



Ferrisburgh Climate and Energy Committee

THEN AND NOW



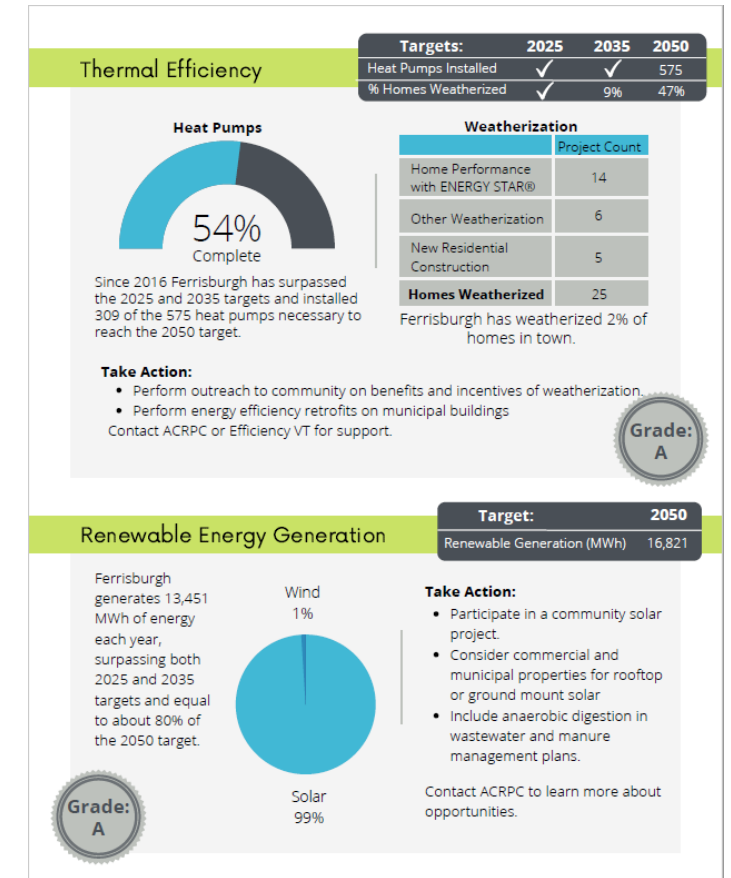
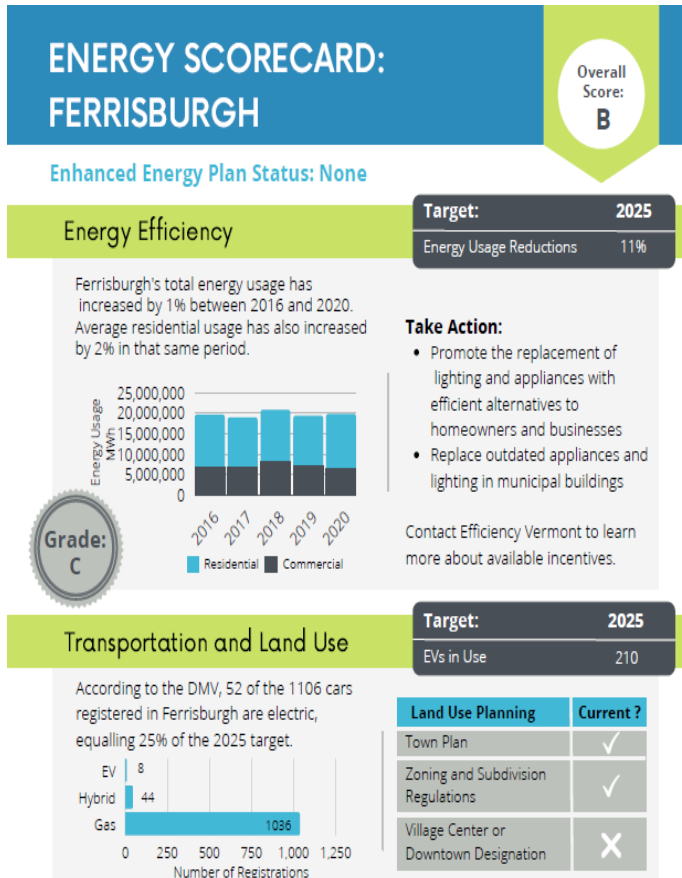
**FERRISBURGH TOWN PLAN
2017-2025 | Adopted August 15, 2017**

