

Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program

Success Story: Improving Environmental & Community Health in Brandon, VT

\$3.78 Million
WWD loan from
USDA RD

1.75%
WWD loan
Interest rate

\$1.75 Million
WWD grant from
USDA RD

\$170,000
VT Clean Water Revolving
Loan Fund Contribution

3900
Residents positively
impacted

300
Brandon businesses
positively impacted

IMPROVEMENTS Above Ground & Below

Major streetscaping improvements energized the life, light and color of downtown Brandon, Vermont. Town leaders who focused on improving the health and quality of life for residents knew they also had to minimize environmental hazards. Surface place-making efforts leverage equally important subterranean investments in water & waste infrastructure, and the electrical systems and infrastructure in the Brandon wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) required urgent replacement and rehabilitation.

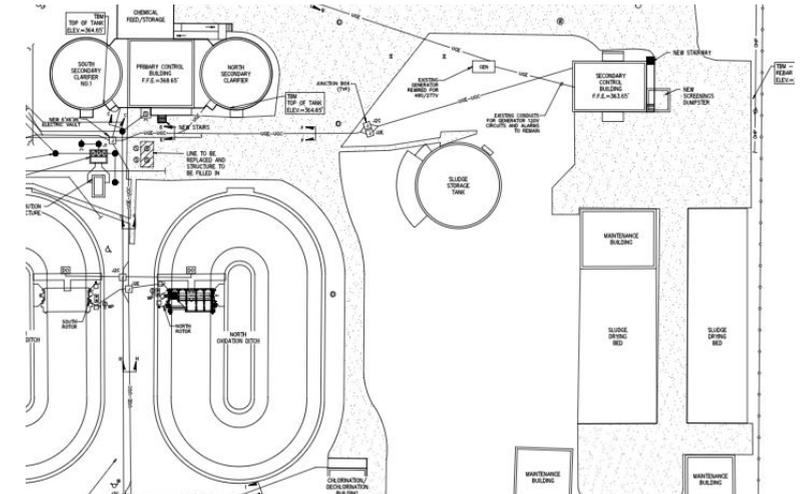
OPPORTUNITY to Reach Deep & Revitalize

A GO Bond for \$5,700,000 was passed by townspeople in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, demonstrating Brandon's firm commitment to revitalizing its essential infrastructure. The Vermont Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund contributed to the improvement project with planning and feasibility services. The upgrades will keep workers safe, improve water and soil quality in the Otter Creek Watershed, and promote public health benefits for thousands who call it home.

SOLUTIONS to Make it Better (for Less)

Brandon received a USDA Water & Waste Disposal loan & grant to help restore the town's wastewater treatment facility. Improvements include decommissioning an abandoned structure, implementing a facility-wide SCADA system, replacing gas-detection sensors, and refurbishing electrical, HVAC and lighting systems. Because of the pandemic, interest rates were at historically low levels when the project financing crystalized—a silver lining in tough economic times.

For program regulations and requirements, please go to the [USDA RD fact sheet](#).



Drawing courtesy of Aldrich & Elliott Water Resource Engineers

