Designated Downtown and Village Centers

Funding Directory - Historic Buildings

**Downtown and Village Center Tax Credit**
State tax credit for qualified historic rehabilitation, façade, and code improvements for properties at least 30 years old and located within a state designated downtown or village center.

- **Range:** 10 – 50% of eligible expenditures
- **Eligibility:** Income-producing and nonprofit properties within a state designated downtown or village center
- **Deadline:** Annually the first week in July
- **Contact:** Caitlin Corkins, (802) 828-3047, caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov
- **Website:** http://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding/tax-credits

**Federal Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit**
Federal tax credit for 20% of the rehabilitation costs (including labor, materials and architects or other consultant fees) for income-producing buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

- **Range:** 20% of eligible expenditures
- **Eligibility:** Owners of income-producing historic buildings
- **Deadline:** Rolling application deadline; file application before construction
- **Contact:** Caitlin Corkins, (802) 828-3047, caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov
- **Website:** http://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives.htm

**State Historic Preservation Grants**
State 50:50 matching grants for the repair and restoration of historic buildings listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

- **Range:** $1,000 - $20,000
- **Eligibility:** Municipalities and non-profit organizations
- **Deadline:** Annually the first week in October
- **Contact:** Caitlin Corkins, (802) 828-3047, caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov
- **Website:** http://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding/historic-preservation-grants

**Cultural Facilities Grant Program**
Matching state grants for community facilities used to provide cultural activities to the public and to enhance or expand the capacity of an existing building to provide cultural programming.

- **Range:** $1,000 - $30,000
- **Eligibility:** Municipalities and non-profit organizations
- **Deadline:** Annually at the beginning of May
- **Contact:** Michelle Bailey, (802) 828-3294, mbailey@vermontartscouncil.org
- **Website:** http://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants-and-services/organizations/cultural-facilities

**VHCB Outstanding Historic Building Grants**
Funding for acquisition or rehabilitation of “outstanding” historic buildings located in downtowns and village centers as determined by VHCB. Projects are protected by a historic preservation easement.

- **Range:** Varies. Match required for locally significant historic projects; no match required for buildings of statewide significance, but matching funds make applications more competitive
- **Eligibility:** Municipalities; nonprofit housing and conservation organizations
- **Deadline:** Multiple, depending on the availability of funding; deadlines on VHCB website
- **Contact:** Karen Freeman, (802) 828-5067, karen@vhcb.org
- **Website:** https://vhcb.org/our-programs/conservation/apply-for-funding

**Preservation Trust of Vermont**
Implementation and planning grants available to preserve and rehabilitate historic buildings.

- **Range:** Varies
- **Eligibility:** Municipalities and nonprofit organizations
- **Deadline:** Varies
- **Contact:** Ben Doyle, (802) 839-9914, ben@ptvermont.org
- **Website:** https://ptvermont.org/grants/

*Grant program awards priority consideration for state designation.*

For more information, please contact:
Richard Amore: richard.amore@vermont.gov or 802.585.0061
Gary Holloway: gary.holloway@vermont.gov or 802.522.2444
Designated Downtown and Village Centers

Funding Directory - Buildings and Infrastructure

**Human Services and Educational Facilities Grant Program**

Matching state grants for capital costs associated with the major maintenance, renovation, and development of facilities used for human services and health care, or educational opportunities.

**Range:** $1,000 - $25,000

**Eligibility:** Municipalities and non-profit organizations

**Deadline:** Annually in July

**Contact:** Judy Bruneau, (802) 828-3519, judy.bruneau@vermont.gov

**Website:** https://bgs.vermont.gov/commissioner/building-communities-grants

**USDA Rural Development Programs**

The USDA offers federal support for towns and villages through a variety of loan and grant programs aimed at enhancing rural quality of life through investing in housing, essential community facilities, municipal infrastructure, and economic development.

**Range:** Loan and grant support varies by program

**Eligibility:** Varies by program

**Deadline:** Varies by program

**Contact:** Misty Sinsigalli, (802) 622-4119, misty.sinsigalli@usda.gov

**Website:** http://www.rd.usda.gov/vt

**ANR Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund**

State Revolving Loan to assist in the planning, design, and construction of municipal wastewater and stormwater systems. Details on various programs on website.

**Range:** No maximum or minimum project amount

**Eligibility:** Municipalities

**Deadline:** Accepted on a continuing basis for planning and design loans. Construction loans must apply by February 15 of each year to be on the priority list for the year.

