

DATE: January 20, 2023
FROM: Cathleen Gent
TO: Richmond Transportation Committee
RE: Packet for January 24 Meeting

Our regular meeting takes place next Tuesday, January 10th at 5:30 PM via zoom.

1. Meeting Agenda – January 24 - *Attached*
2. Minutes from January 10 Meeting – *Attached*
Update on RTC report for town report: Linda Parent was able to substitute a revised version of our report which no longer include the reference to the official map project. *(A copy of our final report is included in this packet.)*
3. ARPA Committee Meeting Update
Chris Cole will provide an update from the ARPA meeting on January 11th when the Transportation Committee recommendations were discussed. Chris was asked to provide cost estimates for our committee's top priorities and he is working on compiling those into a memo for the ARPA committee. Chris will discuss the information he has collected or if he has any questions for the RTC. The ARPA committee meets next on January 25th. I have reached out to Josh Arneson to learn if the RTC recommendations will be discussed again at that meeting or at a future meeting.
4. Walkability Study Report
We will review any updates from various committee members: Keith for executive summary; Allen and Cameron for updating photos and formatting; Cathleen for matrix of deficiencies and recommendations. (I will not have the matrix ready for review.) Also, Jon Kart has agreed to do a final review of the document when it is ready. If you have any updated materials, please send them to the full RTC.
5. Update on FY23 UPWP Projects
 - Richmond Western Gateway Scoping Study – Allan Knowles and Cathleen Gent will provide an update regarding this project.
 - GMT Scope of Work – Green Mountain Transit – Chris Cole has received an expanded updated scope. RTC will review and discuss this revised scope of work (*attached*) to see if we have any questions or comments.
 - Cochran Road Traffic Calming Study – The CCRPC Executive Board was scheduled to review and decide upon adding the Richmond traffic calming (temporary measures) study under the revised FY23 UPWP. Chris and I will update the committee on that project.
6. FY24 UPWP Application – [*attachment*] The final version of the FY24 UPWP application for the Cochran Road Corridor Study was submitted yesterday.
7. General Updates
 - Town Planner Interviews – update from Chris Cole item
 - Dialog with railroad about future projects – Chris Cole item
8. Agenda items for next meeting
9. Adjourn

Richmond Transportation Committee

January 24, 2023 @ 5:30 PM

Richmond Town Center Meeting Room, 3rd Floor – 203 Bridge Street, Richmond, VT.

Meeting may also be joined online or by phone

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87491380245?pwd=bG8xTU5qQzcyd0xwVWJHTlgrYTBBQT09>

Meeting ID: 874 9138 0245

Passcode: 303372

For additional information about this meeting, please contact Cathleen Gent at 802-434-4869 or at cgent@gmavt.net.

AGENDA

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 5:30 PM | 1. Revisions to Agenda |
| 5:33 PM | 2. Approve Minutes from January 10th meeting |
| 5:35 PM | 3. ARPA Committee Meeting Update |
| 5:40 PM | 4. Walkability Study Report Update |
| 6:00 PM | 5. Update on FY23 UPWP projects <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Richmond Western Gateway Scoping Study• GMT Scope of Work• Cochran Road Traffic Calming Study |
| 6:25 PM | 6. FY24 UPWP application Update |
| 6:30 PM | 7. General Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Town Planner Interviews• Dialogue with railroad about future projects |
| 6:55 PM | 8. Agenda Items for Next Meeting |
| 7:00 PM | 9. Adjourn |

Richmond Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2023

All participants attended the meeting remotely.

Committee members present: Chris Cole (Chair), Cathleen Gent (Vice Chair), Keith Jennings, Jon Kart, Allen Knowles, Cameron Wong

Others present: Lisa Cory (Walkability Audit participant)

A quorum was reached and the meeting convened at 5:33 PM.

Abbreviations used in these minutes: ARPA = American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; CCRPC = Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission; D&K = Dubois and King; GMT=Green Mountain Transit; PPL = Project Pipeline Document; RTC = Richmond Transportation Committee; SB = Selectboard; TAP=Transportation Alternatives Program; UPWP = Unified Planning Work Program; VTRANS=Vermont Agency of Transportation; RVC=Riverview Commons

1. Revisions to the Agenda: Gent added the Official Map UPWP and its status in the Town Report to General Updates (see 7 below).

