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## Three Vermont Towns Receive Better Connections Grants

The [Better Connections Program](#) [1], a grant program from the agencies of Transportation and Commerce and Community Development, has awarded three Vermont towns – Fairlee, Middlebury and Northfield – with funds to increase transportation options and support economic development.

- **Fairlee** will create a Route 5 corridor plan to improve walking and biking infrastructure, better connecting the village to the Connecticut River and its recreational assets.
- **Middlebury** will develop a downtown master plan to enhance the streetscape through green stormwater infrastructure and identify steps to improve the connection to Otter Creek and revitalize the designated downtown.
- **Northfield** will create a master plan to better connect Northfield's villages to each other, Norwich University, and their recreational centers by enhancing the streetscape and improving the water quality of the Dog River.

In 2019, the Better Connections partnership expanded to include the Agency of Natural Resources and the Department of Health. Municipalities compete annually for approximately \$280,000 in grant funding. A complete list of current and past projects is posted on the Better Connections website, <https://secure.accd.vermont.gov/betterconnections/index.html> [2].



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**Links**

[1] <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/better-connections>

[2] <https://secure.accd.vermont.gov/betterconnections/index.html>