



State of Vermont
**Agency of Commerce and
Community Development**

FY27 Budget Presentation

Agency Mission

The Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) helps Vermonters improve their quality of life and build strong communities.

Agency Departments

Administration

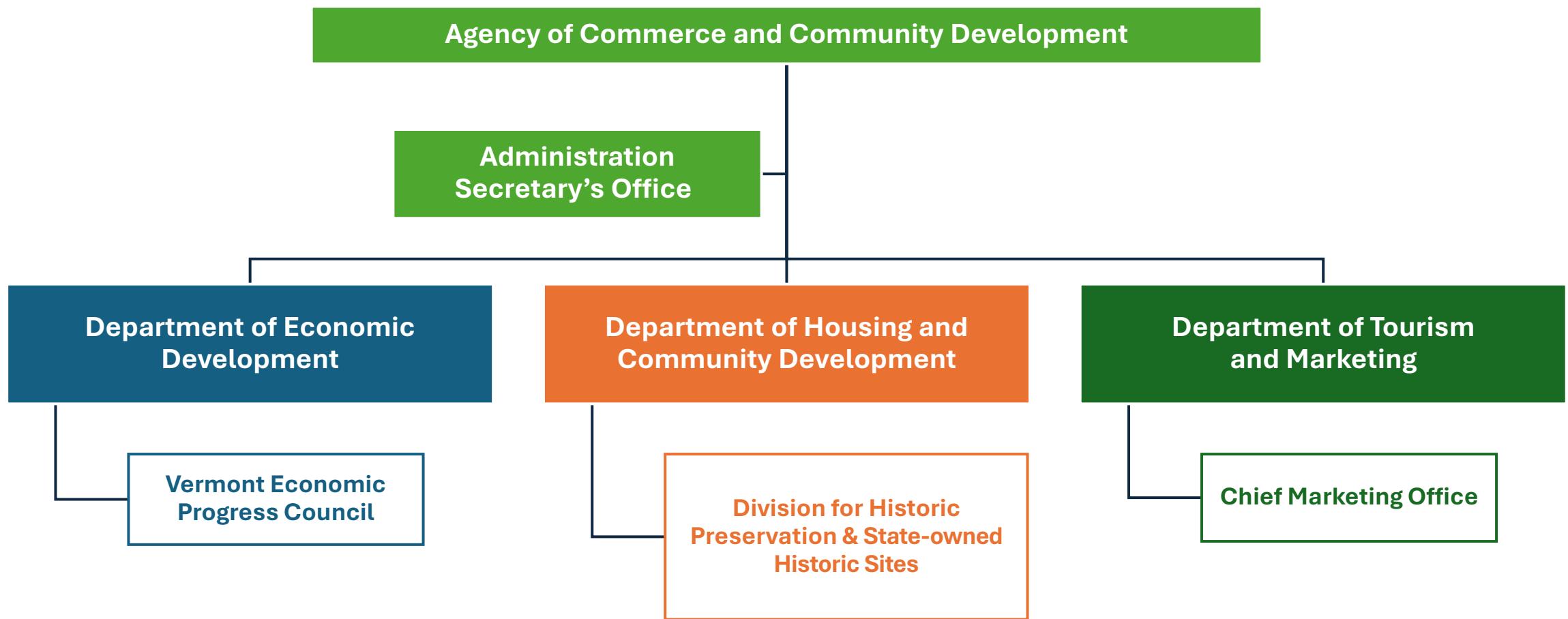
Tourism and Marketing

Economic Development

Housing and Community
Development

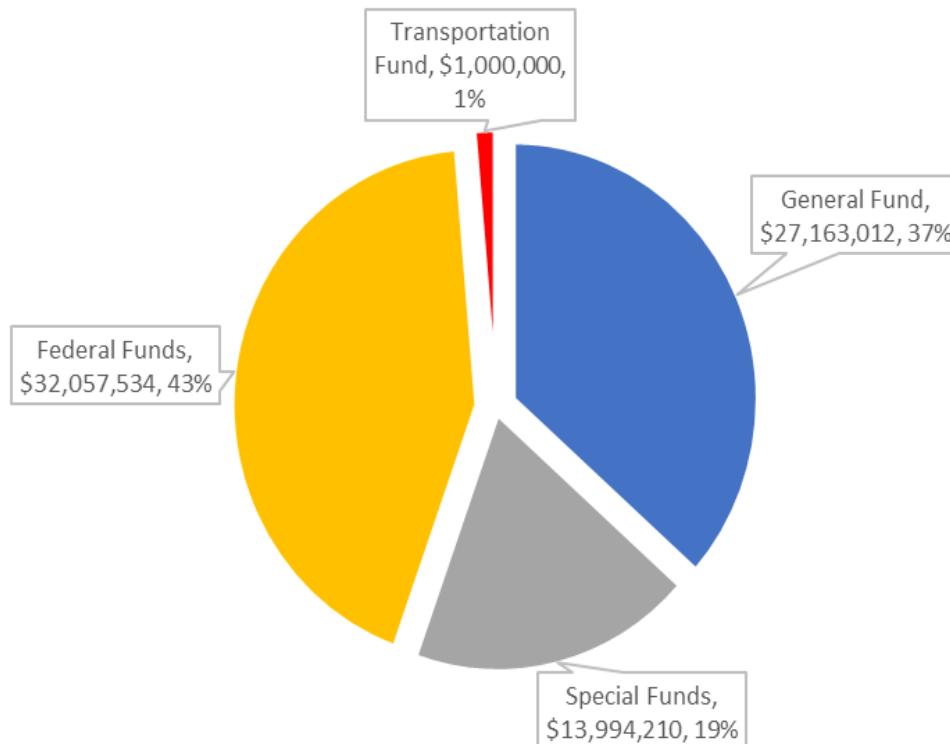
Agency Organizational Structure

88 employees



Agency FY27 Recommended Budget 88 employees

