

2026 Southern Vermont CEDS & RPP Project Submission Form

Each year, regional partners BDCC and BCRC issue a call for projects as part of two coordinated regional processes: the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) update and the Regional Priority Project (RPP) program.

To participate, you'll complete a project submission form describing your project and how it aligns with regional goals outlined in the 2024–2029 Southern Vermont CEDS.

All complete project submissions received by Friday, September 18, 2026 will be included in the annual CEDS update.

Projects that complete the additional Regional Priority Project (RPP) questions will also be considered for designation as Regional Priority Projects (RPPs), which are implementation-ready projects prioritized for funding. Final regional selections are made by the RPP Committee, with projects advanced for inclusion in the statewide RPP process. RPPs will be announced on Thursday, December 15, 2026.

Completing the RPP questions is required for consideration for inclusion on the Regional Priority Project list. These questions are more detailed, as selected projects are typically further along in development and positioned for implementation or funding. Projects selected for this list will receive a special highlight in the annual CEDS update as well as being communicated to state and federal funding partners.

See <https://www.sovermontzone.com/ceds-rpp-project-submission> for FAQs and a link to register for our informational webinar on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, which will walk through the submission process and answer questions.

Have additional questions? Reach out to the contacts at the bottom of the form

Contact Information & Location

Project Name *

Project Submission Contact *

Project Contact Email *

Organization/Entity Completing Project ***Address****Principal of Organization/Entity Completing Project**

If different from project submitter

Please select the geographic region your project encompasses *

- ☒ A Single Town In Bennington County
- ☐ Multiple Towns in both regions but not all of Southern Vermont
- ☐ A Single Town in the Windham Region
- ☐ Bennington County
- ☐ Multiple Towns in Bennington County
- ☐ Windham Region
- ☐ Multiple Towns in the Windham Region
- ☐ Southern Vermont

Do you want to have your project considered for inclusion in the annual RDC Priority Project (RPP) list?

- ☒ Yes ☐ Maybe ☐ No

Regional Project Prioritization (RPP) lists are developed annually by Regional Development Corporations (RDCs) to identify projects of priority and importance in the region using input from Regional Planning Commissions, municipalities, partners, and communities. The State of Vermont hopes that the information provided in the Regional Project Prioritization lists will prove useful when considering federal and state funding sources and community planning processes.

Project Category

Please identify the category/subcategory that best describes your project. **Note: if you leave this section blank, a category will be chosen by the CEDS Project collection staff at BDCC/BCRC.**

Infrastructure

- ☐ Water/Wastewater
- ☐ Broadband
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Public Facility
- ☐

General Development

- ☐ Industrial
- ☐ Commercial
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Mixed Residential/Commercial
- ☐ Site/Facility Development for Specific Business
- ☐ Redevelopment
- ☐

Workforce or Business Development

- ☐ Workforce Development
- ☐ Business Development
- ☐

Other Category not Represented

Project Description

Brief Project Description *

Character Limit 800

Briefly describe your project in 2-4 sentences. Include the location of your project, if different from the organizational address.

Project Purpose and Benefit *

Character limit: 800

Describe the purpose and benefits to the community/region of the project.

Partners and Investors *

Character limit: 800

List all partners or investors in your project. (As a public document, please do not provide any confidential information.)

If you selected "yes" for RPP consideration, you will be able to upload more detailed information on funding sources below.

Project Stage *

- ☐ Stage 1: Exploratory – You have established goals and objectives but have not yet fully established the project scope. Projects in this stage are often focused on feasibility.
- ☐ Stage 2: Preliminary – you have determined a project's scope and budget. Projects in this stage are focused on gathering support and marshaling resources.
- ☐ Stage 3: Program implementation – you are ready to start the outward-facing work or have recently begun. Projects in this stage are 'shovel ready' or already underway.
- ☐ Stage 4: Operational maintenance – projects in this phase are underway, and looking to extend a program's services or offerings.

Project Timeline & Milestones *

Character limit: 1200

Describe the overall project timeline, the current stage of the project, and any impediments to proceeding. Include factors such as site control, engineering and design, financing/funding identification and commitment, and permitting required/whether or not permits are in progress or in place. Clearly identify where the project is in the timeline and what work remains.