**Contact:** Tom Brown, (802) 585-4904, thomas.brown@vermont.gov

**Website:** https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/water-financing/cwsrf

**ANR Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Construction Fund**

State Revolving Loan to assist in construction of public, private and nonprofit community water, wastewater and stormwater systems. Details on various programs on website.

**Range:** $2,000,000 per funding cycle and $6,000,000 cap for any one project. No minimum project amount.

**Eligibility:** Municipalities, private developers and non-profit organizations

**Deadline:** Annually in February

**Contact:** Celia Riechel (802) 585-4904, celia.riechel@vermont.gov

**Website:** https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/water-financing/dwsrf

**ANR Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Planning Fund**

State Revolving Loan to assist in the planning and design of public, private and nonprofit community water, wastewater and stormwater systems. Details on various programs on website.

**Range:** $100,000 maximum. No minimum project amount

**Eligibility:** Municipalities, non-profit organizations and private developers

**Deadline:** Accepted on a continuing basis.

**Contact:** Celia Riechel (802) 585-4904, celia.riechel@vermont.gov

**Website:** https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/water-financing/dwsrf-water-planning-loan

**Vermont Arts Council - Animating Infrastructure Grants**

Animating Infrastructure Grants support community projects that integrate art with infrastructure improvements.

**Range:** Grants range from $1,000 to $15,000; no match required.

**Eligibility:** Projects must engage an artist to develop community projects that integrate public art with infrastructure

**Deadline:** Letters of intent due December 2020 with full proposals due March 2020.

**Contact:** Michele Bailey (802) 828-3294, mbailey@vermontartscouncil.org

**Website:** https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants-and-services/organizations/animating-infrastructure

*Grant program awards priority consideration for state designation.*
Designated Downtown and Village Centers

Funding Directory - Transportation and Housing

**Sales Tax Reallocation Program***
Municipalities and the developer of a qualified project jointly apply for a reallocation of sales taxes on construction materials. Qualified projects must be located within a state designated downtown.

**Range:** Based on sales tax generated in excess of $100,000 to $1M depending on the size of municipality

**Eligibility:** Joint application between municipality and developer located within Designated Downtown

**Deadline:** Annually the first week of July

**Contact:** Caitlin Corkins, (802) 828-3047, caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov

**Website:** [http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/sales-tax-reallocation](http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/sales-tax-reallocation)

**Vermont Community Development Program (CDBG)**

**Accessibility Modification Grants** – Federal grants to bring existing municipal buildings and non-school libraries into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**Implementation Grants** – Federal grants for economic development, housing, public facilities, and public services that will benefit low to moderate income individuals, eliminate slums or blight, or address an urgent need.

**Planning Grants** – Federal grants for community development planning, downtown planning studies, and project development to benefit people with low to moderate incomes and/or eliminate “slums and blight.”

**Scattered Site Grants** – Federal grants to rehabilitate scattered site housing projects to benefit people with low to moderate incomes and/or eliminate “slums and blight.”

**Range:** $3,000 - $1,000,000

**Eligibility:** Municipalities and/or municipalities on behalf of organizations and private owners

**Deadline:** Open application with funding decisions made throughout the year

**Contact:** Cindy Blondin, (802) 828-5219, cindy.blondin@vermont.gov

**Website:** [http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp](http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp)

**Downtown Transportation Fund***
State grants for municipalities to finance transportation-related capital improvements in support of economic development, within or serving a state designated downtown, including construction or alteration of roads and highways, parking facilities, pedestrian and streetscape improvement, rail or bus facilities or equipment, and underground relocation of electric utility, cable and telecommunications lines.

**Range:** 50% of overall project costs up to maximum of $100,000

**Eligibility:** Municipalities with a Designated Downtown

**Deadline:** Annually in March

**Contact:** Gary Holloway, (802) 522-2444, gary.holloway@vermont.gov

**Website:** [http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/downtown-transportation-fund](http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/downtown-transportation-fund)

**VTrans Transportation Alternative Program***
State matching grants for the construction, planning, and design of bike and pedestrian facilities (on or off road), sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, lighting, and others.

**Range:** $50,000 - $300,000. Local match of 20% for construction and scoping studies

**Eligibility:** Municipalities, transit agencies, school district, and regional planning commissions

**Deadline:** Annually in November

**Contact:** Scott Robertson, (802) 793-2395, scott.robertson@vermont.gov


**VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program***
State matching grants for the scoping, design, and construction of bike and pedestrian facilities, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, crosswalks, shared-use paths, and lighting.

