

Townshend Village Center Designation and Benefits to Property Owners

The Town of Townshend recently obtained Village Center Designation status. The designation provides business owners, non-profit organizations, and the municipality with the opportunity to apply for funding from the state for a variety of improvements to existing buildings within the boundary lines which extends from Grace Cottage Hospital through the village to Nystrom Service and Repair and Al Jeffers & Sons Inc. along Route 30. There are also incentives available for homeowners through Efficiency Vermont for energy related projects.

There are between 10 and 25 percent Historic Tax Credits available for certain projects and 50 percent Code Improvement Tax Credits available among many of the other funding opportunities provided under the program. The tax credits may be used for things such as interior and exterior improvements, code compliance, plumbing and electrical upgrades, fire safety, and ADA modifications, just to name a few. There are several categories under which the grants, tax credits and incentives are offered, which include:

- Historic Buildings
- Buildings and Infrastructure
- Transportation and Housing
- Recreation and Conservation
- Economic Development, Planning and Efficiency
- Planning and Financing
- Planning, Placemaking and Capacity Building

Anyone interested in finding out more information about the program or applying for some of the tax credits or incentives is encouraged to visit The Agency of Commerce and Community website at <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/designation-programs/village-centers>. The list of specific grants, tax credits and incentives can be found under the link: Funding Directory for Village Center Improvements.

You may also contact the Planning Commission with additional questions.