

STATE OF VERMONT

Agency of Commerce and Community Development

OPPORTUNITY ZONE DESIGNATION UPDATE / PROCESS

Updated 03/09/18

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 included the creation of a new tax-incentive aimed at increasing private investment in low income census tracts (the same census tracts as defined by the New Market Tax Credit program). The law requires the Governor of Vermont to submit a recommendation to the Secretary of the Treasury naming up to 25 census tracts as “Opportunity Zones.” Investors in these zones will receive preferential tax treatment when they invest in a newly created “Opportunity Funds.” The Governor has until March 21, 2018, to make recommendations to the Secretary of Treasury, with the ability to seek a 30 day extension to April 21, 2018. The Agency is seeking input on which census tracts should be designated Opportunity Zones.

On Friday, March 9, Governor Scott issued his draft recommendations, including 25 census tracts in 16 communities ([click here to view map](#)):

Barre City (southwest of Main Street) – census tract 50023955200

Bennington (downtown and north) – census tracts 50003971200 and 50003970900

Brattleboro (downtown and north) – census tracts 50025968500 and 50025968600

Burlington (waterfront, Pine Street Corridor, downtown) – census tracts 50007001000 and 50007000500

Johnson – census tract 50015953200

Lyndon (downtown Lyndonville and West of Broad and Main Street) – census tract 50005957200

Newport City – census tracts 50019951500 and 50019951400

Rockingham (Bellows Falls) – census tract 50025967000

Royalton – census tract 50027965100

Rutland City (downtown core, west, and south) – census tracts 50021963300, 50021963100, and

50021963200

St. Albans City (west of Main Street) - census tract 50011010700

St. Johnsbury – census tracts 50005957400 and 50005957500

South Burlington including City Center – census tract 50007003600

Springfield – census tracts 50027966600 and 50027966700

Vergennes – census tract 50001960300

Winooski – census tracts 50007002500 and 50007002400

Final feedback concerning these recommendations is due Friday, March 16, in accordance with the public feedback schedule established below.:

Parties provide input on census tract selection, including adjoining non-NMTC census tracts:	February 14, 2018
The Agency publishes a draft recommendation on the web at acd.vermont.gov/OpportunityZones :	February 23, 2018
Parties provide feedback on the draft recommendation:	March 6, 2018
The Agency publishes a final draft recommendation on the web at acd.vermont.gov/OpportunityZones :	March 9, 2018
Parties provide feedback on the final draft:	March 16, 2018
Final recommendation made to Governor	March 20, 2018

All input should be submitted via email to ted.brady@vermont.gov. If an organization has already submitted material before issuance of this memo, there is no need to resubmit.

Treasury's guidance, and the information resource they will use as supporting evidence to any designation, is available at: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rp-18-16.pdf>.

Also, please find the authorizing language from the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017.