Then

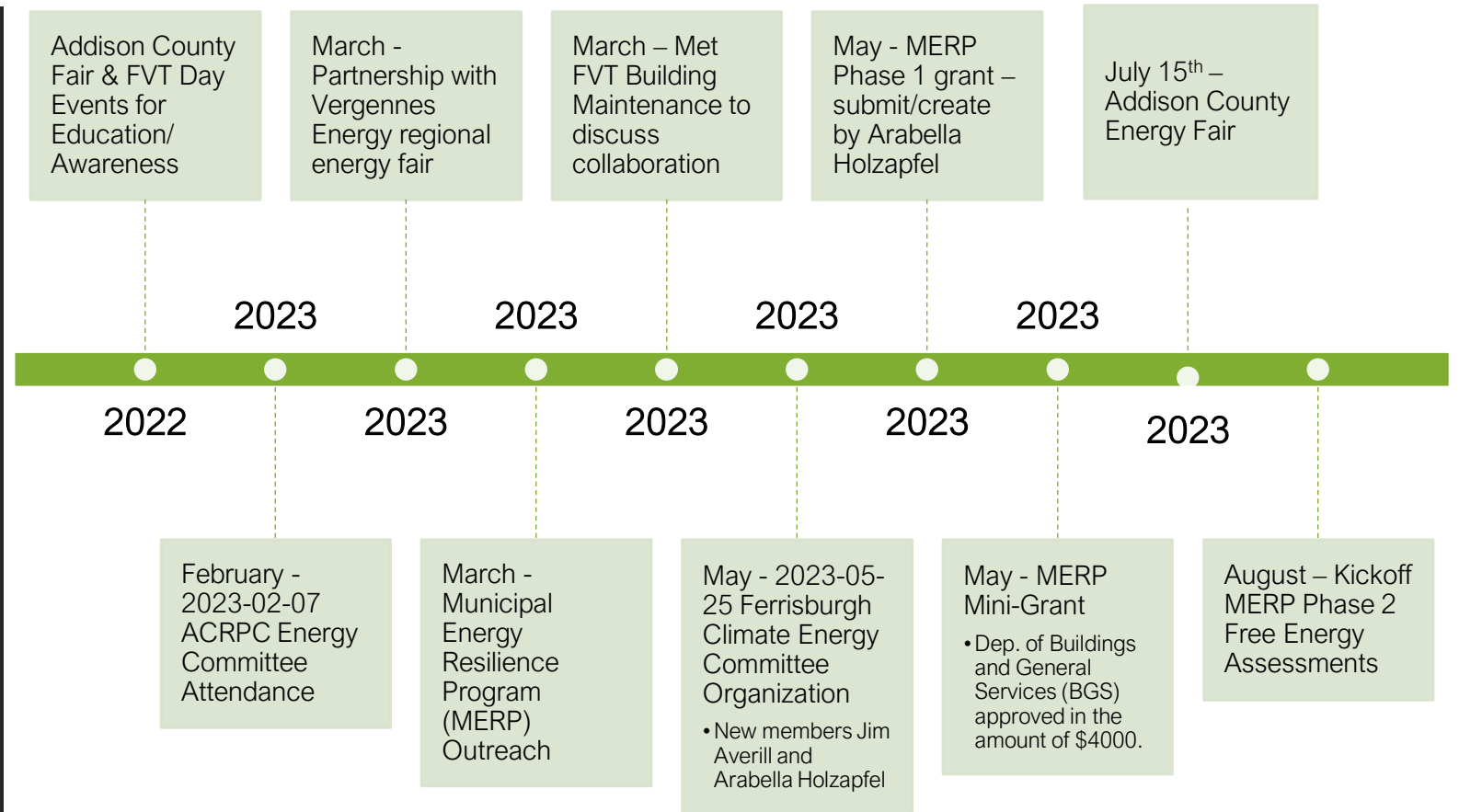
G. Energy Page 42-49

- **Current Energy Use**
- **Energy Conservation and Alternative Energy**
- **Alternative and Renewable Resources**
- **Requirements for Solar Power Plants**
- **Individual Wind Energy Systems**
- **Land Use, Transportation and Energy**
- **Ferrisburgh Energy Committee formed in 2010**
- **Limited activity after 2017 and it appears that the Committee was disbanded**
 - **Meanwhile Technology and Social changes went largely without any attention**

Then Again – 2022



Then Again and Again – 2022-23





MUNICIPAL ENERGY RESILIENCE PROGRAM



WHAT TO KNOW

The Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) is a new grant program funded by Vermont Building and General Services (BGS) and administered by regional planning commissions to help communities become more energy resilient. Established by Act 172, MERP will provide \$45M in funding to help reduce municipal building energy usage, operating costs, and greenhouse gas emissions. Existing buildings owned by cities, towns, fire districts, and all other municipal units are eligible. School districts are not eligible for this program. **No local match is required for this funding.**

TIMELINE

- MARCH 2023 (TBD)
Applications open for \$4,000 community grants
- SPRING 2023 (TBD)
Applications open for energy assessments
- SPRING 2024
Applications open for implementation projects
- JANUARY 15, 2024
Energy assessments completed
- DECEMBER 31, 2024
All grant awards are obligated
- DECEMBER 31, 2026
All grant awards must be expended

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

For each municipal building:

- Access to or a plan to access high speed internet by 2025. Participation in a CUD qualifies.
- ADA compliant by project completion.

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

All Addison County municipality-owned buildings are eligible for the MERP programs. Allocation of funds to communities will be prioritized based on need. Towns with a high energy burden defined as the proportion of income spent on energy, including heating, electricity, and transportation will receive highest priority. Other prioritization criteria include: administrative capacity, geographic location, and community size.

