

TOWN PLAN ADOPTION AND APPROVAL

Towns in Vermont are not required to have a municipal plan, but if they do it must contain certain pieces (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/24/117/04382>) and be adopted by the correct process (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/24/117/04385>). To help with adoption, towns are encouraged to use the adoption process checklist (<https://www.trorc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/AdoptionTools.doc>). For towns that do adopt plans, they can seek regional approval from TRORC's Board, which has specific benefits. TRORC encourages all towns to have a town plan.

Per statute (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/24/117/04350>), a municipality may request approval of their plan by the Regional Commission. When requested, the TRORC staff reviews the municipal plan to determine if the document is consistent with the State's planning goals (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/24/117/04302>), compatible with the policies of the Regional Plan (<https://www.trorc.org/trorc-regional-plan/>), compatible with approved plans of neighboring municipalities, and contains all the required pieces. Both 'consistent' and 'compatible' are defined in 24 VSA section 4302(f)

(<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/24/117/04302>). The staff then makes a recommendation to the TRORC Board of Directors, who holds a warned public hearing to collect public comment on the plan under review. If the plan meets the criteria outlined in state statute, the Board shall vote to approve it.

Town Plan Required Elements and Related Goals (<https://www.trorc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/REQUIREDELEMENTSGOALS.docx>) – Downloadable word docx

Adoption Process Checklist (<https://www.trorc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/AdoptionTools.doc>)– Downloadable word doc



Why Have an Approved Plan? (<https://www.trorc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Why-have-an-Approved-Plan.pdf>)

When municipalities have an approved plan, they are able to utilize several state programs including the Municipal Planning Grant program, which funds planning projects for towns on a yearly basis. In addition, communities that seek to join the Vermont Downtown or Village Designation Program (a program that encourages revitalization through tax credits and incentives for commercial businesses) must have approved plans. Having a municipal plan that is consistent with the Regional Plan reduces the chance for conflicts between the two plans that can arise in the event of an Act 250 permit proceeding, and also gives the community a greater say in energy and cell tower permitting.

As of 5/2/2022, TRORC has 28 towns with approved plans, they include:

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Town	Regional Approval Status	Local Adoption Date	Expiration Date	Expiration Year	Determination of Energy Compliance?
Barnard	Approved	8/24/2016	8/24/2024	2024	
Bethel	Approved	11/13/2020	11/13/2028	2028	Yes
Bradford	Approved	1/28/2016	1/28/2024	2024	
Braintree	Approved	12/5/2017	12/5/2025	2025	Yes
Bridgewater	Approved	9/25/2018	9/25/2026	2026	
Brookfield	Approved	9/12/2016	9/12/2024	2024	
Chelsea	Approved	11/16/2015	11/16/2023	2023	
Corinth	Approved	10/21/2019	10/21/2027	2027	Yes
Fairlee	Approved	1/21/2020	1/21/2028	2028	Yes
Granville	Approved	11/13/2019	11/13/2027	2027	
Hancock	Approved	02/15/2022	02/15/2030	2030	
Hartford	Approved	6/4/2019	6/4/2027	2027	Yes
Hartland	Approved	5/15/2017	5/15/2025	2025	

Town	Regional Approval Status	Local Adoption Date	Expiration Date	Expiration Year	Determination of Energy Compliance?
Newbury	Approved	8/19/2015	8/19/2023	2023	
Norwich	Approved	3/7/2020	3/7/2028	2028	
Pittsfield	Approved	8/18/2015	8/18/2023	2023	
Plymouth	Approved	9/10/2019	9/10/2027	2027	
Pomfret	Approved	8/17/2016	8/17/2024	2024	
Randolph	Approved	8/8/2019	8/8/2027	2027	
Rochester	Approved	4/27/2020	4/27/2028	2028	Yes
Royalton	Approved	3/3/2020	3/3/2028	2028	
Sharon	Did not seek approval	3/21/2022	3/21/2030	2030	
Stockbridge	Approved	8/20/2015	8/20/2023	2023	
Strafford	Approved	10/13/2021	10/13/2029	2029	Yes
Thetford	Approved	9/11/2020	9/11/2028	2028	Yes
Topsham	Expired	9/25/2012	9/25/2017	2017	
Tunbridge	Approved	12/14/2021	12/14/2029	2029	Yes
Vershire	Approved	10/31/2017	10/31/2025	2025	
West Fairlee	Approved	3/7/2017	3/7/2025	2025	
Woodstock	Approved	9/17/2019	9/17/2027	2027	Yes

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LAND USE PLANNING

- Land Use in Vermont (<https://www.trorc.org/land-use-in-vermont/>)

