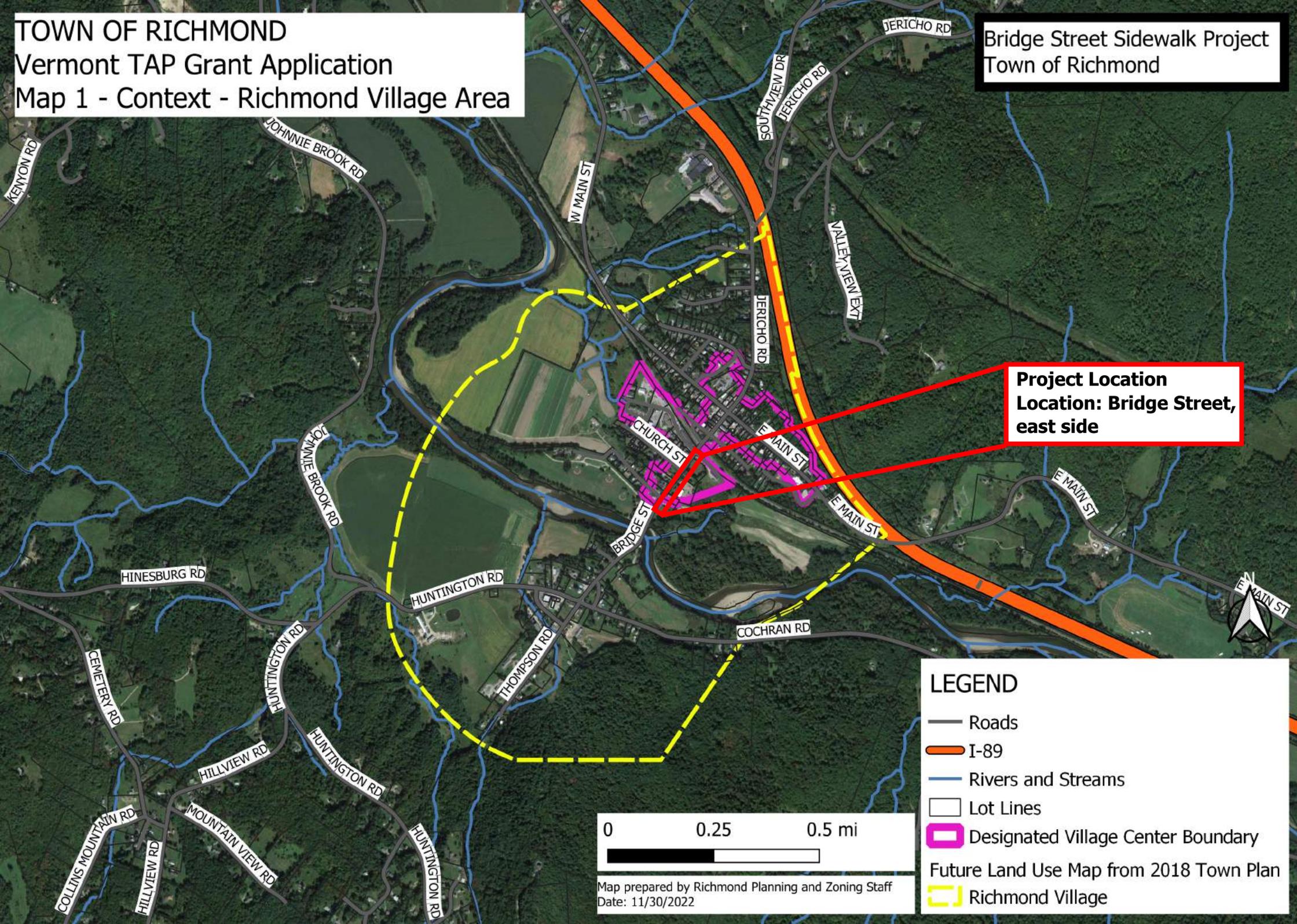


**TOWN OF RICHMOND**  
Vermont TAP Grant Application  
Map 1 - Context - Richmond Village Area

**Bridge Street Sidewalk Project**  
Town of Richmond



**Project Location**  
Location: Bridge Street,  
