

April 4, 2022

Senator Jane Kitchel, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
115 State Street
Montpelier Vermont 05633

Regional Planning Commissions – FY 23

Dear Chair Kitchel and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

Thank you for your support for the work regional planning commissions do to advance all your priorities in the quantity and quality of housing, clean water, transportation, energy, rural economic development, climate action, and pandemic recovery. These issues are distinct but linked and RPCs remain ideally suited to implement actions with our state partners in our towns and villages.

We understand the budget pressures are greater than expected and even though some revenues are down, the property transfer tax revenues are very strong.

Given the magnitude of effort we are asked to do on behalf of the state, **we respectfully request that you support the House Appropriations Committee's \$1.65 million base increase to the RPCs which is sorely needed since the RPCs have not had a base increase in 20 years. This additional funding will be distributed via the formula, which will go a long way to support our work.**

All the work -- from energy planning to implementation of the Climate Action Plan and supporting housing development -- is needed to ensure your committee's investments are successful.

Thank you for your consideration of our needs. Please feel free to reach out to us with questions.

Sincerely,



Peter G. Gregory, AICP
Executive Director

cc: RPC Directors

Gerald Fredrickson, Chair ~ Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director
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