

June 11, 2023

Adam Grinold, Executive Director
Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
Cotton Mill Hill
Brattleboro, VT 05301

To Whom It May Concern,

The [Southern Vermont Economic Development Zone](#), created by the Vermont Legislature in [2015](#), is made up of the forty-four towns within the boundaries of the Windham County [Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation](#), [Windham Regional Commission](#) and the [Bennington County Regional Commission](#).
The Old School Enrichment Council, Inc. is in the Southern Vermont Economic Development Zone.

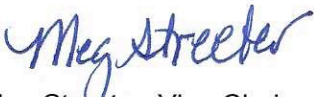
The Southern Vermont Economic Development District (EDD) is a proposed multi-jurisdictional non-profit entity, which will be recognized at the local, state, and federal levels. It will lead planning and development of current and future five-year Southern Vermont Zone Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and coordinate funding and implementation for locally based and regionally driven economic development capacity and public and private sector projects within the Southern Vermont Zone.

The first Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Southern Vermont Zone was completed in 2019. The Old School Enrichment Council supports the 2030 vision for the Southern Vermont Economic Development Zone as home to a resilient, creative, and inclusive community in which businesses and people thrive and prosper, and the five CEDS priority actions to achieve that vision that were identified through the public process: increase the population, improve the physical infrastructure, enhance social infrastructure, expand business infrastructure and develop the Zone's economic development capacity.

In an era of scarce resources, rural areas need to work together! Southern Vermont towns, businesses and institutions have a history of coming together to plan and implement our CEDS strategy, and work together on natural disaster recovery, CEDS planning and development, and COVID-19 relief programs

The Old School Enrichment Council, Inc, owner of the Old School Community Center in Wilmington supports the U.S. Economic Development Administration designating the Southern Vermont Economic Development Zone as an Economic Development District.

Sincerely yours,



Meg Streeter, Vice-Chair
Old School Enrichment Council, Inc.