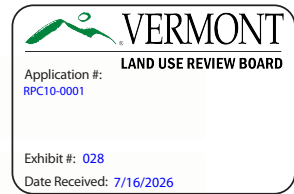


CITIZEN PETITION LETTER



LETTER FROM CITIZENS, LANDOWNERS & VESTED PARTIES OF THE TWO RIVERS-OTTAUQUECHEE REGION

Submitted for the Public Record — TRORC 2026 Regional Plan First Hearing

July 16, 2026

To: TRORC Board of Directors, Two Rivers-Ottawuechee Regional Commission

CC: Land Use Review Board (LURB), Lt. Gov. John Rodgers, Rep. Mike Tagliavia, Senator John Benson, Vershire Selectboard, Vershire Planning Commission and its Representative, Vershire Town Clerk

RE: Formal Objection — Process, Timeline, and Overreach

We are primarily residents and landowners of the Two Rivers-Ottawuechee Region, representing towns across TRORC's 30-member area (and a few nearby towns). We submit this letter for the formal public record to convey that the timeline, the particulars, and the process is not acceptable.

As one example: the Vershire Planning Commission received draft plan materials on June 29, 2026 — the Monday before the July 4th holiday. The public comment deadline is August 1. That is 33 days, right at the height of Vermont's vacation season, farming season, and summer school break. All TRORC's public hearings are condensed into July. The informal information sessions do not offer remote access. Further, towns don't appear to have received parcel-level maps showing which specific properties are being reclassified and to which category — particularly those assigned to the most restrictive category of rural-conservation. This fails to meet the meaningful participation requirements of 24 V.S.A. §4348(a).

We, the undersigned, feel this is not a process designed for public participation. It is a process designed to meet a deadline, and TRORC's approach is out of step with its peers.

Vermont's Act 181 required all 11 regional planning commissions to complete updated plans under the same deadline. Our research indicates that other RPCs chose a different path and approach.

- The [Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission](#) committed to a minimum of two to four public events per municipality and adopted its plan on May 20, 2026 — before TRORC's comment period had opened.

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- The [Central Vermont RPC](#) is meeting individually with all 23 of its member municipalities.
- The [Addison County RPC](#) began outreach in February 2025 and met with every member Planning Commission before this year.
- The [Windham Regional Commission](#) published individual town-level maps for all 27 of its towns, offered Zoom access, and allowed approximately 103 days between its first in-person informational meeting (May 7) and its public hearing set for August 18.

TRORC's timeline is an outlier.

TRORC's plan language is also an outlier. [Independent analysis of four regional plans](#) (Vermont Investigative 6/27/26)—documented from public LURB filings—found that CCRPC explicitly chose advisory "should" language and stated its plan is not regulatory for individual development review. The Northwest Regional Planning Commission, the only RPC to receive full LURB certification as of late June 2026, uses no mandatory density limits, structure caps, use prohibitions, or event restrictions in its rural sections. The Addison County RPC's draft uses aspirational language throughout — "encourage," "support," "promote" — and drew no LURB deficiency flags on rural policy language.

TRORC's first hearing draft contains binding "shall" policies across all three rural land use categories. At the June 26, 2026 LURB preapplication hearing, LURB board members noted that TRORC's mandatory language is "different from all the others" and described one provision as "quasi-zoning through regional planning." The TRORC Executive Director, Peter Gregory's response to these concerns, on the record at an April 8, 2026 (@ 1.21.18 timestamp) meeting: *"I don't care [regarding landowner concerns] because I'm here to get this regional plan through."*

None of this is an acceptable standard for a public planning process.

What we are seeking:

1. **Extend the comment deadline** — a minimum of 30 days from the date of an in-person meeting in each member town.
2. **Come to every town with large-format parcel-level maps** before the comment period closes. Under TRORC's technical assistance duties at 24 V.S.A. §4345a(3), this is not optional.

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3. **Provide parcel-level reclassification data to every municipality** — particularly for parcels entering Rural Conservation, and notify in writing any land owner whose parcel is being reclassified into the most restrictive rural-conservation category.
4. **Provide clear and documented data** showing what the percentage of total land mass is being classified into the rural-conservation segment for each town, such that each town knows that percentage relative to other towns, and for their own planning purposes.
5. **Revise mandatory "shall" language** to align with the advisory role and aspirational tone of regional planning goals and the approach taken by certified and near-certified peer plans consistent with the advisory role of regional planning under Vermont statute and aligned with the approach of certified (and nearly-certified) peer plans.

Please acknowledge this letter by communicating back to us via email.

Respectfully,

Petition Representatives:

Michelle Massa, Chair, Vershire Planning Commission, shellfro@hotmail.com

Neil Ryan, Corinth, neilmadsenryan@gmail.com

& the 118 undersigned citizens of the TRORC region & nearby areas

By adding my name below, I am signing this petition and affirm that I own property or reside within the TRORC region, or have a vested interest in landowner rights within this region.