2. Approval of Minutes from December 13, 2022: There were no corrections or additions to the minutes. **Motion by Gent, seconded by Wong, to approve minutes. Approved unanimously.**

3. ARPA Committee Meeting: This meeting is January 11, 2023 at 7 PM and the RTC recommendations are on their agenda. Cole and Gent plan to attend to present the RTC recommendations as detailed in RTC meeting minutes of December 13, 2023, item 3. Cole has incorporated these recommendations into a letter that was sent to the ARPA committee last week.

4. Update on Walkability Audit report: Gent briefly summarized the process and the report. Ravi Venkataraman (former Town Planner) provided a final draft in late December. Study volunteers Lisa Kory and Eric Thomas have provided comments to Gent; more may be forthcoming. Kart noted that information from the effort has already informed other projects. Cole raised the questions of: a. How is the report to be taken from draft to completion? and b. How are recommendations to be addressed?

a. Completing the report, to be done for review at the first meeting in February:

- Knowles and Wong will be responsible for adding more photos and final formatting of the report. (further action, Knowles and Wong)
- Gent will provide the latest draft to committee members and will add volunteer comments as an appendix or edits to the report as appropriate. (further action, Gent)

b. Addressing recommendations:

- Jennings will provide an executive summary. (further action, Jennings)
- Gent will construct a matrix of deficiencies and recommendations. (further action, Gent)
- Kart, Wong, and Jennings may be able to provide renderings and overlays of pictures and maps to be used to present. (further action, Kart, Wong and Jennings)

- The above will be used to present the Audit to the SB. Cole stressed the need for attendance at that SB meeting, by both RTC members and Audit volunteers.

5. Update on FY23 UPWP Projects:

a. Richmond Western Gateway Scoping Study: Knowles and Gent reported on steering committee meetings. Project webpage and minutes are available on the Town website.

<https://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-meetings/richmond-western-gateway-scoping-study>

Currently, Knowles and Gent are working on recruiting for four focus groups (RVC, US2 adjacent residents and landowners, cemeteries, and schools). Focus groups should be held in late January or early February. D&K or CCRCP staff will facilitate and Knowles will attend as note taker. A public survey to allow general input from anyone interested is being constructed and should be live in February and March. In addition to the above efforts towards non-motor vehicle infrastructure, Gent noted a separate part of the study is to address technical issues of traversing the Exit 11 interchange and US2/VT117 intersection without a motor vehicle.

b. GMT US2 Bus Route Scope of Work: GMT and CCRPC are scoping a bus route on US2 (not I-89) from Williston to Waterbury, with stops in Richmond, Jonesville, etc. Cole was asked to comment, and raised issues of access between RVC, Park and Ride, and Richmond Village.

c. Cochran Road Short Term Traffic Calming: Richmond SB and CCRCP are doing this. RTC is not directly involved (Venkataraman's request noted in the 12/13/22 minutes for an RTC member was apparently in error). Experience gained may inform the longer term study in FY24 (see below).

6. FY24 UPWP Application for a Cochran Road Study: Cole and Gent met with Eleni Churchill of CCRCP. A scoping study for the full length of Cochran Road is not feasible. RTC will be applying for a study that is for scoping of the two ends, approximately of the 25mph zones, and a corridor study of the connecting 45mph segment. Cole, Gent and Town Manager Josh Arneson are working on the application, which is due next week. The SB has approved the matching funds. Kart reported that he spoke with Conservation Commission members, and that Conservation Reserve Fund money could possibly be used for portions of Cochran Road improvements (such as trail crossings, etc.), especially if the money could be used to leverage other grant monies.

7. General Updates:

a. FY24 Budget Transportation Related Items: The Selectboard approved a FY24 budget for presentation and approval at town meeting. The two items related to our work are included in the budget with no changes.

b. Dialog with Railroad about future projects: Cole is to contact the railroad about how to address projects that involve it, such as sidewalk crossing on the east side of Bridge St. (further action, Cole)

c. Hybrid Meetings: Beginning with our next meeting, meetings will have to have a physical meeting space option. Cole or Gent will be physically present and will coordinate with Wardwell on arrangements.

d. Microsoft 365: The Town's plan to convert from Google Drive to Microsoft 365 has been delayed for at least two months.

e. FY23 Official Map UPWP and RTC Town Report: With the departure of Town Planner Venkataraman, the Town, the Planning Commission, and CCRPC all feel that it is best to wait to see if the new Town Planner wishes to pursue this. For the time being, it is on hold. Gent will see if reference to this as an active project can be deleted from the 2022 Town Report. (further action, Gent) Cole suggests that if

not, well, plans change after printing deadlines, and the resulting inaccuracy is regrettable but not malign.

g. Town Planner Position: Cole reports interviews are in progress, but a new hire is not imminent at this time.

