

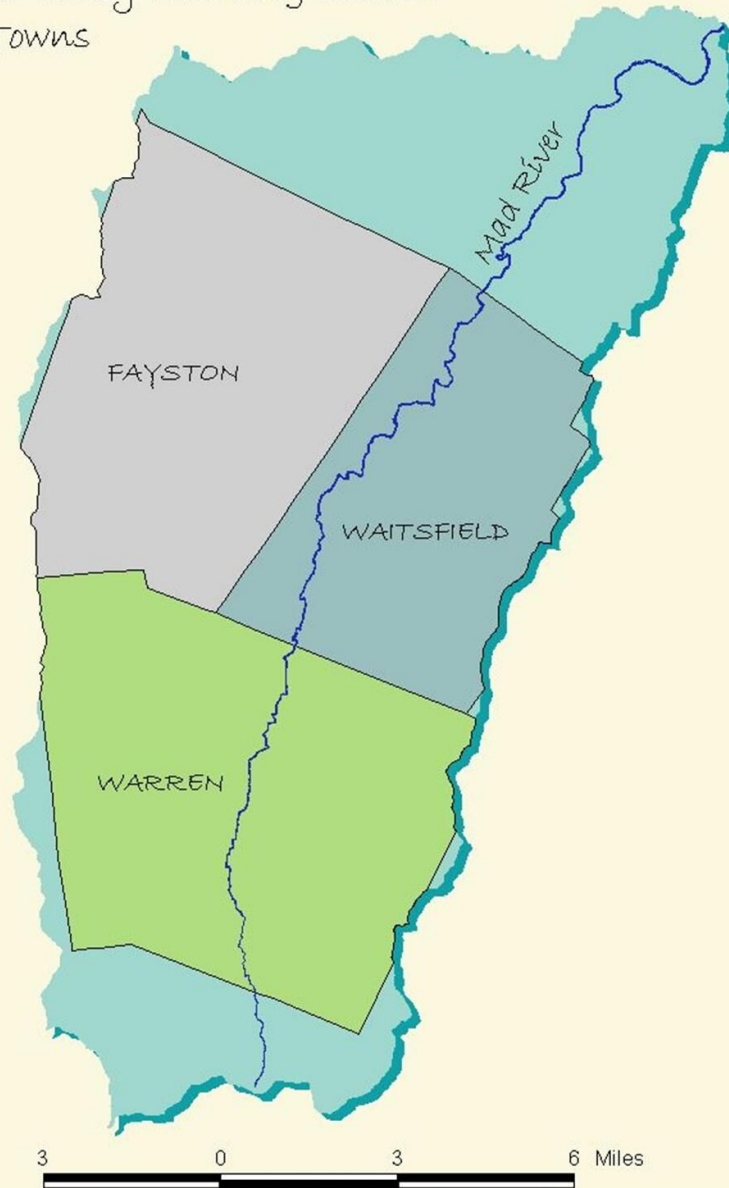
Keeping the Mad River Valley Vibrant

(A Working Document)



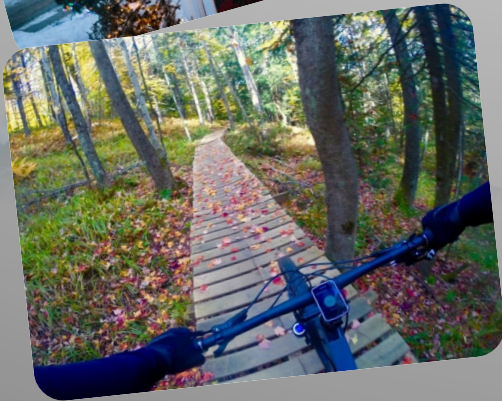
MAD RIVER VALLEY
PLANNING DISTRICT

Mad River Valley Planning District
Member Towns



The Mad River Valley





Mad River Valley Active Transportation Plan



MAD RIVER VALLEY - ECONOMIC STUDY

Understanding the underlying economic conditions within the Mad River Valley to help plan for future growth and development

June 2014

BIRCHLINE PLANNING LLC

DOUG KENNEDY ADVISORS
RESEARCH · ANALYSIS · STRATEGY



Mad River Valley Housing Study
June, 2006

Prepared by: The Central Vermont Community Land Trust
307 N. Main Street
Burlington, VT 05401

With assistance from:
Karen Whittier, Whittier Consulting
Susan Gilman, AmeriCorp Member

Funded by:
The Vermont Community Foundation
The Vermont Land Trust



Integrating Economic and Demographic Projections into Growth Center Planning for Irasville

Waitsfield, Vermont

Assessment of Decentralized Wastewater Options:
A Survey of Needs, Capacity and Solutions for Historic Waitsfield Village and Irasville, Vermont

FINAL REPORT
Project ID 102344
January 25, 2011

This project is being performed by Stone Environmental, Inc. for the Waitsfield Planning Commission's Wastewater Committee with funding provided by the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

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STONE ENVIRONMENTAL INC

2017 MRV Housing Study an overview



housing in the Mad River Valley
to future economic vitality



**MAD RIVER VALLEY
PLANNING DISTRICT**

"Carrying out a program of planning for the future of the Mad River Valley, directed toward the physical, social, economic, fiscal, environmental, cultural and aesthetic well being of the member Towns and its inhabitants."



