Planning for Climate Migration in the Upper Valley

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What is Planning?

Process to identify:

- Current state
- Future predictions
- Common goals
- Vision for the community
- Challenges

Who is involved?

Planning professionals, local leaders, businesses, members of the community



Action and Implementation Identify feasible and impactful strategies and actions to reach common goals. Define specific actions, responsible parties, timelines, and costs

Implement!

In the sense of climate migration, we look at the current state of the Upper Valley and what it may look like with an increase in population. *What can we do now to ensure we can survive these changes?*

Planning Challenges

- We don't have all of the answers (yet!)
- We DO know that the Upper Valley is a great place to live!
- We DO know that it is very likely that we will see an in-migration to our region in the coming years.



What questions should we be asking?

- Where will people live?
- How many people can we take?
- What kind of housing and support services will be needed?
- Who do we need to fill our vacant jobs and create sustainability?
- How can we incentivize all types of people to live here?
- How do we stay resilient?
- What are we missing?



Planning Opportunities! The Time is Now!



- Housing what types of housing do we need?
- Transportation is our transportation system able to accommodate more users?
- Land Use how do we want to build? Density of downtowns vs. rural sprawl
- Solid Waste can our current facilities and practices accommodate more people?
- Recreation Can we improve our recreation facilities to attract tourism?
- Infrastructure do we need to upgrade? Can we share services?
- Development Where should we develop? How to do it sustainably
- Equity how to we ensure we encompass and support diversity for a sustainable community all jobs filled, all services sufficient

Climate migration is going to happen. How can we take this opportunity to ready ourselves now?

We Can Shape the Planning Process! What Do We Want?

- Participate in surveys
- Attend events and forums
- Join regional boards or committees to bring knowledge to your communities
- Join a mailing list

Start Planning at a Local level but don't stop there! Take in the regional perspective

Planning does not stop at political borders!



Examples of Plans

- Keys to the Valley Housing Initiative
- Regional Transportation Plans
- Local Master Plans
- Climate Action Plans
- Emergency Operations Plans
- Hazard Mitigation Plans



Planning can be less formal too! There is a culvert that failed. Let's plan to fix it!

Examples of What UVLSRPC is doing?

- Keys to the Valley and Regional Housing Needs Assessment
- Speaking with Federal Delegation on how the Infrastructure Infrastructure and Jobs Act can help with preparing for migration
- Transportation planning focus on multimodal transportation
- Economic development and workforce development programs
- Collaborating local, regional, statewide, and bi-state efforts
- Making sure climate migration is considered!



Thank You

Planning Leaders in the UVAW Region Municipal Planners Municipal Planning Boards/Commissions Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (VT) Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission (VT) Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (NH)