



TOWN OF RICHMOND
RICHMOND TOWN CENTER
203 Bridge Street, P.O. Box 285
Richmond, Vermont 05477



October 12, 2021

Secretary Joe Flynn
Vermont Agency of Transportation
219 North Main St.
Barre, VT 05641

RE: Response to the September 2, 2021 Letter from Matt Bogaczyk, Regarding Follow up on July 20, 2021 Meeting Regarding the Route 2 Repaving Project in Richmond.

Dear Secretary Flynn,

The Town of Richmond has received and appreciates the response on the Route 2 Repaving Project from Matt Bogaczyk. The Town is appreciative that Mr. Bogaczyk's letter confirms that the items agreed to in the July 20, 2021 meeting will be included in the project.

The Town is disappointed to learn that other items outlined in our August 13, 2021 letter will not be considered for inclusion in the scope of work for the current repaving project. We understand that sidewalks and parking can be addressed after the repaving project is complete. However, the following items would be best addressed during the current project:

- Expanding the shoulders from the Richmond village to the park and ride to six feet.
- Conducting a study of and replacing all storm water infrastructure which is in poor shape regardless of the depth of this infrastructure.
- Confirmation that the Town will be able to resolve the noncompliant interconnections between the sewer and storm water systems under Rt. 2, and that the Town would be able to daylight storm water so that storm water runoff can sheet across Route 2.

The Town understands that adding these items to the current scope would require use of additional funding sources, more planning, and potentially additional permitting. However, all three of these items would be best addressed in the current project and should result in savings in the construction phase.

The Town is requesting a meeting with yourself so we can discuss these items and explore ways to include them in the current project. The Town understands that if the timeframe is too short to include them for construction starting next fall that the timeline for construction may need to be delayed. While it would be disappointing to not have the project commence in the fall of 2022, the Town feels that having a project that starts a little later and addresses all pertinent issues is preferable to a project lacking in scope that commences sooner.



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Thank you for your consideration,

Christine Werneke

Christine Werneke, Richmond Selectboard Chair

CC:

Representative Jana Brown

Senator Philip Baruth

Senator Thomas Chittenden

Senator Virginia "Ginny" Lyons

Senator Christopher A. Pearson

Senator Kesha Ram

Senator Michael Sirotkin

Richmond Selectboard Vice Chair David Sander

Richmond Town Manager Josh Arneson

Richmond Road Foreman Pete Gosselin

VTrans Project Delivery Bureau Director Robert White

VTrans Project Manager Matthew Bogaczyk

VTrans Highway Safety & Design Program Manager Jesse Devlin



Josh Arneson <jarneson@richmondvt.gov>

Richmond Route 2 Repaving Project

White, Rob <Rob.White@vermont.gov>

Tue, Oct 26, 2021 at 2:39 PM

To: "Arneson, Joshua" <jarneson@richmondvt.gov>, Christine Werneke <christine.werneke@richmondvt.org>

Cc: Jana Brown <jbrown@leg.state.vt.us>, "Bogaczyk, Matthew" <Matthew.Bogaczyk@vermont.gov>, "pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us" <pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us>, "tchittenden@leg.state.vt.us" <tchittenden@leg.state.vt.us>, Virginia Lyons <VLyons@leg.state.vt.us>, Christopher Pearson <CPearson@leg.state.vt.us>, "kram@leg.state.vt.us" <kram@leg.state.vt.us>, "david.sander@richmondvt.org" <david.sander@richmondvt.org>, Peter Gosselin <pgosselin@richmondvt.gov>, "Devlin, Jesse" <Jesse.Devlin@vermont.gov>, "Flynn, Joe" <Joe.Flynn@vermont.gov>, "msirotkin@leg.state.vt.us" <msirotkin@leg.state.vt.us>, "Parizo, Erin" <Erin.Parizo@vermont.gov>, "Gammell, Ann" <Ann.Gammell@vermont.gov>