Alternatively, you may upload a document with this information.

Project Timeline & Milestones Document Upload (optional)

Upload

or drag files here.

Upload project Timeline, Milestones, and Status document if desired

Alignment with CEDS Objectives

Check all boxes that apply to your project and provide a brief explanation.

**CEDS Objective #1: Address Critical Population
Needs for the Future ***

- ☐ 1A. Invest in community assets that are attractive to young people
- ☐ 1B. Create programs to train, retain, and attract people with needed skills
- ☐ 1C. Foster population growth that supports regional workforce and economic alignment
- ☐ 1D. Continue to support policies that improve and strengthen the care and education system
- ☐ Other (My project addresses the objective but does not fall under a strategy listed)
- ☒ Not Applicable

**CEDS Objective #2: Empower Businesses to Thrive
Long-Term ***

- ☐ 2A. Enhance business potential for growth
- ☐ 2B. Strengthen the Southern Vermont entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem
- ☐ 2C. Establish a collaborative regional workforce development system
- ☐ 2D. Increase access to industrial and commercial space
- ☐ Other (My project addresses the objective but does not fall under a strategy listed)
- ☐ Not Applicable

CEDS Objective #3: Foster Resilient, Adaptable Communities *

- ☐ 3A. Invest in infrastructure and system upgrades to adapt to environmental impacts
- ☐ 3B. Increase housing options for all
- ☐ 3C. Improve civic and community engagement
- ☐ 3D. Reinforce Southern Vermont's recreation and cultural opportunities
- ☐ Other (My project addresses the objective but does not fall under a strategy listed)
- ☐ Not Applicable

CEDS Objective #4: Promote Greater Regional Economic Development Alignment *

- ☐ 4A. Create and strengthen structures to support CEDS implementation
- ☐ 4B. Work regionally to address critical economic development issues
- ☐ Other (My project addresses the objective but does not fall under a strategy listed)
- ☐ Not Applicable

Project Cost, Budget, and Funding Sources

Total Project Cost

Identified Funding Gap

Project Budget *

Character limit: 1200

Provide the total project cost, and where possible describe the amount of funds/financing that have been identified or received, and any funding gaps.

Alternatively, you may upload a document with this information. Please note that a detailed budget upload is required for RPP consideration. A draft may be uploaded, with final documents to be submitted by 9/19.

Project Budget File Upload

Upload

or drag files here.

Allowed file types: pdf, xls, xlsx.

If you do not already have a budget document, you may copy and use this [project budget template](#).

Job Creation

Your project is not required to create jobs to be included in the RPP ranking, but projects that create new, high-paying jobs with good benefits have the potential to score higher.

Permanent jobs to be created and/or retained *

Temporary jobs to be created and/or retained *

Number of months over which the jobs will be created *

Please provide the number of months it will take to create all permanent/temporary jobs entered above.

Additional comments on job creation (optional)

Character limit: 600

Average Wages for Jobs Created/Retained

- ☐ Above average area wages
- ☐ Equal to average area wages
- ☐ Below average area wages
- ☐ Not Applicable

Based on 2024 wage information for your industry from [VT DOL ELM!](#). To find the average wage for your industry and region, use the tool at the link to sort by your RPC (Windham or Bennington) and search for your industry for average wages. For further help, contact the staff named in the form introduction.

Benefits included with Jobs Retained/Created

- ☐ The majority of the jobs created/retained will provide benefits
- ☐ Less than half of the jobs created/retained will provide benefits
- ☐ Not Applicable

☐ Other

Additional information

Please include any additional documents that may help us understand your project. A project photo is particularly encouraged!

Examples of other supporting documents include a business plan, feasibility study, marketing plan, etc. (Maximum of 3 uploads)

Additional Supporting Documents (optional)

Upload

or drag files here.

Bennington Region Projects Contact

Jonathan Cooper, BCRC; jcooper@bcrcvt.org; (802) 442-0713 x312

Windham Region Projects Contacts

CEDS: Laura Sibilia, BDCC; lsibilia@brattleborodevelopment.com; (802) 257-7731 x217

RPP: Owen Perry, BDCC; operry@brattleborodevelopment.com; (802) 257-7731 x221

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