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### **State Awards More Than \$200,000 in Planning Funds to Brattleboro, East Hardwick, and West Windsor**

Barre, Vt. – The Agency of Transportation (AOT), the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD), and the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) today announced that \$258,000 in funding has been awarded to Brattleboro, East Hardwick, and West Windsor through the Better Connections Grant Program, which seeks to towns build stronger communities that are more livable and walkable.

“This collaborative work with our State partners enables Vermont communities to plan and grow in a thoughtful, well-coordinated way to integrate transportation, land-use planning, and economic development decision-making,” said Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn.

“This program’s focus on community-driven engagement empowers local leaders to plan transportation investments that are more equitable to all users, improve public health, revitalize communities, and clean our waters,” said Housing and Community Development Commissioner Josh Hanford.

#### **2023 Awarded Projects:**

- The Town of Brattleboro will create an action plan to improve the Canal Street Corridor with pedestrian and safety improvements, strengthen connections to their local assets, and incorporate green infrastructure to improve water quality along the corridor. (Sue Fillion, Town of Brattleboro, [sfillion@brattleboro.org](mailto:sfillion@brattleboro.org))
- The Town of Hardwick will create a revitalization plan for East Hardwick village that will guide future economic development, land use, and transportation infrastructure investments and provide better connections to the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. (David Upson, Town of Hardwick, [david.upson@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:david.upson@hardwickvt.gov))
- The Town of West Windsor will create a master plan to better connect the village to Mount Ascutney by enhancing the streetscape, exploring redevelopment opportunities, and improving the economic vitality of the village. (Martha Harrison, Mount Ascutney Regional Commission, [mharrison@marcvt.org](mailto:mharrison@marcvt.org) )

For more information, contact Matthew Arancio or Richard Amore (contact information above) and visit the [Better Connections website](#).