

**Regional Planning Commissions
Act 174, Technical Assistance for Municipalities
Progress Report, April 2017**

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Workshops

Regional Planning Commissions, in partnership with the Department of Public Service, held eleven trainings over the course of two weeks in December 2016. The training focused on the goals of Act 174, the implications for Section 248 proceedings and the specific requirements of the determination standards for local and regional plans. RPCs may also hold trainings for specific local or regional audiences, and each RPC will hold another region-wide training in spring 2017. Summary of the trainings:

227 local officials attended, **121** municipalities were represented, **87%** rated the training excellent or good.

Municipal Data and Maps

By April 30, 2017 RPCs will provide each municipality in their region with a compilation of maps and data that comply with the determination standards. Municipalities may use the data and maps to develop municipal energy plans or amendments that lead to ‘substantial deference’ in PSB Section 248 proceedings.

1A. Current Municipal Transportation Energy Use	
Transportation Data	Municipal Data
Total # of Vehicles (ACS 2011-2015)	713
Average Miles per Vehicle (Vtrans)	11,356
Total Miles Traveled	8,096,828
Average Gallons Use per Vehicle per Year (VTrans)	684
Total Gallons Use per Year	487,621
Transportation BTUs (Billion)	59
Average Cost per Gallon of Gasoline (RPC)	2
Gasoline Cost per Year	1,126,404

This table uses data from the American Community Survey (ACS) and Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) to calculate current transportation energy use and energy costs.

Sample Municipal Data

Municipal information provided by the RPCs will include current and projected energy use, targets for conservation and energy generation, and maps of energy resources and generation potential. Sample data is shown here.

1B. Current Municipal Residential Heating Energy Use				
Fuel Source	Municipal Households (ACS 2011-2015)	Municipal % of Households	Municipal Square Footage Heated	Municipal BTU (in Billions)
Natural Gas	2	0.3%	228,480,000	0
Propane	77	10.8%	8,036,160,000	8
Electricity	0	0.0%	0	0
Fuel Oil	478	67.0%	49,791,360,000	50
Coal	0	0.0%	0	0
Wood	146	20.5%	15,454,080,000	15
Solar	0	0.0%	0	0
Other	10	1.4%	1,142,400,000	1
No Fuel	0	0.0%	0	0
Total	713	100.0%	74,652,480,000	75

This table displays data from the ACS that estimates current municipal residential heating energy use.

Strengthening the Capability of Governments

Technical Assistance for Municipal Plans

By July 2017 RPCs will complete local plan development in up to 45 municipalities statewide, a minimum of three municipalities per region. *Interest and need for technical assistance already exceeds the first year Act 174 technical assistance funding.* As shown below, Regional Planning Commissions have **requests for assistance from 78 municipalities** and the list continues to grow.

Addison County Regional Planning Commission	Addison Middlebury Salisbury	Bristol New Haven Shoreham	Cornwall Panton Weybridge	Leicester Ripton Whiting
Bennington County Regional Commission	Dorset Peru Stamford	Sunderland Rupert	Bennington Shaftsbury	Landgrove Manchester
Central VT Regional Planning Commission	Waterbury Barre City Moretown	Barre Town Calais	East Montpelier Marshfield	City of Montpelier Plainfield
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission	Shelburne	Colchester	Winooski	
Lamoille County Planning Commission	Hyde Park Johnson	Stowe	Wolcott	Elmore
Northeastern VT Development Association	Irasburg Greensboro	Holland Groton	Morgan Craftsbury	Glover St. Johnsbury
Northwest Regional Planning Commission	Fairfax Richford	Enosburgh North Hero	Highgate	Franklin
Rutland Regional Planning Commission	Tinmouth Middletown Springs	Sudbury	Rutland Town	Brandon
Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission	Springfield Chester	Ludlow Reading	Andover Windsor	Cavendish
Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission	Bethel Brookfield Tunbridge	Braintree Granville Woodstock	Randolph Norwich Rochester	Bradford Thetford
Windham Regional Commission	Westminster	Vernon	Londonderry	