Governor's Recommended Budget FY 2027
Total \$74.21m



FY27 NEW BASE INITIATIVES

Housing and Community Development
Vermont Housing Improvement Program

\$4.00M

Total Base Budget:

\$74.21M

Agency FY27 Recommended Budget 88 employees

FY27 ONE-TIME EXPENDITURES

Economic Development

International Business Development \$150,000

Housing & Community Development

Mfd. Home Improvement & Repair Program (MHIR) \$800,000

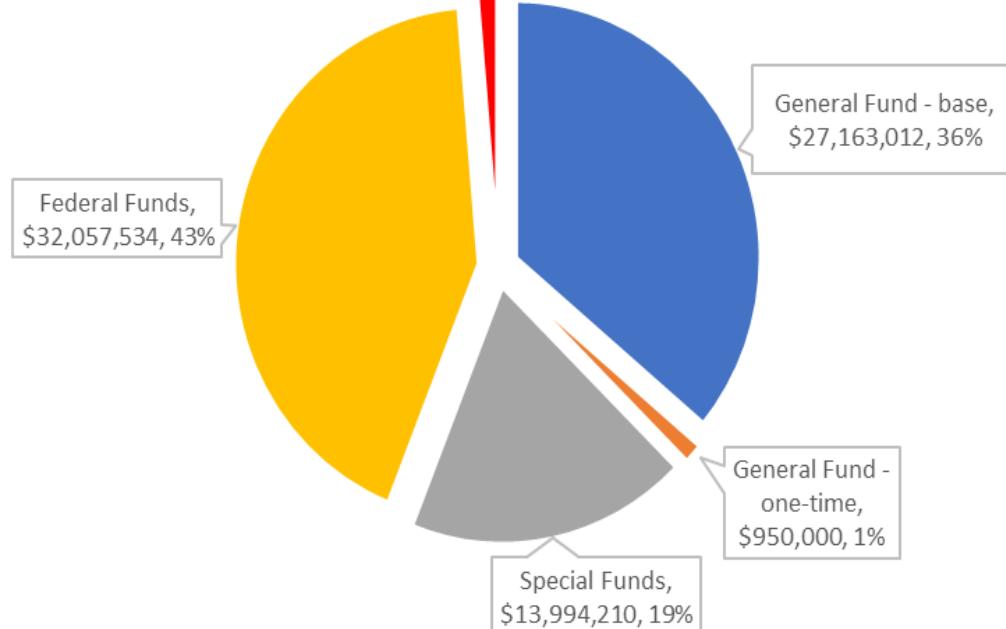
Total One-Time Expenditures: **\$950,000**

