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# PROJECT APPLICATION FORM FY2024 Unified Planning Work Program

#### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

**Submitted by (Name, Title): Todd Odit, Town Manager Municipality/Agency/Organization: Town of Hinesburg** 

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#### 2. PROJECT INFORMATION

a. Project Title: Route 116 Crosswalk Scoping - Phase Two

#### b. Project Location:

Four of seven Route 116 crosswalks within Hinesburg's village growth area. As noted below, three of the seven are being assessed (phase one) as part of a FY23 UPWP project.

- 1. Commerce Street Intersection
- 2. Mechanicsville Road intersection
- 3. Mid-block near United Church (10580 Route 116) phase one already underway
- 4. Charlotte Road intersection
- 5. Silver Street intersection
- 6. Mid-block near-Hinesburg Community School (10888 Route 116) phase one already underway
- 7. Buck Hill Road intersection phase one already underway

#### c. Project Description:

Follow up on 2014 Vermont Route 116 Corridor Study recommendations to evaluate design options and provide cost estimates for improvements to seven crosswalk areas. See projects 2,3,7 in Table 5.1 (page 50) from the 2014 study. Phase one is wrapping up via a FY23 UPWP project to assess two existing crosswalks and one intersection. Phase two will assess three existing crosswalks and one intersection in need of a new crosswalk. The three existing crosswalks could use enhancements to improve pedestrian safety – e.g., colored/textured materials, rapid flashing beacons. The one intersection lacking a crosswalk is unsignalized, and needs planning and design work to assess safe pedestrian crossing options.

We hope to leverage this planning and design work to submit competitive applications for VTrans implementation grants – e.g., Downtown Transportation Fund, Transportation Alternatives Program, Bicycle/Pedestrian Program.

# d. Expected Deliverables:

- Crosswalk improvement options
- Conceptual designs and cost estimates for preferred options

Phase one deliverables will be in hand shortly. A public meeting to review improvement options is

<sup>\*\*</sup> See attached map.

scheduled for January 9, 2023, with the final report to follow. Phase two deliverables are proposed for the end 2023.

## e. Other Project Partners: VTrans

#### f. Project Cost & Match Requirement:

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.

### • Transportation-Related Projects (PL Funding)

O Transportation and transportation-related land use/water quality projects – 20% non-federal cash match required.

The Town will cover the required 20% match (\$4,000) from the Planning & Zoning Department's FY24 budget – special projects line item.

Is the Request for CCRPC Staff Assistance Only?	No
(Yes/No)	

For Transportation and Transportation-related Land Use/Water Quality (PL Funding) Projects requiring consultants or for non-municipal partners:

Total Project Cost Estimate (100%)	\$20,000
Local Match Required (20% of Total Cost)	\$4,000

	Y
Will you accept a partial award? (Yes/No)	Yes

<sup>\*</sup> Project budget based on phase one (FY23 UPWP project), per discussion with Marshall Distel, and based on a similar crosswalk project conducted for the City of South Burlington.

#### **Proposed Project Schedule:**

Task (add rows if needed)	Month/Year	Task Budget (if known)
Review 2014 study recommendations and current conditions	July 2023	
2. Provide improvement options for each area	September 2023	
4. Public outreach & feedback	October 2023	
5. Review options and feedback with Select Board	November 2023	
6. Final report with conceptual design for preferred options and cost estimates	December 2023	

# h. Public Meeting Requirement:

Presented/approved at the xxxxxxxxxxxxx Select Board meeting.

- \*\* See attached meeting minutes.
- 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.

This project will address two of the top 10 action items. Most relevant portions underlined.

- Support and inform municipalities on <u>setting the stage for smart, multi-modal development in our areas planned for growth</u>, 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.
- 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.

As noted above, this project is a follow up to the 2014 Vermont Route 116 Corridor Study. This project is also specifically identified in several action items in the transportation chapter of the 2021 Hinesburg Town Plan, as noted below:

- Action item 7.21, "Work with the State and the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission to further evaluate and implement improvements in the village area as discussed in the 2014 Route 116 Corridor Study..."
- Action item 7.2.2, "Research and coordinate with the State on village gateway traffic calming strategies to promote safe speeds when entering the village area – e.g., lane dividers, special signage, landscaping, rumble strips, etc."
- Action item 7.5.2, "Consult with the State on the viability of the crosswalk concepts for the Route 116, Mechanicsville Road intersection contained in the 2014 Route 116 Corridor Study. Find and implement a crosswalk solution."
- c. Please describe how the project benefits the community.

Pedestrian safety and traffic calming are key elements to the safe and efficient operation of the transportation system – especially in a State designated village center area. Economic development in Hinesburg's village growth area is tied to perceptions of our pedestrian-friendly atmosphere. Both developers and employers have indicated that they located in Hinesburg's village area because it is walkable. Improving and adding to our network of crosswalks and sidewalks is an important way to convey pedestrian-focused policies outlined in the Town Plan and our land use regulations. It's also a way to ensure more people feel safe walking to destinations in the village – especially when crossing the state highway is part of their route. The project will provide the Town with information needed to

leverage VTrans grant opportunities in 2024 thanks to ARPA and federal infrastructure funding – e.g., Downtown Transportation Fund, Bike/Ped program, etc. It will complement two other infrastructure projects: 1) Village south sidewalk project – 1,000 feet of new Route 116 sidewalk extending to the Buck Hill Road West intersection (construction planned in 2023); 2) Route 116, Charlotte Road intersection improvements to allow for signal phasing changes (project underway thanks to a VTrans Transportation Alternatives Program grant).

- d. If your proposed project includes public engagement, please answer the following questions:
  - What historically excluded and/or underserved populations are in the project study area? Please be specific.

The Hinesburg village growth area includes two developments (47 apartments) that serve residents earning below the area median income. The Green Street neighborhood is owned by Champlain Housing Trust (23 apartments), and is focused on affordable family housing. The Kelleys Field neighborhood is owned by Cathedral Square and Evernorth (24 apartments), and is focused on seniors and the disabled. Another 24 units of perpetually affordable senior apartments have been approved for the Kelleys Field neighborhood, and should be under construction in 2023.

 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.

Not applicable.

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?

Website content, Front Porch Forum posts, newspaper articles, at least one local concerns meeting for public input, and one Select Board meeting to discuss public feedback and preferred options.

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

The scope of work includes a public outreach task, and the timeline has been designed to ensure that this outreach happens in the early fall – one of the best times to engage community members and get public feedback.

 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.

Honestly, we don't have a specific plan to garner input from different demographic portions of the community. We are open to suggestions on how to specifically include the voices of BIPOC

and marginalized community members. Providing an open and welcoming process that encourages questions and comments through multiple formats (phone, email, in-person) is certainly our current practice. We are open to working with partners to better ensure the project is informed by community members.