8. Agenda Items For Next Meeting: At this time, these consist of updates.

- a. ARPA Committee meeting.
- b. Walkability Report progress on assignments.
- c. FY23 UPWP's: Gateway, GMT, and Cochran short term traffic calming
- d. FY24 UPWP application for Cochran scoping and corridor segments
- e. Town Planner interviews

9. Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 PM

Minutes by Allen Knowles

Further Action Needed:

- **Knowles and Wong** will be responsible for adding more photos and final formatting of the Walkability Audit report. See 4a above.
- **Gent** will provide the latest draft of the Walkability Report to committee members and will add volunteer comments as an appendix or edits to the report as appropriate. See 4a above.
- **Jennings** will provide an executive summary of the Walkability Report. See 4b above
- **Gent** will construct a matrix of deficiencies and recommendations from the Walkability Report. See 4b above.
- **Kart, Wong, and Jennings** may be able to provide renderings and overlays of pictures and maps to be used to present. See 4b above.
- **Cole** is to contact the railroad about how to address projects that involve it, such as sidewalk crossing on the east side of Bridge St. See 7b above
- **Gent** will see if reference to the Official Map as an active project can be deleted from the 2022 Town Report. See 7e above

Richmond Transportation Committee – For FY22 Richmond Town Report

The Richmond Transportation Committee is an advisory committee established by the Selectboard to improve transportation safety and options (roads, paths, mass transit and services) for everyone. The Committee continued its focus in the third year on planning and applying for state and federal grants for sidewalks, trails, and safe ways to get around Richmond to benefit pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists.

There is a prescribed process in Vermont for securing federal/state/regional funds for road and transportation planning, design and construction. The Committee works closely with the Town Manager, Planner and Selectboard to advance the town's transportation priorities. Projects typically move through four stages:

1. **Planning:** determining needs, leading to
2. **Scoping/Design:** how might a project work in a specific location, to
3. **Engineering:** develop fine-scaled blueprints guiding contractors, to
4. **Construction:** complete the project.

Funding, technical expertise, and logistical support for planning is provided by the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission. Design and construction via state or federal funding generally provides 80% of the total funding and the remaining 20% needs to be funded by the town.

This year, the Committee completed:

1. Sidewalks Scoping Study, to improve pedestrian access and safety along Jericho Road (between the Richmond schools and Valley View Road); along the east side of Bridge Street; and, on Huntington Road from Bridge Street to the Johnny Brook trail.
2. Richmond Bike, Walk and Trails Plan (Phase Two), for the portion on Richmond south of the Winooski River, thus completing the townwide Master Plan that identifies the projects, programs, and policies for better and safer walking and biking in Richmond.
3. Walkability Study, with the help of eighteen volunteers, the Transportation Committee conducted a systematic evaluation based on the AARP Walk Audit Toolkit for areas within a half mile of several locations - the Bridge St-Main St. intersection in Richmond Village, the Round Church, and Jonesville along Route 2 and Cochran Road. In addition, Jericho Road from School Street to Valley View Road was assessed.

We continue working every angle (and tapping every funding source) to make Rt 2 safer for motorists, bikes and walkers. For spring 2023, we've got two projects in the Rt 2 corridor that will help us expand shoulder widths and support safer walking and biking.

Whether you like to walk, bicycle, drive or seek public transit options in town, we want to hear from you. We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Chris Cole (chair), Cathleen Gent (vice-chair), Keith Jennings, Jon Kart, Allen Knowles. Cameron Wong

LETTER PROPOSAL

January 16, 2023

Ms. Jamie Smith
Director of Marketing and Planning
Green Mountain Transit
101 Queen City Park Road
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear Jamie,

This Letter Proposal presents our response for Task FY23-7 of the Transit Planning Assistance contract, Analysis of US 2 Route. In this effort, Steadman Hill Consulting (SHC) will assess the feasibility of a new route between Williston and Waterbury on US 2 via Richmond.

