Where's the Money?

(ARPA, IIJA/BIL, IRA)



Vermont League of Cities & Towns 2022 Town Fair

VLCT Town Fair

Federal Transportation Funding Available to Municipalities

MICHELE BOOMHOWER

DIVISION DIRECTOR OF POLICY, PLANNING & INTERMODAL DEVELOPMENT

OCTOBER 7, 2022

What is the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

- A federal infrastructure bill which includes funding for clean water, broadband, power infrastructure, environmental remediation, and transportation.
- The IIJA replaces the previous five-year federal transportation authorization Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act).

 The Transportation component of the IIJA includes both formula funding to state for highways, public transit, and aviation, and competitive grants open to local and state governments, among other eligible applicants.

What IIJA Funding is Available to Local Governments?

 Funding specifically set-aside for Town Bridges. During this past legislative session, the General Assembly passed the Agency's proposal for funding priority municipal bridges, as well as historic truss and covered bridges investing over \$80 million on town bridges, which represents approximately 37% of available funding \$225 million in funding over the five year authorization period of the IIJA.

 Access to the Transportation Alternatives and Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs through VTrans managed competitive grant programs.

Competitive U.S DOT Grant Programs

- There are **26 competitive grant programs** (including 20 new ones) worth approximately \$100 billion nationally which local governmental may apply for. Competitive grants include focus on highway and bridge projects (including downtown revitalization), resilience, carbon reduction, healthy streets (including bike and ped), active transportation, and safe streets. **Approximately half of U.S DOT grant programs have been released so far so there is more to come.**
- Local governments apply directly to U.S DOT, if awarded, locals would manage directly.
- Grant programs are very competitive and require detailed application materials including benefit cost analysis, project designs, etc.

Major Competitive Grant Program FY22-FY26

Major Competitive Grant Programs, FFY22-26				
Program	Mode(s)	Funding	Notes	
Nationally Significant Freight &	Highways, Rail	\$3.2 billion		
Highway Projects				
Bridge Investment Program	Highways	\$9.2 billion	New Program	
Congestion Relief Program	Highways, Public Transit	\$250 million	New Program	
Charging & Fueling Infrastructure	Highways	\$2.5 billion	New Program	
Grants				
Rural Surface Transportation Grant	Highways, Public Transit	\$2 billion	New Program	
Program				
PROTECT Grants	Highways, Public Transit	\$1.4 billion	New Program	
Healthy Streets Program	Highways, Public Transit	\$500 million	New Program	
Technology & Innovation	Highways, Public Transit	\$550 million		
Deployment Program				
Training & Education	Highways	\$127.5 million	New Program	
Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program	Highways	\$350 million	New Program	
Prioritization Process Pilot Program	Highways	\$50 million	New Program	

Most programs require a local match, details on matching funds vary by program.

Major Competitive Grant Program FY22-FY26

Major Competitive Grant Programs, FFY22-26					
Program	Mode(s)	Funding	Notes		
Reconnecting Communities Pilot	Highways, Public Transit	\$1 billion	New Program		
Program					
Stopping Threats on Pedestrians	Highways	\$25 million	New Program		
Invasive Plant Elimination Program	Highways	\$250 million	New Program		
Pollinator-Friendly Practices on	Highways	\$10 million	New Program		
Roadsides and Highway Rights-of-					
Way Program					
Active Transportation Infrastructure	Highways, Public Transit	\$1 billion	New Program		
Investment Program					
Transit Bus / Low No Grants	Public Transit	\$7.5 billion			
National Infrastructure Projects	Highways, Rail, Public Transit	\$5 billion	New Program		
Local and Regional Projects Grants	Highways, Rail, Public Transit	\$7.5 billion	New Program		
Safe Streets and Roads for All	Highways	\$5 billion	New Program		
National Culvert Program	Highways	\$1 billion	New Program		
SMART Program	Highways	\$500 million	New Program		

Most programs require a local match, details on matching funds vary by program.

Where's the Money?

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Vermont League of Cities & Towns 2022 Town Fair

Overview of Federally-Funded Water Infrastructure Initiatives

Combined Sewer Overflow

Reducing sewer overflows



Mobile Home Parks

Improving water and sewer infrastructure in mobile home parks



Individ

Providing low-incor failed sept



Pretreatment Capacity

Designing and installing pretreatment processes to address high strength or toxic wastewater



Villa

Developi systems i thatl

tormwater runoff from **Vermont Agency of Natural Resources** larger sites

Oct 7th, 2022

Neil Kamman, Director

Water Investment Division

American Rescue Plan Act

- \$1.026B Investment in COVID Recovery in VT
- 5 uses: Economic recovery, broadband, climate, housing, water and sewer infrastructure.
- ~192M available for water and sewer via six ANR programs.

\$30M



Combined Sewer Overflow

Reducing sewer overflows

\$24.75M



Mobile Home Parks

Improving water and sewer infrastructure in mobile home parks \$16M



Individual Drinking and Wastewater

Providing financial assistance to low-income homeowners with failed septic systems and/or wells



3-Acre Stormwater

Treating stormwater runoff from larger sites

\$40.5M



Pretreatment Capacity

Designing and installing pretreatment processes to address high strength or toxic wastewater

\$7M



Village Drinking & Wastewater

Developing community sewer systems in some of the villages that lack such systems

\$35M

Smaller ARPA funding projects:

- Stormwater: Green Schools Initiative
- Stormwater MS4 Support
- Wastewater
 - Pollution Control Grants (\$3.5M SFY22)
 - Small facilities serving mostly residential users, at risk of Failure (\$5M SFY23)
- Drinking Water
 - Small systems serving mostly residential users, at risk of Failure \$5M, sSFY23)



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2022

(Largest investment in Water and Sewer Infrastructure ever!)

