

SECTION 6

BUILDING COMMUNITIES GRANTS

SEC. 6 APPROPRIATIONS: BUILDING COMMUNITIES GRANTS

1. The sum of \$1,200,000 is requested to be appropriated to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for:

A. Historic Preservation Grants \$400,000

This program provides 50/50 matching grants to non-profit organizations and municipalities for the restoration of historic structures. Historic community buildings such as town halls, libraries, churches, museums and other structures like covered bridges are assisted with foundation, roofing, structural, steeple and other exterior work. Many projects provide new uses for underutilized or vacant buildings. This program continues to be of great interest to the public with 3-4 times as many applications received as can be funded, with an average grant amount of \$10,000. This program is a linchpin of the State's continuing partnership with the Preservation Trust of Vermont and is able to leverage substantial non-state funds. Overall, the matching share exceeds the amount awarded. Since FY'86 the historic preservation grants have transformed community buildings all over the State and restored community use through this program.

B. Historic Barns and Agricultural Grants \$400,000

This program provides 50/50 matching grants for the restoration of historic agricultural buildings (barns). This program also continues to be of great interest to the public with about 5 times as many applications as can be funded each year. This represents an ongoing investment in historic agricultural resources across the State that began in 1992, and is responsible for preserving well over 100 historic agriculture buildings. Vermont's agricultural landscape is one of its most defining features, and historic barns are a dwindling resource, and of great interest to photographers and tourists.

Included in Total Requests, but not this presentation are grants administered by BGS and Agency of Ag: (Rebecca)

<u>Cultural Facilities Grants</u>	\$400,000
<u>Recreational Facilities Grants Program</u>	\$400,000
<u>Regional Economic Development Grant Program</u>	\$400,000
<u>Human Services and Educational Facilities Grants: Human Services</u>	\$200,000
<u>Human Services and Educational Facilities Grants: Education</u>	\$200,000
<u>Competitive Grants Program: Agricultural Fair Capital Projects</u> ...	\$400,000

Total Request for FY 2018	\$1,400,000
Total Request for FY 2019	\$1,400,000
<hr/> Total Request for Section 6 FY 2018 and FY 2019	<hr/> \$2,800,000

