



Planning & Zoning Office  
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TO: Richmond Selectboard

FROM: Ravi Venkataraman, Town Planner

DATE: June 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Applications for VTrans Sidewalk Construction Grants

The Vermont Agency of Transportation Bicycle and Pedestrian Program currently has two grants available to municipalities:

- 2022 Federal Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant – An annual grant to fund the construction of bicycle/pedestrian facility projects. This year, this program has \$3.75 million to distribute statewide. If awarded, the Town would have to provide a 20 percent match.
- 2022 Small Scale Program Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant – Another annual grant to fund the construction of bicycle/pedestrian facility projects. This year, the program has \$300,000 to distribute statewide. The program funds projects costing less than \$150,000. If awarded, the Town would have to provide a 50 percent match

The Transportation Committee is interested in applying for a Federal Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant for building sidewalks on the east side of Bridge Street between the existing mid-block crossing and Volunteers Green along with streetscape improvements

The draft grant application is enclosed. The minutes from the May 10, 2022 Transportation Committee meeting—which includes motions to recommend applying for both grants—are also enclosed.

The Town received a scoping study report last year for recommendations for improvements along the Bridge Street corridor, which included recommendations for pedestrian facilities on the east side of Bridge Street between the mid-block crossing and Jolina Court, and for crossings.

The Town is also working with Stantec on compiling a scoping study report for a sidewalk from Jolina Court to Volunteers Green.

The total project cost is estimated to be \$577,000. The estimated match the Town would have to provide is \$115,400. If awarded, the Town would be billed for the services provided, and reimbursed 80 percent every month.

Federally funded design and construction projects generally take three to five years to complete.

Draft Motion

To facilitate action, I have prepared the following draft motions:

*I, \_\_\_\_\_, move to approve applying for a 2022 Federal Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant to fund the construction of sidewalks on the east side of Bridge Street and streetscape improvements along Bridge Street, allocating \$115,400 for the construction grant match, and naming Town Planner Ravi Venkataraman as the grant manager.*