Lamoille County Planning Commission
FY18 Municipal Report
(July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

The Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) is a multi-purpose governmental organization formed by municipalities and serving Lamoille County. LCPC is governed by appointed representatives from each town and village and five elected County Directors.

Lamoille County Planning Commission implements a variety of projects and programs tailored to local, regional, and statewide needs. The revised Lamoille County Regional Plan was adopted in November 2015. This year, the Commission adopted an amendment to the Plan redefining Substantial Regional Impact (SRI) criteria. The previous SRI criteria included in the Lamoille Regional Plan had not been updated since 1991 and we believe that this update will be crucial to further improving LCPC’s Act 250 review process and enhancing development in the county.

Projects and Programs

- **Municipal Plan and Bylaw Updates & Related Technical Assistance:** Focus on predictable and effective local permitting through education, training, bylaw modernization, and plan updates.
- **Brownfields Revitalization:** Complete environmental site assessments and clean-up planning so properties can be sold or re-developed to benefit the economy; create/protect jobs, enhance quality of life, and increase housing opportunities.
- **Transportation Planning:** Coordinate local involvement in transportation decisions; represent Lamoille County municipalities on Rural Community Transportation and Green Mountain Transit Boards; facilitate and provide administrative support to the Green Mountain Byway Committee; coordinate outreach and training through the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC); provide services such as intersection studies, corridor plans, road foremen network, Municipal Road Permits and the Orange Book workshops, and traffic counts; and coordinate with other entities such as the Agency of Natural Resources for compiling county-wide lists of potential projects to consider for implementation.
- **Emergency Response Planning:** Better prepare our region and state for disasters by coordinating with local volunteers and the State on emergency response planning, exercises and trainings; assist communities with updating Local Hazard Mitigation Plans and implementation of hazard mitigation projects to reduce damages from future disasters; provide technical assistance to the Local Emergency Planning Committee.
- **Watershed Planning and Project Development:** Implement water quality projects and programs to protect water resources, ensure safe water supplies, enhance recreational opportunities, and address known sources of pollution; provide Vermont Clean Water Fund Outreach and Assistance; assisted in the development of the Winooski Tactical Basin Plan.
- **Regional Plan:** Coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth at the regional level through the development, adoption, and administration of a comprehensive regional plan.
- **Geographic Information Services:** Provide municipalities, state agencies, and regional groups mapping assistance and data analysis in support of their projects.
- **Special Projects:** Complete special projects such as downtown revitalization, recreation paths, farmland preservation, forest stewardship, economic development, and affordable housing.
- **Grants:** Provide assistance identifying appropriate funding sources, defining project scope, and writing applications.
- **Board Development:** LCPC is comprised of a Board of Directors, with 18 Directors appointed by municipalities and five County Directors representing regional interests. For FY18, County Directors were: Caleb Magoon, George Gay, Howard Romero, Linda Martin, and Brandon Fowler.
BELVIDERE

- Provided project management services for replacement of a culvert on Bog Road and coordination with Vermont Emergency Management.
- Assisted with developing and finalizing the Belvidere Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Contributed mapping for the plan. The plan is needed for Belvidere to maintain eligibility for FEMA funding.
- Provided information and technical support, including site visits upon request with VTrans and ANR staff. Coordinated consultations with the highway departments and town staff regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Assisted with updating the Belvidere Local Emergency Operations Plan.
- Assisted with conducting traffic counts on Back Road and Florence Road.
- Provided $3,700 of Grant In Aid funds for a 2018 project on Smithville Road.
  Provided support, mapping and grant writing assistance for the Better Roads grant program for project implementation and a Road Erosion Inventory.
- Assisted the Town in exploring reclassification of the Belvidere Bog to a Class I Wetland. Hosted community outreach events, including a bog walk and paddle tour.
- Coordinated technical guidance site visits with State Transportation and Natural Resources staff for various projects.
- Facilitated technical support related to traffic safety, speed limits, and signs.
- Conducted a culvert inventory.
- Conducted Road Erosion Inventory in 2018 for compliance with the Municipal Road General Permit.
- Provided mapping assistance for the following projects: Belvidere Culvert and Bridge Inventory, Hazard Mitigation Project Readiness Packet, Belvidere Town Plan/Energy chapter update, Grant In Aid road segments, Better Roads application, Town road map updates, and developing a Road Erosion Inventory app to collect data. Also, provided clarification regarding the Belvidere town boundary.
CAMBRIDGE TOWN