east side

**LEGEND**

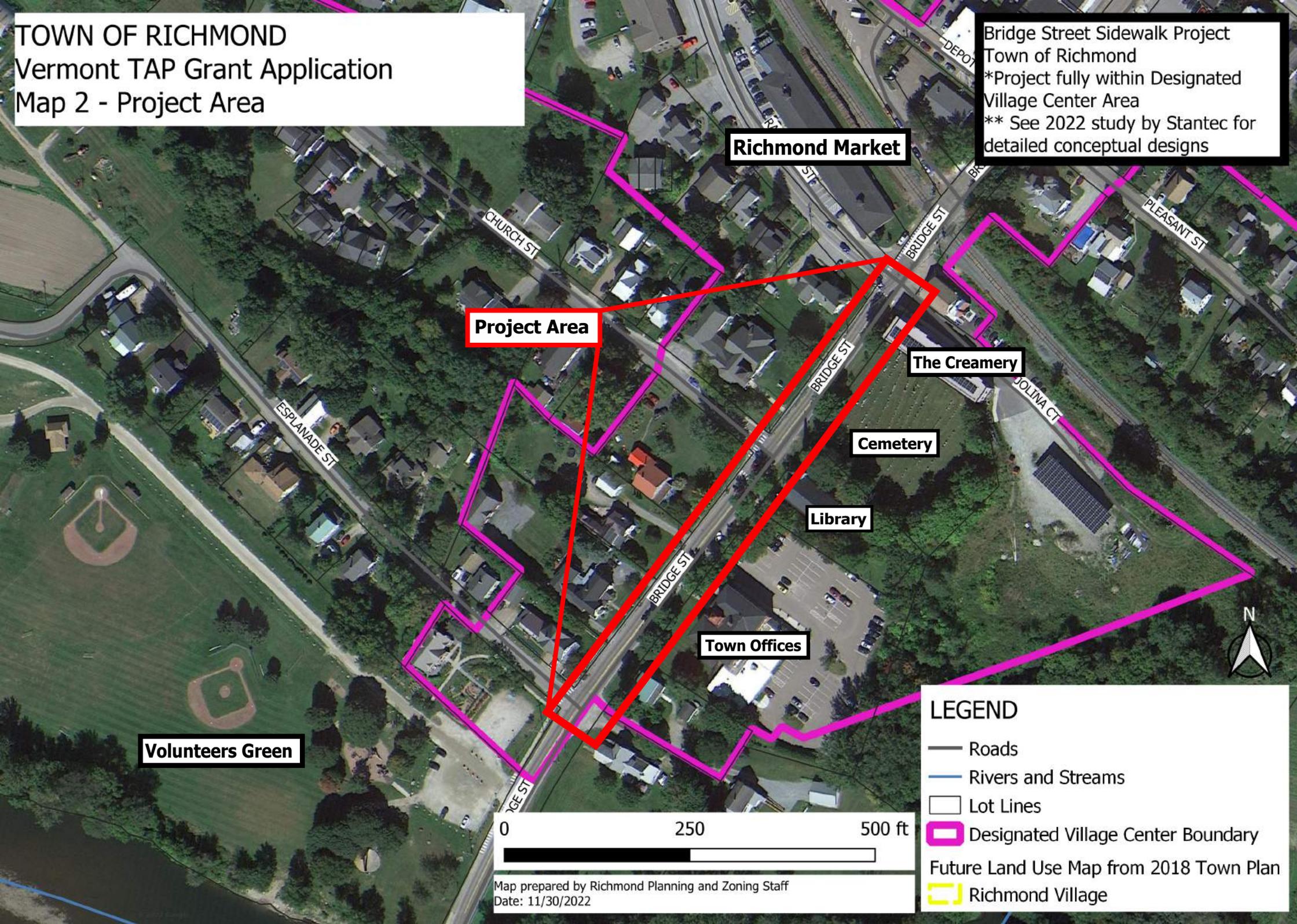
- Roads
- I-89
- Rivers and Streams
- Lot Lines
- ▭ Designated Village Center Boundary
- ▭ Future Land Use Map from 2018 Town Plan
- ▭ Richmond Village