Agency FY27 Recommended Budget 88 employees

Governor's Recommended Budget FY 2027
(including one-times)

Total \$75.16m

Transportation
Fund, \$1,000,000,
1%



ALL EXPENDITURES

Total Base

Budget:

\$74.21M

Total One-Time Expenditures:

\$0.95M

Total FY27 ACCD Budget:

\$75.16M

Agency Administration Division

LEADERSHIP

Secretary

Lindsay Kurrle

Deputy Secretary

Tayt Brooks

STAFFING

Classified

10

Exempt

5

Total Staff

15

ACCD Administration "Ups and Downs"

	General \$\$	Special \$\$	Federal \$\$	Interdept'l Transfer \$\$	Total \$\$
Approp #1 [7100000000]: Administration FY 2026 Approp	3,802,763	0			3,802,763
Other Changes: (Please insert changes to your base appropriation that occurred after the passage of the FY 2026 budget)					0
FY 2026 Other Changes	0	0	0	0	0
Total Approp. After FY 2026 Other Changes	3,802,763	0	0	0	3,802,763
CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL/CURRENT LAW	161,257	0	0	0	161,257
<i>Personal Services</i>	<i>102,212</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>102,212</i>
500000: Salary & Wages: Classified Employees	57,076				57,076
500010: Salary & Wages: Exempt Employees					
501500: Health Insurance: Classified Employees	68,777				68,777
501510: Health Insurances: Exempt Employees					
502000: Retirement: Classified Employees	8,113				8,113
502010: Retirement: Exempt Employees					
All Other Employee Payroll Related Fringe Benefits	(2,493)				(2,493)
504040: VT Family & Medical Leave Insurance Premium	212				212
504045: Child Care Contribution	249				249
505200: Workers' Compensation Insurance Premium	4,620				4,620
508000: Vacancy Turnover Savings	(1,366)				(1,366)
Misc. personal service cost changes	100				100
Gov allocation	1,744				1,744
Dun & Bradstreet contract - DoL did not renew	(34,820)				(34,820)
					0
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	<i>49,045</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>49,045</i>
515010: Fee-for-Space Charge					0
516000: Insurance Other Than Employee Benefits	(3,462)				(3,462)
516010: Insurance - General Liability	1,861				1,861
516671: VISION/ISD	20,271				20,271
516685: ADS Allocated Charge	53,173				53,173
519006: Human Resources Services	2,788				2,788
523620: Single Audit Allocation	96				96
National Life yearly rent increase - Davis and Dewey Bldg	5,188				5,188
ADS service level agreement	(16,529)				(16,529)
Misc. operating cost changes	11,359				11,359
516662 ADS end user computing expense	(25,700)				(25,700)
<i>Grants</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>10,000</i>
UVM Census data center - grant not adjusted for inflation since 2020	10,000				10,000
					0
					0
Subtotal of Increases/Decreases	161,257	0	0	0	161,257
FY 2027 Governor Recommend	3,964,020	0	0	0	3,964,020

Economic Development

Commissioner
Lyle Jepson

Deputy Commissioner
Nick Grimley

 **Staff: 21**

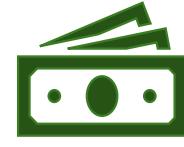
Department Highlights

Economic Development



155

CRRP/CIP awards granted to businesses, not for profits, and municipalities statewide to fund community and economic revitalization projects.



\$421M

Total redevelopment funding leveraged by \$23M of state Brownfields Revitalization (BRF) funding.



\$18.3B

Total Vermont global exports from 2019-2025. (Service exports totaled \$5.9 Billion)



\$1.2B

New Qualifying Capital Investments made from 2007-2023 via the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive (VEGI) program.



15,805

Workers trained via the Vermont Training Program (VTP) since FY17.

NEW REQUEST: One-time Funding

Economic Development

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Program Spotlights

International Business Development: Vermont Department of Economic Development requests **\$150,000** to hire a representative from a firm experienced in global economic integration to promote direct investment into Vermont by Canadian based enterprises and bolster international trade opportunities between Vermont and Canada.

These funds will support a **2-year contract** for these services.

