

March 07, 2025

# **Register to Attend the Vermont Capital Planning Forum by 4/3!**





The Vermont Bond Bank will host its [Fourth Annual Vermont Capital Planning Forum](#) on **April 10, 2025**, from 9 am to 4 pm in Barre. The Forum costs \$15. Municipal and school officials that submit a capital plan attend for free!

This in-person event helps governmental units of all sizes and capacity explore Vermont-specific best practices in capital planning.

## **What is Capital Planning?**

Capital planning is a tool you can use to balance your municipality's long-term asset needs with its financial capacity to achieve them. Essentially, a capital plan is a projected spending plan to help avoid surprises that cause wide swings in a municipality's tax rate. It balances spending, saving, and borrowing.

Through capital planning, you:

- create a list of the municipality's capital assets, such as buildings, water and wastewater treatment plants, roads and bridges, vehicles, and major software, with



their condition,

- identify purchases, repairs, and replacements that might be needed for a set time period into the future (ex. a 5-year or 10-year capital plan),
- develop cost estimates for the items,
- set priorities for future needs based on urgency, impact, and available resources, and
- develop a plan for financing priority needs.

With this information, you can develop a year-by-year program for the projects you'll undertake and when you'll complete them. Capital planning can help you keep your tax rate steady.

## Why Should I Attend?

- **Network with your peers** and **find partners to help you** as your community moves through the capital planning process.
- **Walk away with stories and examples** of simple capital plans focused on a single topic (ex. transportation infrastructure to complex plans that have been built over time to include all a municipality's assets. You can use these plans to help you figure out what level of planning works for your town.
- **Learn** how solving an infrastructure gap can encourage housing development.
- **Assess whether you are ready to begin** capital planning and to start using a capital plan.

## How Do I Learn More?



Visit the Vermont Bond Bank's [Capital Planning Forum](#) webpage for information and to register for this event.

Visit the Bond Bank's [Capital Planning Resource Page](#) for resources, such as videos, templates, related policies, and plan examples.

