The Better Places program will provide “placemaking” grants ranging from $5,000 to $40,000 that create, revitalize, or activate public spaces in Vermont’s designated downtowns, village centers, new town centers, or neighborhood development areas. The Better Places partnership is a place-based economic development program that:

- Activate and revitalize public spaces to build vibrant communities
- Empower residents to play an active role in shaping their community
- Increase integrity of and equitable access to green spaces
- Advance “quick build” projects which boost community confidence and local pride
- Build inclusive and welcoming spaces for social connection and recreation
- Stimulate the creative economy and provide equitable access to the arts
- Spur entrepreneurship, partnerships, and public and private investment
- Connect viable projects to individual contributors and matching funds

The program is managed by the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development in partnership with the Vermont Community Foundation and Patronicity. The program relies on the expertise and generous support of the Better Places Partners that include the Vermont Arts Council, AARP Vermont, Preservation Trust of Vermont, Local Motion, Vermont Agency of Transportation, Vermont Department of Health, and Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets.

Website: [https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/better-places](https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/better-places)

**By the Numbers [2021] Pilot Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$989K</th>
<th>63</th>
<th>54</th>
<th>$130K</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in grant funds requested</td>
<td>applications received</td>
<td>Vermont communities</td>
<td>in grant funds awarded</td>
<td>better places grants awarded</td>
</tr>
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**Pilot Grant Recipients**

Barton, Ludlow, Middlesex, Northfield, Rutland City, Springfield on the Move, White River Junction Indie Films, and Wilmington Works

For more information, please contact:
Richard Amore: richard.amore@vermont.gov
802.585.0061
Better Places
Enabling and Empowering Vermonters to Create Places they Love and Feel Connected to.

Locally-Driven Placemaking Projects to Rebuild Community Life and Support Economic Recovery

- Public Art
- Demonstration Projects
- Pop-Up Galleries
- Farmers Markets
- Pocket Parks
- Community Centers
- Walking and Biking Trails
- Downtown and Village Events
- Parklets