- Assisted Cambridge in updating the unified Cambridge Town and Village Plan.
- Provided project management services for replacement of the Cambridge Greenway Trail/Bridge Replacement Flood Mitigation Project.
- Provided information and technical support, including site visits upon request, with VTrans and ANR staff regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Provided $18,500 of Grant In Aid funds for a 2019 project on Iron Gate Road
- Provided mapping assistance for the following projects: Town Plan updates, Cambridge Recreation Trails Guide update, Green Mountain Byway, Cambridge Culvert Inventory update, Cambridge Enhanced Energy Plan draft, Grant In Aid segments, and Better Roads applications.
- Provided project management support and assisted the Town in applying for an FY 18 ERP Grant to secure remaining funding needed to implement the Cambridge Stormwater design at the Cambridge Elementary School. Assisted the Town of Cambridge in hiring a contractor to install the stormwater mitigation system.
- Engaged the community and local officials in follow-up discussion regarding the flood model of the main stem of the Lamoille River. The model is being used to evaluate ways to reduce flooding at the Wrong Way Bridge and Pumpkin Harbor Road.
- Assisted the Town of Cambridge in completing a Stream Geomorphic Assessment for the Seymour River. The Assessment evaluated the geomorphic processes, fish habitat condition, and human impacts to the river corridor, in order to target projects that will improve water quality and flood resiliency. LCPC staff managed the project and sub-contracted with Bear Creek Environmental to conduct the assessment.
- Provided information about Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) grant programs and other available funds such as the Transportation Alternatives grant program. Provided assistance with the application for a Better Roads grant program to conduct an updated Road Erosion Inventory.
- Facilitated technical support related to traffic safety, speed limits, and signs.
- Updated the Cambridge Recreation Trails Guide.
- Conducted traffic counts on Pollander and Pumpkin Harbor Roads.
- Conducted bike-pedestrian counts at the Cambridge Greenway Trail near Route 15, on Church Street, and along the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail behind the Family Table restaurant.
- Facilitated extension of the Green Mountain Byway to include Cambridge, Jeffersonville, and Cambridge Village. Conducting Road Erosion Inventory in 2018-2019 for compliance with the Municipal Road General Permit.

LCPC Board Members
Dick Goff, George Putnam

Transportation Advisory Committee
Jane Porter
Marguerite Ladd (Alt)
FY18 Municipal Assistance

CAMBRIDGE VILLAGE

- Assisted in updating the unified Cambridge Town and Village Plan.
- Coordinated technical guidance site visits with VTrans and ANR staff for various projects.
- Facilitated technical support and site visits related to traffic safety, speed limits, and signs.
- Engaged the community and local officials in follow-up discussion regarding the flood model of the main stem of the Lamoille River. The model is being used to evaluate ways to reduce flooding at the Wrong Way Bridge and Pumpkin Harbor Road.
- Assisted in completing a Stream Geomorphic Assessment for the Seymour River. The Assessment evaluated the geomorphic processes, fish habitat condition, and human impacts to the river corridor, in order to target projects that will improve water quality and flood resiliency. LCPC staff managed the project and sub-contracted with Bear Creek Environmental to conduct the assessment.
- Updated the Cambridge Recreation Trails Guide.
- Facilitated extension of the Green Mountain Byway to include Cambridge, Jeffersonville, and Cambridge Village.

LCPC Board Member
Georgeana Little
JEFFERSONVILLE

- Assisted the Village in applying for HMGP funding to update the Jeffersonville Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Provided funding, through LCPC’s Brownfields Program, to help the Village transform the former Bell Gates lumber yard into a gateway park to the Village. The project included regrading uncontaminated portions of the property for flood storage and conveyance.
- Provided project management services for replacement of the Route 15 flood bypass culvert. The mitigation measures are funded through a mix of HMGP, CDBG, and State ERP funds. Once implemented, these measures will reduce flood levels in the Village core by up to 1.5 feet. Had such measures been in place during the flood of 2011, evacuation of the Village’s Senior Housing would not have been needed.
- Assisted the Village of Jeffersonville in updating the Village’s Flood Hazard Bylaws.
- Facilitated technical support related to traffic safety, speed limits, and signs.
- Conducted bike-pedestrian counts at the Cambridge Greenway Trail near Route 15, on Church Street, and along the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail behind the Family Table restaurant.
- Updated the Cambridge Recreation Trails Guide.
- Provided information about VTrans grant programs and other available funds, such as the Transportation Alternatives, Bike-Ped, and Park-n-Ride grant programs.
- Coordinated technical guidance site visits with State Transportation and Natural Resources staff for various projects.
- Worked with the Vermont Division of Waste Management to complete remediation of contaminated soils on the Bell Gates Property. Assisted the Village with review of final conservation documents for the property.
- Attended meetings with Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and the Town/Village regarding potential design and funding options to improve connectivity between the Village and the LVRT/Greenway Trails.
- Provided mapping assistance for the following projects: right of way and Route 15 bypass culverts, the Cambridge Recreation Trails Guide update, Green Mountain Byway, Village Plan, and flood hazard mitigation planning.
- Facilitated extension of the Green Mountain Byway to include Cambridge, Jeffersonville, and Cambridge Village.
FY18 Municipal Assistance

