MAD RIVER VALLEY
VERMONT

Mad River Valley Community Dashboard
Project Summary

The Mad River Valley Community Dashboard is a new initiative of the MRV Planning District launched in summer 2020. The project aims to incorporate community voices and vision to help answer the question, "How is the Mad River Valley doing?"

OVERVIEW

The Mad River Valley Community Dashboard is a community and data-driven project to track progress toward social, economic, and environmental wellbeing and resilience through shared goals and indicators.

PURPOSE
- Set goals to track progress toward the MRV Vision Statement.
- Provide community members and decision-makers with relevant, up-to-date information.

PROCESS
- Convene stakeholders to set goals related to the 2015 MRV Vision.
- Identify indicators that measure shared goals.
- Increase accessibility & usability of data through an online dashboard and other communication strategies.

PRODUCT
- Strengthened relationships & communication networks.
- Data-informed tools to track progress toward shared goals and provide a measure of accountability.
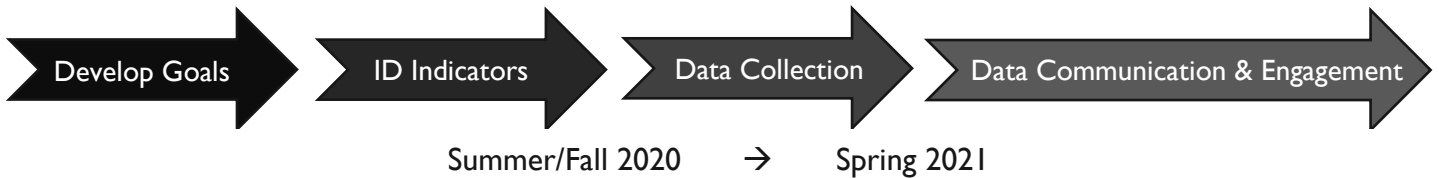
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- The towns of Warren, Waitsfield & Fayston are a socially, economically, ecologically, and geographically connected community;
- Change is a constant - the MRV is a dynamic community facing ongoing challenges, disruptions, and opportunities;
- MRV-wide vision & goals are tools for articulating its future and guiding how it should approach change;
- Community members are best positioned to define the future they want to see;
- Indicators are needed to understand and track progress toward shared goals;
- Data must be incorporated into decision-making to make effective change.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Develop Goals → ID Indicators → Data Collection → Data Communication & Engagement

Summer/Fall 2020 → Spring 2021

Develop Goals (Summer/Fall 2020): The Advisory Committee will organize a series of workshops and collaborate with local stakeholders to develop shared MRV goals. These goals will help to connect existing data collection (the annual MRV Data Report) to where the community wants to go, as articulated by the MRV Vision.

Identify Indicators (Fall/Winter 2020): MRVPD staff will build off of existing data and work with local and regional partners to identify additional indicators that can be used to measure progress toward the MRV goals. Goals and indicators will also be informed by the results of a MRV Wellbeing Survey.

Data Collection (Winter 2020): MRVPD staff will collect the most recent indicator data from town, regional, state, and federal data sources.

Data Communication & Engagement (Spring 2020): MRVPD staff will develop a digital data dashboard site to share progress toward MRV goals. Staff will assist local partners in incorporating indicator data into their work. Goals and indicators will be continuously evaluated through public and stakeholder engagement.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To support the MRV in working toward its shared vision, the Advisory Committee will lead the community through a participatory process to determine measurable goals.

Specifically, the Advisory Committee will organize a series of workshops to gather input from stakeholders that result in the production of goals and sub-goals. The Advisory Committee is dedicated to creating an inclusive, respectful, and productive process to ensure that all voices that wish to be heard are able to contribute to goal-setting.

While MRVPD is spearheading the Community Dashboard project, the Advisory Committee will lead the community goal-setting process as a separate, though connected, piece of the overall project. This will ensure that the goals are driven and owned by the community.

Members
- Brian Voigt (Co-Chair), Waitsfield
- Helen Kellogg (Co-Chair), Waitsfield
- Dan Raddock, Warren
- Lindsey Vandal, Waitsfield
- Jared Cadwell, Fayston
- Laura Brines, Waitsfield