

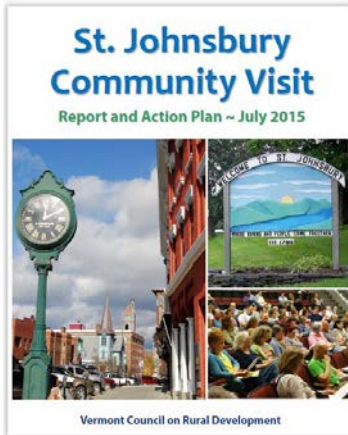
VCRD in Communities



► BELLOWS FALLS:

“VCRD hosted its first community visit to Bellows Falls, at a time when the community was really at a loss on how to move forward. Ten years later we have an active main street, a strong arts community and a great integration between our industrial park and downtown.”

~ Robert McBride, RAMP, Bellows Falls



► ST. JOHNSBURY:

“I have been involved in dozens of planning sessions and community forums here in St. Johnsbury over the last 15 years and I can truly say that this event was, by far, the best – and will, without a doubt, result in productive outcomes for St. Johnsbury.”

~ Mike Welch, St. Johnsbury Community Visit Chair

“The St. Johnsbury Community Report and Action Plan is terrific! We are so grateful for VCRD’s leadership, navigation skills, and steady support. The forums inspired the community we call Home – and so many feel fortunate to have participated.” ~ Lorna Higgs, St. Johnsbury Resident



► SWANTON:

“I have never seen as much activity, excitement, and accomplishment in our town. VCRD is doing meaningful work that will improve the quality of life in Vermont towns for generations to come. I will always be grateful.”

~ Sandy Kilburn, Swanton Resident



► CAMBRIDGE:

“It is genuinely thrilling to see the different constituencies come together and do good things for our community. The most significant results of the process are the lasting effects in the town around community engagement. The town has been transformed.”

~ April Tuck, Cambridge Community Visit Chair



► CRAFTSBURY:

“I have been hearing such a great buzz today after all of the fun yesterday. Thanks again for helping our community get reinvigorated. I really believe in the task forces that have been formed and their determination and ability to better serve our community.”

~ Emily Maclure, Craftsbury Community Visit Chair

VCRD's Policy Efforts

VCRD serves as a convener, catalyst, and leader for Vermont to build and advance policies to support the working landscape, economic innovation, and strong communities!

► Working Landscape | <http://vtworkinglands.org>



VCRD leads the Working Landscape Partnership to support farm and forest business development through the Working Lands Enterprise Program. ***The working landscape is central to our economy, quality of life, and core values as a people. We must invest in the economic foundation of the land that we love by supporting the enterprises that are its stewards.***

► Food Education | <http://vermontfoodeducation.org>

VCRD is helping Vermont advance as the national epicenter for food systems education. Partnerships with businesses like Cabot Creamery build national awareness and leverage the important work being done by the Vermont Higher Education Food Systems Consortium. ***Lead the charge for the future of farming, community agriculture, food production, and national policy. Study in Vermont.***



► Climate Economy | <http://vtrural.org/programs/climate-economy>

VCRD is leading an initiative to expand businesses and jobs and market Vermont as a national center for “climate economy” development.

Ultimately, the climate economy is an evolving answer, the essential answer, to climate change; it is the economy of the future.

► Climate Economy Summit | <http://vtrural.org/summit16>

VCRD convened the Summit and founded the Vermont Climate Economy Partnership to unify businesses and advocates working together to drive Vermont’s climate economy forward. ***We see a future where Vermont is a global center of green economic innovation and entrepreneurship, providing a haven for businesses mitigating, adapting to, and reversing the effects of climate change.***



www.vtrural.org

Vermont Council on Rural Development

Helping Vermonters and Vermont communities create a better future.

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