

# FY23 Municipal Planning Grant Projects

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[Municipal Planning Grants](#) support local planning and community revitalization initiatives that ready projects for implementation, build strong communities and improve Vermont's quality of life. Grants are awarded annually and administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Since 1998, the program has provided over \$14 million to 237 cities and towns. This year, \$598,997 was awarded to 29 municipalities including 1 consortium. The winning FY23 projects are described below.

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**Barre City** will create a streetscape and downtown physical improvement plan for its historic center and designated downtown -- with a focus on Elm, Summer, Merchant, and other downtown side streets. For more information, contact Janet Shatney, [ppadirector@barrecity.org](mailto:ppadirector@barrecity.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$25,000  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$18,000

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**Bennington** will lead a multifaceted public engagement process with support from planning, diversity, equity and inclusion consultants for thematic town plan updates. For more information, contact Daniel Monks, [dmonks@benningtonvt.org](mailto:dmonks@benningtonvt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$23,510  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$21,159

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**Bradford** will identify gaps in housing and remove barriers to sustainable economic development and growth in Bradford, with a special focus on housing in the core area served by water and sewer. For more information, contact Marcey Carver, [mqc0526@gmail.com](mailto:mqc0526@gmail.com).

**Total Project Cost:** \$23,000  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$20,700

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**Brandon** is partnering with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission on a project to expand an interactive map of the region's cultural, historical, and recreational assets to facilitate local tourism and support connected communities. For more information, contact Maggie O'Brien, [maggie@rutlandrpc.org](mailto:maggie@rutlandrpc.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$26,400  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$23,760

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**Cavendish** will update its capital budget and program to include new 2020 town plan goals, recognize changes in existing conditions, and ensure that budgets reflect capital improvement priorities. For more information, contact Martha Harrison, [mharrison@marcvt.org](mailto:mharrison@marcvt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$17,280  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$15,552

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**Craftsbury** will update its town plan to connect Craftsbury by integrating prior plans and developing a shared vision for village vitality, recreation, and open space. For more information, contact Alison Low, [alow@nvda.net](mailto:alow@nvda.net).

**Total Project Cost:** \$16,005  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$14,405

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**Dover** will complete a Town Plan update with a focus on strengthening the housing section of the plan to support additional affordable housing development in the community. For more information, contact Matthew Bachler, [mbachler@windhamregional.org](mailto:mbachler@windhamregional.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$28,205

**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$25,384

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**Ferrisburgh** will engage the community to create a recreational trail network expansion plan. For more information, contact Steven True, [steven.true@ferrisburghvt.org](mailto:steven.true@ferrisburghvt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$20,314

**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$18,283

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**Glover** will implement plans to improve the Town Green by moving community priorities -- like accessibility and landscaping improvements for community events -- into design and engineering, so they are shovel-ready for construction funding. For more information, contact Stephen Lowe, [stephen.lowe@paragon-c.com](mailto:stephen.lowe@paragon-c.com).

**Total Project Cost:** \$29,325

**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$26,392

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**Grand Isle** will complete a substantial update to the Grand Isle Municipal Plan, focusing on community engagement to build a vision for a municipal center on town land in the village center. For more information, contact Emily Clark, [emily.plancom.grandislevt@gmail.com](mailto:emily.plancom.grandislevt@gmail.com).

**Total Project Cost:** \$19,800

**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$17,820

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**Hartford** will update the town plan's economic development chapter, conduct extensive public process to develop a vision, goals, strategies and actions for a strong local economy. For more information, contact Lori Hirshfield, [lhirshfield@hartford-vt.org](mailto:lhirshfield@hartford-vt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$20,000

**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$18,000

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**Highgate** will implement a redevelopment plan for the re-use and reconstruction of a historical building for new commercial uses on a municipally owned property in the village center. For more information, contact Heidi Britch-Valenta, [hbvalenta@highgatevt.org](mailto:hbvalenta@highgatevt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$17,845

**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$16,000

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**Londonderry** will create a Main Street Study & Master Plan for the South Village, exploring current conditions, community attitudes, realistic models and next steps for phased revitalization and resilience. For more information, contact Sharon Crossman, [scrossman295@gmail.com](mailto:scrossman295@gmail.com).

