



**Bellows Falls Downtown  
Development Alliance**

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Re: BFDDA Membership support

Membership support is an important element of the revitalization of the downtown district in a community. Perhaps you have been a BFDDA supporter in the past and we hope you will continue your membership support again this year. If you have not been a supporter, we hope that this is the year you will become one. In becoming a member, you help to support the work and projects of the Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance (BFDDA).

Under the direction of Executive Director, Mary Helen Hawthorne, and energetic and dedicated volunteer board members, committee chairpersons and supporters we are hard at work resolving the many concerns that have been expressed by both the business communities and residents of Bellows Falls. We continue to maintain the positive momentum that exists through ongoing collaboration with businesses and organizations, as well as individuals, the Town of Rockingham, Village of Bellows Falls, and the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Our big initiative this year will be to conduct a community network analysis. This is an effort to engage all aspects and groups of the community to determine our strengths and weaknesses and what is liked and disliked about BF. Using this collected information we plan to create a road map for moving forward in the best way.

Very briefly, in this past year BFDDA decorated downtown for the holidays, partnered with the Chamber at Old Home Days, ran a very successful Shop Local program that encouraged nearly \$200,000 of local spending, provided assistance to several new businesses that have opened in downtown and through Downtown Designation helped leverage tax credits and code improvement awards of \$42,500 for downtown businesses and/or property owners.

Contact us with your questions and suggestions or to become a member of a committee -- they are the Design, Promotions, Economic Restructuring, and Organization Committees. We are always pleased to have new members with new ideas and enthusiasm. Please join us. Again, we thank you for becoming a member or renewing your membership and for your support of the Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance.

For the Board,

*Mary Helen Hawthorne*

Mary Helen Hawthorne, Executive Director

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