

## **In your voice – reactions to Graff commentary**

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### **Read reactions to this story**

This is all just so much feel good yada yada where a bunch of supposedly concerned citizens get together and think that they are actually accomplishing something. Plus I love the broad range of groups involved

"For example, today's public forum will be preceded by smaller gatherings that include youths; seniors; a lesbian, gay, bi and transgender group; and members of the Association of Africans Living in Vermont. The council is making an effort to hear many voices."

Where are the church groups? Where are the public service groups such as police, and firefighters? Where are representatives of major employers in the area? Where are the labor unions? Where are our legislators?

Yada, yada, blah, blah, blah! Have fun you Bozos.

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The romanticized version of Vermont - that of a small, bucolic state sustained by its farmers and artistic class is myth. Of Vermont's 22,000 private-sector firms, the top 100 firms employ 25% of these workers and account for 34% of Vermont's payroll.

The vaporous dream-world that much of Vermont's intelligentsia, media and legislators live in were - once again - demonstrated in a BFP op-ed piece yesterday:

"Residents young and old worry about lack of opportunities...Seniors in Franklin County said, "it's not the cost of living; it's the cost of surviving."

Mr. Graf, a member of the Council of the Future of Vermont, wrote in response to these concerns, the following:

"If people can live anywhere, they will live in the place that speaks to their heart. ...Our goal as a council is to identify steps to ensure that it always will."

To Mr. Graf, et al, for now and for the foreseeable future, Vermonters would rather you speak to their stomachs; leave their hearts to the poets.