0 0.25 0.5 mi

Map prepared by Richmond Planning and Zoning Staff  
Date: 11/30/2022

TOWN OF RICHMOND  
Vermont TAP Grant Application  
Map 2 - Project Area

Bridge Street Sidewalk Project  
Town of Richmond  
\*Project fully within Designated  
Village Center Area  
\*\* See 2022 study by Stantec for  
detailed conceptual designs



Richmond Market

Project Area

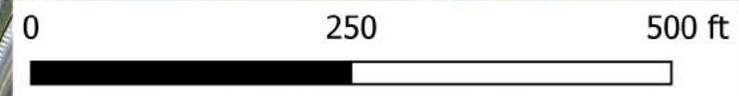
The Creamery

Cemetery

Library

Town Offices

Volunteers Green



Map prepared by Richmond Planning and Zoning Staff  
Date: 11/30/2022

LEGEND

- Roads
- Rivers and Streams
- Lot Lines
- ▭ Designated Village Center Boundary
- ▭ Future Land Use Map from 2018 Town Plan
- ▭ Richmond Village



TOWN OF RICHMOND  
Vermont TAP Grant Application  
Bridge Street Sidewalk Project

Photo 1 - Bridge Street, east side, in front  
of Richmond Library, looking north



TOWN OF RICHMOND  
Vermont TAP Grant Application  
Bridge Street Sidewalk Project

Photo 2 - Bridge Street, east side, in front of Richmond Town Offices, looking south





# TOWN OF RICHMOND

RICHMOND TOWN CENTER

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



December 7, 2022

Scott Robertson, P.E.  
Municipal Assistance Bureau TA Coordinator  
Vermont Agency of Transportation  
219 North Main St.  
Barre, VT 05641

Re: Richmond's Bridge Street Sidewalk Project

Dear Scott,

Please let this letter serve as the letter from the Selectboard that is required in the 2023 Transportation Alternatives Program Grant. At their November 7, 2022 and November 21, 2022 meetings, the Richmond Selectboard voted to pursue applying for a 2023 Transportation Alternatives Program Grant for the construction of sidewalks on the east side of Bridge Street from Jolina Court to Volunteers Green.

During the November 21, 2022 meeting, the Board acknowledged the Town's responsibility of providing the required 20 percent grant match, and maintaining the project in the future. The required grant match will be from general funds and existing capital reserves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Arneson".

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

December 5, 2022

Scott Robertson, P.E.  
Municipal Assistance Bureau TA Coordinator  
VT Agency of Transportation  
219 North Main Street  
Barre, VT 05641

Dear Scott:

This letter is in support of the Town of Richmond's application to the VTrans Transportation Alternatives Grant Program to construct a new sidewalk on Bridge Street between Jolina Ct and Esplanade St. This project will connect village housing with town civic centers. It has been scoped by the CCRPC and is also recommended in the Richmond Walk, Bike, Trails Plan. This project is another step for the Town to create a safe, connected walk/bike network in the Village center.

