

VtWARMS

Vermont Weatherization Agency for Rapid Mobilization & Savings

Vermont Housing Finance Agency



- Created in 1974
- Mission: To **finance** and promote affordable, safe, and decent housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income Vermonters.
- Issued \$3.7 billion in bonds, mostly with Private Activity Bonds
 - 29,000 homebuyers
 - 8,800 apartments



EAN 2020 Summit Pitch



Purpose: Hear visionary, strategic proposals about how we can rapidly, cost-effectively, and equitably reduce fossil fuel use and greenhouse gas pollution.

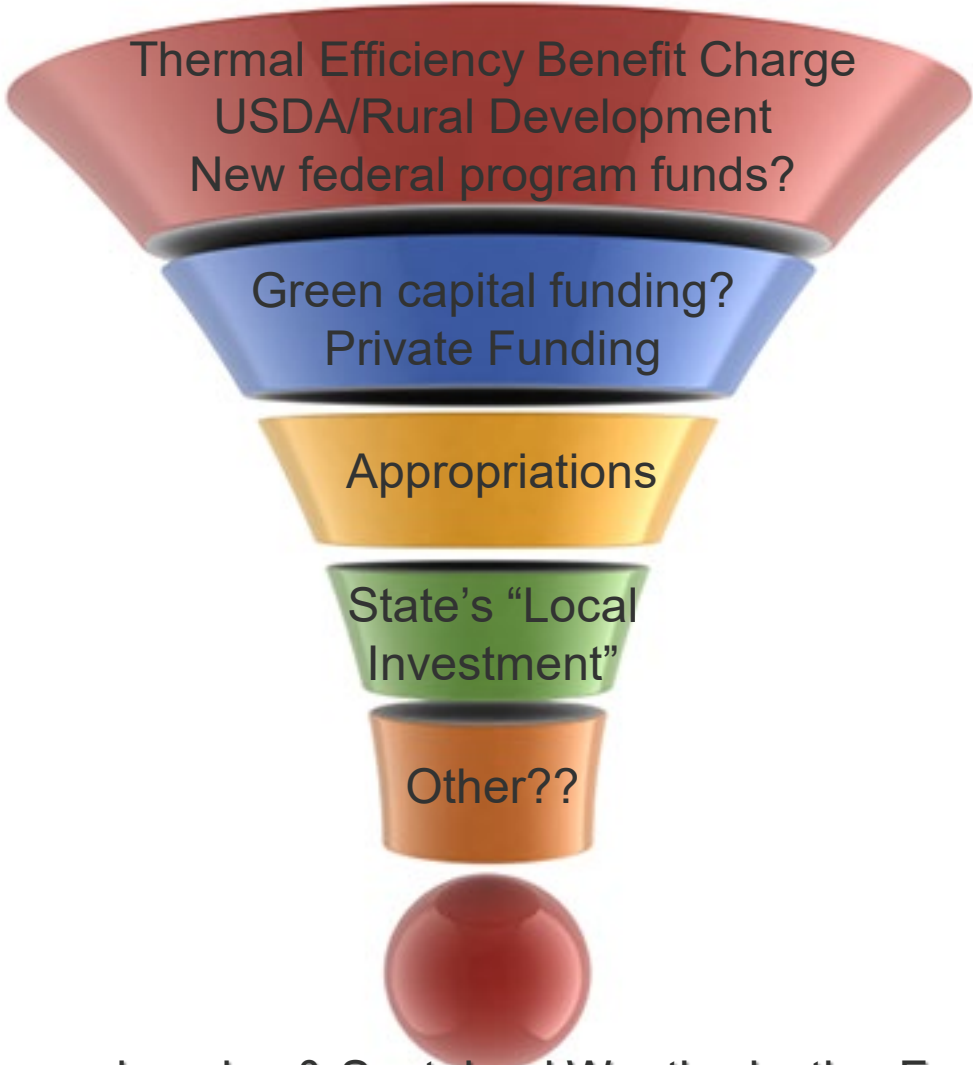


The Proposal



*“The framework of state’s ambitious climate goals is built on the foundation of energy efficiency, yet we have not mobilized the funds required to invest in **weatherization at scale** to shift the trajectory of our greenhouse gas emissions. We propose ... to fund more than 100,000 home retrofits for low and moderate income households over the next decade.*

*The plan calls for an **all-of-the-above funding plan** to include: green bonds funded by a “pay as you save” approach and backed by a thermal fuels efficiency fee; direct investment by utilities, municipalities, and federal grant funding; and Freedom & Unity Bonds to allow ultra-low interest borrowing for eligible homeowners.”*



Comprehensive & Sustained Weatherization Funding

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Benefits



- Create over 7,000 net direct, indirect, and induced jobs over the next decade (using ACEEE estimates).
 - Prevent over \$1.5 billion in fossil fuel expenses for Vermonters over the next 35 years (using DPS estimates).
 - Specifically for the low-income homes in the program, the weatherization work could prevent an estimated:
 - 10,146 emergency department visits
 - 591 hospitalizations, and
 - 22 deaths
- ...over a 10-year period, associated with reduced health impacts caused by asthma, cold, and heat (using VDH estimates).

PUC's Recommendations

*Vermont already has a robust and vibrant **ecosystem** of program administrators and market actors who are working in a **coordinated way** and are ready to take advantage of **new funding** streams, as long as the funding is phased in and **predictable** to allow for sustained growth of the **workforce** and supply chains.*

- [Act 62 Final Report](#) of the PUC

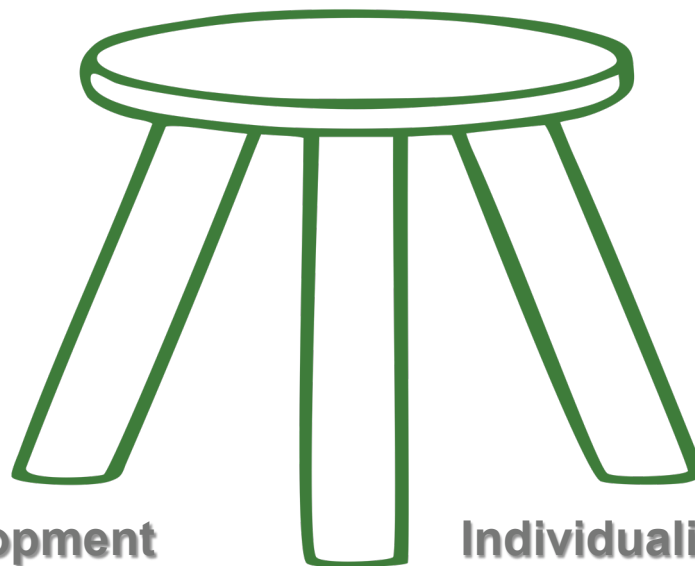
How Could This Work?



- Standardize loan programs
- Offer through more lenders
- Create a secondary market
- Bond to speed up investments
 - Serve 3 years of households in one
 - Spend less on interest rate subsidies
- Back-end partnerships to help consumers
 - ACCD's VT Home Improvement Program
 - OEO's Weatherization Assistance Program
 - Homeownership Centers Revolving Loan Funds for home repair



Maintain Critical Elements



Workforce development

Individualized assistance to customers

Financing and Incentives

- Below-market rates (0% for low-income)
- Modeling 60/40 split of financing to grant funding
- 6 months of loan payments for low-income borrowers?
- Energy savings guarantees