**Range:** No minimum or maximum range. Local match of 20% for construction, 50% for state-funded small scale construction grants; and 20% for scoping projects

**Eligibility:** Municipalities, transit agencies, school district, and regional planning commissions

**Deadline:** Annually in July

**Contact:** Jon Kaplan, (802) 498-4742, jon.kaplan@vermont.gov

**Website:** [http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped](http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped)

*Grant program awards priority consideration for state designation.*

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For more information, please contact:
Richard Amore: richard.amore@vermont.gov or 802.585.0061
Gary Holloway: gary.holloway@vermont.gov or 802.522.2444
**ANR Recreational Trails Grant Program**

Matching state 80/20 grants for the maintenance, restoration, design and construction of recreational trails. Both motorized and non-motorized trail projects may qualify for RTP funds.

**Range:** Maximum of $50,000. Local match of 20%

**Eligibility:** Municipalities, non-profit organizations, and other governmental entities may apply.

**Deadline:** Annually February 1st. Mandatory pre-applications due in December

**Contact:** Sherry Winnie, (802) 760-8450, sherry.winnie@vermont.gov

**Website:** [https://fpr.vermont.gov/recreational-trails-program](https://fpr.vermont.gov/recreational-trails-program)

**BGS Recreational Facilities Grants Program**

State matching 50/50 grants for the development and creation of community recreational opportunities.

**Range:** $1,000 - $25,000

**Eligibility:** Municipalities and non-profit organizations

**Deadline:** Annually in July

**Contact:** Judy Bruneau, (802) 828-3519, judy.bruneau@vermont.gov

**Website:** [http://bgs.vermont.gov/commissioner/building-communities-grants](http://bgs.vermont.gov/commissioner/building-communities-grants)

**ANR Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program**

State grants for the design and construction projects that target nonpoint sources of pollution that cause or contribute to the state’s surface waters.

**Range:** Maximum of $250,000. Local match varies

**Eligibility:** Municipalities, regional organizations, non-profits associations, citizen groups, and state agencies

**Deadline:** Two rounds annually, varies depending on funding

**Contact:** Allison Lewis, (802) 490-6124, allison.lewis@vermont.gov

**Website:** [https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/cwi/grants/opportunities](https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/cwi/grants/opportunities)

**ANR Caring for Canopy Grant Program**

State 50/50 matching grants to help communities care for tree canopy by taking the necessary actions to developing and sustaining a community-wide tree program, including tree plantings, inventories, maintenance, and planning.

**Range:** $500 - $5,000. Local match of 50%

**Eligibility:** Municipalities and non-profits associations

**Deadline:** Annually in January

**Contact:** Elise Schadler, (802) 522-6015, elise.schadler@vermont.gov

**Website:** [https://vtcommunityforestry.org/programs/financial-assistance/caring-canopy-grants](https://vtcommunityforestry.org/programs/financial-assistance/caring-canopy-grants)

**ANR Land and Water Conservation Fund**

Assists in acquiring land for parks and public outdoor recreation, as well as the development of new facilities and/or renovations of existing facilities or outdoor recreation.

**Range:** Not specified. Local match of 50%

**Eligibility:** Municipalities

**Deadline:** Annually in February, pre-applications due in the fall

**Contact:** Jessica Savage, (802) 828-1399, jessica.savage@vermont.gov

**Website:** [https://fpr.vermont.gov/land-and-water-conservation-fund](https://fpr.vermont.gov/land-and-water-conservation-fund)

**VHCB Local Conservation Projects**

Local conservation projects for agricultural and recreational land, town parks and forests, swimming holes, green- ways, and historic buildings for public use.

**Range:** Up to $150,000. Match required, at least 33%

**Eligibility:** Municipalities, eligible non-profit organizations and certain state agencies

**Deadline:** Multiple, depending on the availability of funding; deadlines on VHCB website

**Contact:** Ethan Parke, (802) 828-0795, ethan@vhcb.org

**Website:** [https://vhcb.org/our-programs/conservation/apply-for-funding](https://vhcb.org/our-programs/conservation/apply-for-funding)

*Grant program awards priority consideration for state designation.*

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For more information, please contact:

Richard Amore: richard.amore@vermont.gov or 802.585.0061

Gary Holloway: gary.holloway@vermont.gov or 802.522.2444
**Northern Border Regional Commission Grants***

A federal/state partnership that invests in economic and community development projects in Vermont.