MUNICIPAL ENERGY BURDEN RANKING

HIGH
MODERATE
LOW

Whiting (13%), Goshen (12.3%), Bristol (11.9%), Ripton (11.3%), Orwell (11.2%), Panton (11.2%)

Shoreham (10.7%), Bridport (10.6%), Middlebury (10.6%), Vergennes (10.3%), New Haven (10.1%), Salisbury (10%), Ferrisburgh (9.7%), Leicester (9.6%), Lincoln (9.3%), Starksboro (9.2%)

Addison (8.8%), Waltham (8.7%), Weybridge (8%), Cornwall (7.9%), Monkton (7.7%)



What is a Microgrid?

From Vermont Public



vermontpublic.org

#ClimateAcrossAmerica | Vermont Public
[Learn more](#)

A youth-led environmental victory creates a paradigm shift in Montana's legal landscape

A group of youth environmental activists scored a landmark legal victory in [Montana](#), marking a critical step forward in the ongoing battle against climate change. This judicial win has sparked debate on constitutional rights, environmental responsibility, and the possibility of legal routes to promote tangible change in the battle against the global climate crisis.

<https://www.optimistdaily.com/2023/08/a-paradigm-shift-in-montanas-legal-landscape-a-youth-led-environmental-victory/>



Janie Osborne for The New York Times

German high court rules in favor of young climate activists

The consequences of human-induced climate change are looming, and young people around the world are making it clear that they refuse to accept the inadequate efforts of today's governments to curb carbon emissions and protect what's left of the world's ecosystems.

This past Thursday, judges in the Karlsruhe court, the highest court in Germany, ruled in favor of a group of nine youth climate activists who claim that the country's climate law is unconstitutional as it leaves much of the strain of solving climate change on future generations. The court now demands that the German government must update its climate law and set a much clearer emissions reduction goal by the end of 2022.

<https://www.optimistdaily.com/2021/05/youth-climate-activists-secure-victory-with-the-highest-court-in-germany/>