Economic Development

Program Spotlights

Vermont Employment Growth Incentive (VEGI):

Supports business expansion, with 286 new qualifying jobs created in the most recent claim year (2023)

Tax Increment Financing (TIF): Financing tool used by municipalities for public infrastructure improvements that then leverage additional private investments in housing, commercial, and retail space needed to grow jobs and the economy.

CHIP – Community Housing & Infrastructure Program launched.

Economic Assistance & Recovery: \$50M+ in ARPA-funded grants (CIP & CRRP) supporting \$635M in capital investment. 125+ projects funded across all 14 counties, focusing on housing, childcare, and economic recovery.

Economic Development

Program Spotlights

Vermont Training Program (VTP): Provides up to 50% of the training cost for pre-development, new hire, and/or incumbent employee training. The program awarded \$1,119,718 in FY25 and is anticipated to train 1030 workers and assist 47 businesses.

International Trade Assistance (STEP): Federally funded assistance to small business exporters to support entry into foreign markets or expand international export activity through trade shows, trade missions, market research, e-commerce, and export education. In FY25 a total of \$195,171 was granted to 28 Vermont businesses.

Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC): Investments in economic and infrastructure projects in all of Vermont's 14 counties. Depending on the level of economic and demographic distress, NBRC-funded projects can be eligible for up to an 80% matching grant. In 2025, 27 Vermont projects received awards totaling \$25,954,323. 12 counties were represented with additional multi-state projects benefiting all 14 counties.

Economic Development

Program Spotlights

Captive Insurance: Regulated form of self-insurance for entities facing an insurance challenge. With 707 active companies licensed, Vermont is the largest captive domicile in the world. Over 500 jobs support the industry. In 2024, Captives generated \$33 million in premium taxes for the General Fund.

Government Contracting Support: Vermont APEX Accelerator (AKA Procurement Technical Assistance Center) helped businesses secure \$287M in federal & state contracts. 250 businesses awarded contracts.

DED "Ups and Downs"

	General \$\$	Special \$\$	Federal \$\$	Interdept'l Transfer \$\$	Total \$\$
Approp #1 [7120010000]: Economic Development FY 2026 Approp	5,937,190	3,150,350	5,264,940	200,000	14,552,480
Other Changes: (Please insert changes to your base appropriation that occurred after the passage of the FY 2026 budget)					0
FY 2026 Other Changes	0	0	0	0	0
Total Approp. After FY 2026 Other Changes	5,937,190	3,150,350	5,264,940	200,000	14,552,480
CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL/CURRENT LAW	168,732	164,215	(3,651,502)	(200,000)	(3,518,555)
Personal Services	11,472	153,436	(989,906)	(200,000)	(1,024,998)
500000: Salary & Wages: Classified Employees	50,882	5,262	(32,228)		23,916
500010: Salary & Wages: Exempt Employees					
501500: Health Insurance: Classified Employees	89,190	1,362	(26,357)		64,195
501510: Health Insurances: Exempt Employees					
502000: Retirement: Classified Employees	4,272	1,516	(9,279)		(3,491)
502010: Retirement: Exempt Employees					
All Other Employee Payroll Related Fringe Benefits	(2,158)	82	(5,452)		(7,528)
504040: VT Family & Medical Leave Insurance Premium	(307)	20	(120)		(407)
504045: Child Care Contribution	224	23	(140)		107
505200: Workers' Compensation Insurance Premium	3,314	171	(738)		2,747
508000: Vacancy Turnover Savings			3,960		3,960
misc personal services changes	(3,945)				(3,945)
Misc personal services - shift to grants to correct CoC FY26 big bill change	(130,000)				(130,000)
CHIP financial analysis		150,000			150,000
Legal services		(5,000)			(5,000)
Remove OEA-funded personal service contracts			(919,552)		(919,552)
Remove AoA IDT payroll reimb for ARPA positions				(200,000)	(200,000)
				0	0
Operating Expenses	6,662	10,779	(60,998)	0	(43,557)
515010: Fee-for-Space Charge					0
516000: Insurance Other Than Employee Benefits	(10,108)	(349)	(1,063)		(11,520)
516010: Insurance - General Liability	381	41	(499)		(77)
516671: VISION/ISD					0
516685: ADS Allocated Charge	72,988	38	(1,085)		71,941
516660: ADS Service Level Agreement (SLA)	(69,527)	54	(1,463)		(70,936)
519006: Human Resources Services	1,503	27	(773)		757
523620: Single Audit Allocation					0
Travel - trade shows and conferences	15,000				15,000
Misc operating	16,425				16,425
Misc operating - shift to grants to correct CoC FY26 big bill change	(20,000)				(20,000)
Captive increase		10,968			10,968
Remove OEA-funded operating			(56,115)		(56,115)
			0		0
Grants	150,598	0	(2,600,598)	0	(2,450,000)
RDCs/NBRC	598		(598)		0
Restore Grants - correct CoC FY26 big bill change	150,000				150,000
Brownfields - Grant Funding - no new federal award			(2,600,000)		(2,600,000)
			0		0
Subtotal of Increases/Decreases	168,732	164,215	(3,651,502)	(200,000)	(3,518,555)
FY 2027 Governor Recommend	6,105,922	3,314,565	1,613,438	0	11,033,925

