

NORTHEASTERN VERMONT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION -- NVDA

To the Voters of Concord:

Since 1950, the Northeast Vermont Development Association (NVDA) has been the regional advocate for stronger communities and vibrant local economies. We are the **only** combined regional planning and economic development organization in Vermont, and we serve the largest geographic region of the state – the beautiful Northeast Kingdom.

- Land use planning at the local and regional level – including town plans, zoning bylaws, and on-call technical assistance for local officials;
- Transportation studies, infrastructure inventories, and project planning;
- Digital mapping and GIS data services;
- Grant writing and administration;
- Direct business support and referral services to the employers and entrepreneurs in our region.

As local governance becomes increasingly complex, we've expanded our service offerings over recent years to include:

- Emergency planning – Local Emergency Operations Plans, All-Hazard Mitigation Plans, and flood hazard planning;
- Economic development planning and business assistance to grow and retain businesses in our communities;
- Leadership in our region's USDA Rural Economic Area Partnership Zone, and the Northern VT Economic Development District (EDA) – important for steering funding to our communities;
- A federal Foreign Trade Zone program to improve the competitiveness of our region;
- Municipal education and training opportunities in land use and natural resources, transportation, emergency management, and economic development.

How is this relevant to Concord? In 2016 NVDA staff provided the following services in your community: we provided technical assistance with zoning issues, conducted visits with local businesses, assisted in writing a municipal planning grant, and prepared the Local Emergency Operations Plan adopted by Vermont Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

NVDA's municipal dues are based on \$ 0.5 per capita rate, with a maximum of \$3,500 and a minimum of \$250. We remain the most affordable of all regional commissions in Vermont, and we take great pride in providing cost-effective professional services to the communities and businesses of the Northeast Kingdom.

As always, we thank you for community's support and we look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Sincerely, David Snedeker, Executive Director