



**PRESS  
RELEASE**



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## 2017-2018 Windham CEDS Vital Projects

- 1. Targeted Expertise Recruitment and Retention** Jenn Stromsten, BDCC: TERR is designed to help employers attract and retain professionals for positions that require specialized skills and experience. TERR helps employers with aspects of recruiting they can't do alone, such as: Marketing the region to a wide audience to increase appeal & visibility; Accessing tools & techniques top firms use in recruiting by pooling needs and resources; Extending a personal welcome to professionals through targeted communications and events; Ensuring key people receive focused, personal support so new hires and families thrive
- 2. Green Building Cluster/Ecovation Hub** Dan Yates, Ecovation Hub Leadership Team: The Ecovation Hub finalized the research and formation with the completion of the final Milestone in November, 2016. A new Leadership Team formed to carry the initiative forward, with the support of the Resilient Design Institute as a fiscal agent.
- 3. Rich Earth Institute** Kim Nace, Rich Earth: The mission of the Rich Earth Institute is to advance and promote the use of human waste as a resource. Founded in December of 2011 by Kim Nace and Abe Noe-Hays, the Institute has conducted three successful seasons of agricultural field trials using urine as a fertilizer. In 2016, Rich Earth and partners based at the University of Michigan, were awarded a 4-year National Science Foundation Grant which has expanded operations.
- 4. Vacuum Technology and Thin-Film Training Center** Sarah Locknar, Sustainable Valley Group: Establishes a non-profit training center for retraining and continuing education of vacuum scientists and technicians and thin-film engineers.
- 5. Health Care Collaborative Workforce Training Project** Bill Lax - Six College Collaborative: Six College Collaborative, Grace Cottage Hospital, Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, Brattleboro Retreat
- 6. Retreat Farm** Katrina Rationale, Retreat Farm: Retreat Farm has developed a cohesive, long-term strategy to transform this historic property into a regional center for land-based education, food systems, arts, recreation, markets, and events.
- 7. Farm/Food Innovation Center (FFIC)** Orly Munzing, Strolling of the Heifers, Inc.: The overall goal of the FFIC remains to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in the Windham regional food and agriculture business sector.
- 8. Southern Vermont Workforce Center of Excellence** BDCC: The So.VT Workforce Center of Excellence now has four flagship programs including Fast Tracks to Success and the Collaborative Internship Program.
- 9. Southern Vermont Regional Job Board** BDCC: The goal of this project is to build a talent pipeline for employers in Southern Vermont. This project will create a regional job board to list available jobs in Windham and Bennington Counties.

**10. Windham Place** Robert Crego, M&S Development: This \$9 million project will involve renovating 26,000 square feet of a downtown building to house an expanded restaurant (Popolo), a 21-room boutique hotel with amenities, and 5 residential units.

**11. High Performance Builder Industry Recognized Credential** Guy Payne, Sustainable Energy Outreach Network (SEON): Industry Recognized Credential as High Performance Builders in the Residential and Light Commercial Industry

**12. New England Youth Theatre Arts Campus** Naomi Shafer: Develop a Downtown Arts Campus in Brattleboro, where local arts organizations and community partners can share resources and develop an arts sector. Over the past year, NEYT has completed construction for the extension to the shop extension and started the second phase of its redevelopment, which focuses on 56 Elm Street.

## All other 2017-2018 projects submitted for inclusion in the CEDS

(appearing in alphabetical order by Project Category)

### Major Investments

**Brattleboro Museum and Art Center** Robert Crego, M&S Development: This project involves a \$23 million renovation and expansion project in the heart of downtown Brattleboro for BMAC, a contemporary art museum.

**Carinthia Ski Lodge at Mount Snow** Laurie Newton, Mount Snow: The Carinthia Ski Lodge Project at Mount Snow consists of the construction of a three-story 36,000-square-foot ski lodge at the Carinthia Base Area of Mount Snow.

**Carinthia Residential Units at Mount Snow** Laurie Newton, Mount Snow: The Carinthia Residential Units Project at Mount Snow consists of the construction of a up to 150 residential units at the Carinthia Base Area.

**NECCA Circus School and Performing Arts Facility** Gary Fox, Co-Chair – NECCA Building Committee: Continued Capital Campaign is at \$1,113,037 in contributions and commitments.

**Putnam Block Redevelopment** Robert Crego, M&S Development: re-purpose a 4-acre brownfields site located at the four corners in Bennington, Vermont. Project will create 160,000 square feet of new commercial and residential uses, expanding access to affordable housing and vital community services.

