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**GBIC**

*Good Jobs In A Clean Environment*

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## **Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation Fall 2022 Newsletter**



Dear community member,

The GBIC team is pleased to provide you with the following information and news regarding economic development in Chittenden County, Vermont. If you have any questions, ideas, or comments please be in touch.

Wishing you our best,  
Frank Cioffi, President  
[frank@vermont.org](mailto:frank@vermont.org)

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### **New Guidelines for Community Recovery and Revitalization Program**

The Community Recovery and Revitalization Program (CRRP) will provide recovery funding for projects that spur economic recovery and revitalization to mitigate the negative economic impacts of COVID-19 in communities across the state. Program guidelines have been posted on the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) [website](#) and the application will become available in the coming weeks.

To best support entities preparing to apply, ACCD is hosting a series of five informational webinars unique to each eligible project type. All potential applicants are encouraged to attend live or watch the recordings prior to submitting their application. Recordings will be made available online.

- Program Overview (Recommended for all applicants) - Wednesday, November 9, 2:30-3:30PM
- Impacted Industries and Businesses in Qualifying Census Tracts - Wednesday, November 9, 4:00-5:00PM
- Childcare Businesses - Thursday, November 10, 10:00-11:00AM
- Affordable Housing - Thursday, November 10, 11:30AM-12:30PM
- Municipal Applicants - Monday, November 14, 9:00-10:00AM

Eligible applicants may apply for the following project types:

- Development of affordable housing
- Improvements to or new construction of childcare facilities
- Projects for nonprofits and small businesses in impacted industries (Agriculture; Educational Services; Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation; and Accommodation & Food Services)
- Municipal water supply and wastewater projects

Full details of the program and webinar information can be found at the [Community Recovery and Revitalization Program page](#).

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## Requesting Input on West Central Vermont CEDS

A second draft of the CEDS is [now available](#) for review, and we would like your feedback! This new draft is open for feedback until December 9, 2022.

Feedback can be provided in two ways:

- Via email to [info@westcentralvt.org](mailto:info@westcentralvt.org)
- Via Konveio, an online platform used to collect and aggregate public comment

A Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is strategy-driven plan for regional economic development. Since late 2020, the regional planning commissions (RPCs) and regional development corporations (RDCs) serving West Central Vermont (Addison County, Chittenden County, Rutland County, Washington County and part of Orange County) have been working to develop a CEDS that meets US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) requirements.

A draft CEDS was released in June 2022. The general public was invited to comment on the CEDS through August 2022. Those public comments have been integrated into a second draft CEDS released on November 1, 2022. A summary of changes to the CEDS between the first and second draft can be found [here](#).

Comments will be aggregated and reviewed by the West Central Vermont Strategy Committee in mid-December 2022. A final CEDS will be completed in March 2023.

The CEDS [website](#) contains videos that provide an overview of the intent and purpose of the West Central Vermont CEDS, a summary of the public engagement process, key findings, and review of proposed goals and actions.

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## Regional Priority Projects Announced

GBIC and our regional planning commission (RPC), municipal, and community partners have completed a regional priority project list for the greater Burlington area. The top ten projects that will receive prioritization include:

- 1.) Winooski Main Street renovation, Winooski
  - 2.) Hinesburg water supply improvement, Hinesburg
  - 3.) Trader Lane renovation, Williston
  - 4.) BTV South End transit center, parking garage, housing, and child care center construction, Burlington
  - 5.) Municipal parking construction, Winooski
  - 6.) Railyard enterprise project, Burlington
  - 7.) Bolton Valley CWS, Bolton Valley Resort
  - 8.) Essex train station construction, Essex Junction
  - 9.) Community sewage disposal system improvement, Westford
  - 10.) Community sailing center improvements, Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center
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## VEDA Short-Term Forgivable Loan Program

VEDA is now accepting applications from businesses in ALL sectors. Please visit the VEDA [website](#) to review their [Application Package \(download\)](#) to determine your eligibility and an estimated tentative loan amount.

The VEDA Short-Term Forgivable Loan Program will provide financial assistance to businesses that continue to experience current and on-going economic harm due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## Worker Relocation Incentive Program Application Open

The [Worker Relocation Incentive program](#) can help subsidize your moving expenses with reimbursement grants of up to \$7,500 if you move to Vermont.

There are two types of workers that are eligible for this program: Those that have accepted a job with a Vermont employer and are planning to move here and those that have a remote work job that they plan to keep upon moving here. Each type of worker has slightly

different eligibility requirements and documents they will need to provide in their application, as explained [here](#). Apply today!

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## One more thing...



We are excited to welcome Alex Demoly to the GBIC team!

Alex earned his double major in mathematics and political science at Middlebury College, from which he graduated summa cum laude in 2022.

Prior to joining GBIC, Alex worked as a government affairs intern for Downs Rachlin Martin during the 2021-2022 session of the Vermont Legislature. He also has experience working for

government agencies in his home of Albany, New York, where he specialized in the review of funding proposals, and on political campaigns at the local and federal levels.

During his time at Middlebury, Alex produced a political science capstone project on higher education policy and a mathematics thesis applying analysis to the space of fractals and fractal dimension. Alex also helped create Next Blaster Co., a startup company in the entertainment space.

Alex is a 2018 graduate of The Albany Academy, where he was valedictorian.

Outside of work, Alex enjoys reading, playing tennis and squash, and perpetually refilling his beloved old sports sedan with oil.

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## About GBIC:

As the certified non-profit economic development corporation serving Chittenden County, GBIC is dedicated to implementing our vision of a thriving Lake Champlain region. This includes an economic environment providing meaningful employment consistent with an uncompromised natural environment, enabling present and future generations of Vermonters to live, learn, work, and play in the Champlain Valley.

GBIC strives to attract, retain, and expand environmentally sensitive high-paying jobs in

the Champlain Valley, and to initiate and support advocacy, education, and collaborative programs in promoting our Vision.

Visit [gbicvt.org](http://gbicvt.org)

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## GBIC Staff:



[Frank Cioffi](#)  
[President](#)



[Sam Andersen](#)  
[Executive Vice President](#)



[Curt Carter](#)  
[Senior Vice President](#)



[Alex Demoly](#)  
[Economic Development Specialist](#)

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## Partners:

- [Agency of Commerce and Community Development](#)
- [Department of Economic Development](#)
- [Vermont COVID Information](#)

- [Vermont Labor Market Information](#)
  - [Vermont Economic Development Authority](#)
  - [Vermont Employment Growth Incentive](#)
  - [Vermont Training Program](#)
  - [Vermont Community Development Program](#)
  - [Vermont Center for Emerging Technology](#)
  - [Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center](#)
  - [Procurement Technical Assistance Center](#)
  - [Efficiency Vermont](#)
  - [Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission](#)
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