



## 2017 Work Plan

### Community Visit Programs

VCRD will offer Community Visit processes to at least three communities in 2017, provide support to past towns to help them drive their priorities forward, and provide consultation and help to other community projects throughout Vermont.

### Vermont Working Lands

VCRD will lead the 1000-member Working Lands Partnership and Coalition that provide leadership and advocacy for farm and forest enterprises, especially for state support for enterprise investments. We will also continue to convene the Higher Education Food Systems Consortium of Vermont's agriculture and foods programs working together to make Vermont the national epicenter for food systems education.

### The Vermont Climate Economy Initiative

#### Model Communities

The new Climate Economy Model Communities Program will work with two communities to advance home and business efficiencies, local clean energy generation through community-scale renewables, transportation systems changes, business incubation, smart growth development, and local branding and marketing.

#### Climate Economy Action Team

The Action Team will work together to advance public policies to grow new businesses, lead statewide transportation efficiency and systems change, and tell the positive story of Vermont's climate economy to grow innovation, and attract youth, entrepreneurs, and investors in the future of the state.

#### The National Climate Economy Summit

The September Summit at UVM will attract hundreds of young entrepreneurs, investors and business leaders to consider next steps in advancing the climate economy. The event will market Vermont, provide tours of key Vermont climate economy regions and businesses, and build a set of findings for the next stage of Vermont's economic leadership.

#### Advocacy for Rural Vermont

We are here to help—from ensuring the rural voice in the legislature to working with committees in towns throughout the state. We are proud to tell the story of the challenges and opportunities identified by communities and to support the local leaders who are on the line to build unity and momentum for the future!

