

## CEAC May 2019 Update

It's been a busy few months for us, and we wanted to share some markers of our recent progress. Please let us know any comments you have -- and how you might like to become more involved with CEAC *“to strengthen Addison County’s economic, environmental, and social resilience to achieve deep carbon reduction and support a thriving ecosystem of people, businesses and institutions.”*

1. Focus Projects to date include:

- Innovative neighborhood-based carbon reduction energy projects in Middlebury
- Collaboration with the Addison County Economic Development Corporation on a Business Energy Efficiency Grant Program
- A campaign to celebrate and build ridership for Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR)
  - Input on a new train platform for Middlebury
  - Establishment of task forces on energy, agriculture and transportation

2. As Middlebury College begins to implement its exciting Energy 2028 program [<http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability/our-commitment/energy2028>], we've had promising initial discussions with the college's sustainability and environmental studies personnel about potential joint projects.

3. To boost community solar arrays, leadership of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission has expressed interest in working together with CEAC.

4. The website has been updated. You can see it here: <https://ceacac.org>.

5. After months of working through the IRS process, we expect to soon receive official nonprofit status as a 501(c)(3). This will enable us to apply for and administer grants such as Northern Borders federal money to support environmentally sensitive programs for economic development. [www.nbrc.gov/content/economic-infrastructure-development-investments](http://www.nbrc.gov/content/economic-infrastructure-development-investments)

6. We have created our first Board of Directors, consisting of Steve Maier, Amy Sheldon, Andrew Murray, Spence Putnam and Greg Dennis. The bylaws allow for up to nine directors.

7. New community outreach and fundraising strategies are taking shape, and we'll have more about those in a future update.

8. Future CEACAC Focus Projects could include:

- Facilitating energy retrofits for schools
- Creating a Green Revolving Loan Fund for Addison County towns
- Using the 2020 Middlebury downtown disruptions as an opportunity to showcase alternative transportation options, such as e-bikes and e-scooters

- Creating a Greenest Street award program
- Investigating and piloting local energy efficiency manufacturing
- Nurturing healthy downtowns and working lands

If you have questions, comments, suggestions or want to get more involved with CEAC, please be in touch!

See [www.CEACAC.org](http://www.CEACAC.org) or email Steve Maier: sbmaier55@gmail.com