- \$374M to VT, Five supplemental State Revolving Loan Fund Programs
- SRFs for Clean and Drinking Water
 - \$164.75M/5 years. 49% subsidy to disadvantaged/affordability challenged communities.
- SRFs for Emerging Contaminants
 - \$41.85M/5 years. 100% subsidy, focus on disadvantaged/affordability challenged communities.
- Supplemental DWSRF for Lead Removal
 - \$140M/5 years. 49% subsidy to disadvantaged/affordability challenged communities and small systems.
- Subsidy is only for municipal public works.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2022

- Additional Investments
 - Major investments in Brownfield Revitalization
 - Superfund site cleanups
 Commerce St. Plume
 and Ely Mine.



To learn more and apply for support:

ARPA Funding	BIL – SRF Funding
https://anr.vermont.gov/special- topics/arpa-vermont	https://dec.vermont.gov/water- investment/water- financing/srf/intended-use-plans

Where's the Money?

(ARPA, IIJA/BIL, IRA)



Vermont League of Cities & Towns 2022 Town Fair

State Energy Management Program (SEMP) Expansion

Commissioner Jennifer M. V. Fitch, P.E.

Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services



Program Evolution

- 2011: Act 40 mandates State operations to reduce energy, increase renewables.
- 2015: Act 58 establishes SEMP; BGS & EVT develop the Program.
 - Mandated \$150,000 in annual energy savings.



- Provides for 4 staff positions.
- o 26,000 metric tons CO₂e abated to date.
- o \$10 million in lifetime savings from projects to date.



• 2022: Act. 172 reauthorizes SEMP for another four years and establishes the Municipal Energy Resiliency Grant Program to support the expansion of SEMP services to municipalities.

















Program Background

Issue: Towns average 10% of income spent on energy. Maximum: 20%.

- 34% of State emissions come from thermal energy.
- 72% of State thermal energy uses fossil fuels.
- State passes Global Warming Solutions Act(GWSA) in 2020
- Climate Council releases Climate Action Plan(CAP) in December 2021

2019 **Energy** Burden Report **Total Energy** Burden Lowest (avg. 6.7%) Highest (avg. 17.4%)



No data available



SEMP Expansion

- For several years BGS, EVT, and the Public Service Department (PSD) had been exploring options for an expansion of SEMP services to municipalities
- In 2021 BGS signed agreements with VLITE and the PSD Clean Energy Development Fund (CEDF) to receive seed funding of \$300,000 per year over two years for a total of \$600,000 for staffing resources, energy audits, and technical support.
- In 2022 BGS hired its first dedicated SEMP Expansion Program Coordinator.





Vermont Low Income Trust for Electricity

SEMP Expansion & Act 172

- June 2nd, 2022: Act 172 passed, funding two SEMP X initiatives:
 - 1. Municipal Energy Resilience Grant Program uses \$45M in ARPA SFR to reduce COVID-19 risk.
 - 2. Municipal Energy Loan Program uses **IIJA** for a **\$2.8 million** Municipal Energy Revolving Fund.

Assessments:

- HVAC & Ventilation analysis.
- Water/sewer analysis at wastewater treatment plants
- Assessments must lead to an eligible project.

Projects:

- Weatherization, HVAC, & grid upgrades to improve air quality.
- Efficiency improvements to water/sewer systems.
- \$500,000 grant maximum per municipality.
- Projects must result from an eligible assessment.



More Information

- Grants obligated by 12/31/24, expended by 12/31/26.
- All assessments completed by 1/15/24.
- Grant recipients may use supplemental funds for projects ineligible under ARPA SFR.
- BGS provides contractors to complete assessments.

Please visit the BGS Energy Office website: <u>bgs.vermont.gov/commissioner/energy-environment</u>

gency of Administration		
Buildings and General Services		Q
ermont.gov Outlook Online State Phone Book	Transparency	
Home	Energy Office	
Purchasing and Contracting	The Energy Office is charged with overseeing the State Agency Energy Plan, provides up-to-date and emissions data for State buildings, ensures that ne	w state contracts
Operations & Maintenance	construction leverage the most environmentally friendly goods and services and serves as the primary point of contact for various energy and/or envirous coalitions and boards.	onment committe
Safety & Security	Contact Information	
Design & Construction	Energy Office	
Planning & Property Management	133 State St, 5th Floor Montpelier, VT 05633	
Government Business Services	Brian Sewell, State Energy Program Manager (802) 622-4291	
Vermont Information Centers Division	Eric Sharp, Project Manager (802) 461-8171	
Energy Office	Chris Leppla, State Energy Management Program Coordinator (802)461-9767	
Vermont State Curator's Office	<u>Tyler DeShong</u> , State Energy Management Program Expansion Coordinator (802)272-6516	
Commissioner's Office	NEW! State Energy Management Program Expansion Serving Municipalities	
	We are excited to announce the newest program under BGS designed to extend the energy savings and resiliency of the State Energy Management Prog municipalities. In the wake of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the SEMP Expansion program is designed to provide staffing support, technical assistance energy burdened communities across the state recover from the financial impacts of the pandemic, reduce their energy use, and curb greenhouse gas of the pandemic produce their energy to the state recover from the financial impacts of the pandemic.	, and funding to
	As this new endeavor takes shape, we will be updating our website frequently to provide as much program detail as possible and respond to inquiries q back soon for additional program information!	uickly. Please ch



Where's the Money?