EDEN

- Facilitated Transportation Advisory Committee and VTrans accelerated prioritization to replace the Knowles Flat Road Double Culverts as a VTrans managed and financed project.
- Assisted Eden in updating the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to maintain eligibility for FEMA funding.
- Provided informational assistance for Local Emergency Operations Plan update.
- Provided information and technical support, including site visits upon request, with VTrans and ANR staff regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Provided $8,600 of Grant In Aid funds for a 2019 project on East Hill Road.
- Provided information about Vermont Agency of Transportation grant programs and other available funds such as the Transportation Alternatives and the Better Roads grant programs.
- Conducted traffic counts on East Hill Road.
- Prepared to conduct Road Erosion Inventory in 2019 for compliance with the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Assisted the Town in coordinating meetings with US Fish and Wildlife under the VT Asbestos Group Settlement process to prioritize bridge and culvert replacement projects that are a priority for the Town of Eden.
- Coordinated technical guidance site visits with State Transportation and Natural Resources staff for various projects.
- Provided mapping assistance for the following projects: Eden Local Hazard Mitigation Plan update, VAG priority project mapping.

LCPC Board Member
Keren Ferrari

Transportation Advisory Committee
Ricky Morin
Tracey Morin (Alt)
FY18 Municipal Assistance

ELMORE

- Began assisting with updating the Elmore subdivision bylaws.
- Assisted the Town in updating the Elmore Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to retain FEMA funding eligibility.
- Provided information and technical support, including site visits upon request, with VTrans and ANR staff regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Provided $8,600 of Grant In Aid funds for a 2018 project on Elmore Mountain Road.
- Provided information and assistance in applying for grants from the Vermont Agency of Transportation grant programs such as the Transportation Alternatives and Better Roads grant programs. Application assistance included preparing a VTrans Stormwater Grant to study improvements for sand storage, and applying for a Better Roads Grant to conduct an updated Road Erosion Inventory for the Town of Elmore.
- Conducted Road Erosion Inventory in 2018 for compliance with the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Conducted outreach and assisted in the development of the Winooski River Tactical Basin Plan.
- Assisted with drafting of Enhanced Energy Plan compliance with Act 174, relating to the improvement of siting of energy generation facilities.
- Conducted a traffic count on Elmore Mountain Road.
- Provided Town Plan map updates, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan maps, renewable energy potential maps, Elmore Culvert Inventory map updates, and a map of the Winooski Watershed in Elmore.

LCPC Board Member
Jill Lindenmeyr

Transportation Advisory Committee
Robert Burley
Michel Lacasse
FY18 Municipal Assistance

HYDE PARK TOWN

- Assisted the Town in developing an application to designate a portion of North Hyde Park Village as a Designated Village Center.
- Assisted Town in applying for HMGP funding to update the Hyde Park Town/Village Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Provided funding for environmental assessment of a vacant parcel on Depot Street to house a trailhead facility serving Lamoille Valley Rail Trail users. Assisted with oversight of site remediation in preparation for trailhead construction.
- Provided information and technical support, including site visits upon request, with VTrans and ANR staff regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Provided $13,600 of Grant In Aid funds for a 2018 project on Battle Row Road.
- Provided information about Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) grant programs and other available funds such as the Transportation Alternatives, Bike-Ped, and Park-n-Ride grant programs. Provided support, mapping, and grant writing assistance for the Strong Communities Better Connections grant application, to study bike/ped connectivity in Hyde Park Town/Village.
- Completed Hyde Park Road Erosion Inventory in December 2017 for compliance with the Municipal Road General Permit.
- Conducted traffic counts on Black Farm Road, Centerville Road, Church Street, Depot Street, and East Main Street.
- Conducted bike-pedestrian counts at the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail near the trailhead and in North Hyde Park along Route 100.
- Completed Corrective Action Plan for future Depot Street Trailhead for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail.
- Facilitated technical support related to traffic safety, speed limits, and signs.
- Provided mapping assistance for the following projects: Better Connections application, Snow Plowing Plan, Hyde Park Town Plan, Enhanced Energy Plan, zoning updates, and North Hyde Park Village Center Designation.
- Facilitated extension of the Green Mountain Byway to include Town and Village of Hyde Park.
HYDE PARK VILLAGE