**MAD RIVER VALLEY
RECREATION DISTRICT**

APRIL 2016



Community Vision

A Welcoming Community

Healthy Sustainable Environment
for Future Generations

Diverse Economy

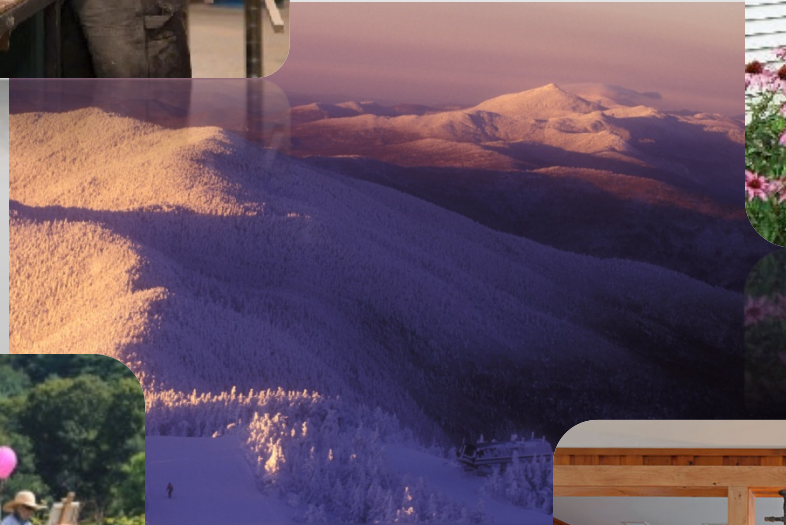
Enhance Year-round Recreation

Maintain Historic Settlements

Build on the Momentum

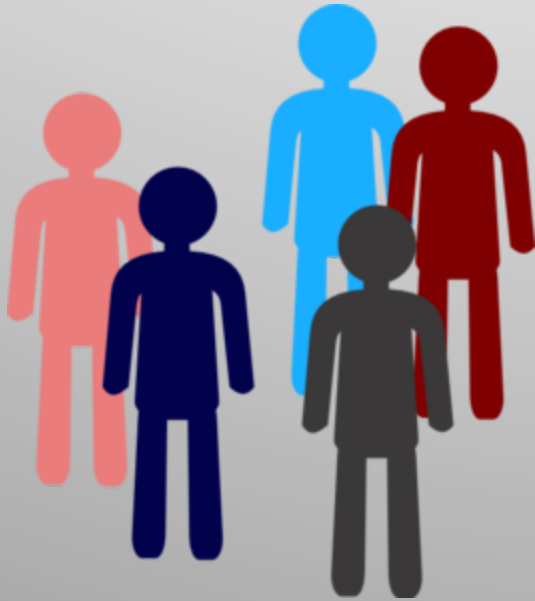
Make a Reality

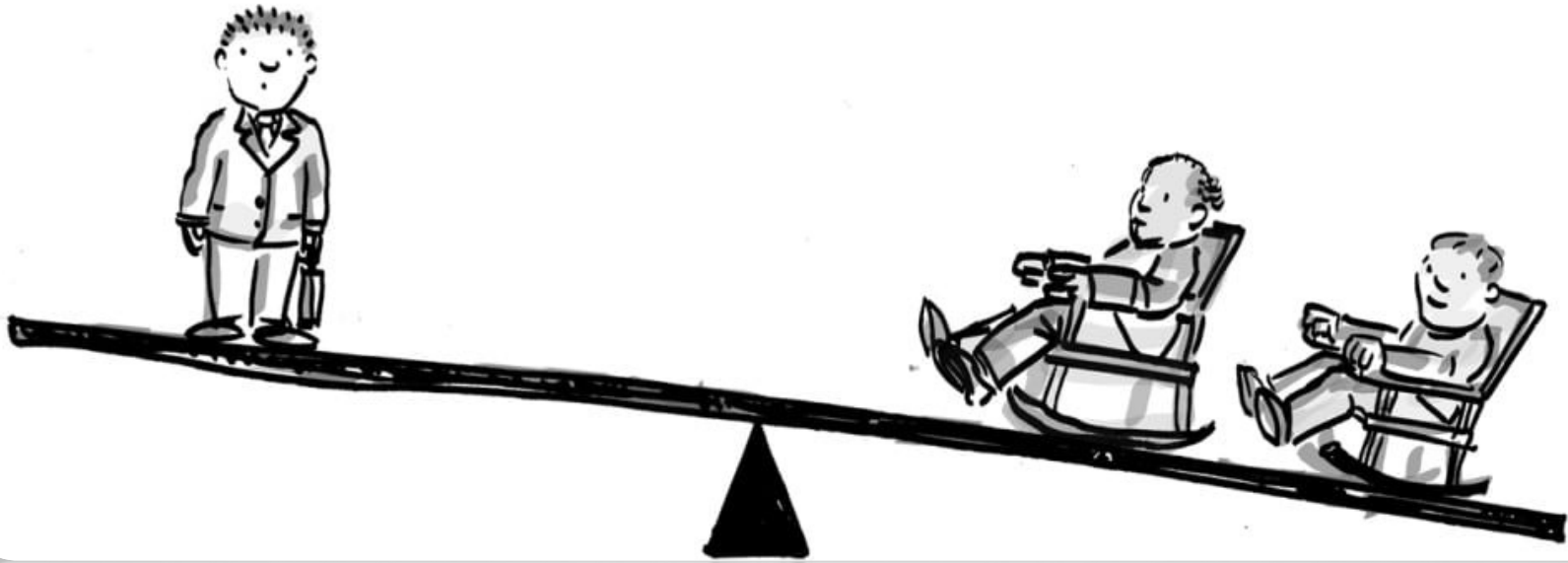
Great Assets



Challenges

Resources



