



Vermont Community Development Association

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Dear VCDA Members, Colleagues and Friends,

The Vermont Community Development Association (VCDA) has worked to bring organizations and entities together and provide valuable information related to a variety of community development topics. With our bi-annual conferences, our organization has the unique capacity to bring together community leaders and members to address critical needs in our state.

The mission of VCDA is to build a network of effective community development professionals by offering unique, targeted, and timely educational forums that provide the tools to improve the quality of life in Vermont communities. Vermont communities have shown resilience over the last few years as climate disasters have been experienced across the state. It is more important now than ever for communities and community members to have access to the resources that VCDA provides to its members.

Our economic progress is often considered the “backbone” of a community. This year’s Spring Conference in Hardwick looked at how municipalities can be the drivers of development in their local economy. From learning about the public-private partnership that has led to the Hardwick Yellow Barn project, to seeing how pedestrian and bike infrastructure can bring more business downtown, to hearing about the need for additional capacity at the municipal level, conference attendees were able to gain knowledge and practical tools to bring back to their own communities and join forces with their municipalities in order to achieve shared goals.

Our next conference will be a Winter Conference on January 15, 2025 in St. Albans. This Winter conference titled “Navigating Funding in a Post-Pandemic World” will focus on how communities and projects can access funding, give a look into what resources are out there, and go over the technical assistance needs. St. Albans is a great example of a community that has taken advantage of funding resources – from state dollars to federal funds to becoming a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district for leveraging private investment. This is one conference you do not want to miss! Come learn how you can transform your community!

We rely on members and supporters like you to build such impactful and informative events centered around critical Vermont community development topics. **This is why we are writing today to ask you to RENEW or JOIN as a VCDA Member to support these efforts in 2025.**

Whether you are an individual, a student, a municipality, small organization, or large organization with more than ten staff, VCDA has a membership option for YOU! [Click here to join or renew your membership with VCDA using our Joinit platform.](#)

If you have questions or need additional information on membership, please contact Christine Golden at info@vtcda.org, one of the board members, or visit VCDA’s website: <https://www.vtcda.org/>.

We hope we can count on your support in 2025!

The VCDA Board