State Designation Programs

Program Overview



The Department of Housing and Community Development manages the state designation programs – downtowns, village centers, new town centers, growth centers and neighborhood development areas. These programs work together to provide incentives, align policies and give communities the technical assistance needed to encourage new development and redevelopment. The program incentives are for both the public and private sector within the designated area, including tax credits for historic building rehabilitations and code improvements, permitting benefits for new housing, funding for transportation-related public improvements, and priority consideration for various state grant programs.

24 designated downtowns 235 designated village centers

new town centers neighborhood development areas

6 growth centers











"Through designation, we've had access to assistance and resources that have transformed our community and attracted \$70 million in private investment."

Chip Sawyer, Director of Planning and Development, City of St. Albans