- Land Use Resources (<https://www.trorc.org/programs/land-use-resources/>)
- Act 250 and Other Permitting (<https://www.trorc.org/act-250-and-other-permitting/>)
- Regional Plan (<https://www.trorc.org/trorc-regional-plan/>)
- Technical Assistance (<https://www.trorc.org/programs/technical-assistance/>)
- Town Plan Adoption and Approval (<https://www.trorc.org/town-plan-approvals/>)

EVENTS CALENDAR (/CALENDAR)

May 24th
6:30 pm

TRORC Board Meeting (<https://www.trorc.org/event/trorc-board-meeting-57/>)

May 31st
6:30 pm

Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) Quarterly Meeting (<https://www.trorc.org/event/regional-emergency-management-committee-remc-quarterly-meeting/>)

June 13th
1:00 pm

IREC Steering Committee Meeting
(<https://www.trorc.org/event/12570/>)

NEWS (/NEWS)

TRORC Announces 2023 Scholarship Program (<https://www.trorc.org/2023scholarship/>)

The governing board of the Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission believes our region's future is enhanced by both wise and forward-looking stewardship of the land, natural...

Downtown Board Approves Plymouth Village Designations (<https://www.trorc.org/downtown-board-approves-plymouth-village-designations/>)

On Monday November 28th, the Vermont Downtown Board unanimously approved Plymouth Town's Village Center Designation for Plymouth Union and Tyson. The Village Center Designation process...

Local Emergency Management and EOC Enhancement Grant (<https://www.trorc.org/local-emergency-management-and-eoc-enhancement-grant/>)

Vermont Emergency Management has funding available to support Local Emergency Management and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) improvement projects. This funding, provided through the Emergency Management...

TRORC PUBLICATIONS

- Maps (<https://www.trorc.org/programs/gisgpsmaps/>)
- Regional Plan (<https://www.trorc.org/trorc-regional-plan/>)
- Town Plan Adoption and Approval (<https://www.trorc.org/town-plan-approvals/>)
- Meeting Minutes (<https://www.trorc.org/meeting-minutes-and-materials/>)
- Press Releases (<https://www.trorc.org/category/press-releases/>)
- Newsletters (<https://www.trorc.org/trorc-newsletter/>)
- Regional Energy Plan (<https://www.trorc.org/programs/energy/regional-energy-plan/>)
- Creative Economy (<https://www.trorc.org/ecv-what-we-want/artists-artisans-entrepreneurs-creative-economy-east-central-vermont-region/>)
- Town Admin Resources (<https://www.trorc.org/town-resources/>)

- TRORC Training Opportunities (<https://www.trorc.org/programs/trorc-training/>)
 - Planning Tools (<https://www.trorc.org/planning-tools/>)
 - Policies and Procedures (<https://www.trorc.org/about/policies-and-procedures/>)
 - TRORC Strategic Plan (<https://www.trorc.org/strategic-plannning/>)
 - Streaming Videos (YouTube) (<https://www.trorc.org/streaming-content/>)
 - EC Vermont Dashboard (<https://www.trorc.org/programs/economic-development/regional-dashboard/>)
 - ECV: What We Want (<https://www.trorc.org/ecv-what-we-want/>)
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Brownfields

The overall goal of the TRORC Brownfields Program is to promote redevelopment and create vitality within downtowns and village centers by returning Brownfield properties to active commercial, industrial or municipal use.

(<https://www.trorc.org/programs/brownfields/>)

ECV Economic Development District

The ECVEDD's mission is to access and provide resources and to facilitate support for quality decision making for the benefit of entrepreneurs, businesses, and communities in East Central Vermont.

(<https://www.ecvedd.org/>)



Flood Ready Vermont

We can become flood ready together – developing in safer places, protecting the functions of the watersheds that protect us, adapting our critical infrastructure and preparing for emergencies.

(<https://floodready.vermont.gov/>)

GIS Mapping

TRORC serves as the regional GIS service center and includes creating, maintaining and updating data layers for parcel mapping, zoning, land use, transportation, natural resources, and utilities planning.

(<https://www.trorc.org/programs/gis-mapping/>)

HOME ([HTTPS://WWW.TRORC.ORG/](https://www.trorc.org/))

NEWS ([HTTPS://WWW.TRORC.ORG/NEWS/](https://www.trorc.org/news/))

[ASK US \(HTTPS://WWW.TRORC.ORG/ASK/\)](https://www.trorc.org/ask/) [ABOUT US \(HTTPS://WWW.TRORC.ORG/ABOUT/\)](https://www.trorc.org/about/)

[EVENTS \(HTTPS://WWW.TRORC.ORG/CALENDAR/\)](https://www.trorc.org/calendar/)

[TOWNS \(HTTPS://WWW.TRORC.ORG/MEMBER-TOWNS/\)](https://www.trorc.org/member-towns/)

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