Housing and Community Development

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Commissioner
Alex Farrell

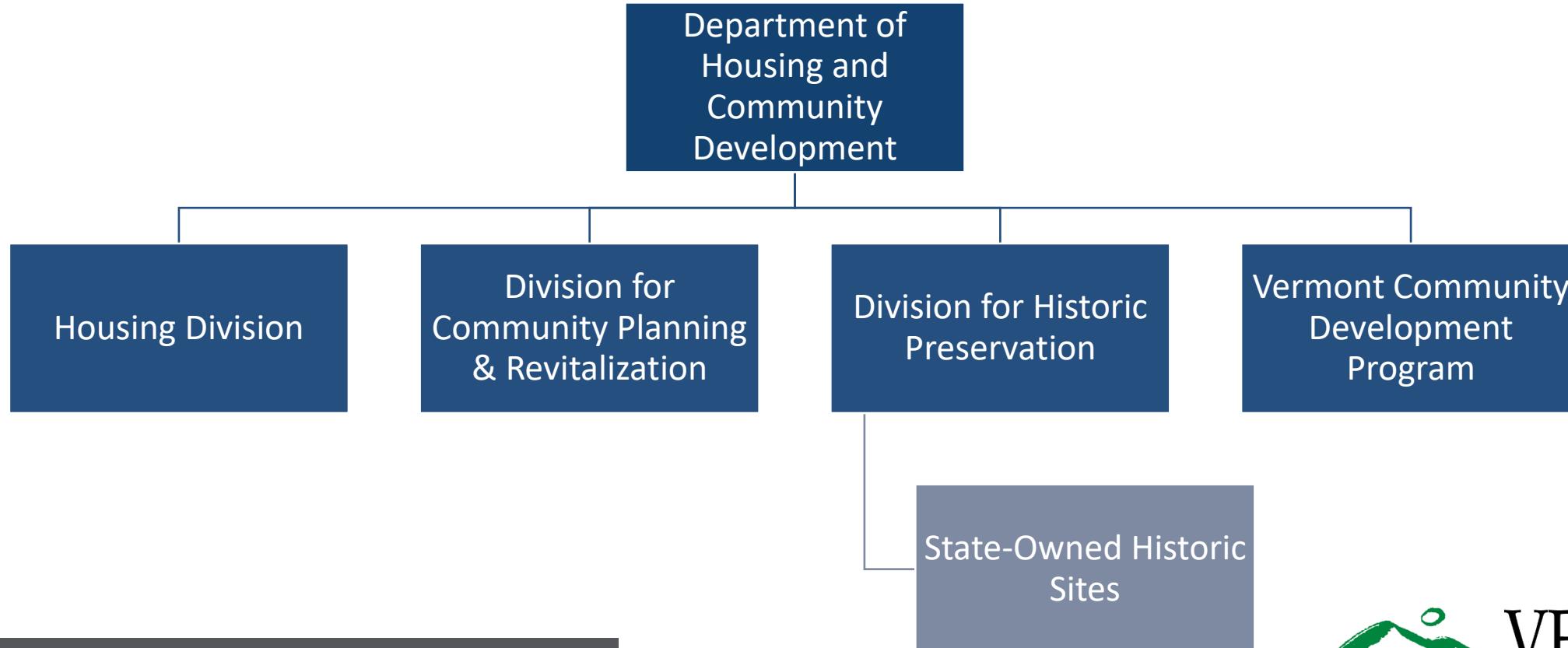
Deputy Commissioner
Nate Formalarie



Staff: 40 (FTE)