**Total Project Cost:** \$26,360

**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$22,000

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**Ludlow** will create a housing action plan by collecting and analyzing data, identifying needs, researching implementation tools, and listing priority actions to address severe housing gaps. For more information, contact Martha Harrison, [mharrison@marcvt.org](mailto:mharrison@marcvt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$20,635

**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$18,571

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**Lyndon, Brighton, Burke and St. Johnsbury** are working in partnership with Northeastern Vermont Development Association to develop a regional lodging needs assessment and feasibility study, which will provide a framework to site and develop lodging accommodations to sustainably support the region's growing recreational economy. For more information, contact Anne McLean, [amclean@nvda.net](mailto:amclean@nvda.net).

**Total Project Cost:** \$44,000  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$39,600

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**Manchester** will create an action-oriented town plan with measurable milestones to guide the community and meet current and future needs. For more information, contact Janet Hurley, [jhurley@bcrcvt.org](mailto:jhurley@bcrcvt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$25,800  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$23,220

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**Middlesex** will develop an action plan for a safe and functioning town hall that meets community needs and supports village center vitality. For more information, contact Liz Scharf, [liz.scharf@middlesexvermont.org](mailto:liz.scharf@middlesexvermont.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$28,537  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$25,680

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**Montgomery** will update its town plan with a focus on affordable housing, complete streets and connectivity, and conservation of natural resources. For more information, contact Kiley Deuso, [townclerk@richfordvt.org](mailto:townclerk@richfordvt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$18,284  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$16,456

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**Montpelier** will complete the City's pavement and tree inventories and assessments to develop an effective pavement and tree management schedule within the City's capital improvement program. For more information, contact Michael Miller, [mmiller@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:mmiller@montpelier-vt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$45,300  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$25,000

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**Newbury** will update its town plan to address statutory requirements and housing shortages, as well as enhance energy planning. For more information, contact Sydney Steinle, [ssteinle@trorc.org](mailto:ssteinle@trorc.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$14,594  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$13,134

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**Pownal** will develop a physical improvements plan to enhance the Pownal Center Village with a primary emphasis on Center Street Park and area around the new Town Office. For more information, contact Tara Parks, [executive.assistant@townofpownal.org](mailto:executive.assistant@townofpownal.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$20,500  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$18,450

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**Richford's** Recreation Committee will develop a master plan and preliminary engineering for a walking trail network to increase safe recreational opportunities in Richford. For more information, contact Kiley Deuso, [townclerk@richfordvt.org](mailto:townclerk@richfordvt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$26,850  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$24,165

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**South Burlington** will develop a scalable toolkit to improve planning outreach equity by reaching underrepresented groups, enhancing response methods, and building community engagement. For more information, contact Paul Conner, [pconner@sburl.com](mailto:pconner@sburl.com).

**Total Project Cost:** \$28,900  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$26,000

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**St. Albans Town** will redevelop a 2.2-acre parcel of lakefront property to expand recreational opportunities in the designated village center and reduce environmental and safety issues in the area. For more information, contact Jennifer Gray, [j.gray@stalbanstown.com](mailto:j.gray@stalbanstown.com).

**Total Project Cost:** \$20,000  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$18,000

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**Vershire** will comprehensively review and revise the town plan's policies for compliance with statutory requirements and to ensure future development reflects Vershire's vision for the future. For more information, contact Gene Craft, [clerk-treasurer@vershirevt.org](mailto:clerk-treasurer@vershirevt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$11,330  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$10,197

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**Waltham** will revise its town plan for housing and conservation -- increasing housing opportunities, analyzing unique natural resources, and developing forest block and habitat corridor maps. For more information, contact katie Raycroft-Meyer, [kraycroftmeyer@acrpc.org](mailto:kraycroftmeyer@acrpc.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$16,861  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$15,175

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**Weston** will prepare a town plan update to address housing affordability, land use, and pedestrian concerns in the village -- coordinating priorities into a comprehensive implementation plan. For more information, contact Matthew Bachler, [mbachler@windhamregional.org](mailto:mbachler@windhamregional.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$26,030  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$23,427

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**Williston** will lead a robust public engagement process for the 2025 Town Plan that includes a broad array of outreach methods, like in-person/virtual events, an interactive website, surveys, activities with school classes and pop-up engagement at community events. For more information, contact Melinda Scott, [mscott@willistonvt.org](mailto:mscott@willistonvt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$32,050  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$26,400

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**Wolcott** will study the historic schoolhouse site for successful re-use by evaluating necessary infrastructure -- such as parking, utilities, seating, access and stormwater. For more information, contact Salvador Morales, [salvador@lcpcvt.org](mailto:salvador@lcpcvt.org).

**Total Project Cost:** \$20,075  
**Grant Funds Awarded:** \$18,067

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**State Award Funding Totals: \$598,997**