(ARPA, IIJA/BIL, IRA)



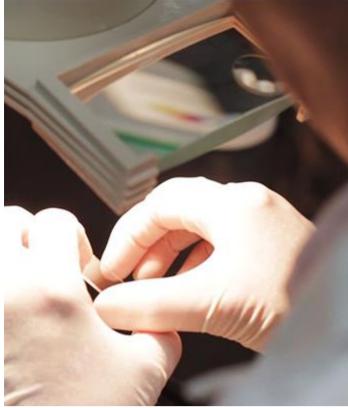
Vermont League of Cities & Towns 2022 Town Fair



Department of Economic Development

Commissioner Joan Goldstein VLCT Town Fair October 7, 2022





Community Recovery and Revitalization Program (CRRP) Application Expected to Open Fall 2022

Summary Table of Eligible Uses				
Affordable Housing	Impacted Industries	Childcare	Qualified Census Tracts	Municipalities
Affordable housing development & transitional shelters	Aid for safe reopening	Improvements to or new construction of childcare, daycare, and early learning facilities	Small businesses can rehabilitate commercial properties as well as undertake storefront & façade improvements	Wastewater
	Aid for planned expansion delayed due to pandemic (only for Travel, Tourism, and Hospitality)		Small business expansion costs	Water supply

Up to \$1 million or 20% of project cost



Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC)

Applications typically due in Spring (anticipated Spring 2023)

- Economic and Infrastructure Development (EID):
 - Transportation infrastructure
 - Basic Public Infrastructure
 - Telecommunications Infrastructure
 - Renewable and Alternative Energy Infrastructure
 - Business and Workforce Development
 - Basic Health Care
 - Resource Conservation, Tourism, Recreation
- Up to \$350,000, or up to \$1 million for infrastructure
- If invited to apply, applications are typically due in the spring/summer with funding decisions made in the fall.

Brownfield Revitalization Fund State Program (BRF)

Rolling applications

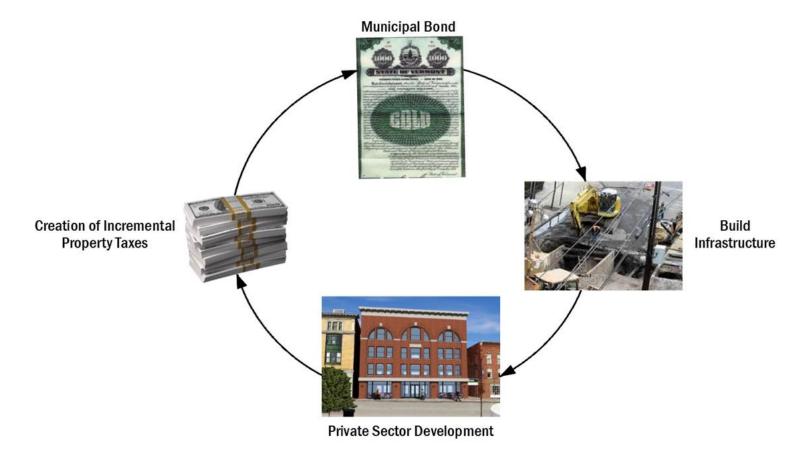






Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

Rolling applications





Department of Economic Development Contacts

Commissioner Joan Goldstein – <u>joan.goldstein@vermont.gov</u>

Deputy Commissioner Brett Long – brett.long@vermont.gov

Northern Border Regional Commission

- Kristie Farnham, Director of Business Support, kristie.farnham@vermont.gov
- Natalie Elvidge, Business Relations Manager, natalie.elvidge@vermont.gov

Brownfields Revitalization Fund

Kristie Farnham, Director of Business Support, kristie.farnham@vermont.gov

Vermont Economic Progress Council (VEPC)

- Abbie Sherman, VEPC Executive Director, abbie.sherman@vermont.gov
- Angie Farrington, VEPC Programs Manager, angela.farrington@vermont.gov



Where's the Money?

(ARPA, IIJA/BIL, IRA)



Vermont League of Cities & Towns 2022 Town Fair



The State of Housing in Vermont

Commissioner Josh Hanford

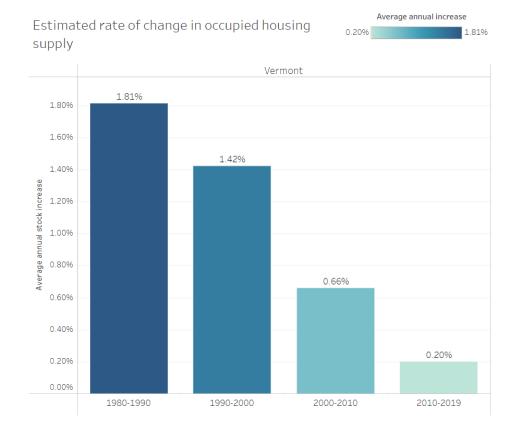


The Current State of Housing in Vermont

Building permits



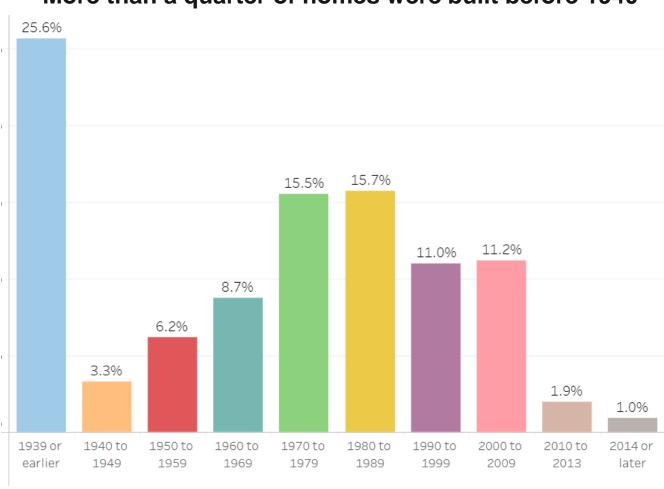
Rate of change in housing supply





Housing in Vermont today

More than a quarter of homes were built before 1940



New Resources, Solutions & Progress



Nearly 2100 new affordable housing units created and/or preserved to-date.

