

RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 4 (See Cover Sheet)

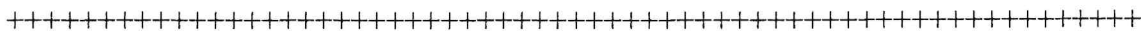
WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT ~~X~~ RVNN-7AM _____ RVNN-8AM _____

Note: RVNN = WDEV, WLVB and WEXP (simulcast news 5:00 Length)

Year 2023 (X) Jan-Mar () Apr-Jun () Jul-Sep (X) Oct-Dec
 First Qtr Second Qtr Third Qtr Fourth Qtr



- () Special Report / Bulletin () AP Radio News (Network)
- ~~(X)~~ News / Routine () Opinion / Commentary
- () Public Affairs Program () Interview / Caller Participation
- () VT Digger Reporter ~~(X)~~ WCAX Reporter
- () Public Affairs () Vermont Viewpoint Show (WDEV 9-11)
- () On-Location Report(s) () Weekly Reporter _____
- () Other _____



Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

Untitled

Burlington City Councilors approved a minor zoning change to help developers meet the demand for affordable housing in the city. The inclusionary zoning change will change the type and size of affordable units developers are required to have in buildings.

Michael Monte, CEO of Champlain Housing Trust, told WCAX that the rule change will help create the type of affordable housing that's truly in demand. Prior rules required the number of bedrooms in inclusionary units and market units to be equal. For example, if 15% of market units were three bedrooms, 15% of affordable units would have to be too.

032823SOT Michael Monte

Burlington City Planner Meagan Tuttle said the goal is for housing developments in the city to be successful, which means allowing them to build for demand.

032823SOT Meagan Tuttle

Tuttle says a few surrounding municipalities including South Burlington have inclusionary zoning rules. They looked at how they navigate this, as well as other major cities like New York and Boston, when making these changes.



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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Wednesday ANS - 3/22/2023 › A2 Housing Bill Concerns

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The Scott administration and other development groups are pushing back on proposed Act 250 changes made to a sweeping housing bill that they say could limit growth.

Senate Bill 100 seeks to make changes to local zoning rules and Act 250, making it easier to build more housing. The Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee last week voted to raise the threshold in which Act 250 review is triggered in downtown areas from projects containing 10 units or more -- to 25 units. Act 250 would be applied when developers want to build more than 25 units within a five-mile radius in a five-year period.

But Governor Phil Scott and housing organizations are pushing back on the changes, saying Act 250 exemptions would only apply to 33 square miles out of a possible 10,000 square miles in the state. Ted Brady is with the Vermont League of Cities & Towns.

032223SOT Ted Brady

The full Senate is expected to vote on ~~the~~ S.100 this week.

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Senate Bill 100 aims to streamline zoning and encourage new housing construction in Vermont.

There were some big changes to one of the most comprehensive housing bills in years.

Many developers say the 53-year-old zoning law is a barrier to building housing and increases costs and risks associated with construction.

The Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee Wednesday voted to raise the threshold in which Act 250 review is triggered in downtown areas from projects containing 10 units or more -- to 25 units.

Vermont Housing Commissioner Josh Hanford tells WCAX News Act 250 would be applied when developers want to build more than 25 units within a ~~file~~ 5-mile radius in a five-year period.

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(031623SOT Josh Hanford)

Brian Shupe with the Vermont Natural Resources Council says The changes softening Act 250 in downtowns would only last until 2026, which earned the support of environmental groups, but he says he remains concerned with proposed rules that streamline local zoning regulations

(031623SOT Brian Shupe)

The bill earmarks millions in subsidies to spur development. There's some \$20 million for a program for property managers to rehab older apartments, \$20 million to incentivize single-family homes -- the so-called missing middle -- and \$25 million for grants to fix up mobile homes and farmworker housing.

Senate Bill 100 also takes aim at building and energy codes that are out of compliance and sets up a working group to explore what state enforcement should look like.

Senate Bill 100 is making a stop in the Senate Appropriations Committee before it is set for a full Senate vote this week.

