

State of Vermont
Department of Housing and Community Development
National Life Building – North [phone] 802-828-3211
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

Agency of Commerce and Community Development

Attachment # 8

November 28, 2023

Ture Nelson, Interim Town Administrator 108 Shed Road Berlin, VT 05602

RE: 07110-IG-2020-Berlin-67; Fox Run

VCDP Implementation Grant Support Letter

Dear Mr. Nelson:

The Department of Housing and Community Development (Department) has supported the Town of Berlin and more specifically, the Fox Run Project, through a funding award and designation status.

Within the Department, the Community Planning + Revitalization Team has assisted the Town through the New Town Center Designation process, and on June 27, 2022, the Town received its determination letter. The New Town Center designation confers and enables benefits to support this project development in the center.

Through the Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP), the Department has supported the Town with a \$1,000,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award for the Fox Run Project. The \$1,000,000 award will be split between new construction of 30 units of affordable housing and the road-infrastructure work needed to support the housing. VCDP expects \$490,000 of the award to be allocated towards the redesign of the mall access road from Route 62 to Walmart. The road is planned to be rebuilt in the current location and meet current Town Road Standards. The VCDP grant is currently in draft form.

The Department has allocated a number of resources to this project, including staff time and valuable CDBG funding. Our hope is to see the Fox Run project be successful with the construction of 30 new units of affordable housing and the street work including infrastructure that is needed to support the affordable housing units, and to have the New Town Center thrive as it continues to progress through this designation program.

If there are any questions or any more information needed about the Department's support to the Town of Berlin and Fox Run, please contact DHCD Staff cc'd below.

Sincerely,

Alex Farrell, Commissioner

Alex Farrell

Department of Housing and Community Development

cc: Ann Karlene Kroll, Director of Federal Programs, <u>Annkarlene.kroll@vermont.gov</u>
Julia Connell, Community Development Specialist, <u>Julia.connell@vermont.gov</u>