- Developed landscape architecture plans for Elsa French Park. Drafted grant application to AARP for new accessible picnic area within the Park.
- Assisted in applying for HMGP funding to update the Hyde Park Town/Village Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Conducted traffic counts on Black Farm Road, Centerville Road, Church Street, Depot Street, and East Main Street.
- Conducted bike-pedestrian counts at the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail near the trailhead.
- Provided information about Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) grant programs and other available funds, such as the Transportation Alternatives, Bike-Ped, and Park-n-Ride grant programs. Provided support, mapping, and grant writing assistance for the Strong Communities Better Connections grant application, to study bike/ped connectivity in Hyde Park Town/Village.
- Provided mapping assistance for the following projects: Better Connections application, Hyde Park Town/Village Plan, Enhanced Energy Plan, zoning updates.
- Facilitated extension of the Green Mountain Byway to include Town and Village of Hyde Park.

LCPC Board Member
Riki French
JOHNSON TOWN & VILLAGE

- Provided funding through LCPC’s Brownfields Program to develop an area wide revitalization plan for Railroad Street Corridor and to conduct environmental assessment of the former Powerhouse building on Gihon River.
- Assisted the Planning Commission in exploring River Corridors adoption and worked with DEC River Scientist Staci Pomeroy, to conduct a Windshield Survey of existing mapped river corridors in Johnson.
- Assisted the Town/Village in drafting an Enhanced Energy Plan in accordance with Act 174.
- Assisted in drafting and finalizing the Johnson Local Hazard Mitigation Plan needed to maintain eligibility for FEMA funding.
- Assisted with updating of Local Emergency Operations Plan.
- Assisted local Floodplain Administrator in organizing a forum for residents and businesses impacted by ice jamming. Provided assistance for a grant application to the US Army Corps of Engineers to assess ways to reduce future ice jamming. Provided assistance to Johnson Public Library with obtaining flood elevation certificate. Developed grant application to evaluate options to flood proof the building and improve electrical systems.
- Provided technical assistance related to public hearing and adoption process for Form Based Code bylaws. Provided information and technical support, including site visits upon request, with VTrans and ANR staff regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit. Provided $13,600 of Grant In Aid funds for a 2018 project on Grow Road.
- Provided information about Vermont Agency of Transportation grant programs and other available funds such as the Transportation Alternatives, Bike-Ped, and Park-n-Ride grant programs.
- Conducted traffic counts on Clay Hill, College Hill, Upper French Hill Road, Railroad Street, and Route 15 West and East.
- Conducted bike-pedestrian counts at VT15–VT100C intersection and the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail.
- Provided mapping assistance for the following projects: river corridors, Grant In Aid segments, Hazard Mitigation Plan, Enhanced Energy Planning, and updating the Town Road map. Facilitated extension of the Green Mountain Byway to include Town and Village of Johnson.
- Prepared to conduct Road Erosion Inventory in 2019 for compliance with the Municipal Roads General Permit.
FY18 Municipal Assistance

MORRISTOWN and MORRISVILLE

- In response to inquiries from Morrisville based businesses, LCPC secured USDA funding to study the feasibility of a bio-digester to convert high strength effluent from breweries and similar industries into thermal or electric energy.
- Provided supportive letters and information to the Vermont Economic Progress Council that enabled Morrisville based businesses to receive state tax credits for expansion.
- Participated in Master Planning for the Morrisville-Stowe State Airport, including assistance in applying for funding for terminal expansion.
- Informed Town and Village of technical deficiencies in draft zoning bylaws that could present challenges to regional economic development. Informed the community that the current zoning bylaws are not in compliance with minimum standards for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. Alerted the Selectboard and Trustees that proposed zoning amendments would place the community in violation of the Act 250 permit for the Village Wastewater Treatment Plant, and leave the community vulnerable to significant enforcement fees and legal challenges.
- Informed Town of available grant assistance, such as the $19,500 in Grant In Aid funds to improve the municipal highway network.
- Upon request of several local property and business owners, LCPC provided information related to tax credits and other incentives that would be available if the Selectboard and Trustees had agreed to renew Morrisville’s former Downtown Designation.
- Provided information and offered technical support, including site visits upon request, with VTrans and ANR staff regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Conducted outreach and assisted in the development of the Winooski Tactical Basin Plan.
- Provided information about VTrans grant programs and other available funds such as the Transportation Alternatives, Better Roads, Bike-Ped, and Park-n-Ride grant programs.
- Conducted bike-pedestrian counts on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail near Oxbow Park and the Bridge Street Bridge.
- Reviewed Act 250 proposals for Copley Medical Facility and Redevelopment of Green Mountain Arena for conformance with the Regional Plan.
- Provided maps of the Winooski Watershed and the Green Mountain Byway. Facilitated extension of the Green Mountain Byway to include Morristown and Morrisville.
FY18 Municipal Assistance

