East Hardwick Better Connections (2025) Advancing the Goals of the Hardwick Municipal Plan (2019)

Purpose

The *Better Connections* process delivers a detailed action plan to revitalize East Hardwick. It reflects the broad, town-wide goals of the Hardwick Municipal Plan in specific, community-supported projects that improve **livability**, **mobility**, **resilience**, and **economic vitality**.

Key Focus Areas & Actions

Land Use & Village Vitality

Municipal Goal: Preserve compact, walkable village centers. **Better Connections Actions:**

- Sidewalk and streetscape improvements in the village core
- Proposal to adopt a Village Center Zoning District (U&A-5)

Transportation & Access

Municipal Goal: Improve pedestrian infrastructure and connectivity. **Better Connections Actions:**

- Main Street sidewalk replacement and intersection redesign (A&L-4 to A&L-9)
- Wayfinding system linking LVRT to community spaces (*A&L-11*)

Economic Development

Municipal Goal: Support local commerce and revitalize downtowns. **Better Connections Actions:**

- Develop LVRT Trailhead gateway (U&A-2)
- Marketing strategies and small business support (U&A-6)

Housing

Municipal Goal: Encourage diverse, affordable housing near services. **Better Connections Actions:**

- Demographic and housing analysis with partners (U&A-4)
- Promotion of infill development and walkable housing

Historic Preservation & Community Character

Municipal Goal: Protect historic structures and scenic views. **Better Connections Actions:**

- Streetscape improvements that reflect village character (C&I-5)
- Recognition and investment in the Grange Hall and local landmarks (U&A-1, S-3)

Flood Resilience & Infrastructure

Municipal Goal: Improve water, sewer, and stormwater systems. **Better Connections Actions:**

- Green stormwater infrastructure and Main Street upgrades (C&I-3)
- Focus on climate resilience in key infrastructure locations

Conclusion

The *East Hardwick Better Connections Plan* brings the Hardwick Municipal Plan to life—right at the neighborhood level. Through practical, place-based investments, it supports East Hardwick in becoming a more **resilient**, **walkable**, and **vibrant village center**.