

Program Benefits

The Vermont village center designation program supports local revitalization efforts across the state by providing technical assistance and state funding to help designated municipalities build strong communities. Once designated, the community will be eligible for the following benefits:

Technical Assistance

- Technical assistance provided by the state to support local village revitalization and planning efforts.

Downtown and Village Center Tax Credits

10% Historic Tax Credits

- Available as an add-on to approved Federal Historic Tax Credit projects.
- Eligible costs include interior and exterior improvements, code compliance, plumbing and electrical upgrades.

25% Historic Tax Credits

- Eligible facade work up to \$25,000.

50% Code Improvement Tax Credits

- Available for up to \$50,000 each for sprinkler systems; up to \$75,000 for elevators; and \$12,000 for lifts.
- Eligible code work includes ADA modifications, electrical, fire safety, or plumbing up to \$100,000.

50% Flood Mitigation Credit

- Available for up to \$100,000 for structural and non-structural upgrades to reduce or eliminate flood damage

Priority Consideration for State Grants

- Priority consideration for various ACCD, VTrans and ANR grants and incentives including, ACCD's Municipal Planning Grants, State Historic Preservation grants, Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) grants, VTrans Bike/Ped and Transportation Alternatives grants, Northern Border Regional Commission Grants, ANR Water and Wastewater subsidies and loans, and various other state grants and resources.

Eligible for Better Places placemaking grants

- Eligible to apply for the Vermont Better Places placemaking grants to create, revitalize, or activate public spaces in the designated village center

Priority Consideration by State Building And General Services (BGS)

- Priority site consideration by the State Building and General Services (BGS) when leasing or constructing buildings.

Neighborhood Development Area (NDA) Eligibility

- Communities may also designate Neighborhood Development Areas within 1/4 mile from the designated village center. Qualified projects are:
 - Exempt from Act 250 regulations for [Priority Housing Projects](#) and projects not qualifying for the exemption receive a 50% discount on application fees.
 - Exemption from the land gains tax for housing units sold.
 - Eligible for reduced state permit fees.

For more information, please contact:

Natalie Elvidge: natalie.elvidge@vermont.gov or 802.261.0681

Website: <http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/designation-programs/village-centers>