

Announcement of FY22 VOREC Community Grant Program Awards

ADDISON COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$159,978	<i>City of Vergennes</i> Building an accessible 2,330-foot-long connector trail with wetland boardwalk. The multi-modal trail will start at the high school and be a pedestrian-friendly way for community members to frequent local businesses.

BENNINGTON COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$375,000	<i>Town of Pownal</i> Creating better community access to a 700+ acre recreation area and trail network by building trailhead parking and an informational kiosk, constructing a pedestrian bridge, installing trail blazes and maps for wayfinding, improving trails, and developing an ongoing trail management plan.

CALEDONIA COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$128,000	<i>Town of St. Johnsbury</i> Developing signage and wayfinding to enhance opportunities for bikers and pedestrians to use the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT). Starting a bike lending library and free / low-cost bike, snowshoe, and exercise programming. Improvements will be promoted by the Chamber through a four-season marketing campaign.
\$225,000	<i>Town of Groton</i> Upgrading a town-owned recreational trail that connects to Groton State Forest and the Cross Vermont Trail. Building a parking area and trailhead for it near the Village, with improved signage along the trail. Developing a master plan for a future greenspace and bridge that will directly connect the trail to the Village.

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$200,000	<p><i>Town of Hardwick</i></p> <p>Designing and engineering for new Gateway Park. Reconstructing historic pedestrian bridge connecting community park to downtown center. Supporting Outdoor Recreation Working Group to assist local organizations, develop a marketing plan and building regional partnerships.</p>
\$97,650	<p><i>Town of Danville</i></p> <p>Creating a transportation and recreation hub in the former Train Station. The hub will offer amenities, including ADA bathrooms, and information to encourage Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) users to explore additional outdoor recreation attractions and local businesses within a 10-mile radius.</p>

CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$300,000	<p><i>City of Burlington</i></p> <p>Piloting no-cost gear and tool rentals, providing sailing camp scholarships to youth who identify as BIPOC, and building an urban bike park and wetlands walk.</p>

GRAND ISLE COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$99,726	<p><i>Lake Champlain Economic Development Corporation (Town of South Hero)</i></p> <p>Collaborating with partners in South Hero to develop a plan for safe and connected biking and walking routes connected to the increase in traffic experienced from the Local Motion Bike Ferry. Implementing a new website portal and interactive map, signage, safety outreach & education, and organizing events.</p>

LAMOILLE COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$197,900	<p><i>Trust for Public Land (Town of Wolcott)</i></p> <p>Building a multi-use trail network in the Town of Wolcott’s new Town Forest, including installing trail signage, a network map, and trailhead infrastructure. Trail network will provide a safe route between the Elementary school, recreation field and the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT).</p>

ORLEANS COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$200,000	<p><i>Sterling College (Town of Craftsbury)</i></p> <p>Building a public-facing community wellness center and outdoor recreation hub to serve as a wayfinding point at the confluence of three trail systems in Craftsbury Village. Developing wayfinding and signage for the trails system, renovating an existing building to provide space for the center which includes space for exercise including a climbing gym, recreation programming and workshops, and equipment rentals.</p>
\$173,000	<p><i>Town of Derby</i></p> <p>The Derby Fish & Game Club is fixing a dam that holds up a beloved fishing pond. The pond is a popular place for children to learn how to fish and for seniors with accessibility issues to enjoy fishing. Improving the accessibility of both the parking area and cement platform for fishing around the dam.</p>

RUTLAND COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$75,000	<p><i>Town of Killington</i></p> <p>Building a 3.4-mile single track cross-country mountain bike trail, which extends in the direction of the Velomont trail and is within the town’s existing trail network.</p>
\$80,212	<p><i>Town of Pawlet (Town of Rupert)</i></p> <p>West Pawlet and the Town of Rupert are alleviating existing parking issues near the D&H Rail Trail by designating new parking areas and improving existing parking lots.</p>

