

TO: Richmond Selectboard

FROM: Ravi Venkataraman, Town Planner

CC: Richmond Transportation Committee

DATE: December 17, 2020

SUBJECT: FY22 UPWP Projects

During the last Selectboard meeting, the board discussed applying for funding via the FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to support several projects, including the southern portion of Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan, sidewalk scoping for Jericho Road, from the schools, under I-89 to Valley View Road, and streetscape design standards for Bridge Street. There was consensus from the Selectboard that the Transportation Committee further consider those three applications during the previous Selectboard meeting.

Since the December 4, 2020 Selectboard meeting, I have done further research, obtained cost estimates, and have discussed my findings with the Richmond Transportation Committee.

During the December 16, 2020 Transportation Committee meeting, the committee voted to recommend pursuing the southern portion of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan project, and the sidewalk scoping project with Jericho Road as well as two additional sidewalk segments—Bridge Street, and Huntington Road—to be scoped. The December 16, 2020 Transportation Committee meeting minutes are enclosed for your consideration

Additional details on all three previously discussed projects are as follows:

1. Southern portion of Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan - Work on the northern portion of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan is currently underway with support from the FY21 UPWP. The Transportation Committee would like to complete the project for the entire town by applying for funds to cover the southern portion of town. This project is the highest priority for the Transportation Committee. The total cost estimate is \$40,000; therefore, the town would have to provide an \$8,000 match (20 percent, as required for transportation projects in the UPWP)
2. Sidewalk scoping for Jericho Road, from the schools, under I-89 to Valley View Road - CCRPC said it can lump together up to four unrelated segments into a single scoping project. After much discussion, the Richmond Transportation Committee would like to pursue three sidewalk segments, including (1) Jericho Road north of the schools, (2) Huntington Road, from the end of the sidewalk to Johnnie Brook Trail; and (3) the east side of Bridge Street, from TD Bank to Jolina Court. For all three segments (Jericho Road, Huntington Road, and Bridge Street), CCRPC indicated that the total cost would be \$60,000--meaning the Town would have to provide a \$12,000 match.
3. The streetscape design standards project is not a suitable fit for UPWP funding, and will be considered for other grant opportunities.

If the Selectboard chooses to pursue both recommended projects, the FY22 budget will have to be adjusted. Currently, the draft FY22 budget has \$16,000 for transportation projects under Planning and Zoning. That figure will have to be increased by \$4,000 to \$20,000 (\$8,000 for the southern portion of

the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan project and \$12,000 for the Sidewalk Scoping Project for Jericho Road, Bridge Street, and Huntington Road) in order to cover the required 20 percent match.

I have prepared the following draft motion to facilitate action:

I, _____, move to approve pursuing the southern portion of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan project and the Sidewalk Scoping project with Jericho Road, Bridge Street, and Huntington Road segments for the FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) projects as well as approve the allocation of \$20,000 (\$8,000 for the southern portion of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan, and \$12,000 for the Sidewalk Scoping Project) for the required 20 percent match for said projects.

Richmond Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes – December 17, 2020

All participants attended the meeting remotely.

Committee members: Cathleen Gent (chair), Jon Kart, Erik Filkorn, Mark Damico, James Floyd, Allen Knowles, Chris Cole

Others present: Ravi Venkataraman

Cathleen Gent opened the meeting at 6:33PM.

Meeting Minutes: December 3, 2020 Minutes moved by Floyd, seconded by Cole. Approved unanimously with minor amendments.

Additions to Agenda: Selectboard discussion of Cochran Road, Monday budget meeting recap.

UPWP Projects

Gent asked for impressions from the local concerns meeting for the Bridge Street project. There was a lot of interest from the businesses expressed in additional parking—particularly perpendicular. There was some consternation expressed about the timing of the meeting from a business owner. Comments continue to come in via email and those comments are being shared with VHB. There will be another public meeting for the project. Second session will be in March.

Wiki map is up for Bike/Ped master plan. Please share widely—not just the bikers and walkers. Data collection should go into February. Lucy Gibson from Tool did come for a site visit and were shown around by Ravi to observe a few potential path sites.

FY22 UPWP Applications

Ravi took the lead with the Selectboard (SB) on reviewing the potential applications for the next period and the SB was generally positive about all our proposed projects. SB was interested in how many feet of sidewalk we were talking about for the Southview/Valley View spur. Gent conveyed that the board was looking for an average annual segment length. Cole suggested getting the standard per-foot rate is for estimating sidewalks in VT. Ravi is on it. \$277/foot. Ravi will return this info to the SB. There was an extended discussion about how much sidewalk spending the town could afford over time and how segments might be defined or executed. Scoping studies have a long shelf life provided estimates are updated with current quantity estimates. Knowles asked about the disposition of the East Main/Route 2 project and will VTrans be building the East Main Street sidewalks. Additional discussion as to what our actual priority segments are for sidewalks.

There was a motion by Kart, seconded by Cole to focus on three primary segments for sidewalk scoping: 1) Bridge Street East Side, 2) Round Church to Johnny Brook/Cross Vermont Trail; and 3) School Street to Southview/Valley View. Further discussion ensued regarding the budgetary process and opportunities and how a Streetscape Study might inform especially the Bridge Street East Side segment. Motion passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Motion by Knowles, seconded by Damico to submit application for Southern Bike/Ped master plan. Approved unanimously. No abstentions. Still requires review by Ravi before final submission.

Ravi will be submitting a memo to the SB on Monday. He's ready to roll.

EV Charging Stations

Ravi spoke with Gary Holloway and they are not currently offering 1-off funding. We don't currently fit the profile for where the Agency of Commerce is placing chargers, but we persist. There may be more opportunities. Cole suggested Filkorn consult with Dan Edson at BGS to see if there are other opportunities.

Cochran Road Parking

We don't really have a dog in that fight.

Other Business

Motion to adjourn by Damico, Seconded by Knowles. Approved unanimously. No abstentions.

-Erik Filkorn