Resources for Policymakers & Local Decision-Makers/Leaders

Livable & Accessible Community Resources

- **AARP Livable Communities**: AARP Livable Communities supports the efforts of neighborhoods, towns, cities and rural areas to be great places for people of all ages.
  - **AARP Walk Audit Tool Kit**: Learn how to assess and report on the safety and walkability of a street, intersection or neighborhood — and inspire needed change.

- **Complete Streets – AARP Guide for Vermont Communities**: The guide is hugely practical for city planners. Not only does the guide cite examples within the state of Vermont, but it also functions as a “how-to” document with illustrations and examples of issues related to bicycle lanes, walkability, coding, zoning, and many other sub-categories.

- **Vermont Dept of Transportation Bike/Ped Design Resources**: The Bicycle and Pedestrian Program goal is to provide safe and convenient facilities for those Vermonters who desire alternative transportation opportunities. Check out design resources for Bicycle and Pedestrian improvements.

- **Local Motion - Complete Streets Technical Assistance**: Local Motion provides a range of free or low-cost technical assistance services to communities working to build complete streets and encourage active transportation like walking and biking. Contact Local Motion's Complete Streets Program Manager, Jonathon Weber, if you'd like to find out more or request technical assistance for your community.

- **Regional Planning Commissions (RPC)**: provide assistance on community development activities and issues as well as leadership and technical expertise to encourage cooperative planning within and among the region’s communities and area-wide interests. Find the RPC that serves your region.

- **Watch For Me VT Program**: seeks to reduce injuries and deaths on Vermont roadways, specifically among people who walk and bike. Learn about how to walk, drive and ride your bike safely, and download materials to share in your community or organization.
Dementia-Friendly Communities

- **Dementia Friendly America**: The goal of this program is to effectively support those living with dementia and their care partners living in community using an all-sectors approach.
  - Learn more about how your community – organization – sector can become part of Dementia Friendly Vermont by contacting tiffany.smith@vermont.gov

Dementia-Friendly America Sector-Guidance

- Neighbors and Community Members
- Legal and Advance Planning Services
- Libraries
- Local Government
- Businesses
- Additional Sector Guides/videos

- **Vermont Commission on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders**: The Commission’s mission is to identify key public policy issues related to ADRD, to educate the public and private sectors regarding these matters and to make policy recommendations in support of developing programs and services essential to providing accessible and appropriate services to people with dementia illnesses and to their families and other care partners.

- **Alzheimer’s Association of Vermont**: Their mission is to eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health.
Bike/Pedestrian/Livable Communities Grant Programs

- **Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) Municipal Assistance**: Municipal Assistance (MA) technical staff is assigned to work with, and support, the municipalities in the development of projects while providing oversight and guidance to ensure projects are developed in accordance with applicable design standards and federal and state regulations.

- **Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) Funding and Initiatives**: Your community has a great re-development opportunity, but the project needs funding. Sound familiar? Luckily a number of federal, state and local resources are available to help. Program staff can help you find the resources needed to meet your community development goals.
  
  - **ACCD Designated Downtown and Village Centers Funding Directory**: Comprehensive list of grant and funding opportunities for downtowns and village centers across Vermont.

- **Safe Streets and Roads for All**: The **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law** (BIL) established the new Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program with $5 billion in appropriated funds over the next 5 years. In fiscal year 2022 (FY22), up to $1 billion is available. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries.

- **AARP Community Challenge Grants**: provides small grants to fund quick-action projects that can help communities become more livable for people of all ages. This year, applications will be accepted for projects to improve public spaces, housing, transportation, and civic engagement; support diversity, equity and inclusion; build engagement for programs under new federal laws; and pursue innovative ideas that support people ages 50 or older.
  
  - **AARP Vermont** also offers placemaking grants throughout the year. [Join the AARP VT email list](mailto:Join%20the%20AARP%20VT%20email%20list) or contact Kelly Poor-Stoddard: kstoddardpoor@aarp.org
Additional helpful resources and information

Driver Rehabilitation Programs

- **UVM Medical Center - Driver Rehab Program, Burlington**: The University of Vermont Medical Center occupational therapists are specially trained as driver educators to help get older people back on the road (if it is safe to do so). Call: 802-847-3140
- **Central Vermont Medical Center - Clinical Driver Assessments, Berlin**: The Clinical Driving Assessment program is a comprehensive clinical assessment for those who may be at a high risk for an automobile crash. Call: 802-847-3140
- **Rutland Regional Driver Assessment Program, Rutland**: Specially trained therapists provide screening services to ensure you can drive safely. Call: 802-772-2490

Transportation Options

- **Rides In Sight**: provides information about senior transportation options in local communities throughout the United States. Call: +1-855-607-4337
- **Vermont Public Transportation Association**: provides mobility choices for seniors (60+) and people with disabilities. Call: 802-442-0629

Vermont & National Older Adult Resources & Support

- **AARP Smart Driver Course**: The AARP Smart Driver course is the nation’s first refresher course specifically designed for drivers age 50 and older. In many states, drivers may benefit from a discount on their auto insurance premium upon completing the course.
- **AAA RoadWise Driver Program**: a senior defensive driving program is an online course designed to positively affect driving behavior and help you learn about and adjust to age-related physical changes.
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- Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) – Mature Drivers, Statewide: The DMV has resources for older drivers, caregivers, conducts older driver re-testing, and offers a list of driving schools for older drivers to practice their skills.

- Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living (DAIL): Responsible for management and oversight of a full array of long-term services and supports for older Vermonters and adults with physical disabilities. Call: 802-241-0294

- Vermont Department of Health Older Driver Safety Program: Older Driver Safety webpage with comprehensive information and interactive map of resources.

- Area Agencies on Aging: These agencies offer information and assistance to Vermonters age 60+ and their care partners. Call 1-800-642-5119 to connect to your local agency or visit vermont4a.org

- Vermont 211: a database that contains detailed descriptions of programs and services available to Vermonters. Call: 2-1-1

- Family Conversations with Older Drivers – The Hartford
  - We Need to Talk... Family Conversations with Older Drivers Guidebook – The Hartford

- Dementia and Driving – The Hartford
  - At the Crossroads: Family Conversations about Alzheimer’s Disease, Dementia, and Driving Guidebook – The Hartford

- Older Drivers: Stay Safe Behind the Wheel – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  - CDC MyMobility Plan: This mobility planning tool can guide you to take action today to help keep yourself—or your loved ones—safe, mobile, and independent today and in the future.