Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) Resolution 2021 Westford Town Plan, Planning Process and Enhanced Energy Plan

WHEREAS, Title 24, V.S.A. §4350 in part requires that CCRPC shall review the municipal planning process of our member municipalities including review of plans; that each review shall include a public hearing which is noticed as provided in 24 V.S.A. §4350(b); and that before approving a plan the Commission shall find that it:

- 1. is consistent with the goals established in Section 4302 of this title;
- 2. is compatible with its Regional Plan;
- 3. is compatible with approved plans of other municipalities in the region;
- 4. contains all the elements included in § 4382(a)(1)-(12) of this Title;

WHEREAS, Title 24, V.S.A. §4352 in part states that a municipality that wishes to seek a Determination of Energy Compliance may submit its plan to the Regional Planning Commission, if the regional plan has an affirmative determination of energy compliance; that each review shall include a public hearing; and that the Commission shall issue an affirmative determination of energy compliance if the plan:

- 1. is consistent with the regional plan;
- 2. includes an energy element;
- 3. is consistent with Vermont's energy goals and policies; and
- 4. meets the standards for issuing a determination of energy compliance included in the State energy plans, as described by the Vermont Department of Public Service in their Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans;

WHEREAS, the CCRPC's 2018 Chittenden County Regional Plan, entitled the ECOS Plan, adopted June 20, 2018, received an affirmative determination of energy compliance on August 9, 2018;

WHEREAS, the CCRPC at its September 19, 2018 meeting approved the CCRPC Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes, Approval of Municipal Plans and Granting Determination of Energy Compliance dealing with local plans and CCRPC action;

WHEREAS, The Town of Westford, Vermont is a member municipality of this Commission;

WHEREAS, The Town of Westford formally requested CCRPC to approve its 2021 Westford Town Plan and confirm its planning process and grant a determination of energy compliance on January 18, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Planning Advisory Committee warned a public hearing on January 23, 2021 and held a public hearing on February 10, 2021 to review the 2021 Westford Town Plan for approval and confirmation of the planning process and for granting a determination of energy compliance, via Zoom;

WHEREAS, the Planning Advisory Committee reviewed the records and recommended that the Commission approve the 2021 Westford Town Plan as meeting the requirements of 24 V.S.A.§ 4350 and the Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes, Approval of Municipal Plans and Granting Determinations of Energy Compliance and confirm the community's planning process as consistent with Title 24, Chapter 117, as described in CCRPC's staff review and the minutes of the Planning Advisory Committee, dated February 10, 2021.

WHEREAS, the Planning Advisory Committee reviewed the records and recommended that the Commission grant an affirmative determination of energy compliance to the 2021 Westford Town Plan as meeting the requirements of Title 24, V.S.A. §4352 and the Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes, Approval of Municipal Plans and Granting Determinations of Energy Compliance, as described in CCRPC's staff review and the minutes of the Planning Advisory Committee, dated February 10, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Westford Selectboard adopted the 2021 Westford Town Plan on February 25, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, that, in compliance with 24 V.S.A.§ 4350 and the *Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes, Approval of Municipal Plans and Granting Determinations of Energy Compliance,* CCRPC approves the 2021 Westford Town Plan and the Commission finds that said Plan:

- 1. is consistent with the goals established in Section 4302 of Title 24;
- 2. is compatible with the 2018 Chittenden County Regional Plan, entitled the ECOS Plan, adopted June 20, 2018;

- 3. is compatible with the approved plans from other adjacent Chittenden County municipalities; and
- 4. contains all the elements included in § 4382(a)(1)-(12) and/or is making substantial progress toward attainment of the elements of this subsection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, that, in compliance with 24 V.S.A.§ 4350 and the *Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes and Approval of Municipal Plans*, CCRPC confirms the Town of Westford's municipal planning process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, that, in compliance with Title 24, V.S.A. §4352 and the *Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes, Approval of Municipal Plans and Granting Determinations of Energy Compliance*, CCRPC grants an affirmative determination of energy compliance to the 2021 Westford Town Plan.

Dated at Winooski, this 17th day of March, 2021.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Michael & Brien, Chair