Full Name	Town	Role / Title (optional)
Debra Kingsbury	Vershire	Vershire Head Town lister (20 years)
Libby Moyer	Vershire	
Marty Hale	Vershire	Vershire Planning Commission Member
Niko Horster	Vershire	Member and former Supervisor, WRNRCD

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Liana Horster	Vershire	Vershire Planning Commission Member
Greg Pulaski	Vershire	
Marc McKee	Vershire	Former planning and selectboard member
Kate Eastman	Hartford	
Ashley Larson	Tunbridge	
James Jewett	Franklin	
Bob Readie	Granville	Granville Select Board Chair
Margaret H. Darrow	Vershire	Former Vershire Planning Commission
Michael "Mike" Tagliavia	Corinth	State Representative Orange-1
Reva Seybolt	Vershire	Chair, Vershire Town Center Committee
Jack Williams	Weathersfield	Candidate, Vermont State Senate (Windsor)
Christina Friedkin	Thetford	
Linda Livingston	Topsham	
Tom Livingston	Topsham	
Russ Kelley	Vershire	
Lisa Bombardier	Colchester	
Helen Wilson	Vershire	Planning Commission Secretary
Chelsea Begin	Corinth	
James Begin		

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Arnold Dev Emch	Topsham	
Amy Record	Vershire	Member, Vershire Selectboard
Jacob Chase	Weathersfield	Lister, DRB alternate, Conservation Commission
Colleen A Geddis	Newark	
CHARLES ROY	NEW HAVEN	ADDISON COUNTY FARM BUREAU PRESIDENT
Lynn Baldwin	Ludlow	Citizen
Julie Bingell	Bradford	
Benjamin S Cronan	Royalton	Landowner, Citizen
Mark Bowers	Bridgewater	Landowner
Christen Szeg	Tunbridge	Landowner, Citizen
Justin Farrar	Springfield	Landowner, Citizen
Timothy Bullard	Eden	Landowner ,citizen , select board
George Fon	Panton	Landowner, Citizen
Wayne Mills	Quechee	
Shawna Pierson	Corinth	Landowner
Beth Harrington McCullough	Woodbury	
Sara Tuthill	Sharon	
Tanner Palmer	Jericho	Landowner
Jim Hines	Bradford	Land owner
Ken McEachern	Stockbridge	Land Owner

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Maureen Heck	Hyde Park	
Cody Forte	Hyde Park	
Josh Ventrice	Wolcott	Land owner
Johnna Gribbin	Wolcott	Land Owner
Libby bricker	VERSHIRE	FARM LAND OWNER
Colleen Casimira	Brookfield	Resident/tax payer/voter
Autumn Sanville	Bethel	Resident/Voter
Michael O'Hara	St. Johnsbury Center	Land Owner
Eve DesJardins	Chelsea	Land Owner
Timothy Wade	Brighton	Land Owner
Wendy Bridgewater	Fayston	Landowner
Ben Bridgewater	Fayston	Landowner
Kirk Smith	Essex	Landowner
Carol Appleton	Topsham	Agriculture landowner and Town Auditor
Kenneth lafave	Newport	
Ben Falk	Rochester	Landowner, agriculture
Erica Falk	Rochester	Landowner, agriculture
Kinley Tener	Rochester	Landowner
Nathan Bacon	Brookfield	Landowner. Agriculture
Mary Mester	Stockbridge	Resident/Voter/co land owner
Katrina Meyers	Stockbridge	Landowner

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Chris-Ann Bauer	Fayston	Landowner
Eric Bauer	Fayston	Landowner
Leebeth Lemieux	Fairfax	
Taina Boynton	Rutland Town	
Naomi Dean	Barton	
Deborah Morse	Bridgewater	
Ronald Morse	Bridgewater	
Mary Musty	Bradford	Landowner
Sarah Cloud	Randolph	Landowner
Mary Kane	Sheldon	
Linda Liese		Future VT resident
Fred Graves	Danville	Landowner
Lisa Williams	Fayston	Landowner
Shari Whitmore	Randolph	Landowner
Keith Alexander	Bridgewater	Landowner, Citizen
Pam Alexander	Bridgewater	Landowner, Citizen
Dick Covey		
Brian E. Kirkpatrick	Corinth	
Lara Bowers	Bridgewater	Landowner, School Board Member
William Ferrone	Dorset	Landowner
JL Doyle	Montgomery	

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Matthew Foster	Corinth	Landowner
Sean Ingoldsby	Tunbridge	Landowner
Shane Marshall	Corinth	Landowner
Elizabeth constant	Duxbury	Landowner
Amy Marshall	Corinth	Landowner
Philip Winsor	Bridgewater	Landowner
Priscilla Matuson	Peacham	Landowner
Gregory Matuson	Peacham	Landowner
Douglas Punt	Hartford	Landowner
Maureen Cregan Connolly	Milton	
Irma Nagle	Rupert	
Diane Mark		
Aleta Mitchell		
Penny Griffin		
Carolyn Jones	Hyde Park	Farmer, landowner, former Planning Commission and Cemetery Commission
Charlotte Adams	Fairlee	
Justin A. Kenney	Brattleboro	Landowner
Katherine Morris	Vershire	Landowner
John Frink, Sr.	Hartland	Landowner
Christopher Piana	Barnard	Farmer, landowner

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Gayle Durkee	Chelsea	Landowner, Treasurer
Mark Durkee	Chelsea	Landowner
Kimberly Keafer	St. Johnsbury	Landowner
John Carr	Corinth	Landowner
Brian Gates	Mendon	Landowner
Carol Gates	Mendon	Landowner
Douglas McCarty	Rochester	
Pat Hambly	Woodstock	Landowner
Morgan Rye		
Patrick Taylor	Corinth	Landowner
Barbara Nickerson	Bethel	Farmer/landowner
Chris Pratt	Bridgewater	Landowner
Alison Despathy	Danville	Chair, Danville Planning Commission