This project is supported by several sections of the CCRPC's ECOS Plan. One of the four broad goals established at the beginning of the document states:

*"Make public and private investments in the built environment to minimize environmental impact, maximize financial efficiency, optimize social equity and benefits, and improve public health."* ECOS Plan page 8

In the transportation discussion of key issues there's this finding:

*"More robust investment in transportation options – transit, walking/biking, carsharing and ridesharing – could reduce congestion, vehicle miles traveled, use of single occupancy vehicles, social exclusion, and could improve public health, and enhance the economic well-being of our residents, businesses and visitors."* ECOS Plan page 63

Under future transportation investments, one of the identified focal areas is to:

*"Expand walking and biking infrastructure to support active transportation and to provide interconnection with the region's transit system."* ECOS Plan page 93

The Public Health section also includes this as a priority strategy:

*"Obesity -- Create policies and environmental supports that increase access to active transportation, active recreation, and healthy foods."* ECOS Plan Page 103

The financial section of the transportation element of ECOS also notes a recommended shift in new transportation funding away from roadway investments and more into transportation alternatives like walking and cycling projects (see ECOS Plan page 180).

The Plan section on implementing transportation corridor improvements identifies this priority: *“Expanding the bicycle and pedestrian networks with on- and off-road facilities and more sidewalks.”* ECOS Plan page 181

This project is also supported by the following goals from our 2017 Active Transportation Plan:

- *“Provide accessible, safe, efficient, interconnected, secure, equitable and sustainable mobility choices for our region’s businesses, residents and visitors.”*
- *“Encourage walking and biking in local communities through work with towns, schools, businesses and community walk-bike groups.”*
- *“Expand walking and biking infrastructure to provide interconnection with the region’s transit system.”*

Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,



Bryan Davis  
Senior Transportation Planner

TOWN OF RICHMOND  
Vermont TAP Grant Application  
Bridge Street Sidewalk Project

Excerpts from Richmond Sidewalks Scoping Report  
Specific portions pertaining to Bridge Street are highlighted

# Richmond Sidewalks Richmond, Vermont

## Scoping Report



Prepared by:



Prepared for:



September 23, 2022



## RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING



110 West Canal Street, Suite 202  
Winooski, VT 05404  
T 802-660-4071  
F 802-660-4079  
[www.ccrpcvt.org](http://www.ccrpcvt.org)

The preparation of this report has been financed in part through grant[s] from the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, under the State Planning and Research Program, Section 505 [or Metropolitan Planning Program, Section 104(f)] of Title 23, U.S. Code. The contents of this report do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Prepared by:

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.  
193 Tilley Drive, Suite 101, Box 2  
So. Burlington, VT 05403  
(802) 864-0223

Under the direction of:

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC), working with the Town of Richmond, retained Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. to develop a scoping study evaluating pedestrian safety improvements for three separate segments of roadway:

Segment 1 – Jericho Road from the school entrance to Valley View Road

**Segment 2 – Bridge Street from Volunteers Green to Jolina Court**

Segment 3 – Huntington Road from Stone Corral Brewery to the Cross Vermont Trails trailhead at Johnnie Brook Road

The scoping process involves identifying existing roadway and traffic conditions and then developing a purpose and need for the project. Alternative improvement strategies are then identified and evaluated, leading to the selection of a preferred alternative. The goal of the scoping project is to identify options for important missing links in the Town's existing extensive pedestrian network.

The scoping process includes working closely with a project advisory committee made up of The Richmond Transportation Commission, Town staff, and CCRPC staff.

The advisory committee is charged with developing potential alternatives and presenting them to the public and the Town Selectboard.

### 2.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Town's Bike, Walk, and Trails Plan states that The Town of Richmond envisions its neighborhoods, village, parks, open spaces, and activity areas connected by a safe, comfortable, and convenient network of walking and bicycling facilities. Much progress has been made to support this vision in recent years, but several missing connections are still present. While Bridge Street has an existing sidewalk along the west side, there are no facilities on the east side. Jericho and Huntington Roads have no dedicated pedestrian or bicycle facilities. Completing these segments would create a continuous, 2-mile network of sidewalks and paths between Valley View Road and the Cross Vermont Trail trailhead.

This study focuses on this area, and its limits are shown below.

RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

Figure 3 Segment 2 – Bridge Street from Volunteers Green to Jolina Court



## 3.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS

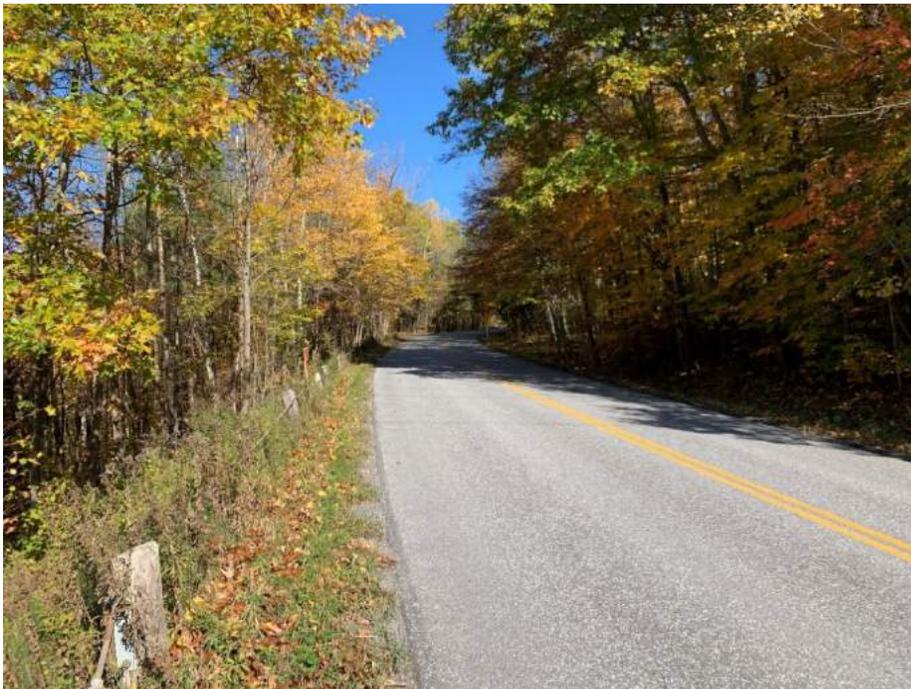
### 3.1 ROADWAY CHARACTERISTICS

#### Segment 1 – Jericho Road

This section of Jericho Road was reconstructed in 1986 and 1987 and has not significantly improved beyond resurfacing and maintenance.

The existing paved roadway width varies between 22 and 24 feet wide. This roadway includes two 11 to 12-foot travel lanes and no shoulders.

**Figure 7 Jericho Road looking north**



Jericho Road is identified as a Class 3 Town Highway and a Major Collector owned and maintained by the Town.

The posted speed with the project area varies from 25-35 mph but is 45 mph immediately north of Valley View Road.

The existing highway's right-of-way width is 49.5 feet.

The aerial utilities are located along the western side of Jericho Road from Southview Drive to the southern end of the project area.

## RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

### Segment 2 – Bridge Street

This section of Bridge Street was constructed in 1945 and has not had significant improvements beyond resurfacing and maintenance since.

The existing paved roadway width varies between 22 and 24 feet wide. This roadway includes two 11 to 12-foot travel lanes and no shoulders.

**Figure 8** Bridge Street looking south



Bridge Street is identified as a Class 1 Town Highway and a Major Collector owned and maintained by the Town.

The posted speed with the project area is 25 mph.

The existing highway's right-of-way width is 49.5 feet.

The aerial utilities are located along the western side of Bridge Street.

This section of Bridge Street includes existing closed drainage along the western side of the road. The Town plans to add curbing and drainage structures to the east side during the 2022 construction season.

### 3.2 TRAFFIC VOLUMES

Traffic volume data, including Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) values and Hourly Volumes for the study area, were available from VTrans. Table 1 shows VTrans' most current data for each segment.