The work in this task would take place in four subtasks described below. It is assumed that this project would take place January 2023 through April 2023.

Subtask 1: Corridor Route Specifications

In consultation with GMT planning staff, SHC will develop one or more designs for a route connecting Williston, Richmond and Waterbury via US 2. Various bus stop locations will be considered as well as deviations from US 2 to serve specific generators. Running times will be estimated and draft schedules will be developed to address the desired market segments (i.e. commuters, shoppers, etc.). Prior work done by VEIC studying service in Richmond and a connection to MMUHS will be reviewed and discussed as a point of reference.

Subtask 2: Local Feeder Service Specifications

The Town is also interested in considering a service that would connect the village of Richmond and Riverview Commons with the Richmond Park & Ride lot to provide improved access to the regional transit system for residents who do not have access to cars. This service could consist of a microtransit-style demand response service or a linear route running from Riverview Commons through the village center. SHC will develop concepts for this service in consultation with GMT.

Subtask 3: Cost and Ridership Forecasts

SHC will estimate the cost of operating the proposed alternatives using the two-point cost model developed for the VTrans Route Performance Report. It is assumed that the corridor service would be based out of Burlington rather than Berlin. The local feeder service could be based in Richmond. SHC will also forecast the potential ridership for a route in this corridor and then estimate how various alternatives would be able to capture shares of the potential market. For commuting purposes, the OnTheMap tool from the Census Bureau will be employed. For other purposes (if any) similar routes will be studied to gauge the potential market. Ridership on the feeder service will be based on population, automobile availability and commuting patterns.

Subtask 4: Documentation and Meetings

SHC will prepare a technical memorandum presenting the findings of the study, as well as a methodology describing the assumptions and techniques used in the analysis. It is assumed that there will be at least three meetings with staff and/or the Richmond Transportation Committee during the course of the project.

COST ESTIMATE

The total cost to perform the work described above is \$6,324. The work in this task will be performed by Stephen Falbel. This task will be performed January 2023 through April 2023. The cost is broken out as follows:

		S. Falbel
Subtask 1	Route specifications	4
Subtask 2	Feeder specifications	6
Subtask 3	Cost and ridership	12
Subtask 4	Documentation	12
	Total hours	34
	Hourly rate	\$186
	Labor cost	\$6,324
	Grand Total	\$6,324

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

FY2024 Unified Planning Work Program

Applications should be no more than 6 pages (excluding any maps and letter of support from your governing body to document the availability of the local match and commitment of staff time). **A Project Application Form must be submitted for each project request. If you are submitting more than one request, please indicate projects in order of priority. There are separate forms to request transportation counts and infrastructure inventories – please submit one form per request. Deadline for receipt of completed submissions is Friday, January 20, 2023. Please email completed forms in Word format to mdistel@ccrpcvt.org.** All forms are available on the CCRPC website: <http://www.ccrpcvt.org/about-us/commission/annual-work-plan-budget-finances/>.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Submitted by (Name, Title): Josh Arneson, Town Manager

Municipality/Agency/Organization: Town of Richmond

Telephone: 802-434-5170

Email: jarneson@richmondvt.gov

2. PROJECT INFORMATION

a. Project Title: Cochran Road Corridor Study

b. Project Location (name of roadway, intersection, geographic area, etc.):

Attach map if needed

The project area for the Cochran Road Corridor Study encompasses the entirety of Cochran Road, from the Bridge Street/Cochran Road intersection to the intersection of Route 2 in Jonesville. A corridor study will focus on the 2.8-mile middle segment of Cochran Road. A more detailed scoping study will be performed on the western and eastern ends with higher village/population areas. The Cochran Road Corridor Study also will evaluate and recommend permanent traffic calming measures along the length of Cochran Road. *See map at end of document.*

c. Project Description (200 words max):

Please state whether this is a multi-year effort and identify each phase, and for which phase this application is requesting funding.

Cochran Road Corridor Study is part of a multi-year effort to revamp Cochran Road for the benefit of pedestrians, bicycles, and all traffic.