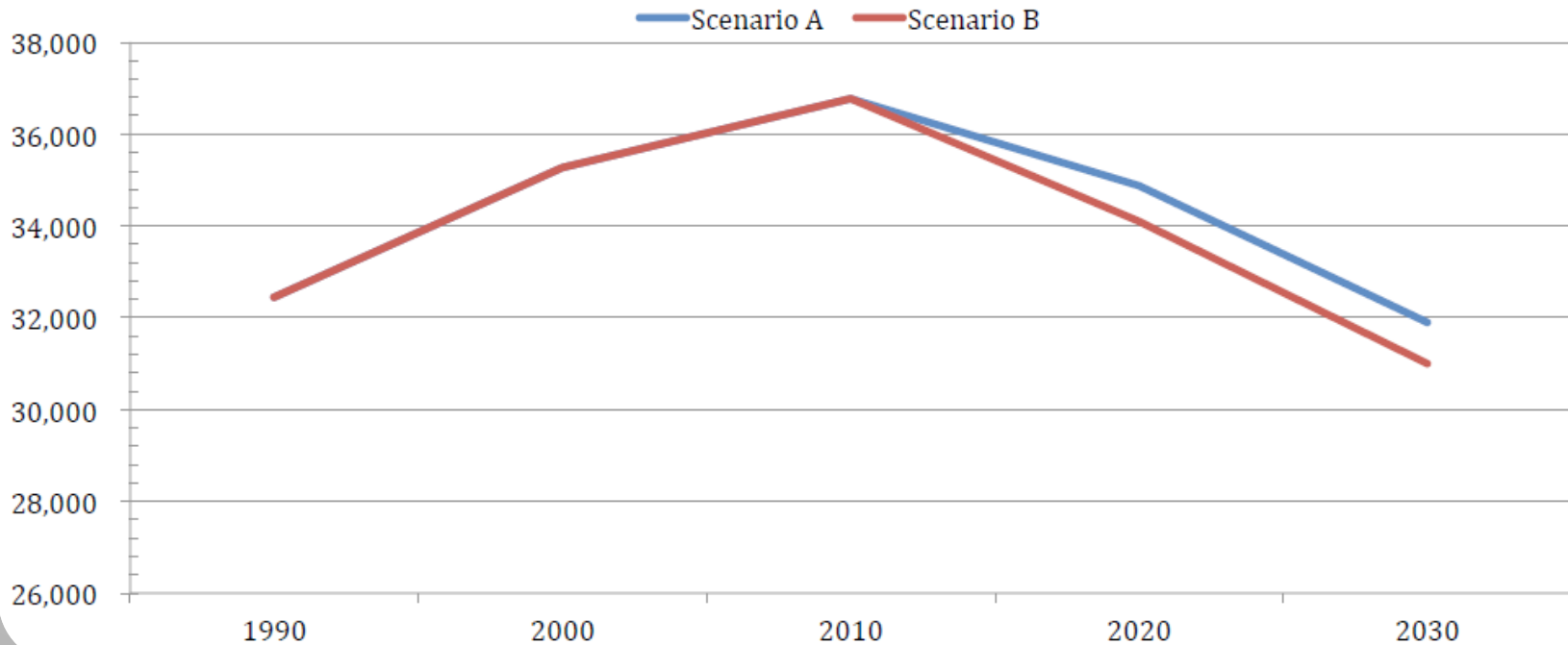


Aging Population

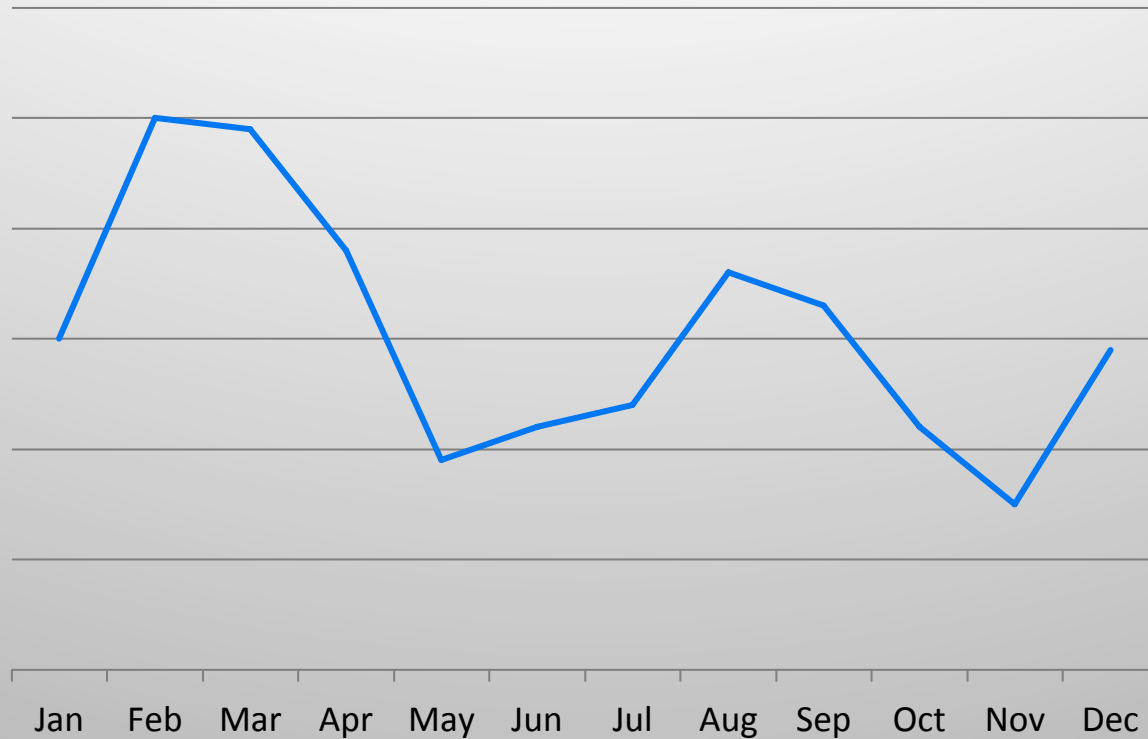


Shortage of affordable workforce housing

Washington County Workforce Population Projection



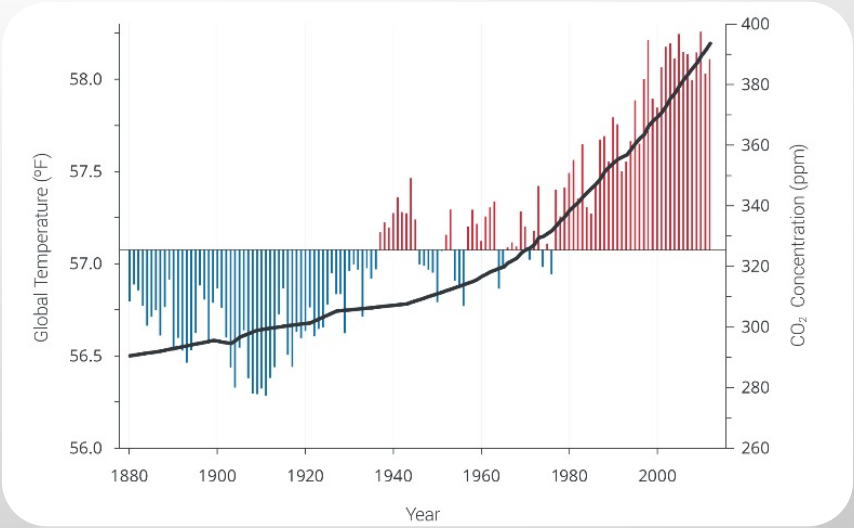
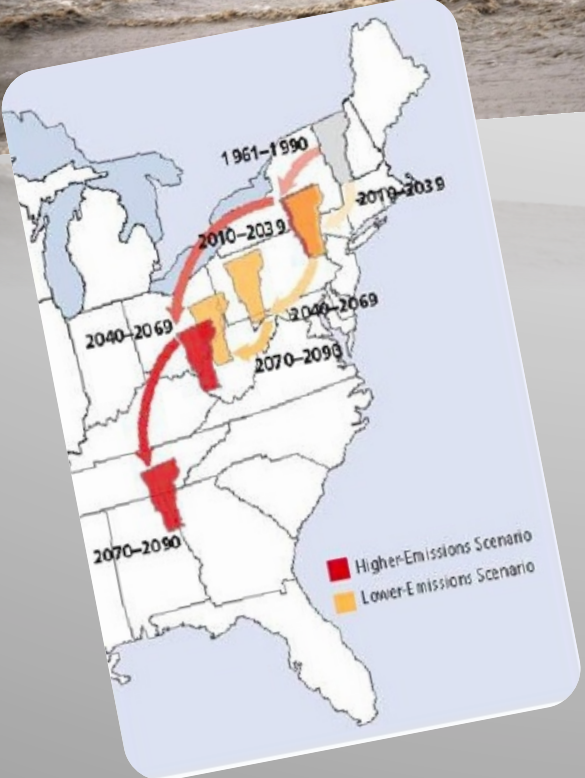
Limited employment opportunities,
yet not enough service-industry employees



Local businesses struggling with seasonal visitation swings



Shrinking school population



Climate change impacts



Inadequate public transportation

MRV nonprofit groups and towns are trying to address these issues but are faced with many hurdles.

Outside funding shrinking or disappearing

We are suggesting a solution

The Mad River Valley FLO

For Local Opportunities

Economic Vitality Committee

8 months of research and study

Study after study has been done, it is time to come together and take the 1st step

