

**For Immediate Release**

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**Town of Starksboro Awarded \$11,400 Municipal Planning Grant to Improve Housing in the Community**

*The grant funds will be used to hire a consultant who will help the planning commission facilitate community engagement and research into creative ways to improve housing and development policy within the town.*

**STARKSBORO, Vt. (June 11, 2025)** — The Starksboro Planning Commission is thrilled to announce that the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has awarded an \$11,407 Municipal Planning Grant to the town of Starksboro. The grant will allow the planning commission to explore creative new ways to increase housing opportunities in the town.

“We’re greatly looking forward to having additional resources as we plan for the future of housing in Starksboro,” says planning commission chairman, Dennis Casey. “We’re finalizing a round of updates to our Land Use and Development Regulations, and beginning to work on our next Town Plan, and the information learned throughout this process will be invaluable.”

The grant will engage the community in developing a goal for where housing should be encouraged, what type of housing the community needs, and what tools or assets we might leverage to reach our housing goals. Working with a consultant the Starksboro Planning Commission will sponsor a series of housing-focused gatherings across the community designed to explore the public’s realistic housing needs and priorities.

“Community engagement has historically been a challenge for our town,” comments Casey. “We know the community cares greatly about issues affecting Starksboro, but also recognize that everyone is extremely busy and taking time out of their schedule to attend meetings or complete surveys can be a challenge. We’re hoping that through this project, and by working with a consultant, we can overcome this hurdle and develop a model of participation that will be successful now and in the future.”

Simultaneously, the Planning Commission will be researching ways in which Starksboro can become more proactive on housing by supporting innovative mechanisms to support affordability, infrastructure, and community connections.

Both of these initiatives will be conducted under the scope of Act 181, which was passed by the state legislature in 2024, by coordinating with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission and their implementation of the new policies.

The Starksboro Planning Commission is accepting proposals from consultants interested in facilitating this project through June 20, 2025. For more information and application requirements please visit: <https://www.starksborovt.org/bids>. A consultant is expected to be chosen by July 1 with a tentative starting date of July 6. All work will be completed by December 31, 2025.

Awarded annually and administered by DHCD, the Municipal Planning Grant program supports local community revitalization and planning initiatives. The longtime program is unique in its support for this vital aspect of municipal management and rural capacity-building -- offering towns the funding they need to engage residents in decision-making, and to establish a solid vision for their future.

For more information about the ACCD's Municipal Planning Grants please visit the [program's website](#). For information about the project in Starksboro, for the request for proposal, please contact Daniel Kuzio at [dan.kuzio@gmail.com](mailto:dan.kuzio@gmail.com).