

## Bringing Communities Together in Public Spaces to Spark Economic Recovery



### Program Overview

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>

### By the Numbers [2021] Pilot Program

# \$989K

in grant  
funds requested

# 63

applications  
received

# 54

Vermont  
communities

# \$130K

in grant  
funds awarded

# 8

better places  
grants awarded

### 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:  
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# Better Places

Enabling and Empowering Vermonters to Create Places they Love and Feel Connected to.

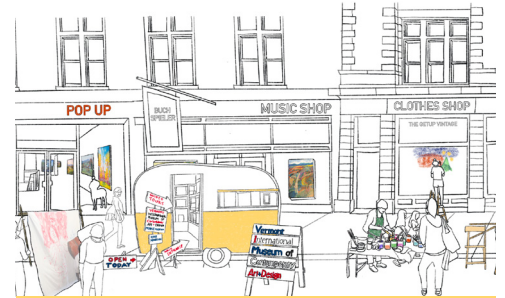
Locally-Driven Placemaking Projects to Rebuild Community Life and Support Economic Recovery



Public Art



Demonstration Projects



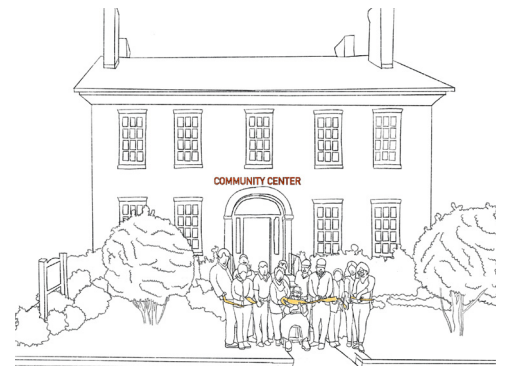
Pop-Up Galleries



Farmers Markets



Pocket Parks



Community Centers



Walking and Biking Trails



Downtown and Village Events



Parklets

