

**Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
Agency of Commerce and Community Development**

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To: Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

From: Devin Colman, State Architectural Historian

Re: 2023 Certified Local Government Grant Applications – Round II

Date: May 9, 2023

Listed below for your consideration are summaries of the CLG Grant Applications submitted for the 2023 Round II grant funding cycle. This year we are pledging to award approximately **\$83,170.00** to projects in CLG communities.

- In Round I, seven projects were awarded a total of **\$56,905.00**
- In Round II, we have **\$26,265.00** to award

The following four projects were submitted for Round II grant funding consideration. The three Rockingham projects meet the application requirements of the program and are requesting a total of **\$7,790.00**.

The Calais project is requesting **\$9,000.00** but has already been contracted out and started. This precludes our ability to review and comment on the proposed scope of work and does not allow for a fair and open bidding process amongst qualified contractors. As such, it does not meet the program requirements and is not recommended for funding.

Each summary includes a breakdown of the proposed budget. The “Federal Share” represents the amount of the grant being requested. The Federal Share cannot exceed 60% of the Total Project Cost.

Each application can be viewed online here: <http://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding/clg-grants> (scroll to bottom of page)

NOTE: The remaining \$18,475.00 in CLG grant funding will be awarded to Round III CLG grant applications at a future meeting.



Priority I Projects: Survey, National Register, Preservation Planning, Information/Education, and Pre-Development.

1. Town of Calais CLG: *Curtis Pond Dam Rehabilitation—Historic & Archaeological Consulting*

This is a Survey project. Grant funding will be used to hire a qualified consultant to document the Curtis Pond Dam, undertaking a historic resource review (Vermont Architectural Resource Inventory-VARI) and archaeological resource assessment (ARA). These documents are required for the Army Corp of Engineers permit and are being prepared at the request of the Vermont SHPO. Curtis Pond Dam unites small bodies of water to create Curtis Pond, a 76-square-acre lake. The dam, likely rebuilt partially at least once or twice, dates from c. 1856 and is located in the Maple Corners Historic District. The town of Calais and the nonprofit Curtis Pond Association are working to preserve the dam and enhance the pond for future generations, both environmentally and naturally. Loss of the dam would create two smaller ponds of wetlands as opposed to the current open water lake. The final product will be a Survey Report summarizing the development and evolution of the dam with individual VARI and ARA forms; photographs and maps showing the location within the town.

Proposed Budget

Federal Share:	\$5,400.00	60% of Total Project Cost
Local Share:	<u>\$3,600.00*</u>	40% Total Project Cost
Total Project Cost:	\$9,000.00	

*Local share comprised of \$3,600.00 cash match; no in-kind match

2. Town of Rockingham CLG: *Rockingham Village ArcGIS and Wayfinding Project*

This is an Information and Education Project. Grant funding will be used to create a web-based ArcGIS Story Map narrating the historic, cultural, and social development of Rockingham, with a focus on the Rockingham Meeting House (1787-1801) and adjacent graveyard (1776) in the context of the historic districts of Rockingham Village and Parker Hill Village during the Euro-American development period (1752-1840). The online story map will be synchronized with QR two-dimensional matrix barcodes on two wayfinding kiosks at the meeting house (placed summer 2023). This project will provide a richer interactive engagement with the meeting house and surrounding villages for visitors in person and globally. Final products include the ArcGIS Story Map and two weather-resistant wayfinding signs.

Proposed Budget

Federal Share:	\$2,496.00	60% of Total Project Cost
Local Share:	<u>\$1,664.00*</u>	40% of Total Project Cost
Total Project Cost:	\$4,160.00	

*Local share comprised of \$1,280 in-kind match and \$384 cash match

3. Town of Rockingham CLG: *Bellows Falls Neighborhood Historic District Self-Guided Walking Tour*

This is an Information and Education project. Grant funding will be used to update and print 3,000 copies of the *Bellows Falls Neighborhood Self-Guided Walking Tour* brochure, providing information and education on the historic district. This will contribute to the Historic Preservation Commission's community development and heritage tourism strategy as outlined in the Rockingham Town Plan. The historic district was listed in 2002 with a boundary increase in 2007. The brochure was first created in 2016, providing an overall history, map, photographs, and information about select buildings and sites of historical, cultural, social, and architectural significance. The final product will be the newly designed, updated, and printed brochure.

Proposed Budget

Federal Share:	\$1,815.00	60% of Total Project Cost
Local Share:	<u>\$1,210.00*</u>	40% of Total Project Cost
Total Project Cost:	\$3,025.00	

*Local share comprised of \$261 in-kind match and \$949 cash match

4. Town of Rockingham CLG: *Rockingham Meeting House Graveyard Conservation Supplemental*

This is a Pre-Development project. Grant funding will be used to provide supplemental funding for the Graveyard Conservation Project (funding through a CLG grant in 2022 (VT-22-10009). The program, driven by volunteers trained in the art of graveyard assessment, restoration, and conservation, focuses on the Rockingham Meeting House graveyard. The oldest graves date to 1776, predating the meetinghouse (1787-1801). The cemetery and meetinghouse, noted as one property, is National Historic Landmark. The full project entails a community-based conference bringing a range of expertise and perspective on graveyard preservation. The conference will include workshop speakers on the history of the graveyard, landscape architecture, grave marker cleaning, and grave marker re-setting. The 3-day kick-off conference will be scheduled for May 2023 on-site at two venues in Rockingham Village and at Rockingham Hill Farm. Hands-on activities will be scheduled at the graveyard itself. To bookend the kick-off year a conference will be held in September/October 2023 to reflect on the progress of the program, roll-out of a cyclical maintenance plan, and celebrate the inauguration of the formal conservation and restoration program. The initial federal funding award was \$4,770 with \$2,980 in match. This additional request addresses increased costs used by stone preservationists for the workshops, catering costs, and headstone cleaning kits.

Proposed Supplemental Budget

Federal Share:	\$1,500.00	60% of Total Project Cost
Local Share:	<u>\$1,000.00*</u>	40% of Total Project Cost
Total Project Cost:	\$2,500.00	

*Local share comprised of \$1,000 cash match; no in-kind match