



To the Voters of Concord:

The Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) has long been a regional advocate for stronger communities and vibrant local economies. As the state's only combined regional planning and economic development organization, we are uniquely suited to effectively serve the municipalities and businesses of the Northeast Kingdom.

This year, we are once more requesting dues from our member communities. These funds are critical as they allow our team of professionals to provide direct technical assistance to the 50+ municipalities and the many businesses in our region. Municipal contributions also allow us to leverage other state and federal funds for our region.

While local governance becomes more complex, our talented team staff is there to assist our member communities. Throughout 2021, we remained focused on the challenges presented by COVID while seeking opportunities to aid in regional recovery. We quickly mobilized to help all local governments secure ARPA funding and connected businesses and communities to other state and federal recovery resources. Our regular services continued as well, including:

- Land use planning & regulation – town plans and bylaws, and technical assistance for local officials;
- Transportation studies, Infrastructure inventories, and Project planning;
- Digital mapping and GIS services;
- Grant writing and administration for community and regional projects;
- Direct business support, referral services, and lending to employers in our region;
- Energy planning and water quality planning to help communities meet evolving statutory requirements;
- Local emergency planning and hazard mitigation planning;
- Brownfield assessments and planning;
- Economic development activities to grow and strengthen businesses in our region;
- Municipal education and training opportunities for local officials.

How have we served your community? In 2021, our staff worked with your Planning Commission on a Zoning Bylaw Update. We also provided emergency planning and preparation assistance, as well as COVID 19 relief information for local officials. Finally, our transportation planner assisted with Concord's participation in the Grants in Aid program to promote the use of erosion control and water quality practices in road maintenance.

NVDA's municipal dues have remained level *since 2016* at \$0.75 per capita rate, with a maximum of \$3,500 and a minimum of \$500. We take great pride in providing professional services to the communities and businesses of the NEK, but next year an increase is expected so we may continue providing a high level of service. We take pride in keeping communities aware of new opportunities through our e-newsletter and social media. Contact us at [tgonyaw@nvda.net](mailto:tgonyaw@nvda.net) to receive our e-newsletter and like us on Facebook.

Sincerely,  
David Snedeker  
Executive Director