

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Dan Albrecht, Senior Planner
Chittenden County RPC
dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org Office: (802) 846-4490 x *29

Regional organizations team up with Town of Richmond to develop Richmond Stormwater Master Plan

Winooski, VT – Through a grant provided by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) as part of the State’s Clean Water Initiative, the Town of Richmond and the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) are partnering with the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District and the Friends of the Winooski to develop a Stormwater Master Plan for the Town. This type of planning is needed to address infrastructure damage and erosion caused by excessive rainstorms and flooding events.

The CCRPC has hired Stone Environmental of Montpelier to draft the overall Plan. The scope of work includes a review of pre-existing data, an assessment of problem areas and a detailed identification of potential projects to address stormwater and its impacts. The Plan will focus on two areas, Richmond Village and the Richmond Elementary / Camel’s Hump Middle School property and also note other areas where stormwater runoff causes damages to both public and private infrastructure such as roads and culverts. The final element of the Plan will be the preparation of conceptual plans and budget estimates for eight of the most problematic sites.

Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (WNRCD) and the Friends of the Winooski (FWR) will play key roles in the Plan’s development. WNRCD will organize two meetings to obtain input from the public with regards to their concerns about runoff, erosion and water quality as well as provide feedback on the draft elements of the Plan. Finally, WNRCD will work with community residents and businesses to identify at least four additional future projects/programs with a focus on low-tech opportunities within the private sector and community sector to both address stormwater runoff and/or serve as an informational resource. The FWR has already worked with the Chittenden East Supervisory Union to try and address erosion concerns on the school property, one of the larger developed parcels in the town and will facilitate site visits by Stone Environmental to the property.

Completion of the Stormwater Master Plan is anticipated in the summer of 2018. Projects recommended by the Plan will be considered by the Town for action as well as forwarded to the Vermont DEC for inclusion in a State-managed list of potential water quality improvement projects. For more information, please contact Dan Albrecht, CCRPC Senior Planner: dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org or (802) 846-4490, ext. *29.

The CCRPC provides planning and technical assistance in the areas of community development, transportation, agriculture, natural resources, housing, economic development, telecommunications and emergency management to the 19 municipalities of Chittenden County and to the public, while remaining consistent with federal and state requirements. The collaboration between the CCRPC, Chittenden County municipalities and other related resources agencies results in the development and implementation of plans that support sustainable development and improve the region’s environment and quality of life. For more information about the CCRPC, please visit www.ccrpcvt.org. [###]