Housing and Community Development

Department Organizational Structure



Housing and Community Development Leadership Team

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Alex Farrell, Commissioner

Nate Formalarie, Deputy Commissioner

Max Krieger, General Counsel

Laura Trieschmann, State Historic
Preservation Officer, Division for Historic
Preservation

Chris Cochran, Director, Community Planning
& Revitalization

Shaun Gilpin, Director, Housing Division

Ann Kroll, Federal Programs Director,
Vermont Community Development Program

NEW REQUEST: Base Funding

Housing and Community Development

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BASE FUNDING

Vermont Housing Improvement Program (VHIP): VHIP offers grants up to \$50,000 per unit to bring vacant rentals up to code, add new units to an existing building, or build up to 5 units in a new building. Since 2021, VHIP created almost 1,200 units with an average grant of about \$40,000 per unit.

NEW REQUEST: \$4M in Base Funding

NEW REQUEST: One-time Funding

Housing and Community Development

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ONE-TIME FUNDING

*Repurpose funds previously appropriated to DHCD
for Manufactured Home Community Flood Recovery*

Manufactured Housing Improvement and Repair (MHIR) program: MHIR supports park improvements, home repairs, and foundation installation in manufactured home communities. The program launched in February of 2023 and was made permanent in FY26 with \$2M in the base budget.

Program outcomes:

Projects awarded: 858

Total Awards: \$9M

MHCs impacted: 155

NEW REQUEST: \$800k One-time Funding

Housing and Community Development

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Program Spotlights

Housing & Community Development Research and Projects:

- Homes for All
 - Small-Scale Developer Toolkit
 - Small-Scale Developer Training Series
 - *802 Homes* open-source designs catalogue
- Housing Needs Assessment
- Statewide and Regional Housing Targets
- Housing Development Dashboard
- Vermont Assessment of Rural Technical Assistance (VERTA)
- Fair Housing Analysis
- Off-site Construction
- Land Banks

DHCD "Ups and Downs"

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	General \$\$	Transp \$\$	Special \$\$	Federal \$\$	Interdept'l Transfer \$\$	Total \$\$
Approp #1 [711001000]: Housing and Community Development FY 2026 Approp	7,656,505	0	10,144,339	10,957,973	2,428,567	31,187,384
Other Changes: (Please insert changes to your base appropriation that occurred after the passage of the FY 2026 budget)						0
FY 2026 Other Changes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Approp. After FY 2026 Other Changes	7,656,505	0	10,144,339	10,957,973	2,428,567	31,187,384
CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL/CURRENT LAW	4,345,916	1,000,000	535,306	19,486,123	(2,428,567)	22,938,778
Personal Services	495,894	0	60,964	220,679	(128,567)	648,970
500000: Salary & Wages: Classified Employees	166,807		4,340	194,095	(65,686)	299,556
500010: Salary & Wages: Exempt Employees						
501500: Health Insurance: Classified Employees	90,912		(4,237)	62,589	(37,233)	112,031
501510: Health Insurances: Exempt Employees						
502000: Retirement: Classified Employees	48,445		1,250	55,900	(18,918)	86,677
502010: Retirement: Exempt Employees						
All Other Employee Payroll Related Fringe Benefits	134		51	15,115	(6,197)	9,103
504040: VT Family & Medical Leave Insurance Premium	9		16	511	(244)	292
504045: Child Care Contribution	737		19	856	(289)	1,323
505200: Workers' Compensation Insurance Premium	4,639					4,639
508000: Vacancy Turnover Savings	(6,140)			(7,570)		(13,710)
IT contracts	3,848					3,848
VHIP Staffing - new base SFY2027	240,000					240,000
Contracted services	(53,497)					(53,497)
Historic Sites seasonal employees			63,125			63,125
Misc changes			(3,600)			(3,600)
Sites - Morrill and Old Constitution House grant spend down				(32,477)		(32,477)
ERA II - personnel costs				(68,340)		(68,340)
						0

DHCD "Ups and Downs"

