

# Wastewater Task Force

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Town of Jericho

*August 6, 2025*



CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC  
*Communities Planning Together*



## Meeting Objectives

- Learn about what's required for a successful wastewater project, and how Jericho is positioned for this work.
- Develop shared understanding of the Task Force's role.
- Decide on how the Task Force will operate

## Agenda

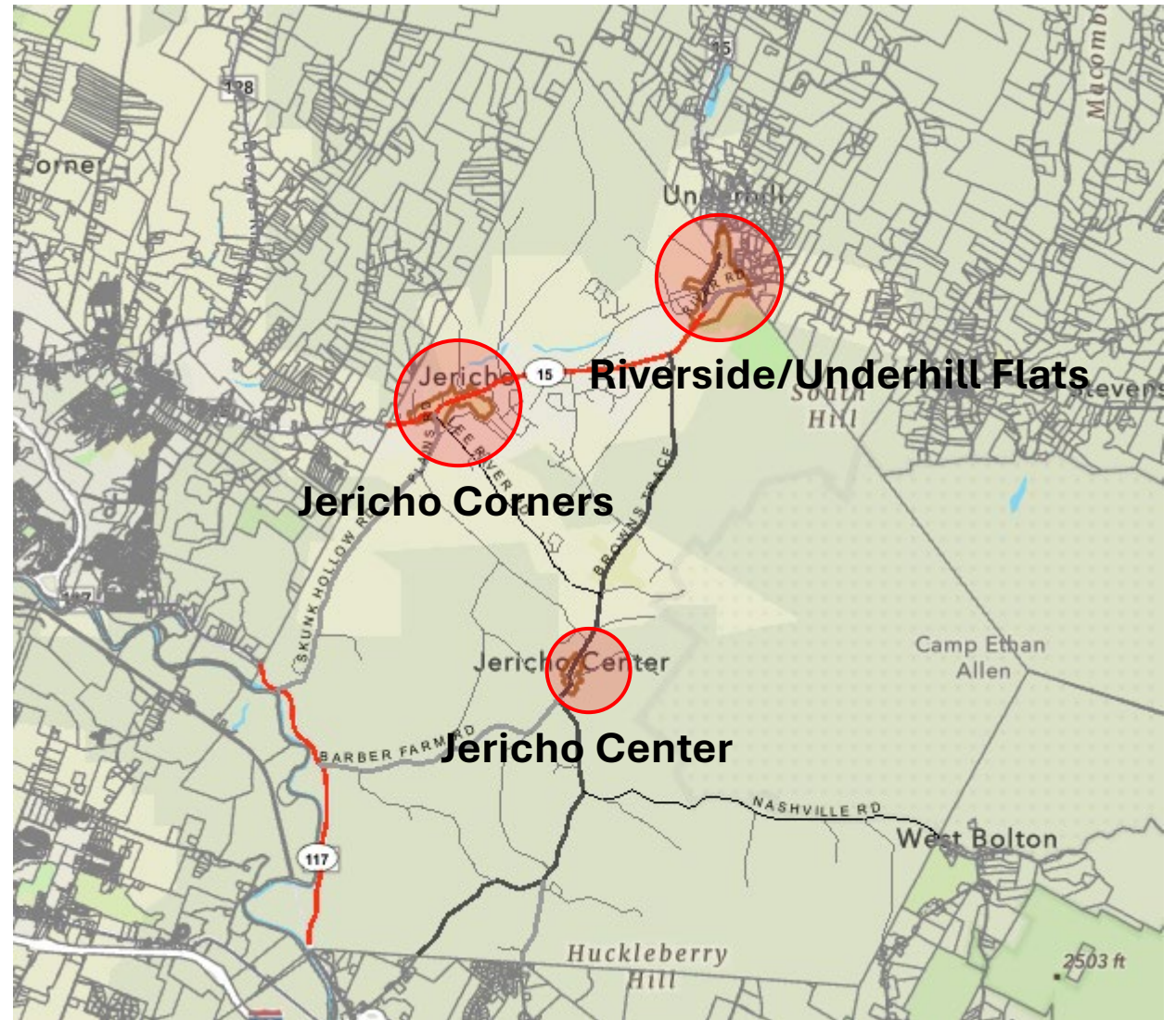
1. Welcome and review of agenda (Chris) – *5 minutes*
2. Introductions (all) – *20 minutes*
3. Project overview (Kate) – *10 minutes*
4. Presentation of Wastewater Research (Cam and Finley) – *20 minutes*
5. Task Force Role and Operations – *20-30 minutes*
6. Identify possible topics for future meetings – *10 minutes*