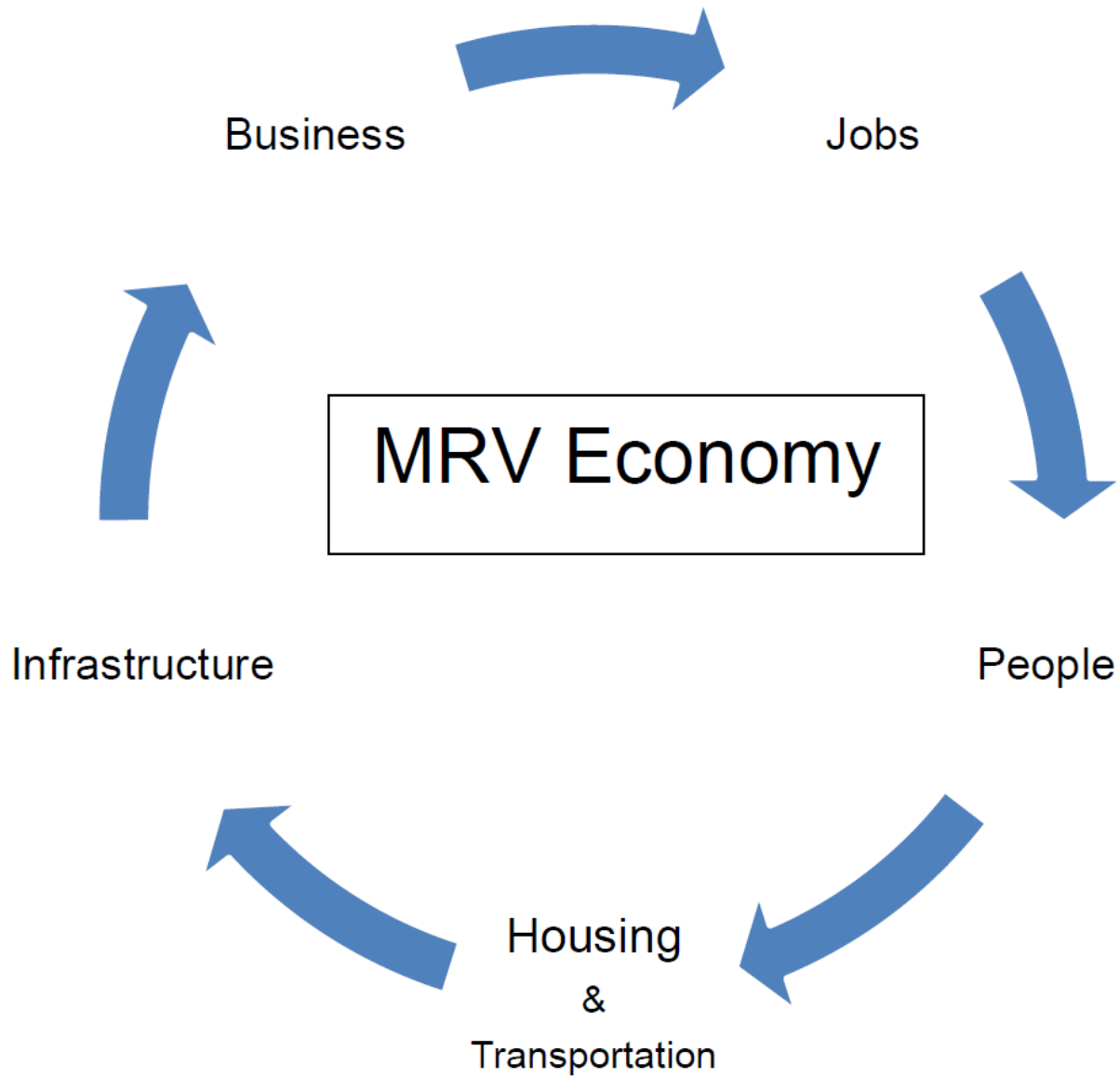
The MRV FLO

Our goal

Reinvest in the MRV so it remains attractive for future generations who will continue to enrich the community and sustain its quality of life

Our strategy

Provide a more seasonably balanced customer base to stabilize our local economy.

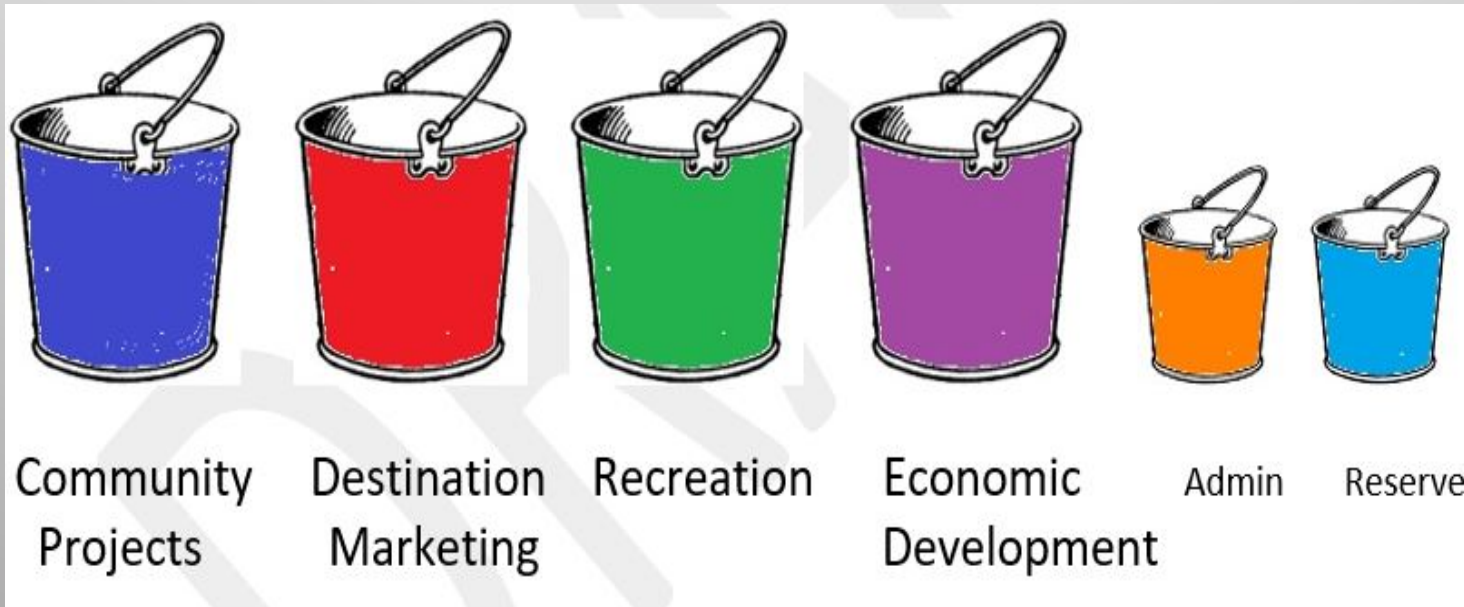


The BIG Questions

How do we achieve the Goal
via the Strategy?

Who manages the effort?

