

West Central Vermont CEDS – Strategy Committee

Friday, October 21, 2022– 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Please join the meeting by clicking:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82062316313>

For those who would prefer to join by phone or those without a microphone on your computer, please dial in using your phone. (For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.) Meeting ID: 820 6231 6313

One tap mobile: +16468769923,,82062316313#

Present:

Taylor Newton, CCRPC
Sam Andersen, GBIC
Adam Lougee, ACRPC
Hannah Andrew, ACRPC
Dana Hanley, ACEDC
Devon Neary, RRPC
Tyler Richardson, CEDRR
Jon Ignatowski, CVRPC
Jamie Stewart, CVEDC
Melissa Bounty, CVEDC

Taylor kicked off the meeting by welcoming everyone at about 10:00 AM.

1. Changes/adjustment to agenda:

Taylor asked for any changes to the agenda. Hearing none proposed, he continued.

2. Minutes – October 5, 2022:

Taylor requested a motion to adopt the previous meeting minutes. **Jamie Stewart moved acceptance of the previous meeting minutes. Sam Andersen seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote.**

3. Extension Request Discussion. Taylor announced that we had received an extension through July 2024. He does not want us to use all that time, but the new grant amendments will reflect that date. Taylor also reminded people to bill and get their invoices in for the last quarter.

Taylor will send out a revised schedule for CEDS adoption.

4. Task #4 - Develop a CEDS and Evaluation Framework:

John Ignatowski noted that CVRPC had worked its way through most of the CEDS. Things seemed to go well so far, but they have still not looked at permit reform.

Taylor reviewed the latest changes to the draft CEDS summarized in his email dated Friday October 7th and included here

- Exec Summary and Key Findings
 - Added sentence about the housing shortage impacting working mobility
 - Added a sentence to specifically reference CreateVT – Action Plan and Farm to Plate Strategic Plan
- Goal 2

- Sam edit on benefits
- Added Women Owned Businesses action (didn't include data – no good place to put it, not our survey, not quality controlled)
- Added a “Just Transitions” action related to transitions from the fossil-fuel based economy.
- Moved programs to text box
- Removed use of term “targeting.”
- Clarified that several of the indicators are best available data.
- Goal 3
 - Economic Gardening – definition added and added a specific-sub action to specifically assist fossil fuel based businesses with transition into the clean-energy economy
 - Kept reference to high wage. Did not add reference to living wage.
- Goal 4
 - Moved business recruitment and retention stuff to a text box.
 - Added an action to Reskill Workers in Fossil-Fuel Based Industries
- Goal 6
 - Removed Act 250-related action
- Indicators
 - Got rid of Opportunity Zones and Workforce Program indicators
 - Corrected data references
- Appendix A
 - Added reference to This Way Up! Report

There were few comments on the changes, signaling general agreement of the group.

The group agreed that it would release a new draft. The version will be “clean”, but supplemented by a memorandum summarizing significant changes made. Taylor will get out a new clean version and summary of changes by November 1st. Taylor will post to Konveio and will work with Hannah to post the draft to the West Central Vermont website.

Each Region will have the opportunity to present the draft to their region and any special interest groups that they deem necessary.

Hannah will use the time to work on the indicator dashboard.

Process and Timeline to Create an EDD

1. Local Approval of CEDS

- No EDA-prescribed way to accomplish “local approval”
- EDA considered our proposal that each partner RDC and RPC Board pass a resolution approving the CEDS to be appropriate. **Ideally, passage of this resolution would occur before March 2023. This gives each partner’s Board meeting time in November, December or through the end of January to review and comment on the CEDS.** This resolution would just pertain to the CEDS. This is NOT the resolution for the MOU to create an EDD.
- For those RPCs that are planning to “adopt” the CEDS as a part of a Regional Plan: that can be done separately at a later date. CCRPC will adopt in the spring of 2023 when they readopt the ECOS Plan.

2. EDA Approval of CEDS

- CCRPC would submit CEDS to EDA for approval. EDA typically provides approval between 30 and 60 days after submission.

- Ideally, EDA approval would come before closing out the EDA grant (90 day deadline – due November 28, 2023)
- 3. **Closeout EDA Planning and Technical Assistance Grant**
 - CCRPC closes out grant by July 31, 2023 (or earlier).
- 4. **Approval of MOU by RDC and RPC Boards**
 - Could plan on May 2023
- 5. **EDD Application**
 - We could submit an application in summer or fall of 2023
 - No application fee
 - Application requirements
 - Concurrence of the State – letter from the Governor

5. **November 18, 2022 Agenda** - Comments received on new draft, contract amendments, Draft EDD organizational docs, indicator dashboard.

6. **Adjournment** - **Devon moved to adjourn, Jamie seconded the motion. By unanimous consent, Taylor adjourned the meeting at 10:42 AM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Lougee