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In a response to an ongoing shortage of bus drivers, schools in Vermont's Essex-Westford School District will have different start and end times in the fall.

School officials say that by starting the day 20 minutes earlier for younger students and 25-40 minutes later for older students that they'll be able to reduce the need for staff from 23 drivers to 17.

NBC5 News reports none of the changes are final yet, but officials expect it will improve service, reduce traffic and give older students an opportunity to get more sleep.

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Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 3/6/2023 › B13 UVM Housing

Versions

1. 3/6/2023 3:51:47 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:47 ▾

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~~On Feb 21~~, the Burlington City Council tabled a zoning proposal in a 9-1 vote that would have allowed higher, denser developments at the site of the former Trinity College, which UVM purchased in 2002.

In holding off on rezoning, the City Council cited UVM's role in the city's housing crunch through growing enrollment.

Some on the council are looking for UVM to provide a commitment to not grow its student population. In response, UVM officials said the university has no plan to grow its undergraduate student population.

City councilors and Mayor Miro Weinberger also want a new memorandum of understanding with UVM. The city and the university last had such an agreement from 2009 to 2019, in which UVM committed to keeping a 1-to-1 ratio of new undergraduate students and new beds. But in interviews, university officials made clear that, with or without the Trinity rezoning, a new agreement is off the table.

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GOLD SILVER THRIFT NOTES

The Vermont Senate Thursday gave preliminary approval to a bill that could require Vermonters to change how they heat their homes.

Lawmakers voted 19 to 10 on the Affordable Heat Act, but that wasn't before some changes were made to the bill that would require further study of how much the measure will cost.

Thursday's floor debate over the future of clean energy centered on trying to balance the financial costs of changing the state's energy policies in a way that won't harm low-income Vermonters.

Republican Senator Russ Ingalls from the Northeast Kingdom says It's something fuel dealers worry will sink their businesses.

(030323SOT Russ Ingalls)

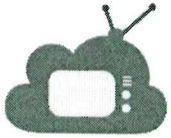
But Windsor County Democrat Senator Becca White says the transition is long overdue and claims that continuing in a system that leans on big oil only hurts Vermonters more in the long run.

(030323SOT Becca White)

The bill would create a marketplace of credits that fuel dealers and others can earn through installing eco-friendly forms of home heating and making it more expensive to heat with fossil fuels over time.

Some lawmakers claim that ditching fossil fuels is expected to save \$6 billion by 2050. But there are many unknowns, including the upfront cost on Vermonters and their energy bills. So senators advanced the bill with the caveat that the Vermont Public Utility Commission spend the next two years studying and designing the new credit marketplace.

The Senate will take a final vote on the measure Friday before it heads to the House.



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Radio Vermont › Wednesday ANS - 3/1/2023 › B4 Vermont Housing

Versions

1. 3/1/2023 3:13:47 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:29 ▾

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Vermont House and Senate budget writers have hammered out a deal to extend emergency housing in motels for people experiencing homelessness through June 30 -- but not for all.

After May 31, only people fleeing domestic violence, families with children, those ages 60 and over, pregnant people, people with disabilities, and certain households that recently lost their housing would remain eligible.

Discussions about what to do in the short term about Vermont's emergency housing program in hotels have been underway as part of the Legislature's annual budget adjustment bill.

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Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 2/23/2023 › B13 Housing Bill

Versions

1. 2/23/2023 3:48:27 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:41 ▾

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A wide-ranging housing bill that seeks to pave the way for more construction by overhauling state and local building regulations is moving forward.

The Senate Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs Committee on Wednesday unanimously advanced omnibus legislation that would make substantial revisions to Act 250, Vermont's landmark land-use law, and require municipalities to allow for denser housing in certain areas.

Nationally and in Vermont, permitting and zoning are increasingly seen as primary drivers of the housing crisis. Supply is not meeting demand, and the argument from a growing coalition of activists, academics and housing advocates is that duplicative and onerous regulations slow development to a crawl while certain municipal rules effectively outlaw cheaper, denser housing.

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