**Table 1 Current AADT Volumes**

Location	AADT	Count Year
Jericho Road from School Street to Valleyview Road	1,252	2021
Bridge Street from Winooski River to Jolina Court	5,700	2007
Huntington Road from Johnnie Brook Road to Bridge Street	3,885	2021

### 3.3 LAND USE AND ZONING

Land use surrounding the project areas includes residential, retail, agricultural, and mixed-use development. The Richmond Market & Beverage, public library, elementary and middle schools, post office, Volunteers Green, Town Library, Town Center, and Stone Corral Brewery are a few of the popular destinations within the project areas. Jericho Road is in the High-Density Residential District, Bridge Street is in the Residential/Commercial and Village Downtown District, and Huntington Road is in the Agricultural/Residential District.

### 3.4 PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE FACILITIES

There is an existing sidewalk along the west side of Bridge Street for the entirety of Project Area 2, but there are no dedicated facilities alongside either Jericho or Huntington Roads.

**Figure 11 Existing sidewalk along the western side of Bridge Street**



RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

**Table 4 Bridge Street from Volunteers Green to Jolina Court Crash Summary (2018-2022)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Bridge Street</b>
2018	0
2019	3
2020	0
2021	0
2022	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Type</b>	
Angle	0
Rear-end	0
Head-on	0
Single Vehicle	1
Sideswipe	0
Unknown-Other	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Severity</b>	
Property Damage	1
Personal Injury	0
Fatality	1
Unknown-Other	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Weather</b>	
Clear	0
Cloudy	0
Rain	1
Snow/Ice	0
Fog	0
Unknown	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Time of Day</b>	
7:00AM to 9:00AM	0
9:00AM to 4:00PM	2
4:00PM to 6:00PM	0
6:00PM to 7:00AM	0
Unknown	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>

### **3.7 NATURAL RESOURCES**

Stantec conducted a preliminary review of the natural resources present within the study area. Specifically, as part of this investigation, Stantec identified and characterized wetlands, streams, rare, threatened, or endangered (RTE) species, wildlife habitat, agricultural land, 4(f) and 6(f) public lands, and hazardous waste sites. Refer to Appendix D for a complete summary of the study's findings.

## **4.0 PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENTS**

The following statements were developed based on the existing conditions assessment, public input, and project advisory committee discussions.

### **Segment 1 – Jericho Road**

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this project is to connect and expand the pedestrian network to nearby neighborhoods to improve pedestrian mobility and safety along the westerly side of Jericho Road, between the Richmond schools and Valley View Road.

#### **Needs:**

1. Provide an inviting travel corridor that achieves the Town's and Region's goals for pedestrian mobility while contributing to the Town's walking network.
2. Meet the needs of all age groups, experience levels, and purposes of trips, specifically students that live within walking distance to school, to reduce vehicle congestion at pick-up/drop-off times.
3. Conceive a plan for a safe, comfortable, user-friendly, desirable year-round pedestrian connection along Jericho Road that increases accessibility to the nearby trail network and also completes a missing link in a safe-routes-to-school network.

## RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

### Segment 2 – Bridge Street

#### Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to build upon the efforts of the Bridge Street Complete Streets Corridor Study by improving pedestrian mobility and safety along the eastern side of Bridge Street, between Jolina Court and Volunteers Green.

#### Needs:

1. Provide an inviting travel corridor that achieves the Town's and Region's goals for pedestrian mobility.
2. Meet the needs of all age groups, experience levels, and purposes of trips.
3. Contribute to the Town's sidewalk network by completing a missing link, thereby reducing the number of crossings necessary to access municipal and business services.
4. Complete a safe, comfortable, user-friendly, desirable year-round pedestrian connection along Bridge Street.

### Segment 3 – Huntington Road

#### Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to improve bicyclist and pedestrian mobility and safety along the northerly side of Huntington Road, between Stone Corral Brewery and Johnnie Brook Road.

