



**VERMONT
YOUTH
CONSERVATION
CORPS**

11/14/24

Development Review Board
P.O. Box 285
Richmond, VT 05477

Re: VYCC Planned Unit Development

Dear Chairman Sunshine and DRB Members,

The Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) offers profound paid service and training experiences for young adults. Each year, nearly 200 young people from Vermont and beyond enroll in our programs. They work on small teams locally and throughout the state to complete high-priority conservation and agriculture projects. It is a workforce development experience, a chance for young adults to make a real and lasting difference, and an opportunity to join a strong and welcoming community.

In recent years, we have identified several significant barriers to participation, as well as strategies to enhance programming. It is with these in mind that we are submitting a sketch plan for a planned unit development. You are likely aware that we have already begun restoration of the East Monitor Barn. This is a key element of our campus plan. Here are additional details that will be helpful as you review the attached site plan:

- East Monitor Barn. When complete, this historic building will house a wash-pack facility, a commercial kitchen, and conditioned program space.
- “Hillside” dormitory. This four-season two-level structure will provide accommodations for 16 participants
- Farmhouse. We will renovate this existing structure to provide four-season accommodations for both staff and participants.
- Hillside cabins. These simple cabins will each provide three-season accommodations for eight participants.
- Horse Barn. This historic building just east of the East Monitor Barn will be a teaching and training space
- Outdoor Kitchen. This covered structure will support participants when they are on campus in the warmer months.
- Farm Shed. Corps Members built this structure this summer and it will greatly increase storage capacity and efficiency for the Farm at VYCC.

We understand that securing permits and town approval is a multi-step process. We look forward to discussing these plans in greater detail at an upcoming meeting. In the meantime, thank you for your careful review.

Sincerely,

Breck Knauft, Executive Director
Vermont Youth Conservation Corps