FLO Fund Investments





Community Projects

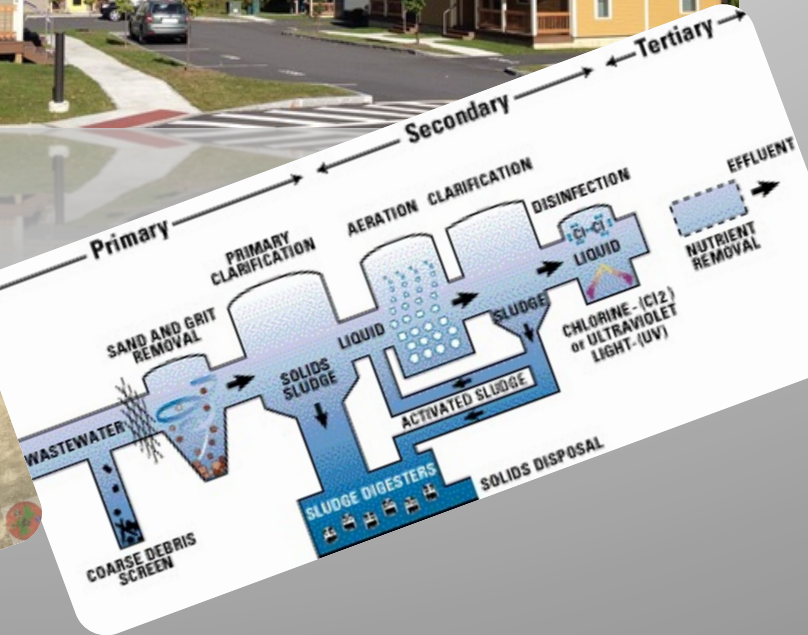


Figure 15: Alternative A Sketch Plan and Diagram



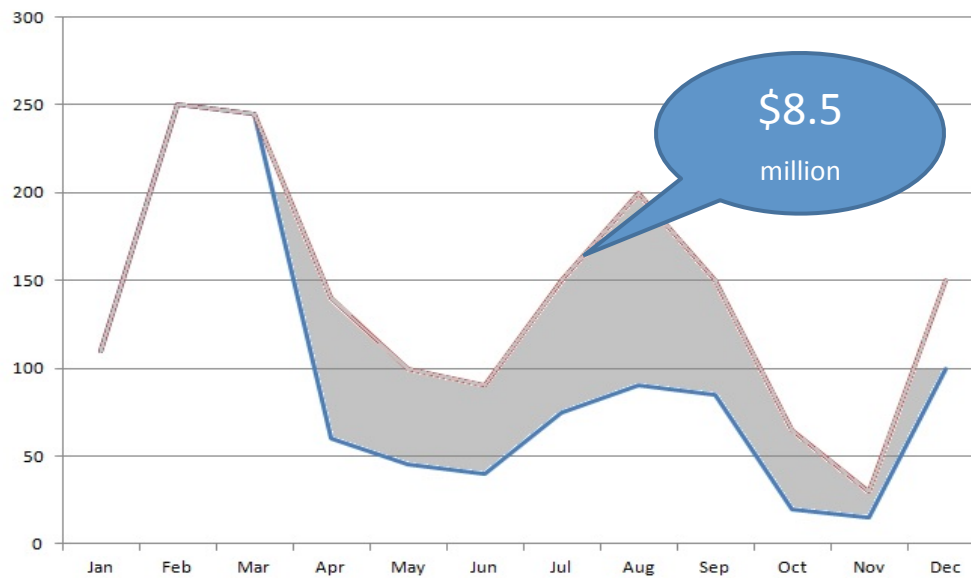
Photo by Randy Dame www.firenews.org

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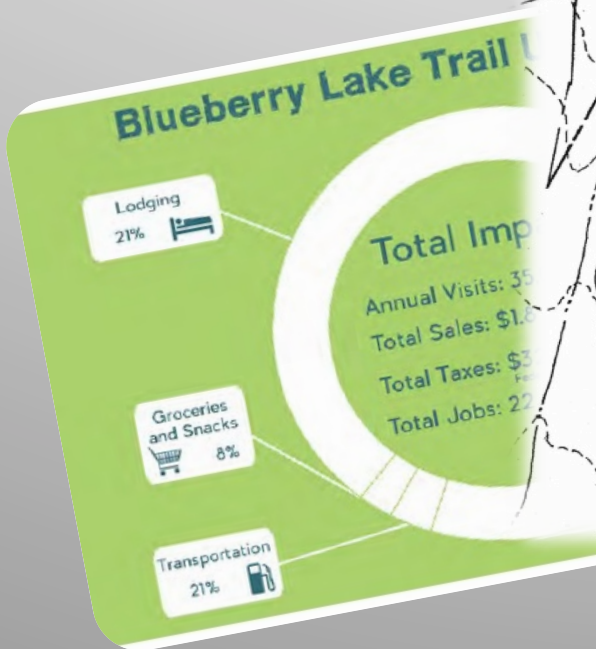
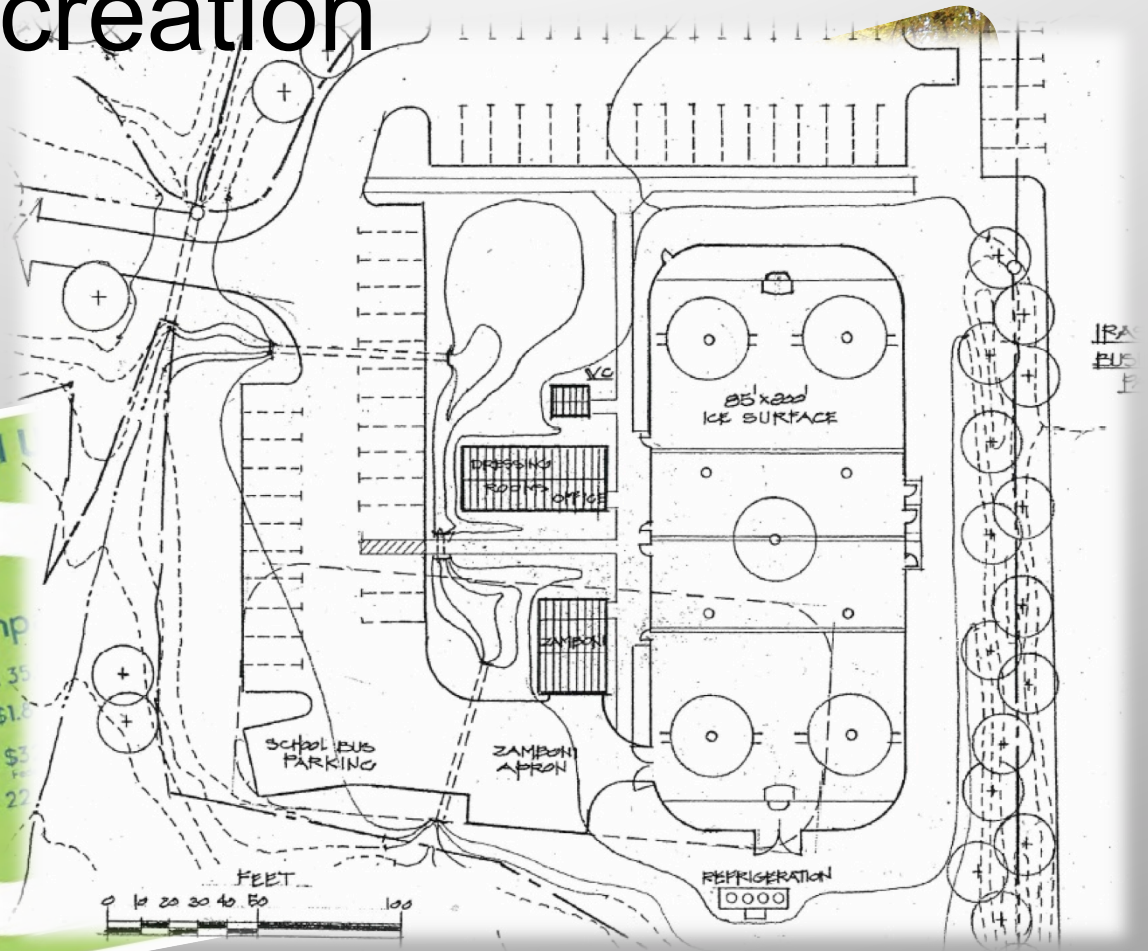


