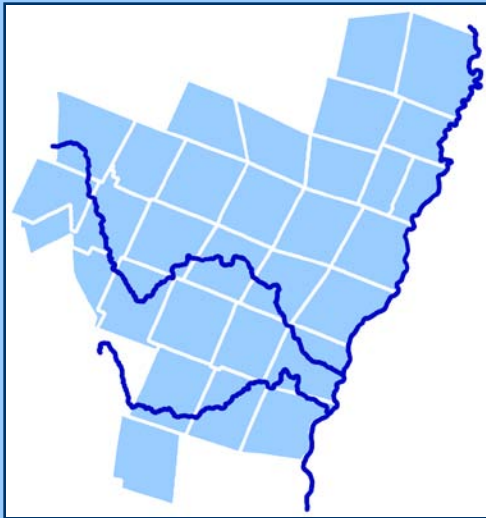


# Tools for Energy Planning



A multi-modal approach  
to energy planning.

Chris Sargent, AICP  
Senior Planner

Two Rivers-Ottawa-Quebec Regional Commission

# The Best Tool in the Box: People

- People
  - Energy Committee
  - Planning Commission
  - Selectboard
  - Town Staff
  - Interested Citizens



# The Best Tool in the Box: People

- Energy Committee
  - Conduct inventories
  - Collect data
  - Create programs
  - Encourage Public Participation
  - Work with the Planning Commission to draft language for the Town Plan



# The Best Tool in the Box: People

- Planning Commission
  - Work with the Energy Committee (if available) to draft plan language that addresses energy and set good energy policy.
  - Create a Capital Budget and Program to encourage energy efficiency in future municipal investments.



# The Best Tool in the Box: People

- Selectboard
  - Finalize the Town Plan with an eye toward ensuring good energy policy.
  - Establish municipal programs that encourage energy efficiency and conservation.
  - Assist with the creation of a Capital Budget and Program to encourage energy efficiency in future municipal investments.



# The Best Tool in the Box: People

- Town Staff
  - Implement municipal programs that encourage energy efficiency and conservation.
  - Assist energy committee/coordinator with energy data collection.
  - Identify future areas for energy efficient investment in public facilities.





# The Municipal Plan

## 4382(9) – *Energy Plan*

- an **analysis of energy resources, needs, scarcities, costs and problems** within the municipality
  - Resource Analysis - what do you have?
  - Needs Analysis - what do you need?
  - Scarcity Analysis - What's missing?
  - Cost Analysis - How much does your energy cost?
- a **statement of policy on the conservation of energy**, including **programs**, such as thermal integrity standards for buildings, to implement that policy
- a **statement of policy on the development of renewable energy resources**
- a **statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy**



# The Municipal Plan

- Renewable Energy Projects – can't be regulated under zoning. Reviewed by Public Service Board (PSB) under section 248.
  - Include clear written standards on:
    - Siting – Which areas of your community are appropriate for these projects? Which are not?
    - Development – How should they be developed? What impacts are acceptable? What are not?







# The Municipal Plan

- Look Beyond the Energy Chapter
  - Transportation
  - Land Use
  - Utilities & Facilities

*And possibly*

- Agriculture
- Economic Development
- Natural Resources



# Capital Budget and Program (\$4430)

- PC Creates
  - Would have help from Selectboard, Budget Committee, Town Staff & Energy Committee
  - 5-year guide for investments in municipal infrastructure.
  - If you're going to fix a building, do the energy efficiency improvements at the same time.



# Available Resources

- Regional Planning Commissions
- VNRC Energy Planning & Implementation Guidebook
- SWCRPC Model Energy Policies and Standards

(<http://swcrpc.org/wp/programs/energy/>)

Chris Sargent, AICP  
Senior Planner

[csargent@trorc.org](mailto:csargent@trorc.org)  
802-457-3188 ext 12

