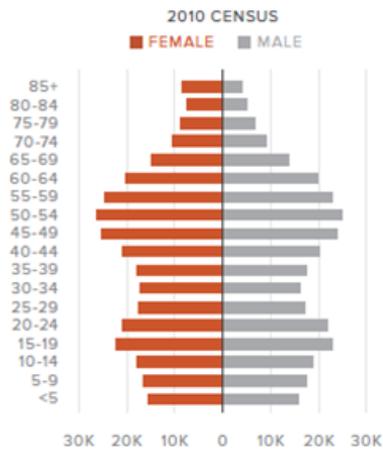


PLANNING MANUAL

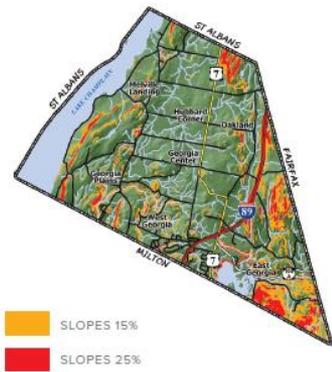
The Five Steps

STEP 1

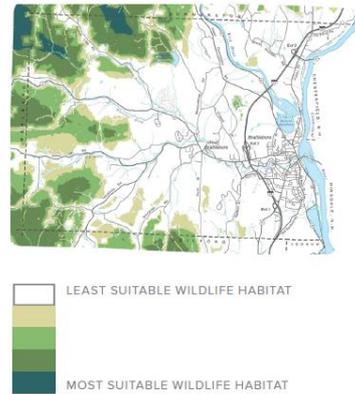
Community assessment



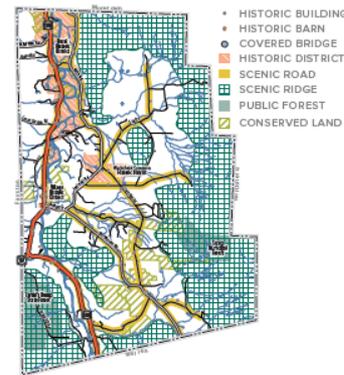
GEORGIA STEEP SLOPES MAP



BATTLEBORO WILFLIFE SUITABILITY MAP



WAITSFIELD MAP OF HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES



FAIRFIELD LAND USE COVER MAP



STEP 1 community assessment

http://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/anra/ Vermont ANR - Natural Res...

Natural Resources Atlas

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Getting Around Upload Draw Identify/Query Measurement

Home Show Layers Layer Drawing Order Filter Layer Print Map Export Map Pan Zoom In Zoom Out Zoom to Town Full Extent Previous Extent Help What's This? Atlas Orientation Video Contact Us ANRA Disclaimer

Map Layers Layer Theme: New Neighborhood Planning

- Operational Layers
 - Radar/Flow gauges
 - Contours - VCGI Map Service
- Smart Growth Layers
- Atlas Layers
 - Waste Management
 - Fish and Wildlife
 - Rare Threatened Endangered Species
 - Significant Natural Community
 - Deer Wintering Areas
 - Habitat Blocks
- Watershed Protection
- Geology
- Drinking Water and...
- Forests Parks and Recreation
 - Conserved Lands
- ANR Basemap Data
 - Buildings (E911)
 - Act250 Permits **INCOMPLETE**

Show Legend Filter...



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STEP 1 community assessment

STEP 2

**Develop a shared
community vision**

“When it comes to planning, if you’re not doing it with people- they think you are doing it to them.”

Roger Millar, AICP
National Complete Streets Coalition

STEP 2
Develop a Shared Community Vision

TYPICAL VISION STATEMENT

“Our vision is to excel as a creative and sustainable community. More specifically, we seek to safeguard the natural environment and enhance our small-town setting. We aspire to strengthen community ties and expand civic participation. We aim to encourage learning and cultivate good jobs.”