**Range:** Grants up to $250,000. Match of 20%-50% of total project cost, depending on location.

**Eligibility:** Participating member states, local governments (city and county), nonprofit and Native American entities

**Deadline:** Annually in June

**Contact:** Kristie Farnham, (802) 398-5268, kristie.farnham@vermont.gov

**Website:** http://accd.vermont.gov/economic-development/funding-incentives/Northern-Border-Regional-Commission

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**BGS Regional Economic Development Grant Program**

Matching state grants to stimulate the creation and development or retention of economic development of individual or regional Vermont communities.

**Range:** $1,000 - $25,000

**Eligibility:** Municipalities and non-profit organizations

**Deadline:** Annually in July

**Contact:** Judy Bruneau, (802) 828-3519, judy.bruneau@vermont.gov

**Website:** https://bgs.vermont.gov/commissioner/building-communities-grants

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**Certified Local Government Program**

Federal grants available for resource identification and planning, National Register nominations, downtown planning, public education, archeological studies, and building feasibility studies.

**Range:** $500 - $25,000

**Eligibility:** Municipalities that are enrolled as Certified Local Governments

**Deadline:** Annually in December

**Contact:** Devin Colman, (802) 585-8246, devin.colman@vermont.gov

**Website:** http://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding/clg-grants

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**VTrans Park and Ride Grant Program**

Supports the engineering and construction of small municipal owned park and ride facilities to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles on the roadway.

**Range:** No minimum or maximum range

**Eligibility:** Municipalities. Location must be on a municipal, state or leased property on or near a state highway

**Deadline:** Annually in August

**Contact:** Tina Bohl, (802) 793-1743, tina.bohl@vermont.gov

**Website:** http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/parkandrides

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**Efficiency Vermont Incentives***

Efficiency Vermont offers technical assistance, incentives, and financing for energy-related projects for homeowners and businesses seeking to use less energy, save money, and support a clean energy future.

**Range:** Varies by program.

**Eligibility:** Homeowners and business owners. Contact us for details

**Deadline:** Ongoing, no deadline

**Contact:** Customer Support, (888)-921-5990, info@efficiencyvermont.com

**Website:** https://www.efficiencyvermont.com/rebates

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**Vermont Community Foundation**

A variety of grants are available to support projects to improve environmental sustainability, cultural heritage, social justice, historic preservation, and vitality of Vermont communities

**Range:** Up to $25,000. No local match required

**Eligibility:** Municipalities, nonprofit organizations, grant availability varies by geographic area

**Deadline:** Varies by grant, throughout the year

**Contact:** Sarah Waring (802) 388-3355 x 283, swaring@vermontcf.org

**Website:** http://www.vermontcf.org/Nonprofits/AvailableGrants.aspx

*Grant program awards priority consideration for state designation.*

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For more information, please contact:

Richard Amore: richard.amore@vermont.gov or 802.585.0061

Gary Holloway: gary.holloway@vermont.gov or 802.522.2444
Designated Downtown and Village Centers

Funding Directory - Planning and Financing

Municipal Planning Grant Program*
State grants for a wide range of municipal planning projects including municipal land use plans, zoning and subdivision bylaws, designated downtown, village and neighborhood planning.
Range: $2,500 - $20,000. Local match required
Eligibility: Municipalities with adopted plans confirmed by their regional planning commission
Deadline: Annually in September
Contact: Jennifer Lavoie, (802) 828-1948, jennifer.lavoie@vermont.gov
Website: http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/municipal-planning-grant

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
Provides grants to implement long-term hazard mitigation actions that reduce structure damage or loss of life due to natural disasters. Examples include upsizing culverts, floodproofing buildings and mitigation planning.
Range: No minimum or maximum. Local match of 25%
Eligibility: Municipalities, state agencies, regional planning agencies, non-profits in select circumstances. Eligible entities on behalf of private owners.
Deadline: Funding available after a major disaster declaration. Rolling application deadlines
Contact: Ben Rose, 802-241-5386, ben.rose@vermont.gov
Website: https://vem.vermont.gov/funding/mitigation

VTrans/ACCD Better Connections Program*
State 90/10 matching grants for planning that align land use planning and community revitalization with transportation investments.
Range: No minimum. Maximum is $67,500. Local match of 10%
Eligibility: Municipalities, located outside of Chittenden County with a confirmed planning process
Deadline: Fall 2020. Pre-application meetings conducted prior to December 31
Contact: Jackie Cassino, (802) 272-2368, jackie.cassino@vermont.gov or Richard Amore, richard.amore@vermont.gov
Website: http://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/better-connections

