

Ferrisburgh Town Center Meeting

November 15, 2023, 6:30 pm Town Hall

Members present: Bonnie Barnes, Chair. Rick Kerschner, Annie Cohn

Members Absent: Lindsey Brown, Keith Wagner, Richard Morin

Brown church

- Found to have good septic, and will go forward with permitting
- Interested party considering purchase of building. Shared use? Up for this coming Selectboard agenda

RAISE Grant (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity)

Chittenden gave info to Addison Regional, who sent out a Memorandum of Understanding to recipients. The town has significant say in how it wishes to apply the grant.

2022 RAISE GRANT PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Name: Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Plan for Northwest Vermont

Project Type: Planning, Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)

Project Location: Northwest Region of Vermont. Centered around Chittenden County, Vermont (44.4759° N, 73.2121° W) and includes the four surrounding counties of Franklin, Addison, Rutland, and Washington.

Project Summary: This TOD project for the Northwest region of Vermont will develop a comprehensive plan for transit-oriented development for 12 communities across a five-county region in Northwest Vermont. In conjunction with TOD planning, it will also support improved bus services and/or commuter rail to connect economically disadvantaged rural residents to employment opportunities and services in the economic hub of the greater Burlington region and other employment areas.

The Northwest region of Vermont includes 13 areas of *Persistent Poverty* (Burlington, Winooski, Barre, and Rutland), 11 designated *Opportunity Zones*, and one area designated as *Historically Disadvantaged Community*(Barre). This project will provide opportunities for economic growth, improved equity, and improved connectivity among these communities.

The project envisions that developing transit-oriented developments with accessible and convenient public transportation services, will provide a viable alternative to automobile-dependent living for Vermonters, reduce household transportation costs, and provide rural residents with job opportunities. Furthermore, it will support the development of walkable centers in village areas while also providing new transit connections for rural, mobility-challenged Vermonters.

RAISE Funds Requested: \$2,100,000

Other In-Kind Match: \$150,000

Total Project Cost: \$2,250,000

Presentation by UVM school of Natural Resources

December 5, 1:15

8 Senior Students will present their research findings about how Act 171 will impact the process of updating the Town Plan in the next period.

A recording of this presentation will be available on the Ferrisburgh Town website, as will a downloadable copy of the final report.

Birdseye property

- In light of the near future plans to tear down the old Hawkins buildings, there was a discussion about how to collaborate with Birdseye to commemorate the previous long-time ownership of this land by the Hawkin's family. Possible ideas: plant a tree where each building was removed. Addison Independent story about the Hawkin's property and family.

TAP (Transportation Alternative Planning grant)

Due this December.

Money for sidewalks

General discussion: per potential grant requests and funding, our Town Committees should start taking stock of what resources are available in our town and how to communicate this. For example, look at what we have for bus availability. What is scheduling, cost. How does a person in our community know about this resource

Meeting closed 8:10 pm

Submitted by Anne Cohn