Better Connections

Program Overview



The Better Connections Program is a competitive grant program representing an interagency partnership between the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD). Additional support is provided by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Vermont Department of Health (VDH).

The program provides technical assistance and planning funds to <u>awarded communities</u> to align state and local investments targeted at increasing transportation options, improving water quality, public health, and economic vitality in Vermont's community centers. Municipalities bi-annually compete for approximately \$260,000 in project funds.

Grant Recipients

2015 - Warren/Waitsfield, Vergennes and West Rutland/Town of Rutland

2016 - Chester, Montpelier, and Springfield

2017 - Brighton, St. Albans, and Windsor

2018 - Danville, Enosburgh, and Hyde Park

2019 - Fairlee, Middlebury, and Northfield

2021 - Bethel, Lyndonville, and Poultney

2023 - Brattleboro, East Hardwick, and West Windsor

By the Numbers [2015-2023]



\$3.7 m in grant funds requested



\$1.6 m in grant funds awarded



\$199,500 in local match funds



21 Better Connections grants awarded

Collaboration Leads to Results

"The Better Connections program is critical because it is one of the few funding sources that gives people the resources to really engage the community and build consensus. People have always wanted to do it but there haven't been the resources."

-Jason Rasmussen, Mount Ascutney Regional Commission