Dear Chairperson Werneke,

Thank you for the follow up letter sent to the Agency, dated October 12, 2021. The Final Plans have been developed and provided to the Regional Planning Commission and the Town of Richmond. These plans are reflective of the collaborative efforts between VTrans and the Town to develop and deliver a project which will provide benefits to both the community and the traveling public. While VTrans acknowledges that not all requests have been able to be included under this scope, we have been able to provide some improvements above the minimum standards of this type of project and are intending to continue the development, advertisement and construction of the project as previously discussed and as depicted in the Final Plans. The project is on schedule for a late winter/early spring advertisement in 2022 and construction is planned to begin in the third quarter of 2022. The following is a compilation of requested improvements from the Town and VTrans' response:

- Sidewalks, curbing and defined parking east of the Bridge Street intersection.
 - As agreed, this work will not be included under the scope of this project and the Town plans to move forward with an independent study and eventual project.
- Six-foot shoulders from the Richmond Park and Ride to the Village Limits.
 - The project will install 11-foot travel lanes and five-foot shoulders within the above limits. There are six locations where this typical section cannot be continued due to bridges, culverts or topography that would require right of way acquisition. In each of these locations, the shoulder(s) will be narrowed and expanded as quickly as reasonably possible. Six-foot shoulders will not be included.
- A left turn arrow at the Bridge Street Intersection for left turning vehicles off from Bridge Street onto US-2 Westbound.
 - The signal at this intersection will be fully reconstructed and upgraded to meet current standards. Included in this upgrade will be a five section "doghouse" signal containing a left turn arrow/phase as requested. The inclusion of the left turn arrow will not be coupled with a left turn lane on Bridge Street.
- ADA Compliant Intersection Features at Bridge Street
 - Sidewalk ramp sections and signal infrastructure will be installed and constructed to meet ADA compliance.
- Traffic Signal Preemption for Emergency Services
 - The new signal will include signal preemption as part of the system functionality.
- Conduct a study of stormwater demands and replacing all infrastructure which is in poor condition regardless of depth

- Within the village area, the Town has replaced culverts near Millet Street and Bridge Street and noted during the July 20 meeting that neither needed replacement. East of the Bridge Street intersection, there is one parallel line which is intersected with two Drop Inlets (DI's) and a tee. This parallel line will be replaced with the project, including both connected DI's, the tee, and the short pipe and DI connected to the tee at the apartment building's drive. Additionally, the cross culvert and DI near Papa McKee's Pizzeria will be replaced and will require a temporary closure of US Route 2. The design team will reach out regarding timing of this closure. There is one remaining culvert in the village limits near Lemroy Court, which will not be replaced as the outlet falls outside of the State's Existing ROW.
- Confirmation that the Town will be able to resolve the noncompliant interconnections between the sewer and storm water systems under US Route 2, and that the Town would be able to daylight stormwater so that the stormwater runoff can sheet across US Route 2.
 - As has been discussed, this project will not be modifying the general function of the existing closed drainage system and will not be obtaining or modifying existing environmental permitting. Analysis of the existing drainage that will be replaced as part of the project and described previously did not identify illicit discharges into the stormwater system. As such, resolution of illicit discharges is not anticipated or included within the proposed project.

Thank you again for your interest in the project and the Town's Collaboration with VTrans to provide a benefit to the community and road users. As noted above, we acknowledge that the project does not include all the elements initially noted and requested by the Town, however, it does not preclude future projects or work along this corridor. As you are aware, VTrans has implemented a new project selection and prioritization process that provides a mechanism for input from the RPCs and communities into both the project selection and prioritization process. As corridor needs and potential projects are identified under this process, VTrans will work with the Town and RPC through the selection and prioritization steps to define and advance additional transportation improvements/projects. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions.

Sincerely,

Robert M. White | Project Delivery Bureau Director

Vermont Agency of Transportation

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This is our shot, Vermont! Everyone age 12 and older is now eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine. Sign up for your shot today at healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine or follow @healthvermont on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for walk-in opportunities. **#OurShotVT**