STEP 2

Develop a Shared Community Vision



Maintain



Evolve



Transform



STEP 2

Develop a Shared Community Vision



STEP 2

Develop a Shared Community Vision

Planning Manual

Reviewing Existing Plan

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Consolidate

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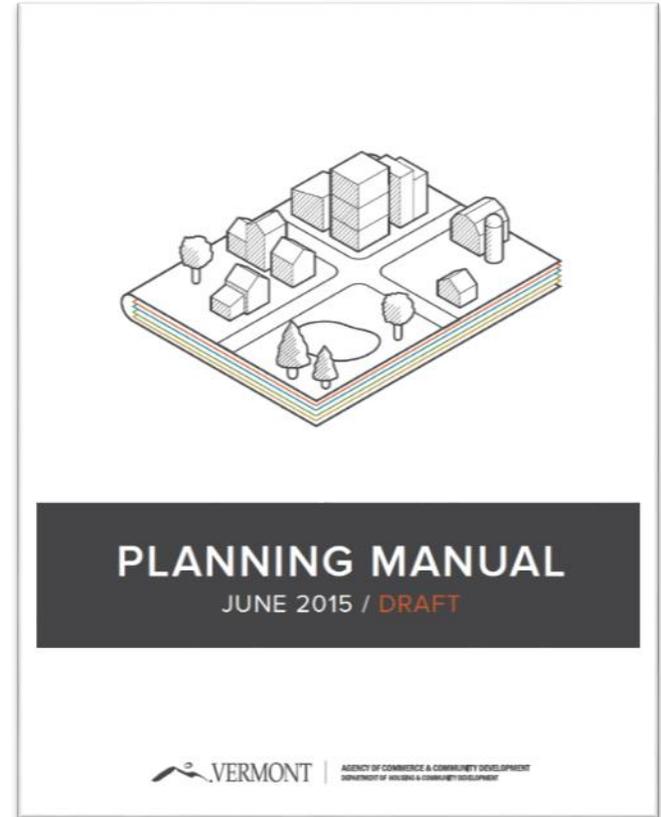
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Tweak

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Rethink



STEP 3

Identify Goals and Measurable Objectives

Goal

Make community more walkable and bicycle friendly

Objective

Encourage the construction of sidewalks and bike paths.

Actions

- Seek funding to pay for new bicycle and pedestrian facilities

STEP 3

Identify goals, objectives/policies, targets

Goal

Make community more walkable and bicycle friendly

Objective

Encourage the construction of sidewalks and bike paths.

Actions

- Seek funding to pay for new bicycle and pedestrian facilities

Goal

Integrate Complete Streets infrastructure and design features into street design and construction to create safe and inviting environments for all users to walk, bicycle, and use public transportation

Objective

Establish a connected network of bicycle and pedestrian facilities that connects the village neighborhood district to the village center.

(Target: Increase % of residents walking or bicycling to work by 10% 2020)

Actions

- Develop a priority-ranked sidewalk upgrade program focusing on major arterial routes
- Responsible: Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, Public Works Department
- Completion: November 2015
- Funding: Transportation Alternative

STEP 3

Identify goals, objectives/policies, targets

Our Resilient City

Our neighborhoods, economy, and public services will be ready to withstand and emerge stronger from the impacts of climate change and other 21st century threats

New York City will...

- ✓ Eliminate disaster-related long-term displacement more than one year of New Yorkers from homes by 2050
- ✓ Reduce the Social Vulnerability Index for neighborhoods across the city
- ✓ Reduce average annual economic losses resulting from climate-related events

Goals



Neighborhoods

Every city neighborhood will be safer by strengthening community, social, and economic resiliency



Buildings

The city's buildings will be upgraded against changing climate impacts



Infrastructure

Infrastructure systems across the region will adapt to maintain continued services



Coastal Defense

New York City's coastal defenses will be strengthened against flooding and sea level rise

Plan Example

Initiative	Supporting Initiatives	Lead Agency/Agencies	Funding Status	Funding Source(s)
VISION 3				
PARKS & NATURAL RESOURCES				
Initiative 5 Create beautiful and well-tended streets in neighborhoods across the city	Enhancements to medians.	DOT	Funded	City capital
Initiative 6 Green the city's streets, parks, and open spaces	Tree plantings across five boroughs.	DPR	Budget neutral	City capital