Vermont State Infrastructure Bank
State low interest loan program for the construction or reconstruction of highways, roads and bridges, and pedestrian facilities, as well as certain capital facilities related to rail transit, public transit or electric vehicle charging stations.
Range: No minimum or maximum range. Loan term may not exceed 30 years and requires borrower equity of 10-20%
Eligibility: Municipalities, Regional Development Corporations, or political subdivisions of the state or private sector companies that have entered into a contract with a public authority.
Deadline: No deadline, ongoing loan program
Contact: Cassie Polhemus, (802) 828-5627, cpolhemus@veda.org
Website: http://www.veda.org/financing-options/other-financing-option/state-infrastructure-bank-program/

VEDA Commercial Loan Programs
Low interest loans are available to for profit and non-profit companies to finance downtown revitalization projects under VEDA's Direct Loan Program and its Vermont Small Business Loan Program.
Range: Loans for 40% of project costs to a maximum of $1.5 million or for $2 million on renewable energy projects
Eligibility: Projects involving redevelopment of vacant or significantly under-utilized buildings or lots in downtowns or villages that spur employment and economic vitality
Deadline: No deadline, ongoing loan program
Contact: Thomas Porter, (802) 828-5627, tporter@veda.org
Website: http://www.veda.org/financing-options/

Brownfield Revitalization Fund*
Grants and loans for remediation of brownfield sites.
Range: Grants are capped at $200,000
Eligibility: Municipalities, non-profit organizations and private developers
Deadline: Rolling
Contact: Kristie Farnham, (802) 398-5268, kristie.farnham@vermont.gov
Website: http://accd.vermont.gov/economic-development/funding-incentives/brownfields-initiative

* Grant program awards priority consideration for state designation.

For more information, please contact:
Richard Amore: richard.amore@vermont.gov or 802.585.0061
Gary Holloway: gary.holloway@vermont.gov or 802.522.2444
VNRC’s Small Grants for Smart Growth*
Provides seed money for community-based initiatives related to smart growth, including efforts related to housing, transportation, community revitalization, conservation, public participation, and advocacy.
Range: $500 - $1,500.
Eligibility: Local or multi-town entities, such as a municipality, municipal commission or committee; non-profit organization; or citizens group that is either working with a non-profit or seeking 501(c)(3) status
Deadline: Rolling throughout year
Contact: Kate McCarthy, (802) 223-2328, x. 114, kmccarthy@vnrc.org
Website: https://vnrc.org/small-grants-for-smart-growth/

AARP Vermont Placemaking Projects for Changing the Built Environment Grants*
Provides funding for small projects that will employ temporary or semi-permanent changes with the goal of leading to permanent change to enhance the livability of the community for people of all ages and abilities.
Range: Up to $3,000
Eligibility: Statewide, regional and local government entities and non-profit organizations
Deadline: Annually in the spring
Contact: Kelly Stoddard Poor, (802) 393-9187, kstoddardpoor@aarp.org
Website: https://states.aarp.org/vermont/

Vermont Council of Rural Development (VCRD) Community Visits
The Community Visit program is a way for towns to engage and bring together their residents, set common goals, and directions in a neutral and facilitated structure, and access resources that will help them take action on those goals. The Community Visit program, provided at no cost to communities by VCRD, gets citizens engaged in working for their communities and connects them to the resources they need to be successful.
Range: Municipal commitment to a community dinner and mailing
Eligibility: Vermont communities
Deadline: Rolling throughout the year
Contact: Jenna Koloski, (802) 225-6091, jenna@vtrural.org
Website: https://www.vtrural.org/programs/community-visits/about

Local Motion
Local Motion is Vermont’s statewide advocate for active transportation, vibrant communities, and safe streets. The organization provides technical assistance to communities and helps build local capacity, advocates for safer, more livable streets at the local and state level, and teaches bike skills to students and adults.
Eligibility: Vermont communities
Contact: Karen Yacos, info@localmotion.org or (802) 861-2700
Website: https://www.localmotion.org/

* Grant program awards priority consideration for state designation.

For more information, please contact:
Richard Amore: richard.amore@vermont.gov or 802.585.0061
Gary Holloway: gary.holloway@vermont.gov or 802.522.2444