# Introductions

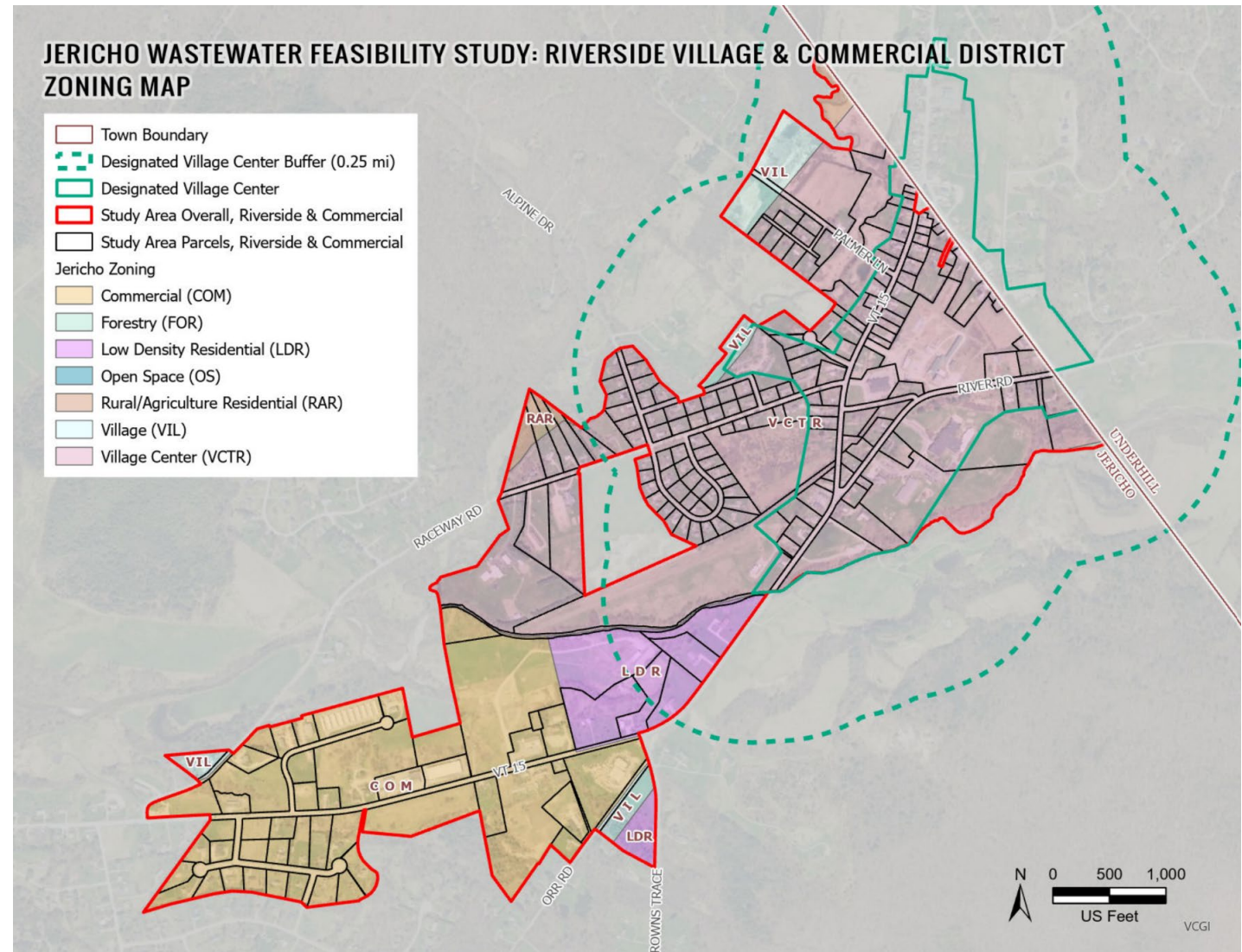
## Project Overview

- Jericho Selectboard hired Dubois & King engineers to explore wastewater options in 2022
- Funded through VT Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)
- Looked at Jericho's three village centers
- Considered additional capacity needed to serve Underhill Flats area in Underhill





- Municipal system serving Riverside and Underhill Flats the most cost-effective alternative
- Most likely service area is within the Designated Village Center (shown in green) and includes areas in both Jericho and Underhill
- Riverside has the most development potential to capitalize on a municipal wastewater system
- Study factored in capacity to serve some waste each day from Underhill



## Project Overview

- Next step is completing a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) that will provide a preliminary design and an Environmental Report
- Jericho is submitting final paperwork to state to secure funding for the PER that is estimated to start time mid-August
- Depending on findings there may be an opportunity for more (or less) capacity of a system serving Riverside and Underhill Flats
- PER will determine service area within the Designated Village Center boundary
- Jericho established a Wastewater Task Force to advise the town as the project moves forward



Cam and Finley are two UVM interns working with Jericho this summer on wastewater public education and community outreach