Vision 4: Our Resilient City

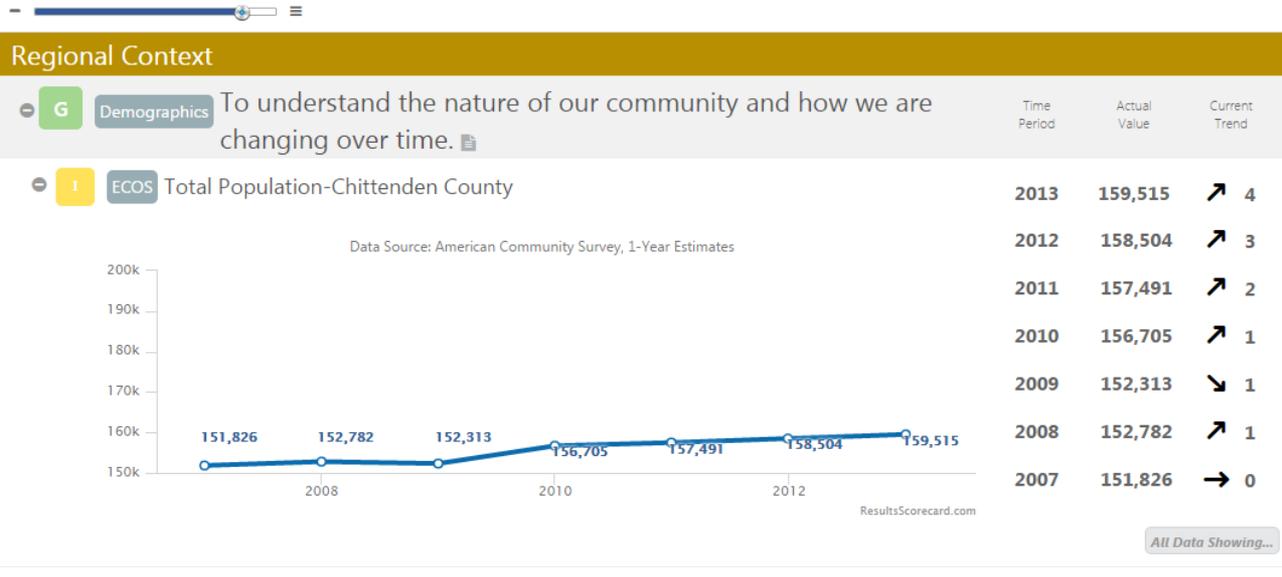
VISION 4				
NEIGHBORHOODS				
Initiative 1 Strengthen community-based organizations	Work to build capacity in communities by strengthening community-based organizations that serve their neighbors and by working to expand civic engagement and volunteerism.	Mayor's Office, DYCD, NYC Service, DoITT	Funded*	City capital and operating
Initiative 2 Improve emergency preparedness and planning	Secure and bolster operations and physical assets for emergency response and expand public education efforts on how to prepare for and respond to extreme weather events and other disasters.	Mayor's Office, NYC EM, FDNY	Funded	City capital and operating
Initiative 3 Support small businesses and local commercial corridors	Provide financial investments, technical assistance and tailored resources regarding preparedness and resiliency to small businesses and commercial corridors.	Mayor's Office, SBS, DOT	Funded	Federal and State
Initiative 4 Ensure that workforce development is a part of all resiliency investments	Ensure that all investments in resiliency will create job opportunities for residents and low-income applicants, and build on successful workforce development models to encourage the hiring of Sandy-impacted residents.	Mayor's Office	Budget neutral	City operating and federal
Initiative 5 Mitigate the risks of heat	Take steps to mitigate the risks of heat in order to reduce heat-related illnesses and deaths, and reduce disparities in vulnerability to climate change.	DOHMH, Mayor's Office	In planning	N/A
BUILDINGS				
Initiative 1 Upgrade public and private city buildings	Adapt vulnerable building stock to withstand the risks of climate change and extreme weather events.	Mayor's Office, DDC	Funded	Federal funding
Initiative 2 Adopt policies to support building upgrades	Develop and adopt policies that facilitate investments in building resiliency, including evaluating land use as a tool to promote resiliency across the city.	Mayor's Office	Budget neutral	City operating
Initiative 3 Work to reform FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Pursue a comprehensive set of activities to promote investments in physical risk reduction, and policies that promote insurance affordability.	Mayor's Office	Budget neutral	City operating
INFRASTRUCTURE				
Initiative 1 Adapt the region's infrastructure systems	Continue to pursue programs to coordinate resiliency investments across City agencies and with other infrastructure providers and operators.	Mayor's Office	Funded	City capital, Federal, State & private funding
Initiative 2 Adopt policies to support infrastructure adaptation	Use the best available climate science with robust research, legislative action, advocacy, and regional coordination to adapt the city's infrastructure to be resilient against disruption.	Mayor's Office	Budget neutral	City operating