**West Lake Snowmaking Project at Mount Snow** Mount Snow: \$12 million West Lake Snowmaking Project at Mount Snow which will provide 100% snowmaking.

### Resilience/Sustainability

**Flood Hazard Mitigation in Jacksonville Village** Gig Zboray, Town of Whitingham: Feasibility study and engineering plan for an overflow bypass channel, floodplain storage area and culvert replacement.

**Hempcrete Small house** Emily Peyton: Construct a small house, 400800 square feet using the hempcrete material.

**Tiny House Festival** Lisa Kuneman: Series of events and projects that gather citizenry, industry representatives, officialdom, nonprofit agencies and educators around the topic of resilient solutions to the housing crisis.

#### **Green Island Project - Local Food Hub Incubator and Locavore Teaching Restaurant**

Gary Fox: Sustainable Valley Group: This incubator facility, at 30 Island St in Bellows Falls is a re-purposed old industrial building (part mid1800's VT Farm and Machine Company brick structure and part 1955 commercial structure including food Service and food manufacturing).

## Infrastructure

**Entrepreneurship and Innovation Ecosystem R.T. Brown, BDCC:** Implementation of various elements of the SoVT Business Accelerator Feasibility Study

**Marlboro Connectivity Project** Ty Gibbons, Chair, Marlboro Connectivity Committee, Chair, Marlboro Select Board: High speed internet access for our residents and businesses in Marlboro.

**Leveraging Broadband Investments** SeVEDS/BDCC: Leveraging broadband investments demand for last mile investments. Develop maps for use in marketing programs to show the locations of high capacity lines and connections.

**Route 9 Infrastructure Improvement Project** Town of Wilmington: Acquire the Wilmington Water District and merge with the Wilmington Wastewater District to enable expansion of water and sewer to the Route 9 East Corridor.

**Whitingham Sewer Upgrades** Town of Whitingham: Town of Whitingham sewer upgrade.

**WRC Village Wastewater** Windham Regional Commission: Windham Region Village water and wastewater needs assessment.

## Planning

**Guilford Early Learning and Resource Center** Elly Majonen, Community Collaborative for Guilford: In active collaboration with multiple local organizations we plan to carry out that mission by creating the Early Learning and Family Resource Center in Guilford

**Old School Community Project** Cindy Hayford, Old School Board Chair The Old School Enrichment Center is organized for the purpose of inspiring enrichment, wellness and economic development in the Deerfield Valley.

**Renovation of the Broadbrook Community Center** Rick Zamore, Secretary, BBCC Board: Renovation the facility will be used year-round for community celebrations, dances, performing arts events and more

**Rockingham TIF Development Project** Gary Fox, Bellows Falls Area Development: Identify, fund and implement the feasibility study and scope for TIF district in downtown Bellows Falls.

**Route 30 Business Network** BDCC: Develop a network for businesses along Route 30 and in the West River Valley.

**Strengthen the West Brattleboro business environment** West Brattleboro Association: Strengthen the West Brattleboro business environment and network.

**WRC Real Estate** Windham Regional Commission: Windham Region Residential Real Estate Market Analysis.

**Vernon Center** Martin Langeveld, Town of Vernon: A non-profit organization, the Friends of Vernon Center, Inc., and the Planning and Economic Development Commission of the Town of Vernon, are working together to create a vision for a new village center for the Town of Vernon.

## Private Sector

**Wheel Pad L3C** Julie Lineberger: Wheel Pad®: an ecofriendly, temporary, universally accessible bedroom and bathroom attachable to an existing home

**WATTStudioVT** Frank Waderton: Our objective is to create a unique global hub for "battery assist" bicycles, the fastest growing segment of the transportation market.

**Vermont Museum of Natural History Relocation and Expansion** SoVT Natural History Museum/ Ed Metcalfe: Vermont Museum of Natural History Expansion and Relocation.

## Workforce

**Southern Vermont Marketing Plan** Jenn Stromsten, BDCC: Create a consistent Southern Vermont brand to market the area for tourism and business/employee recruitment.

**Youth-led Business and Workforce Development Program** Russel Bradbury-Carlin, Youth Services: A youth-led screen-printing business that will incorporate vocationally oriented case management services.

**United in the Workplace (formerly Working Bridges)** United Way: improves the financial stability of working families by providing resources to employers and employees in Windham County.