#### Needs:

1. Create a safe travel corridor that achieves the Town and Region's pedestrian and bicycle mobility goals.
2. Meet the needs of all age groups, experience levels, and purposes of trips.
3. Contribute to completing a gap in the Cross Vermont Trail that is a safe, comfortable, user-friendly, desirable year-round connection to and from the Johnnie Brook Trail.

### 5.3 SEGMENT 2 – BRIDGE STREET

The project advisory committee (PAC) considered a range of improvements to address the project's purpose and need. During the PAC meetings, various sidewalk alignments were discussed. The Purpose and Need statement identified the desire for a dedicated pedestrian facility along the eastern side of Bridge Street. This would allow access to Town services, including the library, police department, and Town offices.

#### 5.3.1 No-Action Alternative

For the No-Action alternative, the existing transportation facilities in the project area remain as they exist today. The roadway remains a 2-lane facility with no shoulders and sidewalk along only the west side of the road. This alternative has no construction costs and has no impacts on the right-of-way, resources, or traffic. The No-Action Alternative does not address the project's purpose and need, and a missing link in the network remains.

**Figure 19 Bridge Street Existing Conditions - No-Action Alternative**



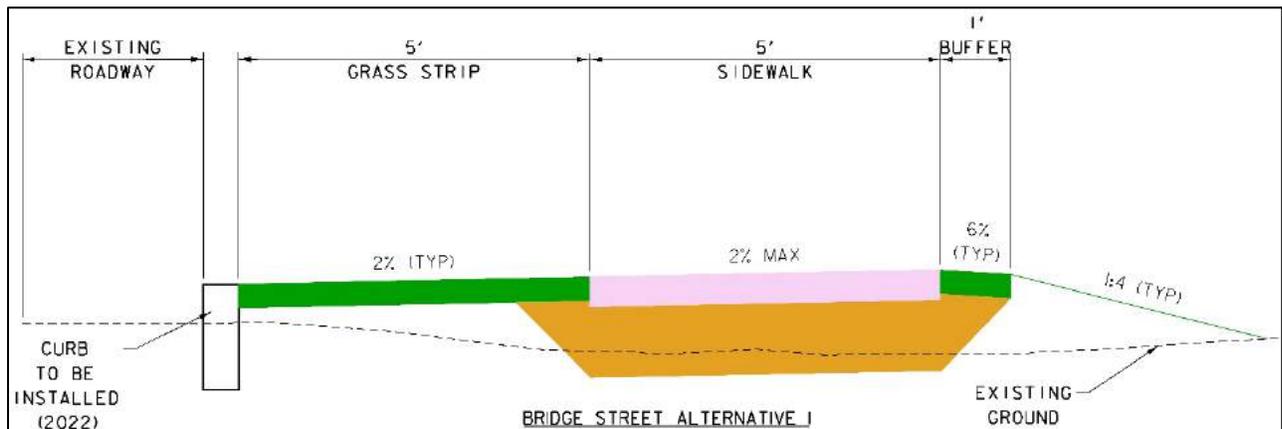
#### 5.3.2 Alternative 1: 5-foot-wide sidewalk separated by 5-foot grass strip

This alternative proposes a 675-foot-long 5-foot-wide sidewalk with a 5-foot grass strip along the eastern side of Bridge Street from Jolina Court to Esplanade Street. A typical section and plan of this alternative are shown in Figure 21. As shown on the plan this alternative includes the following features:

## RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

- The 5-foot-wide concrete sidewalk is offset from the edge of the existing roadway by 5 feet along Bridge Street. This provides for a 5-foot-wide grassed/vegetated buffer. The buffer provides separation between sidewalk and roadway users, snow storage, and some stormwater treatment.

