

**NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION
AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE**

AGENDA

Monday, April 18, 2022 START TIME 6:00 pm

Topic: Affordable Housing Subcommittee
Time: April 18, 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81242668798>
Meeting ID: 812 4266 8798
877 853 5257 US Toll-free

1. Approve agenda
2. Comments from the public
3. Approve minutes – 3-21-22
4. Follow-up on use of publicly owned land for affordable housing (10 min)
5. Educational Sessions on Affordable Housing (30 min)
6. Other business
7. Comments from the Public

Enclosures:

1. 3-21-22 AH Draft Minutes
2. VCDP Planning Grant materials

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION
AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE

Monday, March 21, 6:00- 7:00 PM Eastern Time

No Physical Meeting Location. Attending by Zoom access: Jeff Lubell, Kathleen Shepherd, Paul Manganiello, Jeff Goodrich, Brian Loeb, Creigh Moffatt, Ernie Ciccotelli (community member).

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Topic: Affordable Housing Subcommittee

1. Approve agenda. Motion to approve made by Manganiello, seconded by Shepherd. There was no discussion, Approved 5-0.
2. Approve minutes of 2-21-22. Motion to approve by Manganiello, seconded by Loeb. No discussion. Approved: 5-0.
3. Comments from the public. Ernie Ciccotelli described how accessory dwelling units (ADU's) could increase the stock of affordable housing in Norwich. He stated that the creation of these dwellings could be encouraged by providing tax relief for ADU's that maintain affordable rents. Permanent affordability could be provided by agency or state oversight. The subcommittee welcomed this idea and recommended continued examination of how to address through state law changes. State regulations for water supply, septic capacity, and required number of bedrooms affect the feasibility of ADU projects. Many need additional changes of state regulation of ADU's to make them feasible.
4. Uses of expected ARPA funding: Housing is an acceptable use. There will be a public process coming up in Norwich, so people interested in seeing ARPA funds used for affordable housing will have an opportunity to express their views. Among other possibilities: a) funds for study of potential for affordable housing on the town property north of the transfer station, b) acquire properties downtown for subdivision, c) add to town affordable housing fund to be used for buying down construction costs, d) funds to develop affordable housing above Norwich transfer station, e) infrastructure to provide wastewater

treatment to downtown, f) other long-term concrete proposals.

5. The committee discussed holding two educational sessions for the Norwich public, to be held by Zoom.

Session 1: share the Affordable Housing strategy and what we have done so far (survey of publicly owned land) followed by questions and answers. To be held in May, probably by Zoom.

Session 2: Accessory dwelling units -- Clarify rules and exceptions for attached ADU's. The concept of ADU's as applied to Norwich (wastewater, finance, permanent affordability, legal issues. Goal is listening, learning, engaging interest among a larger group of Norwich residents. Invite a realistic but encouraging speaker. To be held in June.

6. Next meeting of the AHSC is April 18. Agenda will be planning the presentations.

7. Motion to adjourn at 7:05 pm, 5-0.

Enclosure 2

STATE OF VERMONT

Agency of Commerce and Community Development

SEARCH

VERMONT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CDBG Application Target Date for Submission

April 12, 2022

(<https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp/applicant-guidance>)

COVID 19 Resources for Communities

CDBG COVID 19

(<https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/community>)

The Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) assists communities on a competitive basis by providing financial and technical assistance to identify and address local needs in the areas of:

- housing
- economic development
- public facilities
- public services
- handicapped accessibility modifications

Eligibility

MENU

Any Vermont town, city (except Burlington), incorporated village chartered to function as a general purpose unit of local government, or a consortium of such entities, is eligible for funding. However, the majority of projects are a coordinated effort between the municipalities, community groups and local or state non-profit organizations or small businesses.

Grant Types

VCDP provides federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for eligible activities through the following application types:



- **Accessibility Modification Grants (AM)** (Grant Range: \$5,000-\$100,000) - Example: Bring municipally-owned buildings and libraries into compliance with state and federal accessibility requirements.
- **Implementation Grants (IG)** (Grant Range: \$50,000-\$1,000,000) - Examples: Assist businesses to create or retain jobs, create or rehabilitate housing units, build infrastructure, create or assist childcare and senior centers etc.
- **Planning Grants (PG)** (Grant Range: \$3,000-\$60,000) - Examples: Conduct feasibility studies and marketing plans, produce architectural and engineering plans, etc.
- **Scattered Site Grants (SS)** (Grant Range: \$50,000-\$1,000,000) - Example: Rehabilitate scattered site housing projects.

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VCDP funds must primarily benefit persons of low and moderate income. In addition, assistance is provided to communities for threats of health and safety issues as urgent needs and slums and blight projects.



VCDP Program Guide

Program Guidance

(<https://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/CD-VCDP-Program-Guide.pdf>)



VCDP Grants Management Guide

Managing VCDP Grants

(<https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp/grants-management-guide>)



More Information on Applying

Applicant Guidance

(<https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp/applicant-guidance>)

TAGS:

[Community Development \(/tags/community-development\)](/tags/community-development) |

[Funding & Incentives \(/tags/funding-incentives\)](/tags/funding-incentives) | [Grants \(/tags/grants\)](/tags/grants) | [Programs \(/tags/programs\)](/tags/programs)

Contact Us

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