- 1) Corridor Study - Building on the recommendations and alternatives presented in the Town of Richmond Bike, Walk, and Trails Plan, identify specific on-road and off-road improvements and multi-modal strategies that address safety, capacity and connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists in the 2.8-mile section of Cochran Road east of Richmond village and west of Dugway Road.
- 2) Scoping Study – for the Richmond village area (Bridge Street to the River Shore trail head) and the Jonesville segment (Dugway Road to Route 2) – identify new infrastructure such as sidewalks that can be incorporated into the future network, determine the potential for

Cochran Road to be upgraded to accommodate multimodal traffic, and drafting conceptual designs for sidewalk and other improvements.

- 3) Traffic calming priorities - Currently, as part of the FY23 UPWP program mid-year adjustment, temporary traffic calming measures are being explored and recommended by summer 2023. FY24 UPWP will evaluate those temporary traffic calming measures and recommend permanent traffic calming solutions. The evaluation will address vehicular speeds and volumes, safety for pedestrians and bicyclists, parking in the roadway, and other issues.

d. Expected Deliverables:

- If this is a phased project spanning multiple fiscal years, identify deliverables for this specific phase and other phases where applicable.

The expected deliverables include: 1) a corridor study for the 2.8-mile section of Cochran Road, laying out multimodal improvement strategies that address safety, capacity and connectivity; 2) a technical scoping study report for Richmond village and Jonesville areas along the road, encompassing a summary of the scoping process, conceptual designs, conclusions on preferred alternatives, and cost estimates for all alternatives; 3) a report identifying permanent traffic calming strategies for Cochran Road.

- Please note that non-municipal partners are expected to submit a year-end report describing the impacts and outcomes of your program/efforts as a requirement of funding.

e. Other Project Partners (e.g., other municipalities, agencies, non-profits, consultants, community groups):

Richmond Transportation Committee, Richmond Selectboard, Richmond Trails Committee, Local Motion, Richmond Climate Action Committee, CCRPC, Cochran's Ski Area, Richmond Land Trust, Mt. Mansfield Union Unified School District, Cathedral Square, Sterling House, Little Tots Academy

f. Project Cost & Match Requirement:

Please refer to the **FY24 UPWP PROGRAM SUMMARY** for a description of match requirements and check below which applies to your proposal. If matching funds are required, municipalities should attach a letter of support from your governing body to document the availability of the local match and commitment of staff time. Non-municipal partners should provide a letter from their Board or other governing body demonstrating knowledge and support of project request, ability and intent to provide matching funds, etc.

- **Transportation-Related Projects (PL Funding)**
 - ✓ Transportation and transportation-related land use/water quality projects – 20% non-federal cash match required.
 - The CCRPC may waive the local match requirement for municipal projects deemed to be regionally significant.
 - Transportation Technical Assistance – no local match required
 - Non-Municipal Partner – 20% match required
- **Land Use and Energy Implementation Assistance (ineligible for PL funding)**
 - Non-transportation projects – there is no fee for projects requiring less than 12 hours of CCRPC

staff time. Projects over 12 hours will be charged a rate of \$60 per hour.

- Energy Implementation Assistance – this program provides CCRPC staff assistance to the municipality which, depending upon state grant requirements, may have no local match requirement.
- Non-transportation projects (including plan and bylaws) – this is a fee-for-service program, cost TBD. We encourage municipalities to also seek [Municipal Planning Grants](#).

Is the Request for CCRPC Staff Assistance Only? (Yes/No)	No
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For Transportation and Transportation-related Land Use/Water Quality (PL Funding) Projects requiring consultants or for non-municipal partners:

Total Project Cost Estimate (100%)	\$50,000
Local Match Required (20% of Total Cost)	\$10,000

Examples:

	<i>Example 1</i>	<i>Example 2</i>	<i>Example 3</i>
<i>Total Project (100%)</i>	<i>\$25,000</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>\$75,000</i>
<i>Local Match (20%)</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>

Will you accept a partial award? (Yes/No)	No
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For Other Land Use (Non-PL Funding) Project Requests (this is a fee-for-service program, cost TBD):

CCRPC staff hours requested:	
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For Non-Transportation Land Use Project Requests, please contact Taylor Newton
(TNewton@ccrpcvt.org, (802) 846-4490 ext. 115 to discuss project and budget needs.

