



To the Voters of Lyndon:

Since 1950, the Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) has been the regional advocate for stronger communities and vibrant local economies. We are the only combined regional planning and economic development organization in Vermont, and we serve the largest geographic region of the state – the beautiful Northeast Kingdom.

Each year we request dues from our member communities. These funds are vital to us as they help defray the costs of providing direct assistance to the 50 municipalities and scores of businesses in our region in areas such as:

- Land use planning at the local and regional level – including town plans, zoning bylaws, and on-call technical assistance for local officials;
- Transportation studies, infrastructure inventories, and project planning;
- Digital mapping and GIS data services;
- Grant writing and administration;
- Direct business support and referral services to the employers in our region.

With local governance becoming increasingly complex, we've recently expanded our service offerings. These services include:

- Emergency planning –Local Emergency Operations Plans, All-Hazard Mitigation Plans; and assistance with flood hazard planning and regulation;
- Economic development planning and helping to grow businesses in our communities;
- Benchmarking and reporting activities for the region's USDA Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zone – a program that has brought millions of dollars to the region;
- Developing and maintaining a federal Foreign Trade Zone designation to improve the competitiveness of companies in our region;
- Providing municipal education and training opportunities for local officials in many of the areas listed above.

How is this relevant to Lyndon? In 2015, NVDA staff provided the following services in your community. Our staff assisted in the development of a hazard mitigation plan. We conducted traffic counts and transportation structures inventory, we also produced maps to assist with municipal planning. NVDA has partnered with the town and village to participate in safe streets collaborative project aimed at improving cycling and pedestrian safety.

NVDA's municipal dues are based on \$0.75 per capita rate, with a maximum of \$3,500 and a minimum of \$250. We remain the most affordable of all regional commissions in Vermont and we take great pride in providing cost-effective professional services to the communities and businesses of the Northeast Kingdom.

At our annual meeting Lyndon was "confirmed" as a planning community by the NVDA board, which allows your community to benefit from a number of planning initiatives. We look forward to pursuing these opportunities with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,  
David Snedeker  
Executive Director