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	General \$\$	Transp \$\$	Special \$\$	Federal \$\$	Interdept'l Transfer \$\$	Total \$\$
Approp #1 [711001000]: Housing and Community Development FY 2026 Approp	7,656,505	0	10,144,339	10,957,973	2,428,567	31,187,384
Other Changes: (Please insert changes to your base appropriation that occurred after the passage of the FY 2026 budget)						0
FY 2026 Other Changes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Approp. After FY 2026 Other Changes	7,656,505	0	10,144,339	10,957,973	2,428,567	31,187,384
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	<i>100,022</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>313,000</i>	<i>312,694</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>725,716</i>
515010: Fee-for-Space Charge	0					0
516000: Insurance Other Than Employee Benefits	(21,519)			221		(21,298)
516010: Insurance - General Liability	(465)			104		(361)
516671: VISION/ISD	0					0
516685: ADS Allocated Charge	126,494			187		126,681
519006: Human Resources Services	3,969					3,969
523620: Single Audit Allocation	354					354
Misc operating changes	(18,811)		13,000	(1,124)		(6,935)
VHIP operations - new base	10,000					10,000
Theron Boyd private donation - maintenance			300,000			300,000
Sites - Morrill and Old Constitution House grant spend down				(126,694)		(126,694)
CDBG-DR operating				40,000		40,000
Bennington Monument CDS allocation - maintenance				400,000		400,000
<i>Grants</i>	<i>3,750,000</i>	<i>1,000,000</i>	<i>161,342</i>	<i>18,952,750</i>	<i>(2,300,000)</i>	<i>21,564,092</i>
Downtown Vibrancy grants - 4 new designated downtowns	100,000					100,000
VHIP grants - new base	3,750,000					3,750,000
MHIR - reduce by 5% and allocate for staffing	(100,000)					(100,000)
EVSE grants - new T-Fund base		1,000,000				1,000,000
Municipal and Regional Planning funds			161,342			161,342
CDBG-DR grant awards				18,952,750		18,952,750
802 Homes - one-time funds from AHS obligated					(600,000)	(600,000)
Reduction - EVSE reduced and moved from IDT to T-Fund					(1,700,000)	(1,700,000)
						0
Subtotal of Increases/Decreases	4,345,916	1,000,000	535,306	19,486,123	(2,428,567)	22,938,778
FY 2027 Governor Recommend	12,002,421	1,000,000	10,679,645	30,444,096	0	54,126,162

Tourism and Marketing

February 10, 2026 | 25

Commissioner
Heather Pelham

 **Staff:** 12

Department Highlights

Tourism and Marketing



16 M

Visitors (includes overnight, day and drive-through visitors)



\$4.2 B

Visitor Spending in Lodging, Dining, Transportation, Retail and Recreation



\$293.5 M

Direct State and Local Tax Revenue Generated by Tourism Activity
(equivalent to \$1089 per household)



31,780

Jobs in the Tourism Industry

2024 analysis by Tourism Economics

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Tourism and Marketing

Program Spotlights

Destination Marketing: VDTM coordinates broad, strategic, brand awareness marketing campaigns to promote Vermont as a destination to regional, national and international audiences.

We use owned (website, email marketing, social media), earned (press relations), and a mix of paid media tactics including digital advertising (search, display, social, video, and connected TV); sponsored content projects (working with publishers to create Vermont content); and out-of-home (outdoor) advertising.

- A Brand Impact Study of VDTM's summer campaign in the NYC market found a 30% jump in brand opinion for people who remembered seeing the ads.
- Ad effectiveness research on the winter 2024-25 campaign shows advertising returned \$574 in visitor spending and \$43 in tax revenue for each \$1 invested in paid media.

Tourism and Marketing

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Program Spotlights

Destination Development: Federal funding received from the EDA specifically to support recovery for travel, tourism and outdoor recreation enabled VTDM to invest in long-overdue strategic planning, visitation and brand research, creative development, economic impact analyses, workforce projects and regional tourism grant programs. Destination development projects included:

- Destination Management Strategic Plan
- Vermont Visitor Survey (intercept and online)
- Brand Perception Study and BIPOC Visitation Strategy
- Economic Impact Analyses and Market Research
- T-TERM (Transformational Tourism Events and Regional Marketing) Grants
- Workforce Development (Hospitality Certificate Program and Outdoor Recreation Skills Workshops)
- Vermont CORE (Community Outdoor Recreation Economy) Toolkit

Tourism and Marketing

Program Spotlights

Think Vermont and GROW Program: As with visitation, VDTM's uses owned (website, email marketing, social media) and paid media strategies to promote Vermont as an ideal place to live and work.