For Non-Transportation Water Quality Project Requests, please contact Dan Albrecht
(dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org, (802) 861-0133 to discuss project and budget needs.

h. Public Meeting Requirement:

All municipal applications (local or regional), including match amounts, must be presented to and approved by the governing body at a warned public meeting by the end of March 2023. For non-municipal partners, a public meeting is not required but applications should be approved by a Board or similar governing body. If available, please provide documentation by the January 20, 2023 deadline. The public meeting requirement is not applicable for Minor Technical Assistance projects.

A letter from Richmond Town Manager Josh Arneson is enclosed, confirming that during the December 19, 2022 Richmond Selectboard meeting the Richmond Selectboard approved the application for this project and the allocation of \$10,000 to provide as a match.

3. BENEFITS TO REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING (please keep your responses brief)

a. Identify at least one of the CCRPC's top 10 actions or 8 ECOS strategies that this project will primarily address (http://www.ecosproject.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/2018-ECOS-Plan-Summary_20180807_FINAL.pdf).

The project addresses the following actions from CCRPC's ECOS plan:

- Support and inform municipalities on setting the stage for smart, multi-modal development in our areas planned for growth, and protection of our rural planning area, through plan and bylaw assistance, participation in the Act 250 Next 50 Years Committee, brownfields assessments, etc.
- Invest in our transportation system by maintaining our existing transportation system, addressing safety and localized congestion issues on our roadways and investing in Intelligent Transportation Systems to facilitate traffic flows on our arterials and minimize the need for major roadway expansion projects; and supporting our areas planned for growth by expanding bike and pedestrian infrastructure, improving transit services, investing in and supporting Transportation Demand Management partners and programs such as Green Mountain Transit, Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association, CarShare, Local Motion and NeighborRides.
- Assist and inform municipalities on enhanced energy planning for the heating, electricity and transportation sectors including a shift away from gas/diesel vehicles to electric or other nonfossil fuel transportation options.

The project also addresses the following strategies from CCRPC's ECOS plan:

- Improve and strengthen the economic systems of our region to increase opportunities for Vermont employers and employees

b. Please describe how the project need is documented. Is the project identified in a local plan? Or, does this project address a newly identified need? Please elaborate.

The 2018 Richmond Town Plan includes the following goals and objectives:

- Maintain a "Complete Streets" policy that encourages multi-modal transportation options such as walking and biking in addition to vehicle traffic (Transportation, Goal 1)
 - Support the construction of sidewalks and bike paths or line striping for cyclists on State and Town road projects. Consider making wider shoulders on Town roads, especially Cochran, Huntington, and Hinesburg Roads. Work with VTrans to prioritize rebuilding Route 2 (Main Street) including sidewalks and bicycle/pedestrian accommodation (Transportation, Goal 1, Objective 2)
 - Support interconnectivity of trails and connectivity of trails with destinations such as the market or park and ride in order to provide non-motorized means of travel (Transportation, Goal 1, Objective 5)
- Improve safety and efficiency of public roads and bridges (Transportation, Goal 2)
 - Identify road segments where noise, speed, congestion or safety is/are a problem and work to develop strategies to reduce the negative impacts. (Transportation, Goal 2, Action 2)
- Encourage transportation policies and programs that reduce single-occupancy vehicle travel on town roads (Transportation, Goal 4)
- Decrease the amount of fossil fuels used for transportation by the town government, residents and businesses in Richmond through conservation and improved efficiency. Encourage walking and the use of bicycles and facilitating the substitution of electricity and renewable fuels for fossil fuels. (Energy, Goal 1)

- Plan upgrades to town roads to make them more bicycle and pedestrian friendly. (Energy, Goal 1, Action 12)
- Publicize and promote Richmond's special features such as the Round Church and Cochran's Ski Area, as well as our many recreational, lodging and dining opportunities that might attract visitors (Economic Development, Goal 4)

The town has identified multimodal traffic issues on Cochran Road in recent years. This has led to the development of recommendations for improvements to Cochran Road in the Town of Richmond Bike, Walk and Trails Plan.

c. Please describe how the project benefits the community.