Destination Marketing





Recreation



- Fund a staff position to assist the MRVRD board in implementing MRVRD Strategic Plan



Economic Development



Where can the \$ come from?

1% Local Option Tax (LOT)

1% on Retail, Rooms, Meals & Alcohol

Local Money

Managed Locally

Spent Locally

Why Valley-wide Initiative?

Valley investing in the Valley

Leverage existing resources

How much \$ will be raised?

\$1,000,000

\$700,000
Stays Local

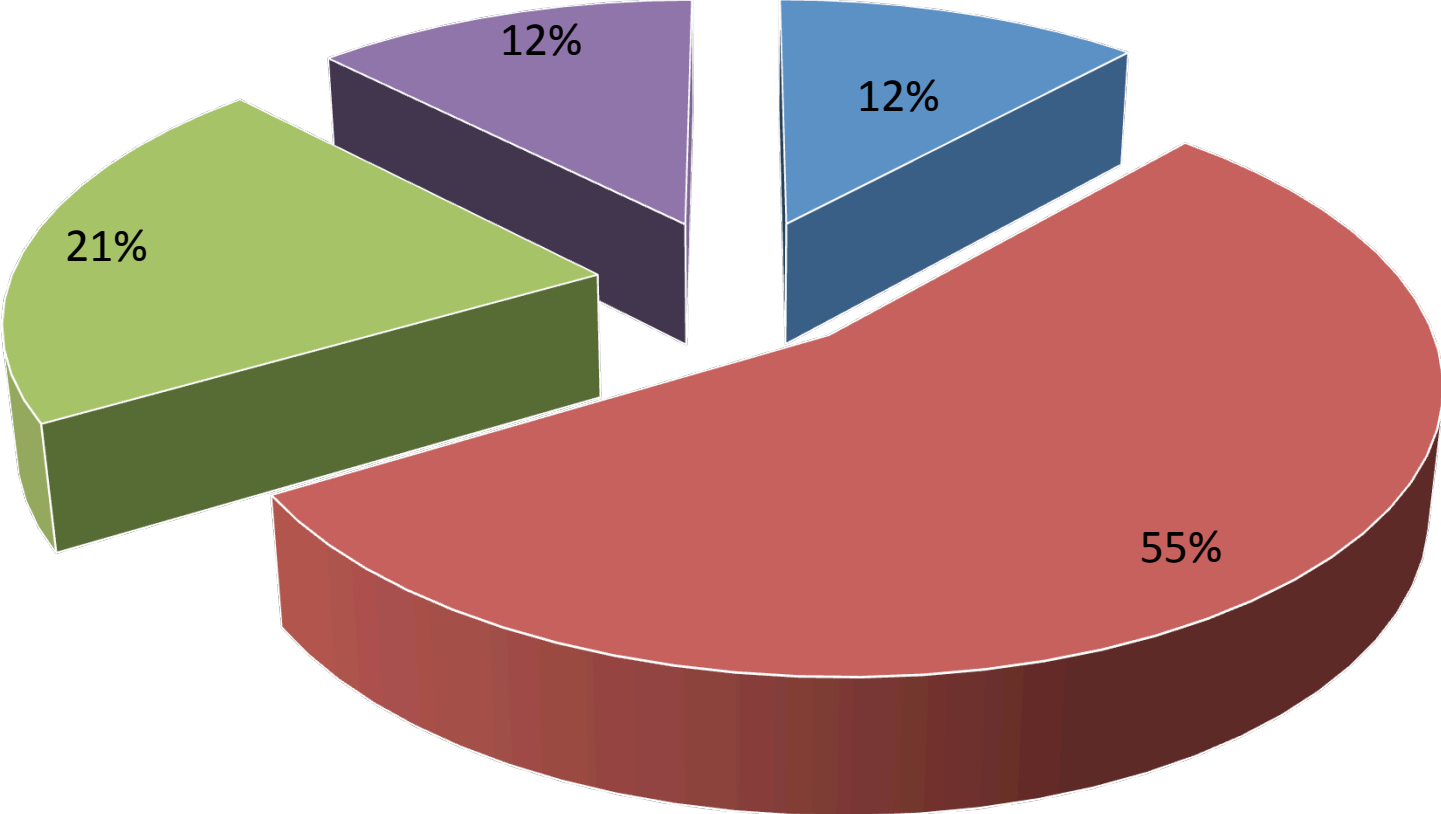
\$300,000
Goes to State

\$7,000,000 +

In 10 years

Who pays the 1%?

Distribution of who pays the tax



■ Residents ■ Visitors ■ Part-Time Residents ■ Ski passes etc.

Residents pay only 12%
of total collected LOT

\$2 per month per person
(includes all residents, adults and children)

What is local option tax?

Local option tax is a way for municipalities in Vermont to raise revenue. A municipality may vote to levy any combination of the following 1% local option taxes in addition to state business taxes:

Local Option Sales Tax

6% sales tax + 1% = 7% total tax

Local Option Meals Tax

9% meals tax + 1% = 10% total tax

Local Option Alcoholic Beverages Tax

10% alcohol tax + 1% = 11% total tax

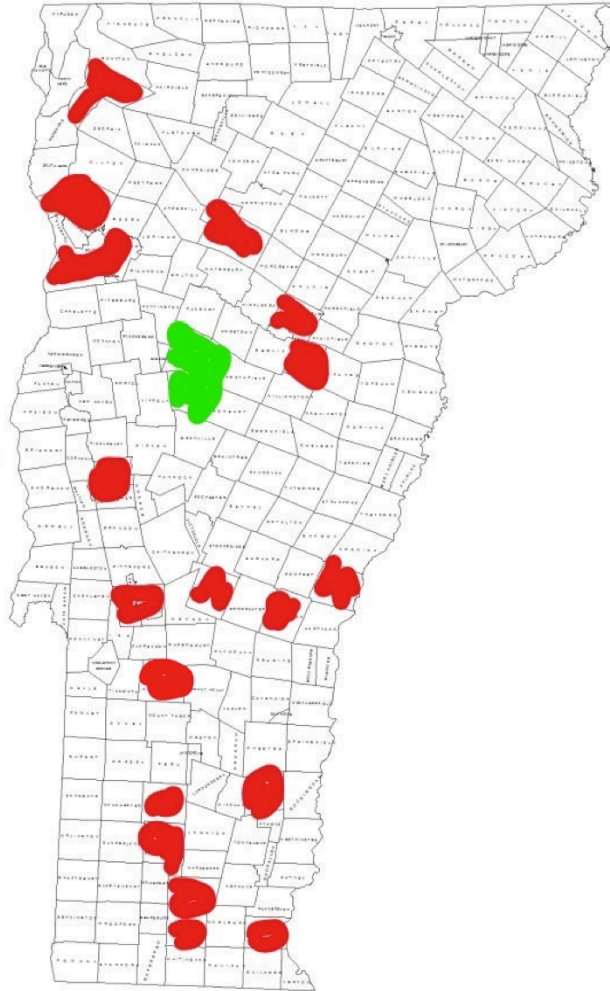
Local Option Rooms Tax

9% rooms tax + 1% = 10% total tax

Not subject to LOT

- Clothing
- Over the counter drugs
- Medical equipment, services and RX
- Food, food products and Beverages
- Gas
- Non-commercial heating fuel
- Rent
- Mortgage payments
- Services*

Vermont Town Boundaries



Created by the Vermont Center for Geographic Information, <http://vcgi.vermont.gov>



We believe the FLO will

Provide a reliable long-term source of funds

Sustain the future of the Valley's resources

Support economic vitality