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$213,000	<p><i>City of Montpelier</i></p> <p>Strengthening downtown connection to existing outdoor recreation assets through the construction of two connector trails and design of an urban Whitewater Park. The Montpelier Youth Conservation Corps will employ young people of all backgrounds to build the connector trails. Creating promotional videos and an adventure guide that will highlight the City’s connection to the outdoors.</p>
\$62,500	<p><i>Town of Cabot</i></p> <p>Building connections between the Village of Cabot, the Town’s four-season trail network, the Cross Vermont Trail and the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT). Making infrastructure improvements to enhance access and wayfinding, purchasing equipment to support ongoing maintenance, and building capacity for Trails Committee to be a sustainable and effective organization.</p>
\$408,019	<p><i>Mad River Valley Recreation District</i></p> <p>Developing a recreation hub including a welcome center with parking and restrooms. The hub will act as a jump off point for the surrounding trails, including Mad River Riders’ 60+ mile trail network which connects to Camel’s Hump State Forest. The project will also build a new pedestrian/bike bridge across the Mill Brook with a new crosswalk across VT 100 to link the hub to Waitsfield’s walkable downtown.</p>
\$122,965	<p><i>Town of Northfield and Northfield Conservation Commission</i></p> <p>Improving Town Forest by restoring a trail that was damaged during Hurricane Irene, removing invasive species, developing and implementing a wayfinding masterplan that will connect the trail to town, installing trailhead kiosks with maps, designating nearby parking spaces for trail users, and expanding outdoor gear lending at the local public library.</p>

WINDHAM COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$62,000	<p><i>Vermont Museum of Natural History (Town of Marlboro)</i> Designing and building a trail network and community outdoor recreation & education center by expanded parking, kiosks and trail signage, and outdoor gear rentals. The center will be a space for the museum and other local organizations to offer nature-based programming.</p>

WINDSOR COUNTY

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description
\$331,809	<p><i>Town of Bethel</i> Planning and building an interconnected network of parks, greenways, and multi-use trails. Upgrading trails and developing improved mapping / signage to enhance the accessibility of the network, including community outreach to understand signage needs. Developing better local and regional partnerships.</p>
\$262,088	<p><i>Ascutney Outdoors (Town of West Windsor)</i> Ascutney Outdoors, Ascutney Trails Association, and the town of West Windsor are collaborating to build a trail between the Village and the mountain, construct new mountain bike trails at the ski area, upgrade the rope tow, provide free equipment rentals for the children's ski program, and strengthen marketing efforts.</p>
\$190,500	<p><i>Town of Ludlow</i> Redeveloping the Dorsey Park Skatepark, which will enable the town to host camps and Okemo Mountain School to do off-season training.</p>

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Award	Municipality / non-profit organization project description	Municipalities
\$150,000	<p><i>Vermont Outdoor Business Association</i> Providing technical assistance to outdoor recreation businesses in Washington, Caledonia, and Rutland Counties. Partnering with outdoor recreation organizations, trail builders, and education institutions to develop professional training programs based on needs identified by partner businesses in target communities. Professionals who graduate from these programs would be prime candidates for hire by partner businesses.</p>	<p>Towns of St. Johnsbury, Lyndon, Montpelier, Randolph, Poultney, Killington, and Castleton</p>
\$293,478	<p><i>Vermont River Conservancy (White River Partnership)</i> The Vermont River Conservancy and White River Partnership are collaborating to improve white water access infrastructure at multiple sites, coordinate site stewardship efforts, and pilot the Vermont River Access Collaborative. This network will allow for improved resource and information sharing with the goal of increasing access to flowing water for all.</p>	<p>Towns of Sharon, Richmond and Statewide</p>
\$141,488	<p><i>Town of Randolph (VT Huts Association)</i> Collaborating with Vermont Huts Association to complete a master planning process for the Velomont Trail. Developing trail wayfinding and signage.</p>	<p>Town of Randolph, Statewide</p>