Chapter	Initiative No.	Initiative	Initiative Status	Initiative Status Description	2014 Milestone	Milestone Status
PREPARE THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM TO RESTORE SERVICE AFTER EXTREME CLIMATE EVENTS						
9	Plan for temporary transit services in the event of subway system suspensions	In Progress	The City, through DOT, has worked with OEM to draft a Transportation Playbook covering HOV restrictions, temporary transit services, bike/pedestrian facilities and other traffic management issues in an emergency situation.	Complete initial planning	Completed	
10	Identify critical transportation network elements and improve transportation responses to major events through regular resiliency planning exercises	In Progress	DOT is working with other agencies to set up tabletop exercises to review the Transportation Playbook. One resiliency planning exercise has been held. DOT plans to hold further exercises with agency partners to increase its preparedness.	Complete initial planning, including multiple planning exercises and one live drill	Partially Completed	
11	Develop standard plans for implementing High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) requirements	In Progress	DOT is planning to apply for federal funding to do further contingency planning to respond to future climate events.	Complete plan	Partially Completed	
12	Plan for and install new pedestrian and bicycle facilities to improve connectivity to key transportation hubs	In Progress	The City, through DOT, has worked with OEM to draft a Transportation Playbook covering HOV restrictions, temporary transit services, bike/ped facilities and other traffic management issues in an emergency situation. DOT continues to work with partner agencies to regularly update the formal plans. Citi Bike's planned Phase II expansion will double the size of the bike share network to 12,000 bicycles and about 700 stations by the end of 2017. The expanded network will cover several neighborhoods that are vulnerable to weather-related transportation interruptions, including Red Hook, Greenpoint, and Long Island City.	Develop plan for improvements; begin implementation of most critical components	Completed	

Plan Example

ECOS Scorecard: The State of Chittenden County

The ECOS Plan adoption in June, 2013 culminated efforts of over 60 organizations, working together - and defined a collective vision of a healthy, inclusive and prosperous Chittenden County. As we work collectively toward achieving our goals, this Scorecard will serve as a tool to help track our progress and guide our actions. This work would not be possible without the help of our partners: the public and public representatives (federal, state, municipal and regional), and the business and non-profit sectors. The ECOS Scorecard compiles accomplishments and indicators depicting progress towards all 17 of the ECOS goals. Each of the goals are associated with a set of indicators that together give an overall picture of what is going well and what needs improvement. The indicators are drawn from the most reliable statistics, objectively based on substantial research, and intended to be understood by broad audiences. The notes that follow each indicator represent interesting trends seen in the data and the significance of the trend. Along with the partners that work together on actions the impact the trends in some way.