Approximately 1/3 of these units have been set-aside for those experiencing homelessness.



An additional 1,700 affordable and middle income units in the development pipeline.

Approximately 1/3 of these units have been set-aside for those experiencing homelessness.



With the additional Covid
Recovery funding
committed to build
affordable housing over
the last year, we have
more than tripled the
affordable housing
production compared to
the average of the
preceding 5 years.



Collectively, we helped

1305 households exit

homelessness into

permanent housing, many

with subsidies and

services.

Funding – Dept. Housing & Community Development, VT Housing & Conservation Board and VT Housing Finance Agency

Total special funding made available for affordable housing construction since the pandemic.

CARES Act (CRF general), passed 2020	VT Housing Investment Program VHIP-CRF	DHCD	\$7,200,000
CARES Act (CRF general), passed 2020	VHCB Housing Funding	VHCB	\$32,899,499
FY2021 State General Funds	Housing the Homeless	VHCB	\$10,000,000
FY2022 State Budget	VHCB Housing Funding	VHCB	\$100,000,000
FY2022 State Budget	VT Housing Improvement Program (VHIP- ARPA)	DHCD	\$5,000,000
ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds, FY22	ARPA-SFR Housing Recovery	VHCB	\$89,000,000
ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds, FY23	ARPA-SFR Housing Recovery	VHCB	\$30,000,000
FY2023 State Budget	VT Housing Improvement Program (VHIP- ARPA)	DHCD	\$20,000,000
FY2023 State Budget	First Generation First Time Home Buyer grants	VHFA	\$1,000,000
FY2023 State Budget	VHCB Housing Funding	VHCB	\$10,000,000
FY2023 State Budget	Manufactured Home Replacement Program	VHFA	\$1,125,000
FY2023 State Budget	Manufactured Home Community Program	DHCD	\$4,000,000
FY2023 State Budget	Community Neighborhood Partnership	DHCD	\$1,000,000
FY2023 State Budget	Missing Middle Home Construction Program	DHCD/VHFA	\$15,000,000
Recovery Residence Funding 1, 2, 3	CDBG-Recovery Residence	DHCD	\$2,299,711
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	HOME-ARP for Homeless	VHCB	\$9,564,691

Resources Available through DHCD

For Municipalities





https://accd.vermont.gov/housing/funding

- Municipal Planning Grants: Supports a wide range of local planning and implementation projects.
 - Bylaw Modernization: Funding to Help Municipalities Ready Areas for New Housing Investments.
 - Public investments, including the construction or expansion of infrastructure, should reinforce the general character and planned growth patterns of the area (see Planning Manual).

- Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP): Funding for projects that aim to Improve the Quality of Life for People with Low or Moderate Incomes (municipality is the applicant for this program, up to \$1M per project).
- State Designation Programs: Provides incentives, align policies and give communities the technical assistance needed to encourage new development and redevelopment in our compact, designated areas.

7 NEW LOTS + 24 NEW UNITS + 1 NEW BUSINESS



Resources Available through DHCD For Private Property Owners and Developers



Downtown & Village Tax Credits: Federal and state rehabilitation tax credits help to stimulate private investment, create jobs, restore historic buildings and jump start the revitalization seen in Vermont's Designated Downtowns and Village Centers (municipalities are not eligible applicants for this program).

Vermont Housing Improvement Program (VHIP): Provides rental property owners up to \$50,000 per unit to cover the costs of bringing vacant and non-code compliant rental units back online.

Other Resources & Upcoming Programs

- Northern Board Regional Commission (NBRC): Federal funding available to municipalities and non-profits to support infrastructure resulting in growth and investment.
 - Manufactured Home Replacement and Park Improvement (yet to launch): Federal grants to owners of manufactured home communities with small-scale grants up to \$20,000 to improve critical infrastructure in mobile home parks, grants to mobile homeowners to assist with minor home repairs under \$3,000, and grants to install new foundations for HUD-approved home installations. Applications coming soon.
- Brownfields Revitalization Fund (BRC): Federal & State funding promoting the productive reuse of sites that are currently abandoned or not fully utilized due to contamination on the site. Funding available to municipalities, non-profit and private.
- Federal grant funding to municipalities and non-profits of up to \$1M per project through the Department of Economic Development (DED) to support efforts such as affordable housing and community development. Applications coming soon.
- Neighborhood Development Partnership (yet to launch): Federal funding and resources to build new or expand existing neighborhoods. Municipalities interested in participating must have bylaws, zoning and infrastructure that supports compact development and will be able to demonstrate need, and budget commitments to support housing within or near a community center. Up to 3 municipalities will be selected to partner with funders. Application coming soon.

