

NOTICE AND AGENDA MEETING

The Rail Trail Council for the Northwest Vermont Rail Trail will be meeting on
Monday, September 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Remote option below, or in person at 75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans

Information on how to access the remote meeting:

By computer, smartphone, tablet, or other device: Click on the Zoom meeting invite-
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82126991394>

You may be prompted to enter a meeting ID: 821 2699 1394.

- Passcode: 671717
- By telephone: Dial +1 646 558 8656. When prompted enter the meeting ID: 821 2699 1394. Regular toll call/cell phone charges may apply.

All meeting participants will first enter a virtual "waiting room" until the meeting organizer opens the meeting.

Please review our "Informational Handout for Remote Public Meetings" to understand how these electronic meetings will be managed. If you wish to make a public comment but do not have the ability to comment remotely during the meeting, please email your comment(s) to Amy Adams at aadams@nrpcvt.com

To ensure smooth access, we recommend that you test your remote meeting software in advance of the meeting. **If you have difficulty accessing the meeting, please email aadams@nrpcvt.com**

Agenda:

1. **Introductions/Potential new members**
2. **Minutes** – July 15, 2024 minutes enclosed
3. **Memorial Bench-(Family of Mike Burke presenting)**
4. **Interactive Mapping Project Presentation (CRO Planning & Design)**
5. **Updates**
 - **Council vacancies:** Berkshire, Enosburgh Town, Richford, Sheldon & Bakersfield, 5- At Large
 - **LVRT Community Grant updates (Sheldon Gristmill, Sheldon Junction Trailhead Study, Swanton Trailhead, Highgate & Other)**
 - **Grants & Funding Sources: NRPC Update on Grants Available & Communities Updates on Applications**
<https://fpr.vermont.gov/recreation/recreation-grants/vorec-community-grant-program>
<https://fpr.vermont.gov/recreational-trails-program>
<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/recreation-economy-rural-communities>
 - **LVRT/MVRT 2024 Season (J. Cassino/B.Gray)**
 - **VAST (M. Bushey)**
6. **Other Business**
7. **Next Meeting** – November 18, 2024

If you cannot attend the meeting, please notify Amy Adams at aadams@nrpcvt.com.

In accordance with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and Vermont's Open Meeting Law, the NRPC will ensure public meeting sites are accessible to all people or provide an opportunity to request accommodations. Requests for free interpretive or translation services, assistive devices, designation of a physical meeting location, electronic access to a meeting, or other requested accommodations, should be made to Amy Adams, NRPC Title VI Coordinator, at 802- 524-5958 or aadams@nrpcvt.com, no later than 2 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.

INFORMATIONAL HANDOUT FOR REMOTE MEETINGS

Remote Public Meetings

All public body meetings for the Northwest Regional Planning Commission will be conducted remotely via electronic means for the duration of Governor Scott's State of Emergency declaration. Whenever feasible, the public will also be able to access and participate in the remote meetings by dialing in through telephone.

Accessing a Meeting

Please refer to each notice and agenda for information on how to access a remote meeting. Please note that whether you join by telephone, computer, or device, you may be put on hold or in a waiting "room" until granted access to the meeting. You also may be muted or restricted from using any chat function until the public comment portion of the meeting.

Participation

All meetings will be conducted in accordance with the respective "Rules of Procedure" of each public body, to the extent practicable. The public body will follow its agenda and allow public attendees to participate through voice (audio) means where feasible or alternatively using any chat function during the designated public comment periods on the agenda and at other applicable times as needed.

Initially, the meeting's host/organizer will mute all participants that are not members of the public body. This is necessary to control background noise. The host/organizer will then unmute participants or allow participants to unmute themselves when invited to speak by the Chair of the public body.

Please review the following guidelines:

- The Chair will invite comment:
 - during the time designated on the agenda for public comment;
 - after the public body discusses each agenda item;
 - before the public body takes action;
 - during any open public comment period, if applicable; and
 - other times as determined by the public body.

- When a participant/attendee is unmuted, they must state their name before commenting.

When the public body adjourns the meeting, the host/organizer will end the electronic meeting by turning off/closing the remote meeting software. Attendees will be automatically disconnected.

Minutes and other public records that were part of the meeting will be made available in accordance with VT's Open Meeting and Public Records Laws.

To learn more about Remote Public Meetings and the Open Meeting Law, please visit the Secretary of State's Municipal Assistance webpage at <https://sos.vermont.gov/municipal-division/laws-resources/covid-19-response/>.