Enrich the quality of life for all its residents.

Our Suggestion on How to Manage the MRV FLO

How FLO Works

Establishes a new subcommittee of the MRVPD (the FLO Commission) to manage the FLO Fund.

Transparent and accountable group representing the broad interests of Valley residents, towns, and businesses.

We suggest a FLO Commission

- 7 Commissioners—
- One appointed by each selectboard
- One elected by each town's voters
- A Chair appointed by the MRVPD.
- Oversee all of the 1% option tax receipts /distribution
- Develop and promote a grant program
- Operate transparently as a subcommittee of the MRVPD

Vermont rules require that the MRVPD adopt a charter

Voters in all three towns will be asked to approve this new MRVPD charter and authorize a regional 1% Local Option Tax

The vote will be by Australian ballot in all three towns

Reserve Fund

Nimble \$ source

Unexpected opportunities

Rainy day fund

Requires 2/3 majority,
all towns in affirmative,
to spend reserve fund \$

Administration

Bookkeeping

Grant administration

Audit

Maintain transparency and
accountability

Possible Criteria for Grants

Is compatible with MRV FLO Strategy

Improve physical safety and/or quality of life

Broad-based support, private, public and community

Weighted point scoring to ensure \$ invested wisely

Have funding sources – self-generated or organizational

Potential Ways to Track Impact

Trail Counts

Participation in programs

Trends in MRV elementary school enrollment

Mid-week and non-peak occupancy

of events held in MRV with attendance by event

Tax revenues by sector

Thank You for Your Time

We ask for your Input & Support
for moving the MRV FLO forward

GO WITH THE FLO

Welcome your comments, inputs
and questions

GO WITH THE FLO