Resources VHFA Deploys Community Development

Multi-Family Rental Development Capital:

- Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program
- State's Bonding Authority (Loans/Debt for projects)
- State Affordable Housing Tax Credits
- Vermont Housing Investment Fund & other "Gap/Soft" Funding

Homeownership Development:

- State Affordable Housing Homeownership Tax Credits
- Missing Middle-Income Development Program
- Email: home@vhfa.org
 Phone: 802-864-5743



Solving Affordable Housing Math

Thirty 2 Bedroom Apartments - Building Cost \$12 million to construct

Income	Maximum Rent	Annual Rent Generated by 30 units	Annual Operating Costs	Debt Capacity
30% AMI	\$626	\$225,360	\$246,960	\$0
50% AMI	\$1,043	\$375,480	\$246,960	\$1.7 million
60% AMI	\$1,252	\$450,720	\$246,960	\$3 million
80% AMI	\$1,670	\$601,200	\$246,960	\$5.5 million
100% AMI	\$2,087	\$751,320	\$246,960	\$8 million
120% AMI	\$2,505	\$901,800	\$246,960	\$10 million

Application Deadline Board Meeting
November 14, 2022 January 26, 2023



Future deadlines and Board meeting posted on VHCB's website.

- Common Online application & proforma
- Site visit required for all potential projects.

DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY AND FISCAL SOUNDNESS OF THE APPLICANT, PROJECT LOCATION, MARKET DEMAND DEVELOPMENT SOURCES & USES, LONG TERM OPERATIONS, COMMITMENT TO PERMANENT AFFORDABILITY

ARPA-SFR (NON PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, MUNICIPALITIES, COOPERATIVES, AND PRIVATE DEVELOPERS MAY APPLY)

SUPPLEMENTAL STATE FUNDS (NON PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, MUNICIPALITIES AND COOPERATIVES MAY APPLY)

HOUSING RESOURCES

OTHER VHCB PROGRAMS

- Some examples...
 - Farmworker Housing Rehab Loan Program
 - Innovation Pool
 - Recovery Housing
 - Mobile Home Community Pool
 - Shared Equity Homeownership
- Resources: <u>www.vhcb.org</u>
- Contact Housing Staff to discuss your project ideas:
 - housing-funds@vhcb.org

Where's the Money?

(ARPA, IIJA/BIL, IRA)



Vermont League of Cities & Towns 2022 Town Fair

Vermont Community Broadband Board

Rob Fish, Deputy Director Vermont Community Broadband Board Robert.fish@vermont.gov 802-522-2617

