
Fwd: We have received your response for MERP Implementation Grant Application

From Adam Wood <adam.wood@richmondvt.org>

Date Thu 10/3/2024 10:02 AM

To Jeff Forward <forward@gmavt.net>; Josh Arneson <jarneson@richmondvt.gov>

Adam Wood
Richmond, VT

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>

Date: September 26, 2024 at 11:52:01 EDT

To: Adam Wood <adam.wood@richmondvt.org>

Subject: We have received your response for MERP Implementation Grant Application

Reply-To: bgs.merp@vermont.gov



MERP Implementation Grant Application

1. Municipal Designation:

Town

2. Municipality Name:

Richmond

3. Name of Authorized Representative completing this application:

Adam Wood

4. Authorized Representative Position:

Selectboard Member

5. Authorized Representative Email:

adam.wood@richmondvt.org

6. Authorized Representative Phone #:

(802) 735-4702

7. Regional Planning Commission:

CCRPC

8. Applicant's Complete Mailing Address:

203 Bridge St, Richmond, 05477

9. Outside of construction costs, what expenses are you requesting funds to cover?

Clerk/Project Manager Design

10. Will you require technical assistance to implement funds, if awarded?

Won't need any assistance.

10.1. Who on your staff will be administering the funds, if awarded?

Josh Arneson

11. Name of building you are requesting funding for:

Town Center

11.1 Building Complete Physical Address:

203 Bridge St, Richmond, 05477

11.2 Building Budget Breakdown

	Costs
Renewable Energy Heating System Improvements/HVAC Improvements	186560
Building's Thermal Envelope Improvements	268409.9
Lighting Improvements	
ADA Improvements	
Project Support and Oversight Soft Costs (BGS recommends budgeting 20% of the construction budget for costs not tied to direct construction costs, such as permits, legal fees, architectural and engineering expenses, and clerking.)	
EV Chargers	
Solar Panels	
Other	
Total Building Project Budget	454969.90
Total with 10% Contingency automatically added to budget	500466.89

11.3 For each line item above, please briefly describe the scope of work of the renovations/upgrades that will be done to this building:

In March, the town voted on a comprehensive \$9.8 million renovation plan of our Town Center building. While the bond vote was narrowly defeated, we developed a detailed plan over several years including professionally developed cost estimates for every building system. The town is still moving forward to address many of the building deficiencies. One of the challenges is that many of the deficiencies are inter-related and it is much more cost effective to deal with many aspects of the project comprehensively rather than independently.

Our MERP application is based on an intimate knowledge of our Town Center buildings deficiencies and a desire to tackle one aspect of the renovation project comprehensively. We are proposing to add roof insulation to a 1950's addition to our Town center building, which now holds our US Post Office. To accomplish this project safely and cost effectively we need to address several other issues at the same time. Our budget includes:

- Removing the aging rooftop mechanicals.
- Removing the membrane roof
- Demolishing the ceiling in order to expose roof rafters
- Reinforce roof rafters to meet current codes for insulation levels and snow load.
- Replacing ceiling tiles
- Install sufficient levels of rigid insulation
- Install new roof membrane
- Install roof finish details such as soffits, fascia, scuppers and parapets
- Install new pads for mechanicals
- Replace aging mechanicals with new cold climate heat pumps

We chose this project out of the larger renovation project because it is relatively discrete and would have minimal impact other portions of the building. We based our MERP budget on the professional cost estimate we developed during our renovation design process. We feel this insulation and fuel-switching project fits within the spirit of the MERP program and fits within the grant award limits.

11.4 Please select all that apply to this building:

This building used by the public for events and/or meetings.

This building is used by the public to access internet.

11.5 Do you have another building that you will be using funds for, if awarded?

No.

16. Project Budget Breakdown

	Costs
Building One Total Budget	500466.89
Building Two Total Budget	
Building Three Total Budget	
Building Four Total Budget	
Building Five Total Budget	

18. Please include a copy of your energy assessment for each building you are requesting funds for.

[MERP Level II Energy Assessment Report - Richmond Town Center Building 2024-09-26 \(1\).pdf](#)

[MERP Post Office MERP Detail.pdf](#)

18. Is there anything else about your project that has not been addressed in the preceding questions that would be beneficial for reviewers to know as they score your application?

Our Town Center Campus in the heart of Richmond Village includes Richmond Free Library and the old Richmond High School building, which was built in 1907. The old High School, now called the Town Center building, is well loved in the community. It now houses our Town Municipal Offices, Police Station, Planning and Zoning Offices, Community Senior Center office, Richmond Historical Society office, US Post Office, MMCTV Community Access TV station and Radiate Art Space. Hundreds of people use this building monthly for meetings and public services.

But the Town Center building does have a number of deficiencies that the town is trying to address. Several years ago the Selectboard appointed a committee and in 2023 hired Black River Design to help us develop a comprehensive renovation plan for the entire Town Center building. This plan included a detailed budget, which we drew upon to create the enclosed budget for the MERP grant.

Unfortunately, the bond vote to support this comprehensive renovation plan was just too expensive for the voters to swallow this past spring and the bond vote failed on Town Meeting Day. The Town Center Committee is regrouping to see if any parts of the plan can be peeled off and done as discrete projects. Our MERP grant proposal represents one of those discrete projects. Our proposal is to bring the PO addition up to energy code standards and replace the aging fossil fuel HVAC equipment with new cold climate heat pumps.

19. Were any of your buildings red tagged after the assessment was performed as a result of the 2024 flooding?

No

20. Municipalities can request a financial hardship on a case-by-case basis to fully fund the project upfront if the municipality doesn't have the funds to cover the project in advance or reimbursement. The award amount will depend on the assessment recommendations and their cost estimates, the award maximum, and available funds. Do you need to request a financial hardship?

No.

21. What type of administrative staff does your municipality have?

Full Time Admin/Manager

22. Has your municipality been awarded a State awarded energy efficiency grant within the last 5 years? Does not include a Mini-Grant.

No

23. What is the Driving Distance from your municipality to the closest largest Vermont municipality (municipality over 7,000 in population)?

12 miles to Burlington

24. What is the population of your municipality?

4,167

25. By checking this box I attest that I have the authority to apply for and enter into agreements on behalf of the named municipality.

I understand and agree.

26. By checking this box I certify that my municipality has access to high-speed Internet, as defined in the State's Telecommunication Plan set forth in 30 V.S.A. § 202c, OR that my covered municipality will have a plan in place by 12/31/2024 to ensure access to high-speed Internet at a later date.

I understand and agree.

27. By checking this box I certify that all information provided as part of this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I give my consent for this application to use the information provided herein for the purpose of consideration. I will provide any supplemental information that I have indicated in this application to my RPC or to BGS directly.

I understand and agree.

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