The GROW (Grants for Relocation and Outreach Work) program funds 15 regional partners to provide individual relocation assistance. GROW grantees nurture the leads received through our “Connect with a Vermonter” process to provide one-on-one regionally-specific information on finding a job, housing, childcare or other support. Grantees also organize outreach activities and retention events to help new Vermonters feel welcome in their communities.

- In its first two years of the program, 97 family units moved to Vermont through the GROW program, with 195 new Vermonters coming from 32 different states and several international locations.

Tourism and Marketing

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Program Spotlights

Chief Marketing Office: The CMO supports marketing initiatives by agencies across state government with strategic expertise, branding and access to both outside marketing vendors and direct creative services.

The CMO maintains state brand standards, develops templates for common outreach needs, provides best practices support for web managers and in overall accessible communications, and maintains a shared photography library for state entities. Priority areas are:

- Accessible Design and the Universal Digital Accessibility Initiative
- State of Vermont Brand Management
- Contracting and Procurement Guidance
- Communications and Marketing Training

In 2025, the CMO team combined forces with the Chief Communications office.

VDTM "Ups and Downs"

	General \$\$	Special \$\$	Federal \$\$	Interdept'l Transfer \$\$	Total \$\$
Approp #1 [7130000000]: Tourism and Marketing FY 2026 Approp	4,960,125	0	4,007,872	75,000	9,042,997
Other Changes: (Please insert changes to your base appropriation that occurred after the passage of the FY 2026 budget)					0
FY 2026 Other Changes	0	0	0	0	0
Total Approp. After FY 2026 Other Changes	4,960,125	0	4,007,872	75,000	9,042,997
CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL/CURRENT LAW	130,524	0	(4,007,872)	(75,000)	(3,952,348)
<i>Personal Services</i>	<i>83,963</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(1,232,872)</i>	<i>(20,000)</i>	<i>(1,168,909)</i>
500000: Salary & Wages: Classified Employees	31,761				31,761
500010: Salary & Wages: Exempt Employees					
501500: Health Insurance: Classified Employees	7,797				7,797
501510: Health Insurances: Exempt Employees					
502000: Retirement: Classified Employees	9,150				9,150
502010: Retirement: Exempt Employees					
All Other Employee Payroll Related Fringe Benefits	(3,352)				(3,352)
504040: VT Family & Medical Leave Insurance Premium	116				116
504045: Child Care Contribution	142				142
505200: Workers' Compensation Insurance Premium	349				349
508000: Vacancy Turnover Savings	0				0
Contracted - advertising/media buy	38,000				38,000
Federal EDA grant fully expended			(1,232,872)		(1,232,872)
IDT spending authority no longer needed				(20,000)	(20,000)
					0
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	<i>46,561</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(2,775,000)</i>	<i>(55,000)</i>	<i>(2,783,439)</i>
515010: Fee-for-Space Charge					0
516000: Insurance Other Than Employee Benefits	(6,642)				(6,642)
516010: Insurance - General Liability	(657)				(657)
516671: VISION/ISD					0
516660: ADS Service Level Agreement (SLA)	(36,299)				(36,299)
516685: ADS Allocated Charge	27,094				27,094
519006: Human Resources Services	944				944
523620: Single Audit Allocation					0
Software as a Service	3,966				3,966
Advertising	35,408				35,408
Travel	5,656				5,656
Other operating	17,091				17,091
Federal EDA grant fully expended			(2,775,000)		(2,775,000)
IDT spending authority no longer needed				(55,000)	(55,000)
					0
<i>Grants</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
					0
					0
					0
Subtotal of Increases/Decreases	130,524	0	(4,007,872)	(75,000)	(3,952,348)
FY 2027 Governor Recommend	5,090,649	0	0	0	5,090,649



State of Vermont
**Agency of Commerce and
Community Development**

FY27 Budget Presentation