https://publicservice.vermont.gov/vcbb



Why is Broadband Important

Remote Work

Telehealth

Distance Learning

Economic Development

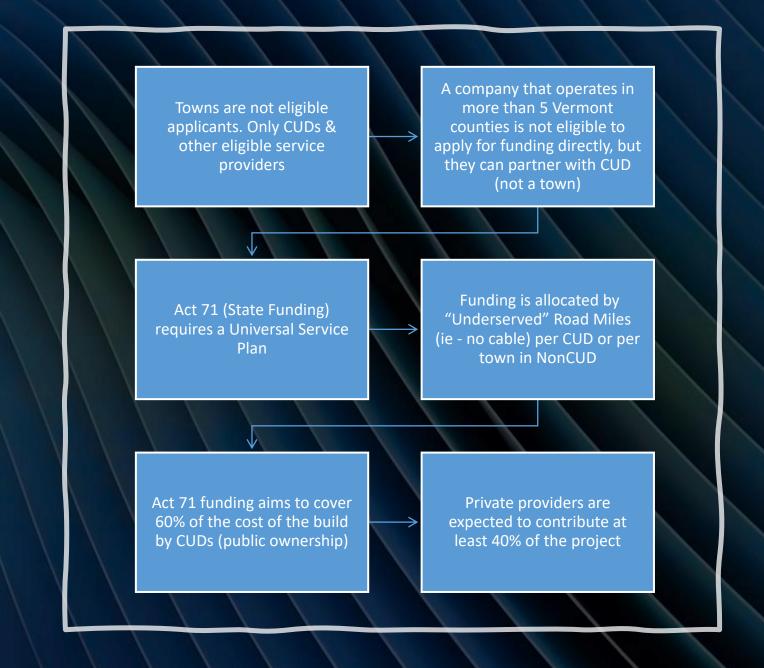
Energy Equity

Public Safety and Transportation

Agriculture

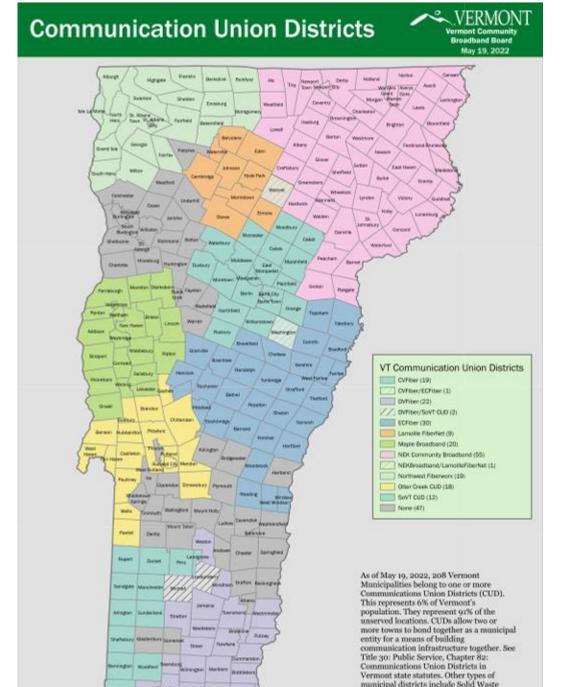
Rural Vitality – Maintaining Population

Act 71-Important Considerations



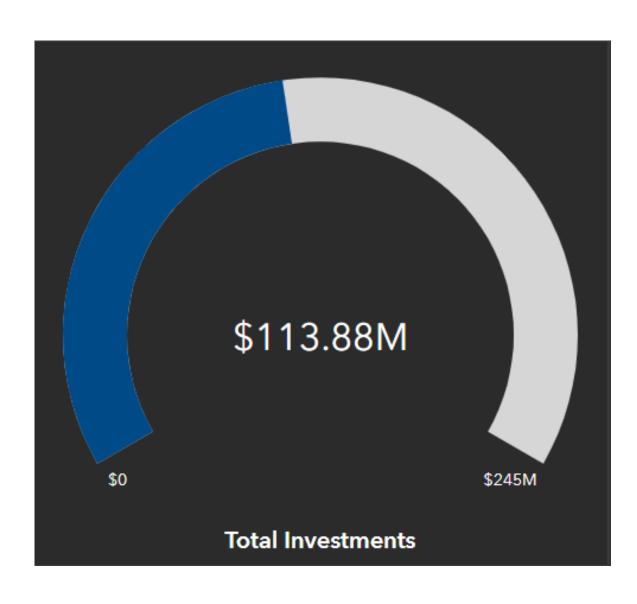
Communications Union Districts

- 9 Districts
- 208 Member Towns
- 416 Volunteer Board Representatives & Alternates
- More than half the state's population
- 92% of premises statewide without access to 25/3
- New District Forming in Chittenden County



Districts, Consolidated Sewer Districts, etc.

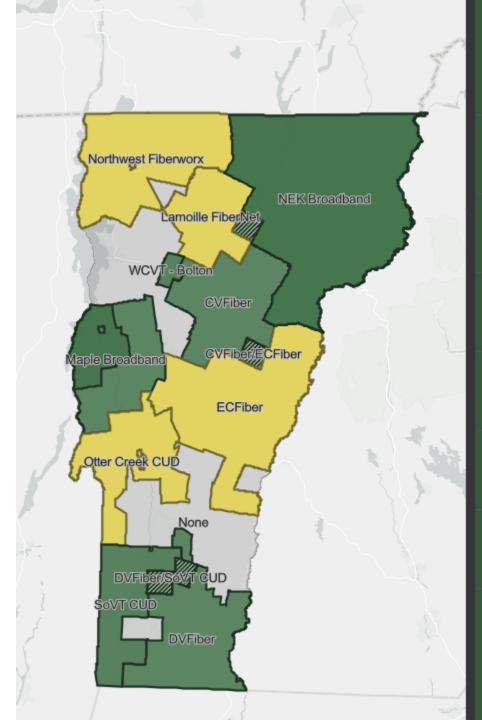
VCBB Act 71 Funding



- \$150 Million in ARPA
- \$95 Million in ARPA Capital
- ~\$100 Million Infrastructure Bill/BEAD

A LOT OF \$\$ BUT....

- Inflation
- Rising Interest Rates
- Material Shortages
- Workforce Challenges



Act 71 Construction Grants to Date

CVFiber \$12,289,273.00

DVFiber \$21,945,429.20

Maple Broadband \$8,686,000.00

NEK Broadband \$20,865,889.00

SoVT CUD \$9,009,085.00

WCVT - Bolton \$421,094.00

Maple Broadband/WCVT \$9,104,486.00 \$82.32M

Total Awarded for Construction Grants

\$22.31M

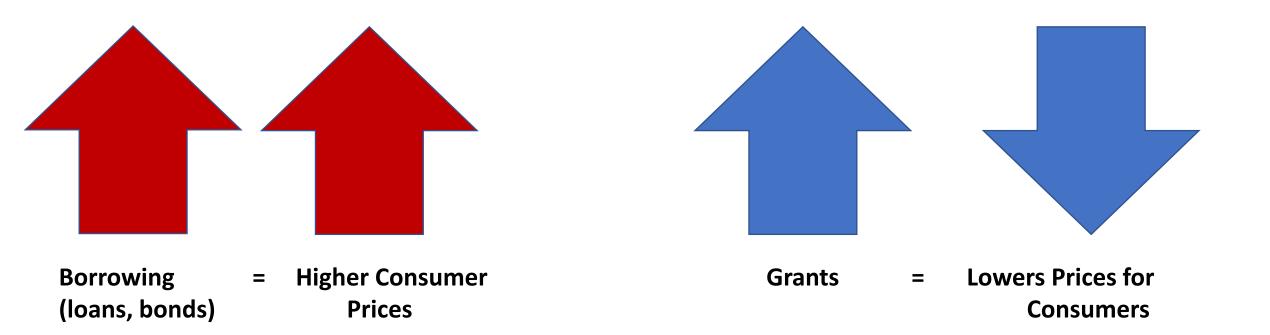
Total Awarded for Pre-Construction Grant

\$9.24M

Total Awarded for Pre-Project Materials

Funding

- Grant funding and donations provide initial funding (~ 60%)
- CUDs build and own infrastructure. Operator provides the service
- CUDs access the Revenue Bond Market to complete the build-out
- "Rinse and Repeat" Revenue bonds pay for additional build-out





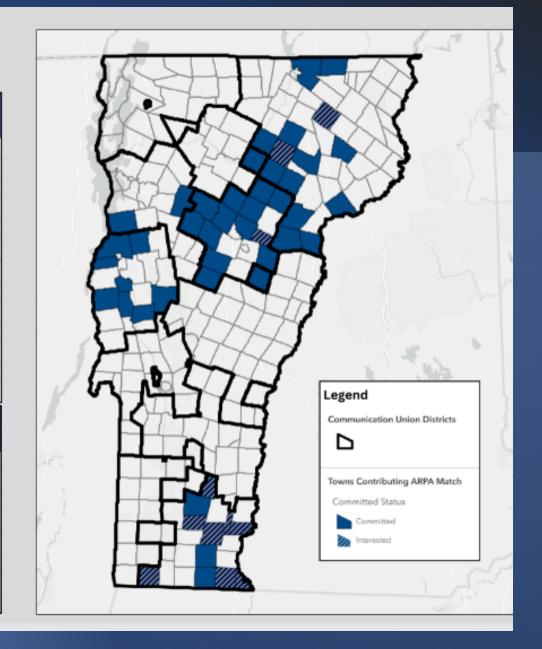
To-Date: 39 Towns Have Committed \$2,440,622

