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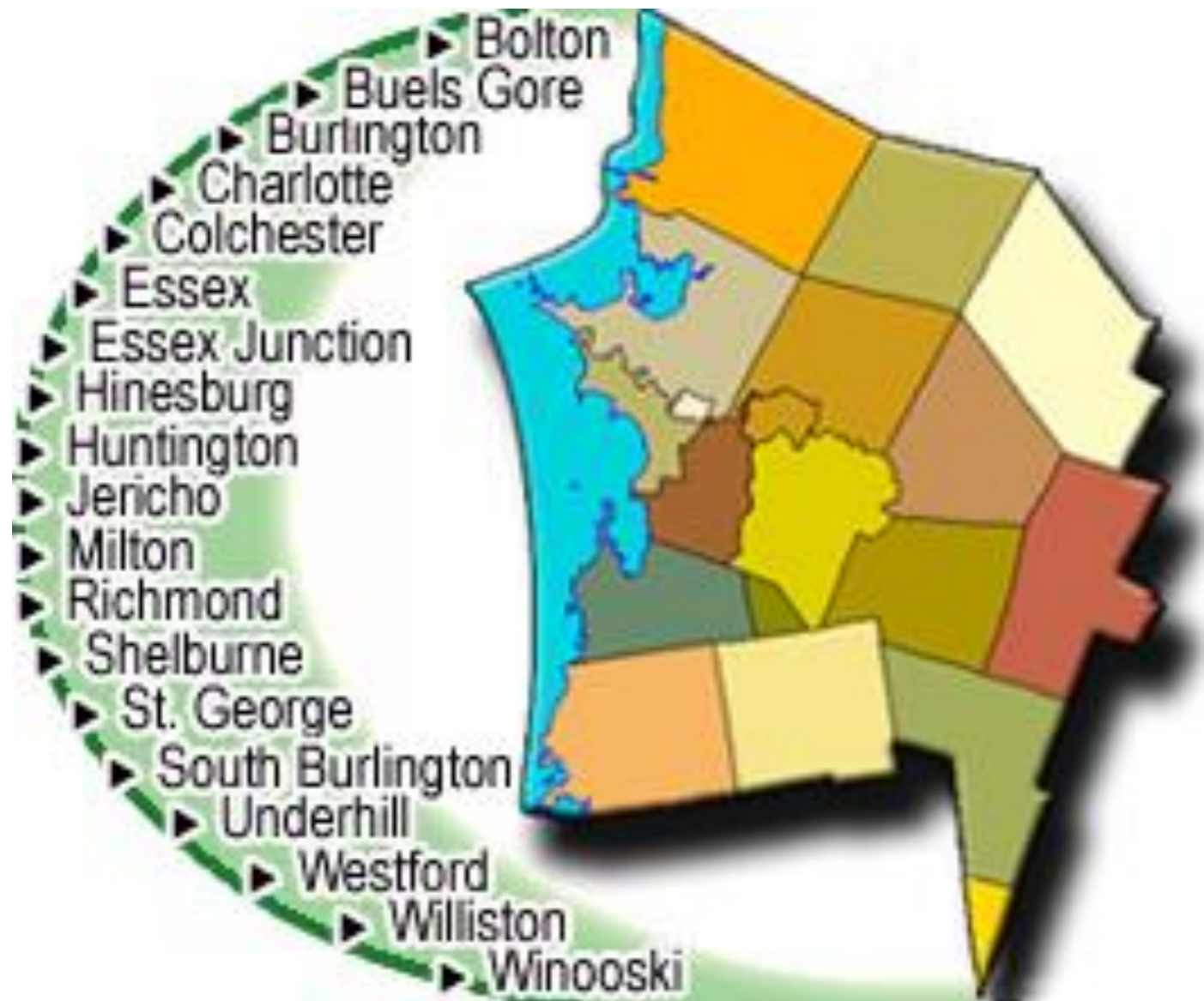
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE
FOR CHITTENDEN COUNTY

2015 NYSAMPO

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Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

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Environment, Community, Opportunity, Sustainability



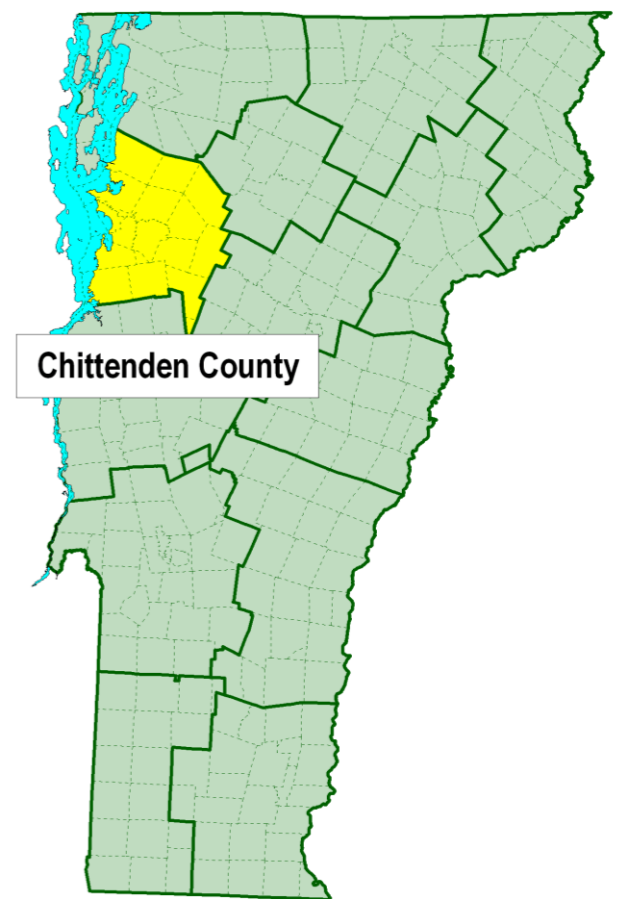
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**A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE
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The future – ECOS Plan

