

## Sequestration and Storing Carbon

- On ***"Prohibiting expansion" on existing biomass plants***, council members had concerns around the suggestions in this section and asked for clarity and revisions surrounding this action. The subcommittee was asked to make the headline of the section reflect more clearly what's down below in the section and be less broad. The subcommittee was asked to be more clear about thermal systems and co-generation systems so as to not be lumped into electric generation.
- On **changes to renewable energy standard**, the council had concerns regarding recommendations to the RES. The subcommittee mentioned that this was an aspirational concept and hoped they could expand the model into tree planting. The idea was not particularly "well-baked" at the subcommittee level and will be reexamined.

## Adaptation and Building Resilience in Natural and Working Lands

- On **consolidating and harmonizing compact settlement recommendations**, the council members were concerned about potentially conflicting actions that exist here. Also, it was recommended the subcommittee look into resettlement programs. An existing ANR rule could be tweaked that would not require legislative action in order to accommodate this recommendation. The subcommittee clarified they don't believe they have conflicting actions, and the focus is on river corridor protections.
- There was a concern about **linking dense settlement to areas with existing infrastructure** - having this used as a litmus test for future development has the potential to be a barrier to investment and revitalization in many rural villages without community-scale water and wastewater. The subcommittee could change the language to "adequate" infrastructure. The compact settlement definition could be discussed in the Cross-Cutting section as well.
- On **Renewable energy siting issues (Pathway F – 5)**, several council members had various concerns about the language used in this strategy, in particular about unintended consequences for rate-payers, and also wanting to keep the door open for co-location of farming and renewable energy. The Sub-committee agree to review the language.

## Mitigation in Agriculture

- On **food security**, there was a discussion among council members on the importance of food security in this plan. The subcommittee emphasized making sure that people have food security is only going to become more imperative. There is a statewide partnership that exists in Vermont right now that could be folded into the recommendation for food security which will be discussed after the meeting. It was flagged that supporting healthy, resilient, local food systems is also under the Ag & Eco subcommittee charge in the GWSA.

## Agriculture and Ecosystems

- On **woody vegetation**, council members asked for clarity on agroforestry and silvopasture on existing lands. The sub-committee clarified that there will be no cutting

of forests to make pasture systems. The focus is on the integration of woody tree species in pasture areas.

- On **equity and access to existing programs**, council members were concerned about the equity for many of the actions that point to existing programs at AAAFM. The subcommittee said that equity does need to be more deeply integrated into the overall document as they could not do the fully equity screening. There are efforts underway to reduce barriers with state programs. Councilors suggested adding a little more nuance into the existing documents as it reads that the work on equity is already done.
- On **coordination of Federal Policy with other states**, the Council suggested strengthening alliances with other Eastern states to help programs work better for Vermont. The subcommittee mentioned that there is some participation with other states in the region that work with the Agency of Agriculture. They will strengthen on that comment and include the recommendation suggested. This might work better in the sequestration or cross cutting section.