

# ACRPC Resources

## Energy Funding

This document is meant to provide inspiration for energy project funding for your town. This is not a comprehensive list but does include the major programs currently available in the State and is updated periodically.

### ARPA Funding Opportunities

Project	Description	Expenditure Category Number
Town Building Weatherization and Energy Upgrades	Towns are able to apply municipal ARPA funds to municipal building improvements as long as the improvements include air quality improvements that would address risk due to Covid-19 (HVAC installations for example).	<b>EC 1.7</b> Capital investments or physical plant changes to public facilities that respond to the Covid-19 public health crisis
Weatherization for Low Income Households	Towns may apply municipal ARPA funds to increase available funding for weatherization in low income homes. The State will put its own funding into weatherization for low income households, but towns may choose to contribute additional funds to increase the number or scope of projects.	<b>EC 3.12</b> Housing support, other assistance
Low Income Access to Community Solar	Municipal ARPA funds may be used to fund participation in community solar projects for low income individuals.	<b>EC 2.13</b> Other Economic Support
Waste Water Energy Supply and Efficiency	Towns may fund upgrades in electricity efficiency or renewable energy sources for water treatment facilities.	<b>EC 5.7</b> Waste water treatment energy conservation

*Above programs are recommended by VLCT and approved by VT State ARPA review. **Note:** While these suggestions continue to be valuable applications of ARPA funding for energy projects, there is no longer strict limitations on ARPA usage. Please contact us if you would like support with a project or applying ARPA funding.*

### For more information contact:

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 Regional Planning Commission



Below you will find a list of resources to support the implementation of energy projects organized by Enhanced Energy Plan section categories and support for energy committees.

## Electricity and Thermal Incentives and Rebates

Program	Description	Source
VT Energy Saver	State wide database of all rebates and programs	<a href="#">Link</a>
Efficiency Vermont	Weatherization and efficiency rebates for homeowners, renters, businesses, and municipalities.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Green Mountain Power	Among others, GMP provides rebates for solar and energy storage projects.	<a href="#">Link</a>
3E Thermal	Supports the weatherization and energy efficiency of affordable rental properties through project assessment, guidance, and financial incentives.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Renewable Energy Resource Center	Provides financial support to install advanced wood heating systems.	<a href="#">Link</a>
USDA Rural Energy for America Program	This program provides funding to assist rural small businesses and agricultural producers with energy audits, renewable energy site assessments, and technical assistance.	<a href="#">Link</a>
USDA Community Facilities Program	This program provides loans or grants to public entities or nonprofits to construct or improve essential community facilities which include town buildings. Improvements to facilities could include renewable energy installations.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Vermont Gas	Provides energy evaluations and rebates for weatherization.	<a href="#">Link</a>

## Land Use Planning: Community Density, Accessibility and Generation

Program	Description	Source
DHCD	Funding and incentives to invest in downtown areas and accessible neighborhoods	<a href="#">Link</a>
ACCD	Funding to support more vibrant downtown areas through historic preservation.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Municipal Planning Grants	Funding for housing and community development planning and implementation.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Acorn Energy Co-op	Community solar program that provides access to renewable energy for those who cannot invest in their own system.	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Vermont Community Foundation	VCF offers a variety of grants throughout the state, covering a broad range of issues and topics.	<a href="#">Link</a>
<i>For more information about community planning, contact our community planner Katie Raycroft-Meyer</i>		Email

## Transportation Incentives and Rebates

Program	Description	Source
Go! Vermont	Support for alternative transportation options including car and ride sharing, biking, walking, employer programs etc.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Grants - ACCD	This program is funded by the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and funds the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The program recently received \$1million to install charging stations at multi-family affordable housing units in 2022.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Green Mountain Power	Rebates for Electric vehicles and electric home and yard equipment.	<a href="#">Link</a>
VT Local Motion	Provides E-bike lending libraries that can be hosted locally.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Diesel Emissions Reduction Financial Assistance Program	This program through the VT Department of Environmental Conservation offers grants to fund the electrification of heavy-duty vehicles and equipment and other upgrades that reduce diesel emissions.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Better Connections Program	Funding for transportation planning and project implementation.	<a href="#">Link</a>
<i>For more information about transportation planning, contact our transportation planner Mike Winslow</i>		<a href="#">Email</a>

## Energy Committee Support and Miscellaneous Funding

Program	Description	Source
VNRC Small Grants for Smart Growth	The Vermont Natural Resources Council offers small grants on a rolling basis, typically in the \$500-\$1500 range to fund a variety of smart growth projects which can include advocating for better land use practices, advancing transportation choice, supporting affordable housing, and downtown/village center revitalization.	<a href="#">Link</a>
New England Grassroots Fund Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seed Grants range from \$500-\$1000 and are awarded on a rolling basis to local groups that are starting a new environmental project.</li> <li>• Grow Grants range from \$1000-\$4000 and are awarded to more experienced groups who want to deepen or expand an existing environmental project. Deadlines are in March and September of each year.</li> <li>• Young Leader Grants provide up to \$6000 of funding to an environmental project primarily led by young people between the ages of 15-25. Deadlines are in March and September. *This could be a good option for energy committees that have younger members that are interested in leading a local project.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Seed Grant</a>  <a href="#">Grow Grant</a>  <a href="#">Young Leader</a>
Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund	This grant program is offered through the VT Council on Rural Development and provides small grants to local organizations that are developing solutions to help Vermont meet its climate and energy goals. Awards range from \$500 - \$4,000 and the program is anticipated to return for another round in 2022.	<a href="#">Link</a>