

FY18 Municipal Planning Grant Projects

[Municipal Planning Grants](#) support local planning and community revitalization initiatives that build strong communities and improve Vermont's quality of life. Grants are awarded annually and administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Since 1998, the program has provided over \$12 million to 234 cities and towns. This year, over \$460,000 was awarded to 37 municipalities. The winning FY18 projects are described below.

Alburgh – Planning and Marketing the Village

Through a village master plan, Alburgh will identify public space improvements and promote village assets. For more information, contact Terry Tatro, terrytatro9@gmail.com.

Total Project Cost: \$9,935

Grant Funds Awarded: \$9,290

Barre – Preparing for Merchant's Row Redevelopment

The City will complete an environmental assessment and prepare a corrective action plan for the continued redevelopment of Merchant's Row. For more information, contact Janet Shatney, jshatney@barrecity.org.

Total Project Cost: \$20,306

Grant Funds Awarded: \$16,204

Bennington and Manchester – Strengthening Arts and Culture Countywide

Working together, Bennington and Manchester will create a region-wide vision to better leverage the existing creative economy. For more information, contact Michelle Marrocco, mmarrocco@bcrcvt.org.

Grant Funds Awarded: \$35,000

Bradford – Updating Development Regulations

Bradford will re-work its zoning regulations to reflect the vision of its town plan and respond to economic changes that affect land development in the community. For more information, contact Marcey Carver, mgc0526@gmail.com.

Total Project Cost: \$6,590

Grant Funds Awarded: \$6,590 *

Cambridge – Adopting Flood Resilience Strategies

Building on the flood resilience work completed in recent years, the town and village will update the municipal plan together with Jeffersonville. For more information, contact Seth Jensen, seth@lcpvt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$10,000

Grant Funds Awarded: \$9,333

Chester – Updating Bylaws to Work for the Village

Chester's new Village Center Master Plan will inform an update of the town's Unified Development Bylaws to ensure new development supports the town's vision. For more information, contact Julie Hance, Julie.hance@chestervt.gov.

Total Project Cost: \$26,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$20,000

Corinth – Planning for the 21st Century

Corinth's new town plan will focus on policies for managing public facilities, land use and the forested areas of the rural town. For more information, contact Kevin Geiger, kgeiger@trorc.org.

Total Project Cost: \$9,842
Grant Funds Awarded: \$9,228

Dorset – Walking and Biking Improvements for the Village

Dorset will develop a plan to make walking and bicycling safer and more inviting in the village. For more information, contact Tyler Yandow, dorsetza@gmail.com.

Total Project Cost: \$10,110
Grant Funds Awarded: \$9,407

East Montpelier – Zoning for a Compact Village

East Montpelier will update zoning bylaws to encourage compact development within the village and conservation of agriculture and forest lands in the surroundings. For more information, contact Bruce Johnson, eastmontadmin@comcast.net.

Total Project Cost: \$26,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$20,000

Elmore – Addressing Farm and Forest Fragmentation

The town will update its bylaws to help to maintain large tracts of land that are economically and ecologically viable. For more information, contact Meghan Rodier, meghan@lpcvt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$9,950
Grant Funds Awarded: \$9,300

Fair Haven – Planning Downtown Street Enhancements

Funding for a Downtown Master Plan will identify the capital improvement projects needed to beautify and attract private investment. For more information, contact Jonas Rosenthal, fhmanager@comcast.net.

Total Project Cost: \$20,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$16,000

Fairfield – Fine-tuning the Bylaws to Promote Village Housing

Fairfield will improve its regulations to enable new housing and services in its compact and walkable villages. For more information, contact Alisha Larocque, alisha@fairfieldvermont.us.

Total Project Cost: \$16,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$13,333

Fairlee – Long Term Planning for the Town's Public Facilities

By planning for the maintenance and replacement cycles of Fairlee's equipment and structures, the town will maximize the use of public funds. For more information, contact John Brimmer, zoning@fairleevt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$6,800
Grant Funds Awarded: \$6,800 *

Halifax – Reducing Flood Risks

Grant funds will help Halifax develop a plan to reduce and mitigate the impacts of future flooding events on private property and public infrastructure. For more information, contact Alice Aldrich, alice@eyeoftheraven.com.

Total Project Cost: \$8,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$8,000 *

Highgate – Redeveloping a Key Village Area

Townsppeople will engage with a consultant to prepare an illustrated plan for redeveloping an area of the village that is ripe for public and private investment. For more information, contact Heidi Britch-Valenta, hbvalenta@highgatevt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$26,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$20,000

Jeffersonville – Identifying Next Steps for Flood Resilience

Jeffersonville will work with the Town and Village of Cambridge, addressing ways to avoid future flood damage in the updated municipal plan. For more information, contact Seth Jensen, seth@lcpcvt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$4,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$4,000 *

Jericho – Addressing the Commercial District

Through public engagement, the town will chart a path for development within the commercial district that respects the traditional development pattern and is inviting to pedestrians and cyclists. For more information, contact Katherine Sonnick, ksonnick@jerichovt.gov.

Total Project Cost: \$26,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$20,000

Ludlow – Planning for Village Revitalization

Funds will allow Ludlow to produce an action-oriented plan aimed at bringing greater vitality to the community. For more information, contact Rose Goings, planning@ludlow.vt.us.

