

State of Vermont
Project Delivery Bureau
Municipal Assistance Section
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Agency of Transportation

[phone] 802-477-3123

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Peter Pochop, MAS Project Manager
DATE: April 4, 2023
RE: **2023 VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Grant Opportunities**

I am happy to announce that we are soliciting applications for projects through the VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. The intent of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program is to improve access and safety for bicyclists and/or pedestrians through the planning, design and construction of infrastructure projects.

The Bike/Ped Program provides funding for the following facilities:

- Bicycle lanes (on-road facility delineated with pavement markings and signs)
- Shoulders (generally a minimum of 3-feet wide to accommodate bicyclists)
- Sidewalks
- Pedestrian crossing improvements, including median pedestrian refuge islands
- Pedestrian signals
- Improvements that address requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Shared-use paths (designed for use by both bicyclists and pedestrians)

Projects may be combinations of any of the above facilities.

Projects with the following emphasis will be considered favorably:

- Facilities that address a documented safety concern such as a high crash location
- Connectivity within overall bicycle and pedestrian networks
- Proximity and access to and within village centers and downtown areas
- Facilities that serve multiple uses e.g. access to businesses, residences and schools
- Pedestrian safety improvements that are consistent with the Federal Highway Administration "Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian (STEP)" initiative.

The two funding categories available in this solicitation are Federal aid and "Small Scale" projects. Federal aid projects use funds received from the Federal Highway Administration for either scoping (feasibility studies) or design/construction projects and "Small Scale" projects are state funded.

The intent of the "Small Scale" solicitation is to assist in implementing necessary safety improvements like signs, pavement markings, crossing enhancements or on-road bike facilities through striping. These projects may be bid out, or done by local forces. This category cannot to be used to match federal funds on a larger project.

For a copy of the VTrans 2023 Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program Guides for both categories of projects and to access the application materials, visit the VTrans Bike/Ped Program website: <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped> . You may also obtain a copy or ask any questions about the program or application process by contacting me by phone at (802) 477-3123 or email at peter.pochop@vermont.gov.

As in previous years, a workshop is available for potential applicants. It is strongly recommended that an official representative of the applicant attend. The workshop will be provided as a webinar and attendees can **access it using a link provided in the Grant Program Guides**. The workshop is scheduled for May 3, 10:00 to 11:30 AM. You can participate in the workshop from any computer connected to the internet. If you do not have an internet connection, you may access the training via phone by calling 1-802-828-7667 and entering the following conference ID: 396831418#. **Reservations are not required** for the workshop.

All applications must be submitted in electronic format as Adobe .pdf files. Hard copy applications will NOT be accepted. Complete applications are **due on or before June 9, 2023**.

I strongly urge you to work with your Regional Planning Commission. These organizations are valuable resources and can help you refine your project. Additionally, VTrans staff are available to consult regarding project scope and to visit potential projects, if necessary, to help communities decide which category is best suited for the project. Please contact me as soon as practicable regarding possible site visits.

The Vermont Agency of Transportation is committed to this program and working with applicants to complete successful projects. This is not a block grant but rather a reimbursement program. Successful applicants will enter into a grant agreement with VTrans that will lay out respective responsibilities as all projects must be developed in accordance with applicable federal and state rules and regulations.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Peter Pochop
Project Manager
Municipal Assistance Section