- 50,000 more people in Chittenden County?
- Demands on:
 - Housing, transportation, habitats, water quality, sewer, education, health

State of Vermont



ECOS Guiding thoughts

- Don't start planning from scratch
- Data driven decisions
- Alignment & Collective Impact – Shared strategies = shared success
- Accountability
 - Community-level indicators
 - Organization-level performance

ECOS Phases

1. Goals – distill from 60 plans
2. Analysis – increase understanding
3. Indicators – track progress towards achieving goals
4. Implementation Priorities – identify concerns
5. Develop ECOS Plan (regional plan, MTP, CEDS)
– tie actions to strategic priorities
6. Monitoring – annual report of indicators and accomplishments

Generally

- Many things are going well:
 - Numerous accolades: one of the best places to raise kids, healthiest, safest, outdoor recreation, volunteering, etc.
- We have choices for our future:
 - Where and how to develop, environmental improvement, working lands, education, health

Natural System Concerns

1. Habitat Loss
2. Unstable Rivers
3. Non-point Source Water Pollution
4. Climate Change
5. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions
6. Climate Health Impacts

Social Community Concerns

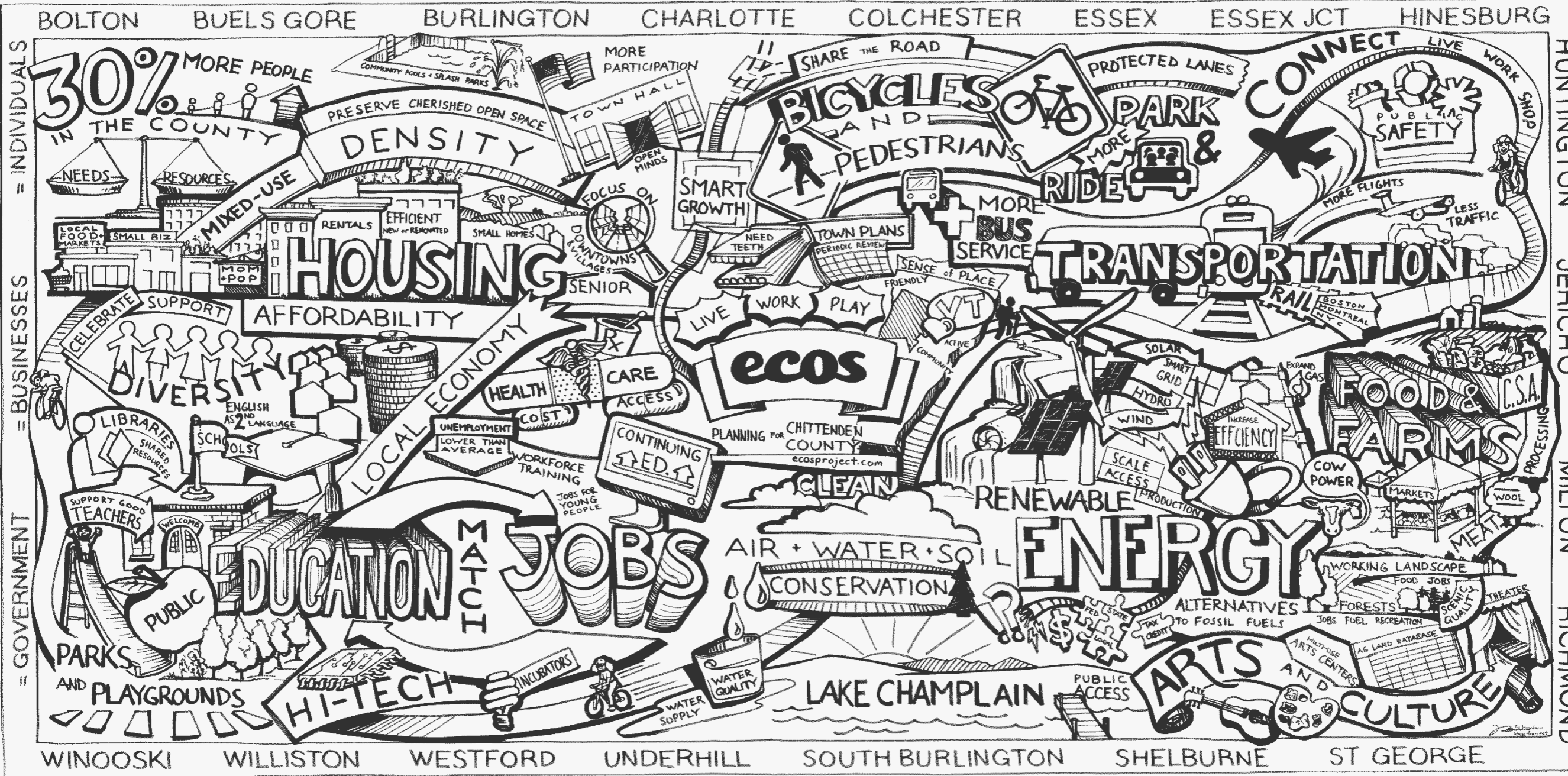
- Tobacco Use and Substance abuse
- Obesity
- Emergency Preparedness
- Kindergarten Readiness
- Workforce Development
- Disparities

