

**Mad River Valley Planning District
Director's Report
August 2008**

Mad River Valley Path Association

- Attended the July Board meeting
The Board's Sign Committee is making progress on a uniform design for use throughout the Path network. The Board is also focused on the Mad Dash, scheduled for September 21st.
- Whiteside Parcel
I have been assisting the MRPA and the Town of Warren on a VTrans Transportation Enhancement Grant application for the purchase of this 3 acre parcel, located between the Kingsbury Bridge and the Golden Lion Inn. If funded, the land would be purchased by the Town of Warren, who would then grant an easement to the Path. The grant would be administered by the Town of Warren.
- Pearson Section
The Pearson section of the Village Path is now protected by a trail easement recorded in the Waitsfield town offices. Trail work has begun on this section by a group from the VYCC.
- The Skatium
This property is in the process of a change of ownership. The Brothers have reiterated their commitment to conveying an easement.
- Town Pond
A Conditional Use Permit application has been submitted for the town pond section of the Village Path. Open Hearth has preparing it, the town is the applicant/landowner, and MRPA will hold responsibility for construction and maintenance. Things are a bit up in the air regarding Waitsfield's obligations concerning the dam.
- Marsh Loop
This section of trail is located behind the Big Picture and is being undertaken by Open Hearth. The section includes trails and wetlands interpretive placards. I've attended one of their meetings and they seem to be closing in on their plans. Some of the work is dependent on the future of the Town Pond.
- Easement Language
This area is still being worked on. The Board is reviewing language from Stowe and comparing it to their draft.

Kingsbury Community Farm

- It was announced that the VT Foodbank is in the process of purchasing the KCF, with easements to MRPA.

Housing

- I'm working with the housing group to apply for a mini-grant through the Central Vermont Community Land Trust for the creation of Valley specific accessory apartment pamphlet. The next Board meeting is scheduled for 9/2 at 7:30 AM.

Mad River Byway

- I attended the August meeting of the Byway group. They are finalizing design for kiosks and interpretive signs. A kiosk is planned to be located at the Wait House in place of the existing Vermont Information structure.

Valley Futures Network

- The Steering Group continues to meet monthly. Various work groups are also meeting. The next Knoll Farm retreat is scheduled for Sept 30-Oct 1.

Valley Moves

- I've attended three related meetings concerning the following:
 - Mad Bikes
The program has been officially adopted by the Town of Waitsfield. A number of bike racks (14 or so) have been placed around town and a half dozen teal bikes are being ridden.
 - Van/Car Pooling
I coordinated a presentation of VTrans' new carpooling and vanpooling program, entitled Go Vermont, at August 13th. Fifteen people attended, including businesses, Valley Moves members, residents, GMTA, and CVRPC. This program is looking like a good fit for the Valley and a good way to identify ridership for future commuting-centric opportunities.

Energy

- I'm working with local energy coordinators to develop at least one weatherization workshop this fall. The first event will take place in early October at Yestermorrow. These workshops will be a partnership between Town Energy Coordinators, the VFN Energy Group, MRVPD, Carbon Shredders, and perhaps Central Vermont Community Action.

Fayston

- I attended their August PC meeting and have been providing feedback on their draft Town Plan. I will be attending their next DRB meeting as well as the public hearing of their Town Plan.

Waitsfield

- I attended an August PC meeting and have been providing assistance on proposed zoning revisions, specifically relating to signage. I have also been facilitating a discussion on Fluvial Erosion Hazards (FEH) between the PC, Friends of the Mad River, and CVRPC.
- Waitsfield Water Project Revote
I attended a meeting of the water project group. They have created a revised "base information" sheet and a strategy for getting the word out for the September 9th vote. MRVPD has been asked to participate in the general discussion.

Warren

- I attended PC meeting in July and have been providing guidance on a proposed town survey related to increased density within the village. I have also been facilitating a discussion on FEH ala Waitsfield.