Total Project Cost: \$12,540
Grant Funds Awarded: \$11,027

Lyndon – Updating Regulations for Village and Rural Development

The town and village will update zoning bylaws to protect working landscapes while encouraging compact, village development. For more information, contact Anne McLean, annie@lyndonvt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$8,500
Grant Funds Awarded: \$8,333

Mendon – Considering Options for the Future

Mendon will come together to update the town plan and promote flood resilience, revitalization and economic development. For more information, contact Elysa Smigielski, elysa@rutlandrpc.org.

Total Project Cost: \$8,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$8,000 *

Monkton – Engaging the Community

Funding will help Monkton conduct an inclusive public process for addressing renewable energy facility siting and flood resilience in an updated town plan. For more information, contact Anne Layn, alayn@monktonvt.com.

Total Project Cost: \$10,515
Grant Funds Awarded: \$9,677

Newfane – Creating a Vision

Grant funds will help the residents create a vision to restore the vitality of their villages while protecting the community from future floods. For more information, contact Shannon Meckle, tnewfane@svcable.net.

Total Project Cost: \$8,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$8,000 *

Northfield – Focusing on Village Revitalization

The community will come together for a town plan update that addresses Northfield's walkable village centers and forest fragmentation. For more information, contact Laura Hill-Eubanks, lhilleub@mindspring.com.

Total Project Cost: \$14,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$12,000

Poultney – Bolstering the Downtown

The town will identify the types of businesses needed to maintain an active and vital mix of downtown shops and services. For more information, contact Elysa Smigielski, elysa@rutlandrpc.org.

Total Project Cost: \$8,000
Grant Funds Awarded: \$8,000 *

Randolph – Updating Town Plan for Greater Resilience

The town will engage residents and business to create an up-to-date and relevant vision for the town's future. For more information, contact Mardee Sanchez, zoning@randolphvt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$9,960
Grant Funds Awarded: \$9,307

Richford – Recreational Improvements for Economic Development

The town will identify options to remediate contamination and allow the use of the Missisquoi Overlook Park for recreation and economic development. For more information, contact Christopher Martel, selectboard@richfordvt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$7,995
Grant Funds Awarded: \$7,995 *

Rochester – Identifying Next Steps

Rochester will consider the implications of the recent closure of its high school and other changes in the community in its town plan update. For more information, contact Victoria Littlefield, vlevite@trorc.org.

Total Project Cost: \$9,350
Grant Funds Awarded: \$8,900

Rockingham – Focusing on Housing and Economic Development

Rockingham will develop new policies and strategies in its updated town plan to support economic development in its downtown and villages, increase housing options and identify ways to reduce flood risks. For more information, contact Charles Wise, planning@rockbf.org.

Total Project Cost: \$14,680
Grant Funds Awarded: \$12,453

St. Johnsbury – Planning for Downtown Investments

In preparation for a downtown Tax Increment Finance (TIF) district, St. Johnsbury will identify projects and investments need to spur revitalization. For more information, contact Chad Whitehead, cwhitehead@stjvt.com.

Total Project Cost: \$22,725
Grant Funds Awarded: \$17,817

South Burlington – Coordinating Infrastructure in the City Center

The City will create regulations to coordinate and reduce the cost of street and utility construction in the New Town Center. For more information, contact Paul Conner, pconner@sburl.com.

Total Project Cost: \$18,850

Grant Funds Awarded: \$15,233

Swanton – Convening a Town wide Conversation on Economic Improvements

The town will bring together a diverse group of experts and stakeholders to decide on effective ways to advance their top community and economic development projects. For more information, contact Elisabeth Nance, swedc@swantonvermont.org.

Total Project Cost: \$7,123

Grant Funds Awarded: \$7,123 *

Vernon – Building a Vibrant Village

The community will prepare a detailed action plan to bring new businesses, homes and vitality to the village. For more information, contact Martin Langeveld, newsafternewspapers@gmail.com.

Total Project Cost: \$26,000

Grant Funds Awarded: \$20,000

Waltham – Revising Zoning Regulations

With expert assistance, the town will survey residents and update regulatory strategies for achieving the town plan vision. For more information, contact Lucille Evarts, evartsl@yahoo.com.

Total Project Cost: \$10,720

Grant Funds Awarded: \$9,813

West Haven – Updating the Town's Vision for the Future

West Haven will bring the community together to prepare a comprehensive and relevant town plan. For more information, contact Elysa Smigielski, elysa@rutlandrpc.org.

Total Project Cost: \$8,000

Grant Funds Awarded: \$8,000 *

Whitingham – Mitigating Future Floods

Whitingham is working to reduce the effects of extreme weather events by strengthening the community's regulations regarding development near rivers, streams, and floodplains. For more information, contact Gig Zboray, whitinghamza@yahoo.com.

Total Project Cost: \$9,155

Grant Funds Awarded: \$8,770

Windsor, West Windsor and Weathersfield – Building Multi-Town Trail Networks

Three towns will work together to boost outdoor recreation for increased community and economic development in the Mount Ascutney region. For more information, contact Cori Baptistella, corib@windsorvt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$23,980

Grant Funds Awarded: \$20,987

Winooski – Planning for a Rapidly Changing Community

The City will address its growing housing and infrastructure needs through a major overhaul of its Municipal Development Plan. For more information, contact Heather Carrington, hcarrington@winooskivt.org.

Total Project Cost: \$26,000

Grant Funds Awarded: \$20,000

State Award Funding Totals: \$463,920

*No local match is required for projects under \$8,000