Economic Infrastructure Concerns

- Manufacturing Diversity
- Industrial Sites
- Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM)
- Housing Cost
- Working Lands Loss

Built Environment Concerns

- Sprawl
- Lack of Rental Housing
- Affordable Homes
- Maintain Housing
- Supportive Housing
- Congestion & Mode Share
- Transportation System Investment & Funding
- Energy Conservation
- Renewables Siting
- Water and Wastewater
- Stormwater Investments



Strategy #1 - Economy

Improve and strengthen the economic systems of our region to increase opportunities for Vermont employers and employees.

1. Retain, develop, and attract high wage, value adding employers.
2. Identify and Permit Industrial/Manufacturing Site Locations
3. Workforce Education and Skills Development
4. Innovation and Entrepreneurial Development
5. Promote and Develop the Creative Economy and the Arts
6. Working Lands
7. Support related Strategy Actions: education, **housing**, transportation

Strategy #2 – Smart Growth

Strive for 80% of new development in the 15% of the County planned for growth.

1. Invest in Areas Planned for Growth
2. Municipal Planning and Zoning
3. Affordable Housing Development
4. Energy Consumption & Renewables
5. State/Local Permitting Coordination & Improvement
6. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Investments

Strategy #3

Improve the safety, water quality, and habitat of our rivers, streams, wetlands and lakes in each watershed.

1. River Hazard Protection
2. Non-point Source Pollution

Strategy #4 - Rural

Increase investment in, farms, forests, other valued ecological lands, and local food, while decreasing subdivision of working lands.

1. Habitat Preservation
2. Working Lands Implementation

Strategy #5 – Public Health

Increase the opportunity for every person in our community to achieve optimal health and personal safety

1. Emergency Preparedness
2. Basic Needs
3. Obesity
4. Substance Abuse
5. Caregiving
6. Social Connectedness

Strategy #6 - Education

Equip our residents with the education and skills that they need to thrive.

1. Chittenden County Regional Initiative
2. Elementary Readiness and Comprehensive Student Needs
3. Student-centered, Proficiency-based, Flexible Pathways to Graduation
4. Consistency Across the System
5. Career Awareness/Skill Alignment
6. Teacher Preparation and Ongoing Professional Development
7. Postsecondary aspiration, continuation, retention and completion

Strategy #7 - Finance

Develop financing and governance systems to make the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars and reduce costs.

1. Community Development Finance Tools
2. Affordable Housing, Energy, Transportation, Clean water financing
3. Monitor State and municipal tax burdens
4. County coordination and alignment
5. Multi-jurisdictional services

Strategy #8 - Equity

Ensure that the projects and actions in all ECOS strategies assess equity impacts, and that the design and development of programs are inclusive of all and engage under-represented populations.

1. Track and analyze inequities in all sectors.
2. Address inequities
3. Civic Engagement

Plan Updates – Regional Plan

The Regional Plan is.....

A document that protects the County's resources and guides its development required by the State.

Plan Updates - CEDS

The CEDS is.....

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document is a community-based undertaking to inventory economic development activities taking place within the county to better understand the ways in which our county is growing and where it may be headed..."



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Plan Updates - MTP

The MTP is.....

A document that identifies the short and long term strategies, actions and projects that will lead to “an integrated multimodal transportation system to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of people and goods...”

Strategic Action Plan

- Tie specific projects to the general actions under each strategy.
 - Identify lead organization, critical partners, steps, cost, & timing

Annual Reporting

- Ongoing commitment of partners to assist with indicators and actions
<http://www.ecosproject.com/2014-annual-report>
- Annual update of indicators – monitor trends:
[ECOS Scorecard](#) (results scorecard™)
- Annual Report of progress in implementing projects (accomplishments) – measure performance

Some Sample Projects

- [Climate Action Guide](#), CCRPC
- [Go! Chittenden County](#), TDM program
- UPWP funding of municipal zoning changes – Form-based codes, transit/walkable oriented design, parking reductions >\$500,000 in last 2 years
- [Drive Electric Vermont](#)
- Resiliency planning – developing tool to prioritize projects using environmental, hazard mitigation, and transportation criteria

For More Info:

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- THANK YOU!