TECHNICAL PLANS

**VISION CONNECTION**

* **Affordability:**
* **Safe & Resilient Community:**
* **Social Cultural and Recreational Offerings:**

### Utilities + Facilities

The Richmond utilities and facilities have been discussed across multiple components of this action plan. For planning purposes, we are sorting this technical plan into three categories: Richmond Facilities, Richmond Utilities, and Private or External Utilities and Facilities.

The town owns multiple properties and facilities including the town center, library, water and sewer plant, Volunteers Green, Richmond Fire Department, Richmond Highway Department, and others. Several town facilities are currently being energy audited for potential upgrades and renovations. The town center and library are historic facilities and their maintenance requires more care, preparation, and funding than others in order to preserve historic integrity and modernize the facilities simultaneously. Richmond’s highway and fire facilities are newer buildings, and require general upkeep and maintenance. Currently, the town is pursuing options for the police department. The current police department office is in the town center and no longer has the capacity and efficacy that is needed. The town recently purchased forest land for municipal ownership, conservation, and public recreation. Volunteers Green is the main town recreational area serving farmers markets, sports, and general public use. The landmark Round Church is also under the supervision of the town and is maintained in a historic manner, used only for special purposes.

Richmond also has its own municipal village water and sewer system. The water and wastewater treatment facility is located on Esplanade. The wastewater collection system was expanded in 1999 along Cochran road to cover the remainder of the homes in the service area. The plant was upgraded in 2005, when a $3.9 million project to reduce phosphorous discharged to 0.8 mg/l was completed. An ordinance governing the water/sewer district of the Incorporated Village of Richmond went into effect in 1972 and is on file in Town Clerk’s office. It specifies required uses in the service area, the requirements for hookups, states that all expenses are the responsibility of the users and states the power and authority vested in the inspectors. In 1993 an ordinance was adopted for the allocation of future hookups depending on use, consumption and other criteria.

Richmond has two major electrical providers: Green Mountain Power and Vermont Electric Co-Op. The capital budget is created and updated annually by the Selectboard with input from the Richmond Planning Commission, development review board, and other town boards and commissions. All upgrades or constructions are financed through the town fund or grants. This funding comes from the tax base, non-government organizations, state programs, or federal programs. Facilities and utilities that are constructed or maintained under the control or influence of the town shall take into account the 11 community visions as well as the goals of this and other technical plans. Goal-related priority expenditures and costs are listed below.

**HIGHER PRIORITY: LOWER PRIORITY:**

Cost of generators Cost of signage improvements, parking upgrades:

$300-$2000 per generator $100-$300 per sign

Cost of flotation devices: $3.75-$5.00 per square foot of gravel parking area

$10,000 per rescue boat Cost of library improvements

$20 per flotation vest $8000 per year

Cost of sidewalk construction

$650,000 for completion OTHERS???

**GOALS & ACTIONS**

**GOAL 1: Richmond will have maintained and upgraded (where reasonable and necessary) municipal facilities and grounds**

**GOAL 2: Richmond will have maintained and upgraded (where reasonable and necessary) municipal utilities and associated infrastructure as needed at reasonable costs**

**GOAL 3: Richmond will maintain or increase the level of public service provided by their utilities and facilities**

**GOAL 4: Richmond will have a continued presence and use of externally sourced utilities for Richmond residents that are unavailable through the municipality, such as rubbish removal, heat, and electricity**

**GOAL 5: Richmond will have increased cellular service and increased availability of high speed internet**

**(WAITNG FOR FEEDBACK FROM TOWN DEPARTMENTS)**