STOWE

- Coordinated Smugglers Notch Drainage Study to identify alternatives to mitigate flood and erosion damage to Route 108.
- Assisted with drafting of Enhanced Energy Plan compliance with Act 174, relating to improvement of siting of energy generation facilities.
- Conducted outreach and assisted in the Development of the Winooski Tactical Basin Plan.
- Facilitated Green Mountain Byway Steering Committee and provided mapping assistance.
- Provided information and technical support, including site visits upon request, with VTrans and ANR staff regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Provided assistance in updating the Local Emergency Operations Plan.
- Conducted traffic counts on Route 108 near Barnes Camp, Luce Hill Road, Cape Cod Road, Moscow Road and Maple Street.
- Facilitated and participated in Road Safety improvements to be constructed as part of VTrans VT 100 Capital Project.
- Provided $23,500 of Grant In Aid funds for a 2018 project on Lower Sanborn Road.
- Provided information about Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) grant programs and other available funds such as the Transportation Alternatives, Bike-Ped, Better Roads and Park-n-Ride grant programs. Provided support and technical assistance for Better Roads grant program.
- Provided Smugglers Notch trail and Barnes Camp map updates, updated Town Plan energy maps, created a map of the Winooski Watershed in Stowe, and updated the Green Mountain Byway Recreation Guide.
- Facilitated extension of the Green Mountain Byway to include all Towns and Villages of Morristown, Hyde Park, Johnson, and Cambridge.
WATERVILLE

- Assisted Waterville in developing a Flood Resiliency element of the Town Plan and updating the Town Plan.
- Assisted in updating the Waterville Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and associated maps.
- Provided informational assistance to update the Waterville Local Emergency Operations Plan.
- Provided information and technical support, including site visits upon request, regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Provided information about Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) grant programs and other available funds such as the Transportation Alternatives, Better Roads, Bike-Ped, and Park-n-Ride grant programs.
- Provided $6,100 of Grant In Aid funds for a 2019 project on Oakes Road.
- Prepared to conduct Road Erosion Inventory in 2019 for compliance with the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Engaged in preliminary discussions with local officials/town staff about applying for a Municipal Planning Grant to evaluate bike/pedestrian safety improvements in Waterville Village Center near the Town Hall.

LCPC Board Member
Scott Johnson

Transportation Advisory Committee
Nancy LaRose
WOLCOTT

- Assisted in revising the Wolcott Town Plan and conducted a flood mitigation analysis for Elmore Pond Road Bridge, a triangular area delineated by Route 15, Flat Iron Road, and School Street.
- Assisted with drafting of Enhanced Energy Plan compliance with Act 174, relating to improvement of siting of energy generation facilities.
- Developed renewable energy potential maps.
- Assisted with public hearings and adoption of Wolcott Town Plan.
- Provided information and technical support, including site visits upon request, with VTrans and ANR staff regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Developed a “course level” flood model of the main stem of the Lamoille River that is being used to evaluate ways to reduce flooding on School Street and the Elmore Pond Road Bridge.
- Conducted traffic counts on Town Hill and Elmore Pond Road.
- Conducted bike/pedestrian counts on School Street near the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail and Recreation Fields.
- Provided information about Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) grant programs and other available funds such as the Transportation Alternatives, Better Roads, Bike-Ped, and Park-n-Ride grant programs. Provided mapping support and grant writing assistance for Better Roads grant program.
- Provided $11,100 of Grant In Aid funds for a project which will be defined in early 2019.
- Prepared to conduct Road Erosion Inventory in 2019 for compliance with the Municipal Roads General Permit.
- Coordinated technical guidance site visits with State Transportation and Natural Resources staff on various projects upon request of town staff.
- Assisted in updating Wolcott Culvert Inventory and map.
- Provided mapping assistance for the following projects: Wolcott Enhanced Energy Plan, Wolcott Town Plan, Wolcott Hazard Mitigation Project Readiness Packets, Wolcott Culvert Inventory, and flood mitigation priorities related to the Lamoille Main Stem model.
- Coordinated engineering for wetland/floodplain restoration projects on VT Fish and Wildlife owned property. In addition to improving wildlife habitat, the project may reduce future flooding and ice jamming on North Wolcott Road.
- Assisted in preparing a grant application to enhance wastewater capacity in Wolcott Village to enable growth of local businesses.