



Planning & Zoning Office
Town of Richmond
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TO: Richmond Selectboard

FROM: Ravi Venkataraman, Town Planner

DATE: October 28, 2022

SUBJECT: VTrans Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant

The [Vermont Agency of Transportation Transportation Alternatives Program \(TAP\)](#) is currently open to municipalities. TAP is a federally funded program that provides project funding for up to \$300,000. At a maximum, the project costs are split 80 percent federal funding via the TAP and 20 percent from the local match. Eligible projects include on-road and off-road facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists, including sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, traffic calming techniques, safety-related infrastructure, and infrastructure to achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The Transportation Committee is interested in pursuing TAP funding to build out a sidewalk on the east side of Bridge Street effectively connecting Jolina Court to Volunteers Green.

The minutes from the October 25, 2022 Transportation Committee meeting is enclosed. These minutes include motions to pursue TAP funding for the construction of a sidewalk on the east side of Bridge Street.

This project was part of the Richmond Sidewalks Scoping Study. The scoping study project involved two public meetings and surveys. In addition, community members gave input directly to the project team. Relevant sections from the Richmond Sidewalks Scoping Study are enclosed.

This section of Bridge Street is listed fourth on the project priority summary in the Richmond Bike, Walk and Trails Plan. The prioritization scheme highlighted the bicycle and pedestrian safety and comfort issues for this section.

The total project cost is estimated to be \$275,000. The estimated match the Town would have to provide is \$55,000. If awarded, the Town would be billed for the services provided, and reimbursed 80 percent.

Federally funded projects generally three to five years to complete. The project schedule based on the TAP guidelines is enclosed.

Budget Ramifications

If awarded, this project would pull from the Sidewalk Reserve line to cover the grant match. Currently, the Sidewalk Reserve line has \$40,000. An additional \$15,000 must be added to the Sidewalk Reserve line for the grant match.

The Transportation Committee recommends the addition of \$30,000 to the Sidewalk Reserve line. I concur with this recommendation, as it would cover any contingencies for this Bridge Street project and provide investment towards the future buildout of sidewalks on Bridge Street.

Draft Motion

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

I, _____, move to approve applying for a 2022 Transportation Alternatives Program Grant to fund the construction of sidewalks on the east side of Bridge Street from Jolina Court to Volunteers Green, and allocating \$55,000 for the construction grant match.