CVFiber Total Match To-Date: \$833,000				
Calais	\$200,000			
Moretown	\$50,000			
Roxbury	\$20,000			
East Montpelier	\$100,000			
Waterbury	\$50,000			
Woodbury	\$50,000			
Washington	\$20,000			
Cabot	\$50,000			
Duxbury	\$20,000			
Northfield	\$90,000			
Middlesex	\$100,000			
Worcester	\$53,000			
Orange	\$30,000			

Orange	\$30,000			
DVFiber Total Match To-Date: \$86,742				
Marlboro	\$24,642			
Jamaica	\$22,100			
Halifax	\$40,000			
WCVT Total Match To-Date: \$243,830				
Bolton	\$200,000			
Charlotte	\$43,830			

NEK Broadband Total Match To-Date: \$942,050				
Peacham	\$30,000			
Groton	\$40,800			
Rygate	\$76,000			
Walden	\$40,000			
Hardwick	\$139,800			
Derby	\$72,417			
Waterford	\$110,883			
Wheelock	\$40,900			
Holland	\$123,833			
Craftsbury	\$116,733			
Wolcott	\$52,917			
Glover	\$41,267			
Burke	\$56,500			

Maple Broadband Total Match To-Date: \$335,000				
Bridport	\$40,000			
Cornwall	\$50,000			
Ferrisburgh	\$50,000			
Monkton	\$50,000			
Panton	\$50,000			
Ripton	\$25,000			
Salsibury	\$30,000			
Weybridge	\$40,000			



Matching Program

Cornwall Select Board Chair Benjamin Marks said, "I am proud that Cornwall was able to take a leadership role in early ARPA fund allocation to Maple Broadband. The VCBB grant match doubles the good we were able to do with our initial grant and will be an important consideration for our future allocation of ARPA funds. Cornwall is underserved by the legacy DSL copperwire currently in place. I firmly believe that fiber optic service at the highest speeds is necessary for us to function in a 21st century environment. The more Maple Broadband's build-out is funded outside of the debt markets, the lower the cost will be to Cornwall residents who need this vital service."

- The VCBB will match additional contributions from town ARPA up to \$100,000
- The funds will be used during the IIJA -BEAD program for match
- Discuss with your CUD the best use of the funds
 - Accelerating construction
 - Paying for high-cost drops
 - Cover additional areas of town
 - Affordability
- More information in next few weeks

Vermont Community Broadband Board

Questions?

Rob Fish, Deputy Director Vermont Community Broadband Board Robert.fish@vermont.gov 802-522-2617

Communications Union Districts Contact info:

https://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/vermont-communications-union-districts



Where's the Money?

(ARPA, IIJA/BIL, IRA)



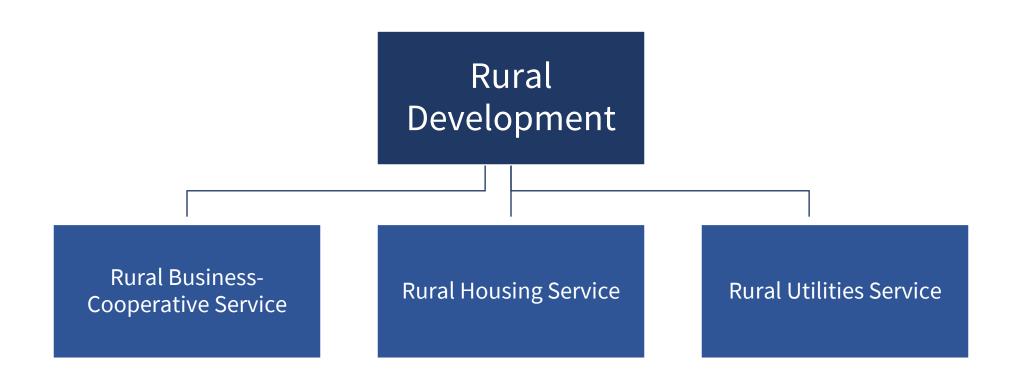
Vermont League of Cities & Towns 2022 Town Fair





Misty Sinsigalli
Area Director
USDA Rural Development

Rural Development Offices









Community Programs



Builds and modernizes essential infrastructure and services to attract businesses and improve quality of life for rural residents

Water & Environmental Programs (WEP)

Drinking Water

Wastewater

Solid Waste

Storm Water

Emergency Assistance

Predevelopment Feasibility

Vermont FY22 Obligations

\$10,670,600 Grant \$26,689,000 Loan

Applicants: Municipal and Not for Profits

Terms: 30-40 years, 100% of project funded

Rate Risk Mitigation: Fixed interest rate, changes quarterly

Capital Flexibility

5 years to use

Potentially lower rate at closing

Interim financing and project oversight required

WEP Eligibility: Areas less than 10,000 population

Funding Cycle

Applications: Oct./Nov. 2022

State Pool: December 16, 2022

National Pool: April 14, 2023

Community Programs



Builds and modernizes essential infrastructure and services to attract businesses and improve quality of life for rural residents

Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

First-Responder Vehicles & Equipment
Libraries & Community Centers
Arts & Culture Venues
Food Systems & Access
Hospitals & Health Clinics
Emergency Assistance
Schools & Daycares
Fire & Police Stations