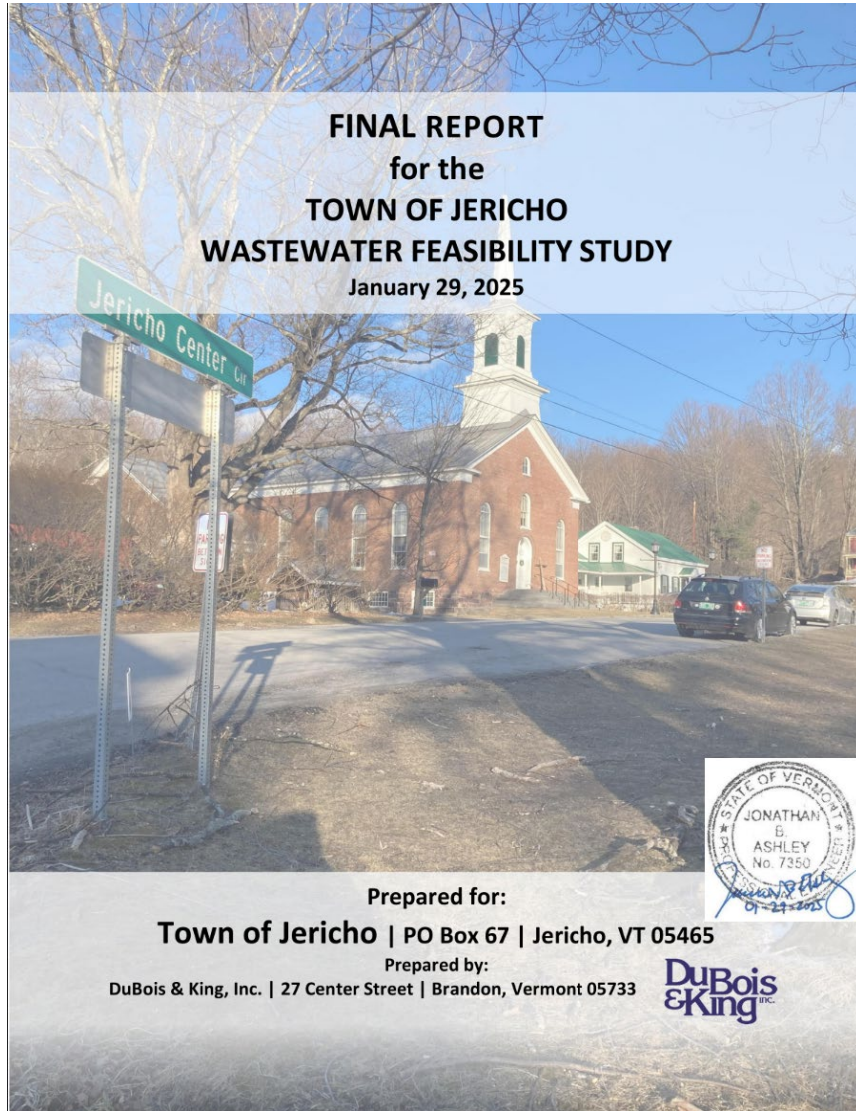




# Supporting Wastewater

Building public **UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT** for  
municipal wastewater through **OUTREACH AND EDUCATION**

Wastewater Education



## Purpose

Lack of wastewater infrastructure is a key barrier to achieving the town's long-term goals. For municipal wastewater to be successfully developed, public support is needed.

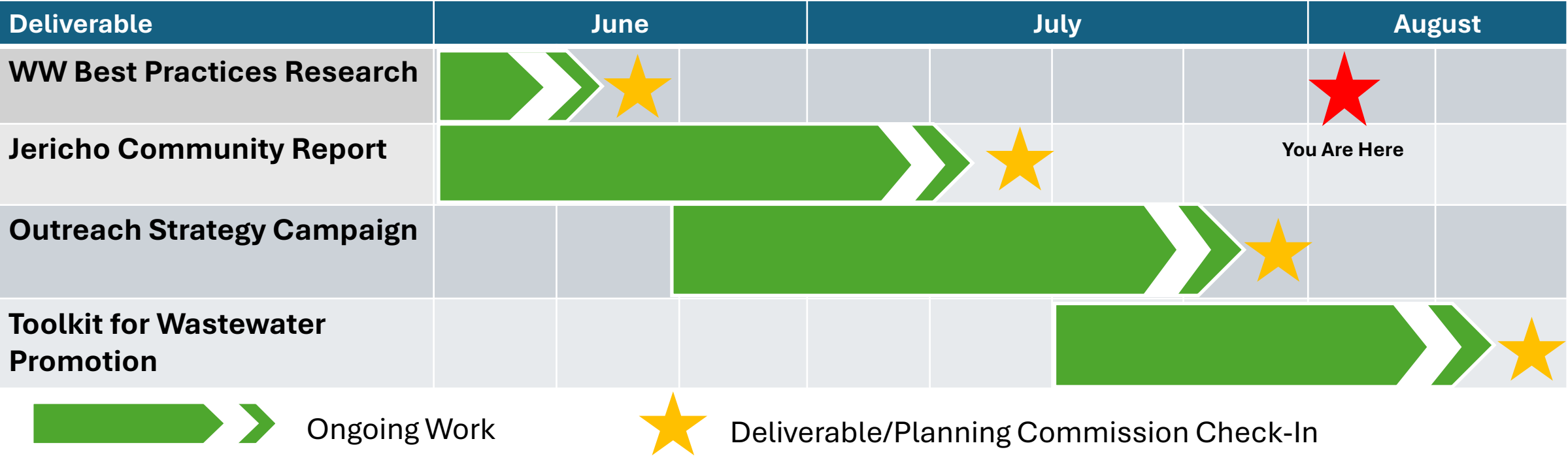
“Invest in public infrastructure in and around the Village Growth Area including municipal water, wastewater, and stormwater management systems to support more compact and mixed-use development.”

“Jericho did not build the wastewater and other infrastructure necessary to support additional housing and economic growth. Insufficient investment has contributed to sprawl, rising housing costs, lack of connectivity, stagnating population growth, and underutilized land and spaces in the Villages.”