The outcomes for this project are to give the town a long-term investment option for improving a narrow roadway corridor that is heavily used by multiple transportation modes for travel and connects people to key destinations in Richmond. The road is a popular major collector road, connecting people to Richmond Village, Jonesville, Cochran Ski Area, Overlocker Park, Preston Forest, Safford Preserve, Bombardier Meadow, Jonesville, and Bolton. It is heavily used by pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. The road itself is relatively narrow, with little to no shoulders. Recently, the town has fielded concerns about traffic flow and speed on the roadway. The Town is currently looking into improving traffic flow for all users through Cochran Road Traffic Calming Study and examining temporary traffic calming measures through the FY23 UPWP mid-year adjustment. The Cochran Road Corridor Study will investigate long-term, permanent infrastructure solutions to improve traffic flow. This project will look into on- and off-alignment locations for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. It will also build off the work from the FY23 UPWP project which is identifying temporary traffic calming measures, specifically by integrating bicycle/pedestrian crossing location and traffic calming measures into the proposed bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure recommendations and designs. This project will also continue the work from the Richmond Bike, Walk, and Trails Plan by exploring cost-effective solutions for bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure that the town could implement in the long term.

d. If your proposed project includes public engagement, please answer the following questions:

(see the CCRPC's 2014 Public Participation Plan for resources: <http://www.ccrpcvt.org/our-work/our-plans/public-participation-plan/>)

- What historically excluded and/or underserved populations are in the project study area? Please be specific.

Near the project study area are Richmond Terrace, an affordable housing community for community members 55 and older managed by Cathedral Square (about 0.2 miles to the Cochran Road/Bridge Street intersection); Sterling House, a senior housing community (less than 0.1 miles to the Cochran Road/Bridge Street intersection); and Little Tots Academy, a day care center (less than 0.1 miles to the Cochran Road/Bridge Street intersection).

- What are the potential equity impacts of this project on historically excluded and/or underserved populations? Does this project have the potential to create, ignore or worsen existing equity gaps or produce other unintended consequences? If yes, how? Describe ways this project can lead to increased racial equity, economic equity and other forms of equity.

This project aims to improve the multimodal accessibility of Cochran Road for all ages and abilities, including children and older community members. The parks, trails and recreation areas along Cochran Road are popular gathering places for community members of all ages. Presently, the road is a high-

stress on-road bikeway (with no shoulders), and it does not have any pedestrian facilities. By providing bicycle and pedestrian facilities to connect the schools to Cochran Road (about 1 mile from the Cochran Road/Bridge Street intersection and about 2 miles from Cochran's Ski Area), Sterling House to Cochran Road, Little Tots Academy to Cochran Road, and Richmond Terrace to Cochran Road (about 1 mile to Cochran's Ski Area), the Town hopes to make access to community recreation areas along Cochran Road more equitable to community members of different ages, abilities, and transportation means.

- What public outreach and engagement tools will you use to ensure awareness of and participation by all population groups? What additional public outreach and engagement tools will you use to ensure awareness of and participation specifically by historically excluded and/or underserved populations?

