

West Central Vermont CEDS – Strategy Committee

Friday, December 18 – 10 AM to 12 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

Charlie Baker, CCRPC

Regina Mahoney, CCRPC

Sam Anderson, CCEDC

Seth Bowden, CCEDC

Adam Lougee, ACRPC

Fred Kenney, ACEDC

Amanda O'Connor, RRPC

Ed Bove, RRPC

Bonnie Waninger, CVRPC

Zachary Maia, CVRPC

Tyler Richardson, REDC

Jamie Stewart, CVEDC

Ken Jones, State of Vermont, ACCD

Taylor kicked off the meeting by welcoming everyone at about 10:02 a.m.

[Changes/adjustment to agenda:](#)

Taylor asked for any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, he proceeded to the next item of business.

[Minutes – November 20, 2020:](#)

Jamie Stewart moved acceptance of the previous meeting minutes. Sam Anderson seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote with Charlie Baker abstaining.

[Review of National, Statewide, and Regional Trends during COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Ken Jones of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development presented a PowerPoint presentation on the impacts of the COVID -19 pandemic on the State of Vermont's economy and resources. A copy of Ken's presentation is attached [here](#). Ken summarized that to date, COVID-19 had severely impacted certain sectors of Vermont's economy, with the greatest impact on the tourism and hospitality industry. Ken noted that while the impacts to certain industries are dire, an infusion of federal money to date has mitigated the impact on the overall economy.

Review of ACRPC and ACEDC Regional Indicators:

Fred and Adam spoke about the process they used to create indicators for the Addison Region. They noted that qualities they used to choose indicators included:

1. Datasets available that could be used at the Federal, State and county level;
2. Datasets that others update automatically and that could be constructed to update automatically on an Addison Dashboard;
3. Fred and Adam chose to look at indicators that could be broken into economic sectors important to the Addison Region to enable meaningful policy and action statements (In any economy, different sectors act differently. As an example, manufacturing and agriculture will have very different conditions driving them. Therefore, they may also need very different policies/actions to support them).
4. Addison Data compared GDP growth to State and national benchmarks. In his presentation, Ken Jones focused on per capita GDP to account for Vermont's slow growth rate. **The group should consider this approach since population growth has a dramatic impact on GDP.**
5. Addison and Ken used different scales to depict changes and comparisons of economies. **The group should consider using Ken's scale.**
6. Addison data is all pre-COVID-19. Ken's data is COVID-19 related. **The group should consider how it wants to specifically address COVID impacts.**

Fred Kenney presented the Addison data. His presentation is attached to the minutes as a separate file.

Fred will send Addison's Economic indicators to Bonnie at Central Vermont RPC so they can consider them as they develop data indicators for this project.

EDA CEDS Requirements – Questions and Answers

Amanda O'Connor will send options for sharing files to discuss at the next meeting.

Taylor noted that he had spoken with EDA about using a SOAR analysis vs a SWAT analysis in creating this plan. He noted that EDA would approve a SOAR Analysis. Bonnie suggested that the group consider using a SWAT Analysis internally and then using that to develop a SOAR Analysis for use with stakeholder groups.

Taylor will ask EDA how much this CEDS should address COVID-19 impacts.

Task #1 Update – Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Adam noted that he would supply an outline of a Public Stakeholder Engagement Plan for all to review by the beginning of January. Adam noted he would be looking at existing CEDS plans and EDA for resources. He is happy to take suggestions from anyone.

Task #2 Updates – CVRPC and RRPC

Bonnie stated CVRPC is starting to evaluate data-gathering. It will specifically look at Ken Jones and Addison data suggestions.

Amanda stated Rutland RPC would get a communications strategy outline to all prior to the next meeting.

Taylor will send the reporting form for the quarter ending December 31st out in the beginning of January. Reporting is due to CCRPC to Taylor by January 15th.

January Agenda and Next Steps

Taylor scheduled the next meeting for January 15th from 10:00 – 12:00.

By unanimous consent, Taylor adjourned the meeting at noon.