



LAND USE REVIEW BOARD

10 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05633-3201

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee
House Environment Committee

From: Janet Hurley, Chair, Land Use Review Board

Cc: Pete Gill, Executive Director

Date: February 18, 2025

Re: Budget Requests- District Coordinator Positions and Digital Infrastructure

The Act 250 program benefited from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and State Fiscal Recovery (SFR) funds received in 2022 for two at-large district coordinator positions. These limited service positions are due to expire on December 31, 2025, unless the legislature approves additional appropriations to support them beyond the Governor's recommended budget. The estimated cost for these positions is estimated at \$145,000 per position per year to fund these two positions. The Board recommends funding until the LURB reviews the implementation of Act 181 in 2029.

Both positions are critical to maintain adequate staffing for every Act 250 district. Staffing capacity in both southern and northern Vermont would be severely impacted by the loss of this ongoing assistance. Furthermore, the implementation of Act 181 jurisdictional changes, expanded authority, and related responsibilities of the LURB will require significant staff time and attention. Loss of the limited service positions would jeopardize timely progress toward these statutory obligations.

In addition to the need for these two positions, development of the digital information technological structure to accept and manage applications for approval of regional plans, regional future land use maps, and Tier 1A status applications will require an estimated \$100,000 in FY26. This cost is not accounted for in the Governor's recommended budget.

More information about Act 250 program performance and needs is provided in the [Land Use Review Board Act 250 Annual Report](#) for CY24.