



Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative

VTCAC ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN'S FUTURE PRESENTATION

WHAT IS VOREC?

- VOREC was established by Executive Order 11-17 in June 2017
- Supports Governor Scott's vision to prioritize and promote the outdoor recreation economy.
- Recognizes that outdoor recreation makes up a significant portion of Vermont's economy and that natural, cultural and physical assets supporting outdoor recreation can and should be wisely managed, strengthened and leveraged to sustain and enhance the value of visitor experiences and the quality of life for residents.
- VOREC defines outdoor recreation as leisure, sport and therapeutic recreation activities pursued outdoors, mainly in a natural setting (e.g. forests, rivers, trails).

VOREC'S FIVE PILLARS

- Grow outdoor recreation-related businesses.
- Increase participation in outdoor recreation activities among all demographics.
- Strengthen the quality and extent of outdoor recreation resources.
- Increase stewardship of outdoor recreation resources and environmental quality.
- Promote and enjoy the health and wellness benefits of outdoor recreation.

VOREC'S WORK

- VOREC Steering Committee
 - Established with Executive Order 11-17
 - 15 steering committee members
- VOREC Community Grant Program
 - Established by Act 194 passes in 2018



VOREC COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM



VOREC COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM (VCGP)

- **Type of funding:** State
- **What's it for?** Provide funding to communities for achieving their vision for what economic recovery development looks like with outdoor recreation at the center.
- No match requirements
- 2018 – 2020 distributed 9 grants and \$300,000 in funding

2021 GRANT PROGRAM

- Two step Letter of Interest and Application Invitation process.
- Eligibility: Municipal entities & non-profit organizations
- In total there is **\$5,100,000** in grant funding to help Vermont communities fully leverage their natural assets.
- VOREC will fund up to **25 projects** across the state in several areas that include equity, regional/multi-community efforts as well as local/smaller efforts.
- Grants will be awarded to projects with a **minimum budget of \$50,000 with no maximum.**

WHERE ARE WE AT?

- Letters of interest were due on August 27.
- Invitations for full applications were distributed on Friday, October 8.
- Full applications will be due on Monday, November 29.
- Coordinating with other state agencies / departments to review proposed projects and provide feedback (AOT, Fish & Wildlife, etc.)

RESOURCES FOR INFORMATION

- VOREC website <https://fpr.vermont.gov/VOREC>
 - Executive Order
 - VOREC Charter and Bylaws
 - VOREC Action Plan
- VOREC Community Grant website <https://fpr.vermont.gov/recreation/recreation-grants/vorec-community-grant-program>
 - 2021 Outdoor Recreation Grant Funding Information Meeting recording
 - Grant Program FAQ

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact

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THANK YOU!