Vermont FY22 Obligations

\$4,295,457 Grant \$2,379,000 Loan

Applicants: Municipal and Not for Profits

Terms: 40 years, 100% of project funded

Rate Risk Mitigation: Fixed interest rate, changes quarterly

Capital Flexibility

5 years to use

Potentially lower rate at closing

Interim financing and project oversight required

Co-funding opportunity with NH Municipal Bond Bank

CF Eligibility: Areas less than 20,000 population

Funding Cycle

Applications: Oct./Nov. 2022

State Pool: December 16, 2022

National Pool: April 14, 2023



Community Facilities + Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Programs

Success Story: Streetscaping and Water & Waste Infrastructure in Montgomery, VT

\$6.9 Million

CF loan from USDA RD

\$4.9 Million

WWD loan from USDA RD

\$6.1 Million

WWD grant from USDA RD

\$250,000

grant from Vermont State RLF

\$507,000

grant from No. Border Reg. Comm.

\$112,000

planning grants from USDA RD and State of VT

The NEED

Due to vibrant community planning, an eclectic mix of people and businesses, and proximity to world-class skiing, Montgomery is one of only two Vermont towns experiencing population growth. However, there are a number of environmental and public health risks associated with failing septic disposal infrastructure. Also, the town's roadways and traffic stops are not conducive to pedestrian safety, and do not allow for easy tourist accessibility to downtown businesses.

The CHALLENGE

Close to Jay Peak Resort and featuring the state's only 'Wild & Scenic' waterway—the Trout River—Montgomery is a growing hub of Vermont's tourist economy. Businesses can't accommodate growing demand, however, without centralized water and wastewater treatment. And new businesses don't have incentive to put down roots without accessible storefronts. With a median household income (MHI) below 80% of the statewide non-metropolitan MHI, the town had to find creative capital funding.

The SOLUTION

Grants and direct loans from USDA RD, accompanied by funding from other state resources, will allow Montgomery to build new wastewater service overlaid with a vibrant streetscape. With these improvements, residents will enjoy increased property values, tourism, business investment and population, shoring up the tax base and creating more economies of scale to share in the costs. In coming years, the town will leverage more state and federal grants to pay down the RD loans.

For program regulations and requirements, please go to the USDA RD WWD & CF fact sheets





\$11.9 Million

WWD direct loan from USDA RD

\$2.6 Million

WWD grant from USDA RD

\$2.3 Million

Pollution-control grant from VT DEC

2,823

Town residents served by upgraded WWT facility

452.852

Rural residents positively impacted

100%

Project cost offset from facility energy production

Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program

Success Story: Organics to Energy in Montpelier, Vermont

The NEED

Because of its age and condition, Montpelier's wastewater treatment infrastructure was inefficiently handling the demand of the area's growing population. The city needed to expand and enhance its facility's capacity and capability to keep up with demand and maintain high environmental standards. Water quality was of growing concern, and because of Vermont's universal recycling law, there was an essential need for the city to provide organic waste disposal options for regional businesses.

The CHALLENGE

Large-scale upgrades to WEP infrastructure represent a significant cost to residents, so securing diversified revenue streams to minimize the financial burden was a crucial component of the project. Also, Montpelier had laid out environmental-stewardship plans that include a net-zero energy target. The town's wastewater treatment facility, however, was among its most demanding energy consumers, posing a huge obstacle to the ambitious 21st-century goal.

The SOLUTION

Upgrades to three anaerobic digesters allow for high-strength organic waste from area farms and restaurants to run the facility and send excess power into the city grid. Operating costs, greenhouse emissions and water pollution are all greatly reduced due to methane gas capture and increased intake of organic waste. The renewable energy of the first 'Design-Build' WEP project in the VT/NH jurisdiction will offest all of its costs—a shining example for other towns to follow.

For program regulations and requirements, please go to the USDA RD fact sheet.







Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program

Success Story: A Secure, Healthy and Modern School for the Children & Families of Winooski, VT

\$57.8 Million

CF loan from USDA RD

7,267

People positively impacted

1 of 2

Vermont school districts that are growing

50%

Rough percentage of school's expansion

2.25%

30-year direct loan interest rate

\$11 million

Saved by Winooski due to historically low rate

The NEED

The Winooski Middle and High School building is an aging structure that fails to meet the 21st-century needs of Vermont's most ethnically diverse student body. One of only two Vermont school districts that are growing, Winooski has long run out of space and resources for teachers and students. Much of the property is out of code, and dealing with the symptoms of deferred maintenance is a daily challenge, as is pedestrian access to the building due to its rapidly developing city surroundings.

The CHALLENGE

As a refugee resettlement community, Winooski is home to a high number of low-income international students. To meet the programmatic and curriculum goals of their educational needs, a new school is an essential project, and recognized as such by city leaders. But state construction funding is limited. And with a population of only 7000 people, there's a heavy burden on Winooski tax payers, who already approved storm and wastewater infrastructure upgrades through a 2018 bond vote.

The SOLUTION

Winooski residents passed a bond vote to expand and rehabilitiate the school. USDA Rural Development offered \$57.8 millon in loans at historically low 2.25% interest, saving the city \$11 million over original estimates. The plans call for a cohesive, modern space and expanded campus that integrates with the community, welcoming pre-K through 12th-grade students to the doors. This renovation project will improve energy efficiency, public safety, and make the school more conducive to learning.

For program regulations and requirements, please go to the USDA RD CF fact sheets





Illustrations courtesy of ReArch Company



Community Facilities + Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Programs

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~Thank you for your time and consideration~

For questions, consultation and collaboration, please contact

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