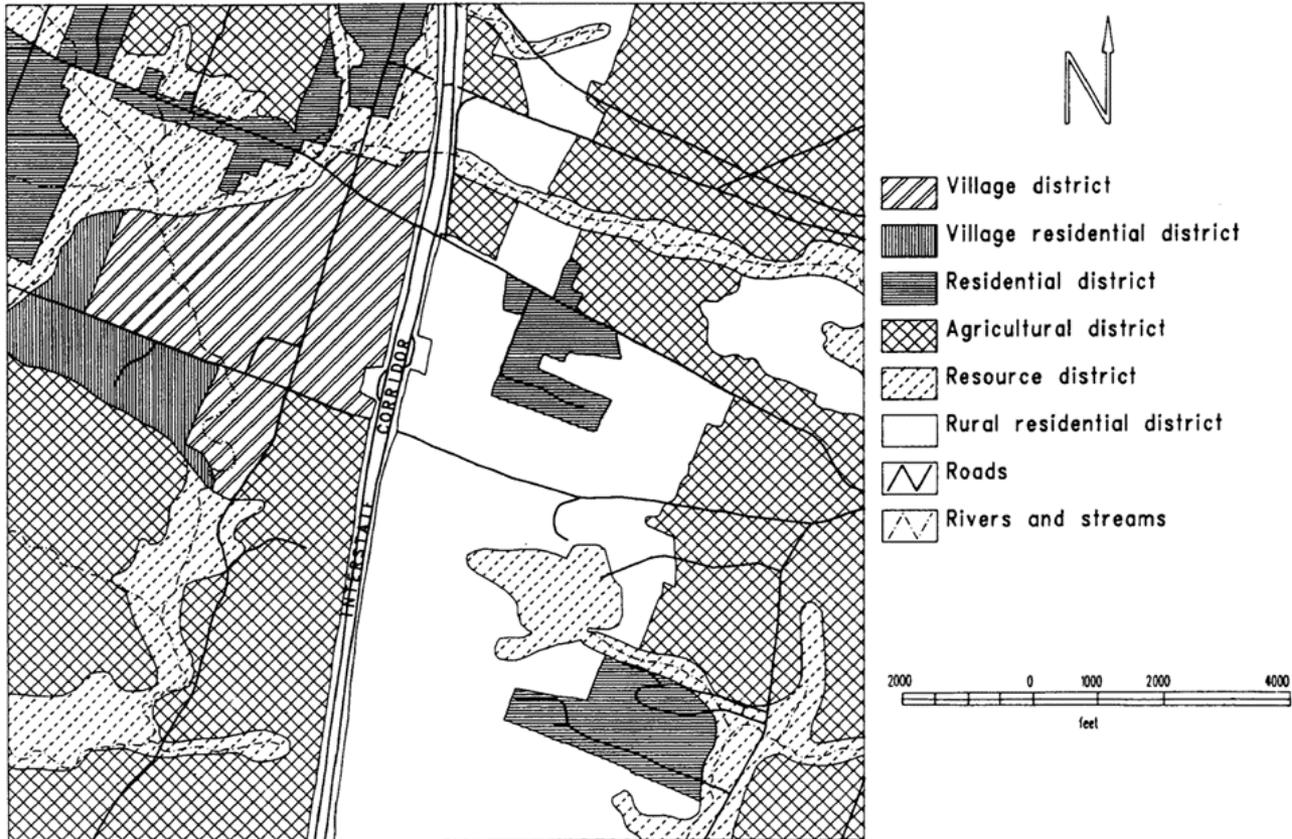


Plan Example

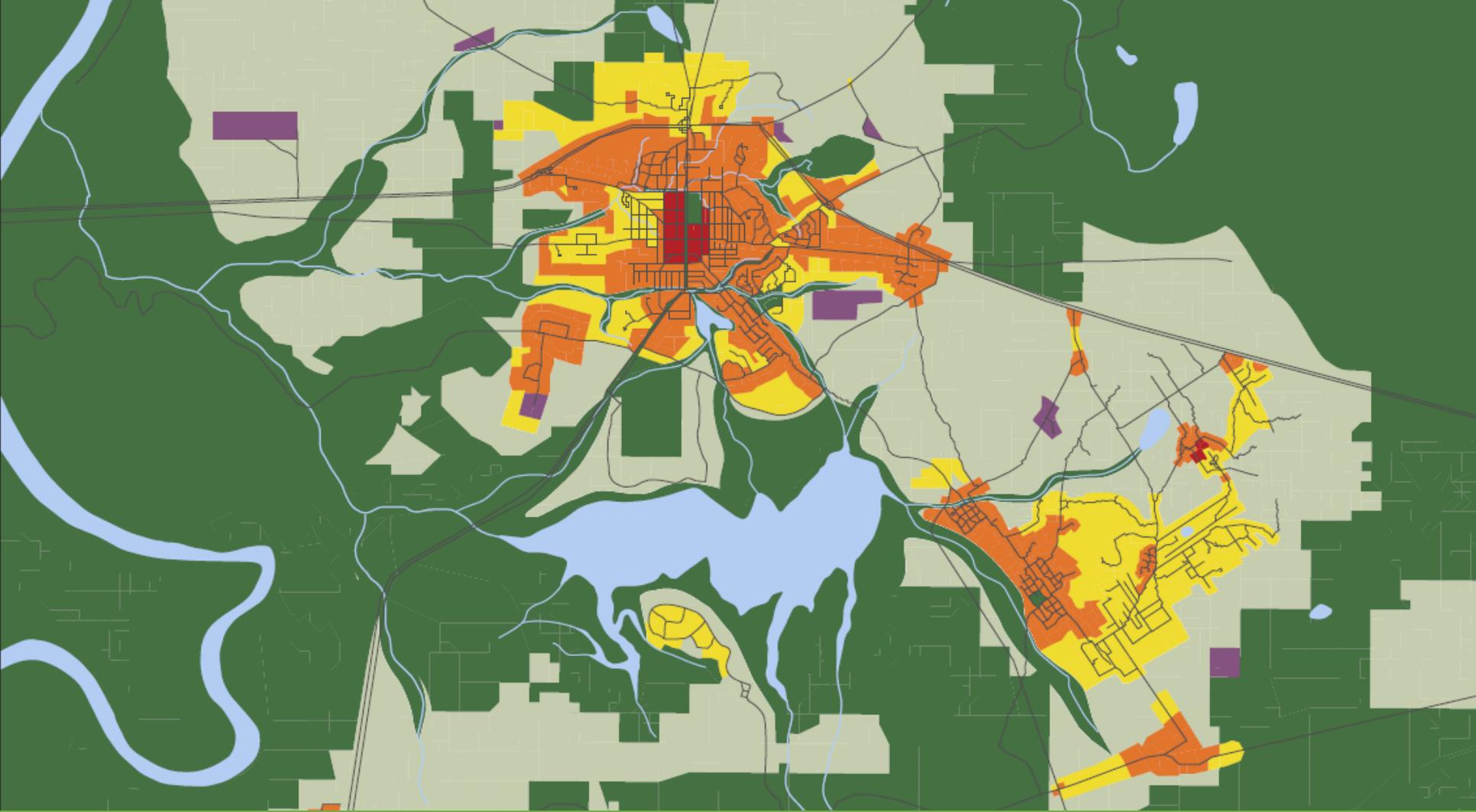
STEP 4

Map it out

LAND USE PLAN AND ZONING MAP



STEP 4 Map it out.



STEP 4 Map it out.

Oak Street: Before & After



1 EXISTING CONDITIONS. Looking west along Oak Street (Highway 84) towards the Jena Pharmacy.



2 Overhead utilities moved to rear of buildings. Sidewalk width extended and pedestrian-scaled lighting installed. Stripped pedestrian crossing added at intersection of Highway 84 and LA 127.



3 Street trees planted at regular intervals so as not to interfere with overhead canopies. Width of on-street parking lane reduced to accommodate wider sidewalk. Blank walls replaced with storefront windows that enhance the pedestrian experience.

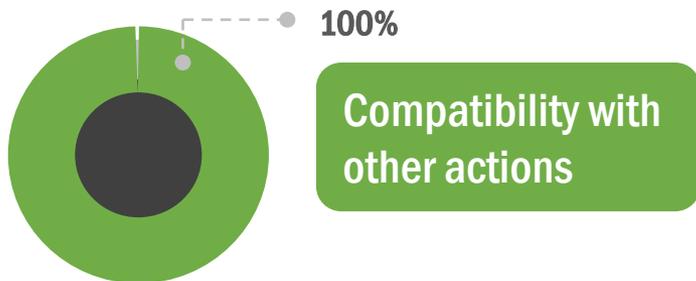
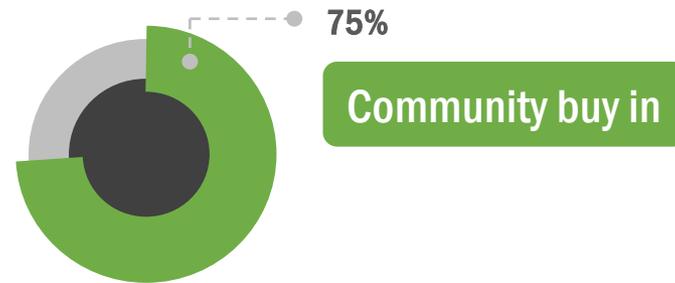


4 New infill buildings reinforce the existing character of downtown. Oak Street reconfigured as a one-way street moving west bound traffic through downtown.

STEP 4 Map it out.

STEP 5

**Identify priority
action items**



STEP 5

Evaluating Alternatives and Identifying Priorities

Town Plan Implementation Matrix *continued*

Chapter Policy	Actions	Lead responsibility	Priority	Commitment of Resources				Land Use Regulations	
				Existing staff	General Fund, operating	Capital	Grant	Zoning Ordinance	Subdivision
ENERGY									
3.1 Measure and analyze	3.1.1 Maintain a baseline inventory	EC	ongoing		✓				
	3.1.2 Maintain membership in ICLEI	EC	ongoing		✓				
	3.1.3 Report annually to the Selectboard	EC	short						
	3.1.4 Review Town Procurement Policy and make suggestions on energy conservation and efficiency criteria	EC	short	✓					

STEP 5

Evaluating Alternatives and Identifying Priorities

Summary of Proposed City Actions



City Hall

- Establish a permanent Vision Zero task force in the Mayor's Office of Operations
- Launch a Vision Zero website to gather input from New Yorkers and coordinate information about the City's Vision Zero plans, upcoming events and provide data



Police Department

- Increase enforcement against dangerous moving violations, including speeding, failing to yield to pedestrians, signal violations, improper turns/disobeying signage, and phoning/texting while driving
- Increase speeding enforcement at the precinct level



- Enhance training for officers to better record and preserve crash details and site evidence
- Broaden recruiting efforts for School Crossing Guards

STEP 5 Evaluating Alternatives and Identifying Priorities

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You could return to the homepage or search using the search box below

Key Takeaways

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..... Focus on shared community vision (not the past)

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..... Prioritize goals and actions that will realize the vision

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..... Emphasize implementation and measure progress

