

Funding Request: \$9,000 in 2023 funding and permission to reallocate the remaining \$1,684.23 from 2022 grant award to 2023 flood recovery projects outlined below, for a total of \$10,684.00

Detailed Description:

The July flooding had profound impacts on the trails in Richmond. Significant damage was caused to the entirety of the Rivershore Trail, which borders the Winooski River. Flash flooding from those rain events also devastated the Old Jericho Road trail and sections of trail in the Preston Legacy Forest, Sip of Sunshine Trails, Cochran’s Trails, Johnnie Brook Road Trail, Chamberlain Trails, and many more. Through huge support from volunteers we have restored many of these much loved trails and these efforts are continuing.

Some of the damage has exceeded the capacity and ability of volunteer work and Trail Committee resources. Many of the trails, most notable the Rivershore Trail, remained underwater for weeks after the flood event. The water took down trees, moved and destroyed bridges, deposited huge amounts of sand and silt onto the trail, washed away entire segments of trail, and rerouted drainage away from designated areas and culverts.

High priority funding needs include work on Old Jericho Road Trail and the Rivershore Trail. Old Jericho Road Trail will need a small excavator and someone who can operate it to re-dig drainage and replace or repair the culverts. There is a section of the trail that was completely washed away, along with a small bridge. This trail also uses a large bridge, over 25 feet long that has steel reinforced stringers, which was dislodged and damaged by the water. It is extremely heavy and will need an excavator to remove. We will need support from an engineer on how to rebuild or replace this bridge.

The Rivershore trail sustained damage on all segments. Much volunteer labor has gone towards recovering this trail under the inches of sand, silt, and debris that the water deposited. Some sections have needed to be re-routed as the original trail close to the banks was completely washed away. This trail also houses many bridges throughout, some of which were dislodged, damaged or completely washed away. Volunteer labor has been used to replaced bridges that can be lifted by human-power, clear trail and create re-routes, however skilled labor for chain sawing and other work has been needed to get this trail back open to the public. This work is still ongoing, as resources are needed to purchase lumber to replace 3 bridges on the trail, remove large down trees from the trail, and deconstruct and rebuild dislodged bridges.

Richmond Trail Committee is exploring many options to raise the funds needed to get these much-loved trails back in action. The flooding and flash flooding, as well as subsequent heavy rainfall, has created so many challenges for this area, where so many come to recreate. Any support from the Town of Richmond Conservation Reserve Fund will allow us to act quickly and intentionally in our efforts to support outdoor recreation in our community.

Flood Recovery Expenses

Trail	Description	Expense	Revenue Potential
Old Jericho Road Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Drainage re-dug and culverts replaced- Large bridge (25+ feet with steel	\$10,000 for machine, labor and materials	FEMA

	reinforcement stringers) needs to be removed with excavator		
Old Jericho Road Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engineer to look at fixing/replacing large bridge - Materials and labor for construction of new bridge 	\$5,000 for labor and materials	Town of Richmond Conservation Reserve Fund
Rivershore Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trail crew to recover and re-route the entirety of the Rivershore trail - Contracted down tree removal - Replace 3 damaged or missing bridges from the trail - Dismantle and move 2 bridges back to place 	<p>\$2,622.00 for 92 hours of FOTW trail crew work</p> <p>\$4,000 for bridge materials</p> <p>Volunteer & donated labor</p>	Town of Richmond Conservation Reserve Fund
Sip of Sunshine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trail work 	Volunteer labor	
Preston Legacy Forest Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trail work 	Volunteer labor	
		TOTAL: \$21,622	