– Jericho's Journey Forward



Timeline



Project Team

**Leads:** UVM Interns (Cam and Finley)

**Oversight:** Chris Shaheen

**Support:** PC Working Group, Committees, CCRPC, Task Force



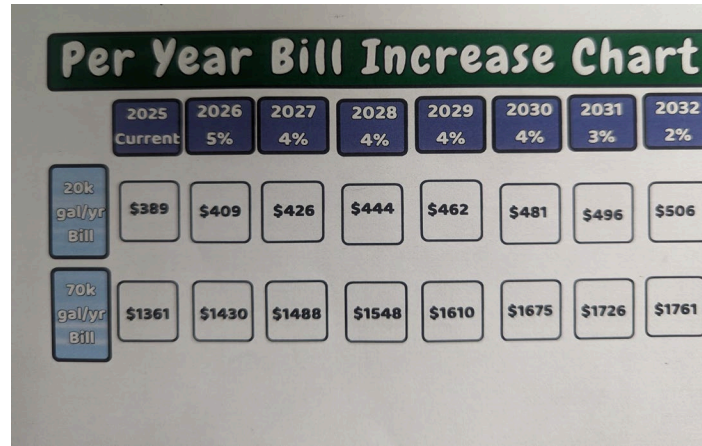
## Wastewater Best Practices Research

Interviewing leaders from other municipalities

Case study with research and interview information

### TAKEAWAYS

- Importance of Selectboard leadership
- Focus on big picture, not wastewater
- Environmental protection
- Filling the void



### Why Wastewater in Waitsfield?

***Protect water quality in the Mad River***

***Safeguard human health near water wells***

***Ease economic burdens of septic system replacements***

***Expand housing options and boost economic activity***

***Preserve historic settlement patterns***

***Build and maintain a modern wastewater system with affordable use rates at **no cost to taxpayers.*****

### Jericho Community Report

- Contacted community leaders and held interviews
- Created a community survey on wastewater efforts (Thank You Wendy!)
- With the help of Finley and CCRPC, created an FAQ handout to give to residents
- Began posting Front Porch Forum updates on our current efforts and outreach
- Conducted community outreach at the Jericho Farmers Market and Jericho Market

### Town of Jericho Wastewater FAQ



**What is the project?**  
The town is exploring a municipal wastewater system in Riverside Village Center. A Wastewater Taskforce has been created by the Selectboard to advise on the project as it moves forward.

**When is the project happening?**  
There are multiple steps in considering municipal wastewater. The next step is completing a Preliminary Engineering Report, which assesses the viability of a project. Jericho is also focused on education, outreach, and soliciting feedback from residents.

**Why Riverside?**  
Riverside has the most potential for new housing in a village center that will help conserve Jericho's natural resources and agricultural areas. The Town hired a consultant for a feasibility study in 2023 that determined Riverside was a good location for a wastewater disposal system.

**How much would it potentially cost?**  
There are many factors that go into determining the cost of a project like this. Jericho needs more information, starting with the Preliminary Engineering Report, before having a useful estimate. Cost to residents can vary depending on financial support from the state and federal agencies, or how the project is financed.

**How can I learn more?**  
Check out Jericho's website to review the feasibility report, a summary of the report, an overview of project goals, and more information about the Wastewater Taskforce and Interns.

**Who are we? We work for you!**  
Finley and Cam are summer interns working with Chris Shaheen, Jericho's Town Planner.

**For More Information . . .** [jerichovt.org/wastewater-task-force](http://jerichovt.org/wastewater-task-force)

**TAKE THE SURVEY**  



## Outreach Strategy Recommendations



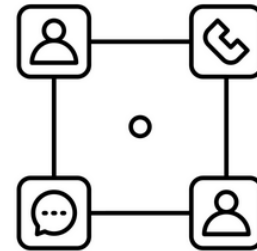
**Having the Right  
Information**



**Strong Selectboard  
Leadership**



**Efficient Project  
Management**



**Focused  
Outreach**



**Build Public  
Trust**



**Discuss task force role and objectives, as well as how the group will operate**

(meeting times, chair/facilitation, note taking, etc.)

**Discuss member interests and strengths – as a working group, how will people to contribute?**

### **Identify possible topics for future meetings**

- Recommendations for FY27 budget



## Next Planning Task Force Meeting

September 3, 2025

7:00 PM

Town Hall

67 Route 15 Jericho VT 05465

### Questions?

Kate McCarthy

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*Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission*

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