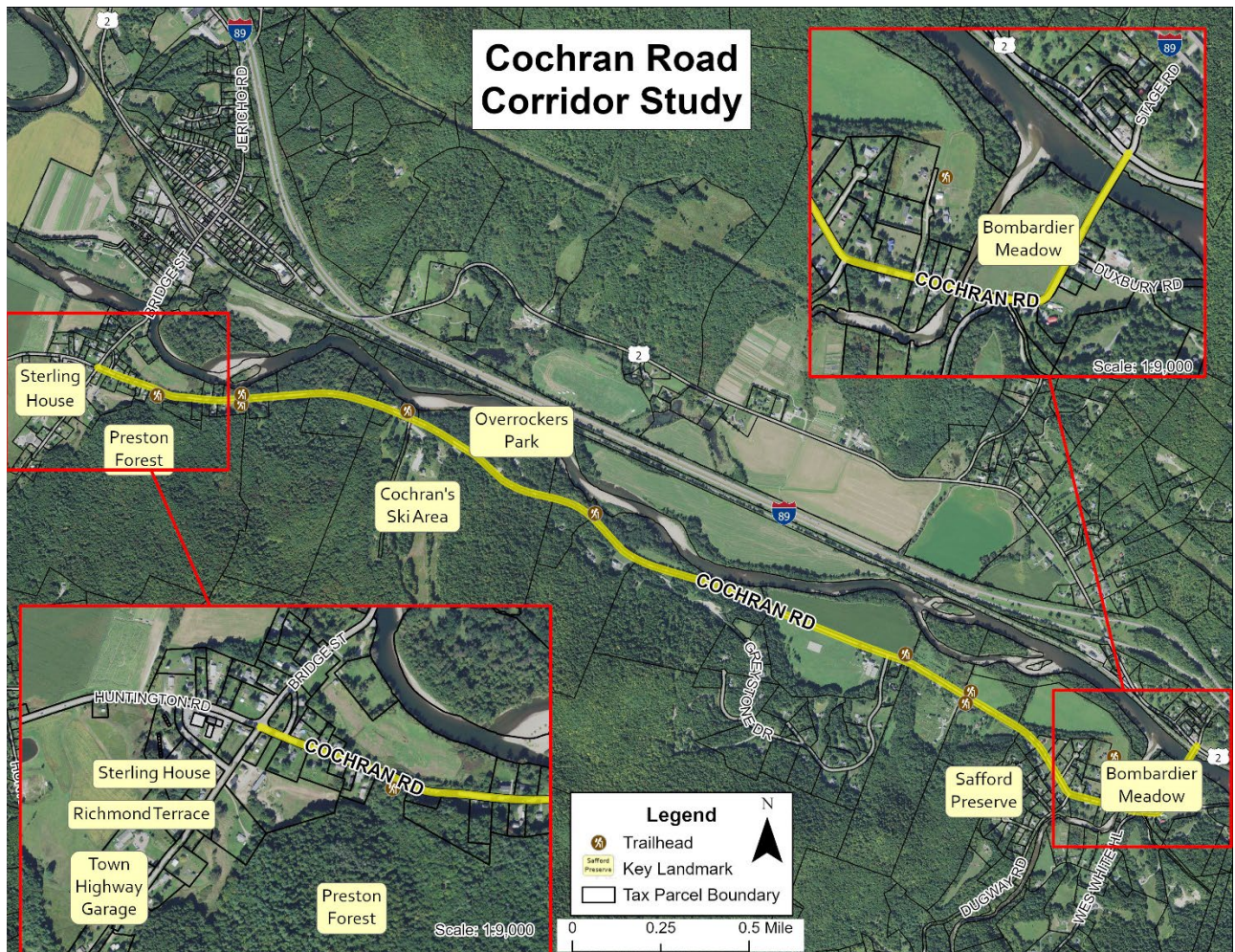
The Town will also reach out to community members at-large via various means. This includes advertising in community newspapers, posting fliers, surveying, sending mailers, emailing townspeople through community listservs, and directly reaching out to community members and affinity groups (i.e. the Richmond-Bolton-Huntington Community Senior Center, Mt. Mansfield Union Unified School District, Richmond Racial Equity Group). Through direct outreach, the Town will encourage participation by underserved populations in town.

- Describe ways your budget and timeline include the capacity to support a thorough public participation process.

The project timeline and budget will include up to two public meetings, and a townwide survey. The Town will also encourage feedback through direct messaging (email, or phone).

- Specify how the participation process will include the voices of BIPOC and other marginalized community members. Name the partners you will work with to ensure your project is informed by the voices of people who are most likely to be impacted.

The Town will work with Cochran's Ski Area, Cathedral Square, Sterling House, and the local schools to ensure that the project outcomes will meet the needs of vulnerable populations. The Town will hold direct conversations with older and younger residents to make sure the project recommendations serve the needs of the entire community.





TOWN OF RICHMOND

RICHMOND TOWN CENTER

203 Bridge Street, P.O. Box 285
Richmond, Vermont 05477



December 22, 2022

Chittenden County RPC
110 West Canal St. Suite 202
Winooski, VT 05404-2109
802-864-4490

Re: Richmond's FY2024 Unified Planning Work Program Application

Dear CCRPC,

Please let this letter serve as the letter from the Selectboard that is required in the UPWP application. At their December 19, 2022 meeting the Richmond Selectboard voted in favor of a motion to file an application for a Cochran Road Scoping Study and to allocate \$10,000 from the Town's general fund to cover the required 20 percent match for this project. This motion can be found in the minutes from the December 19, 2022 meeting: Selectboard 12/19/22 - Town of Richmond, VT (richmondvt.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Arneson", is written over a horizontal line.

Josh Arneson
Richmond Town Manager
802-434-5170
jarneson@richmondvt.gov