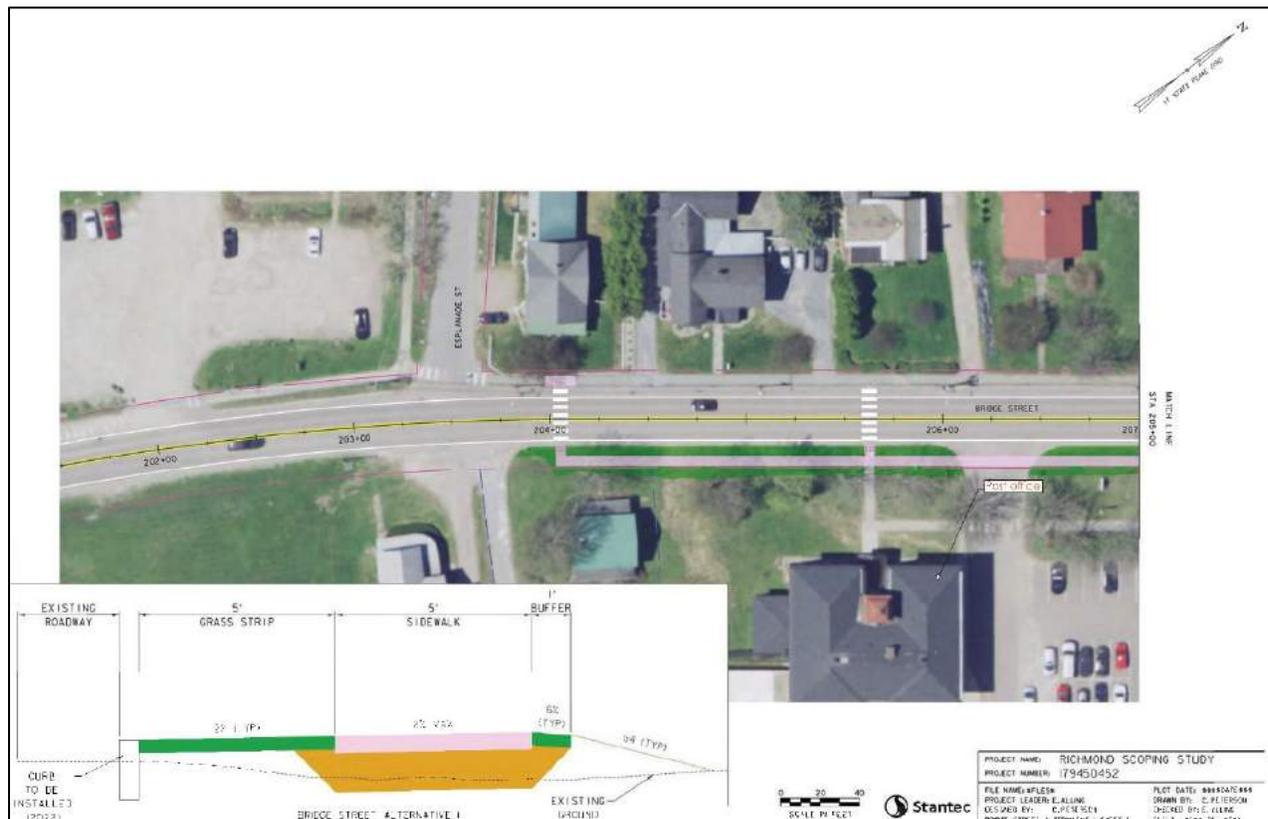
**Figure 20** Bridge Street - Alternative 1 Typical Section



- Connects to proposed sidewalks to the north of the project area and adds a sidewalk to the east side where Town services are located.
- Limits of the sidewalk are contained within the Town's ROW, but temporary construction impacts extend beyond the existing highway ROW for the entire project area.
- Aerial utility poles are located along the west side of Bridge Street and will not be impacted.
- Concrete curbing and stormwater drainage improvements are planned for 2022. This alternative will not impact the drainage patterns established with the curbing project.
- Estimated construction cost is \$150,000.

# RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

Figure 21 Bridge Street - Alternative 1 Plan



A set of full-size plans is provided in Appendix E.

### 5.3.3 Alternative 2: 5-foot sidewalk with 2-foot grass strip

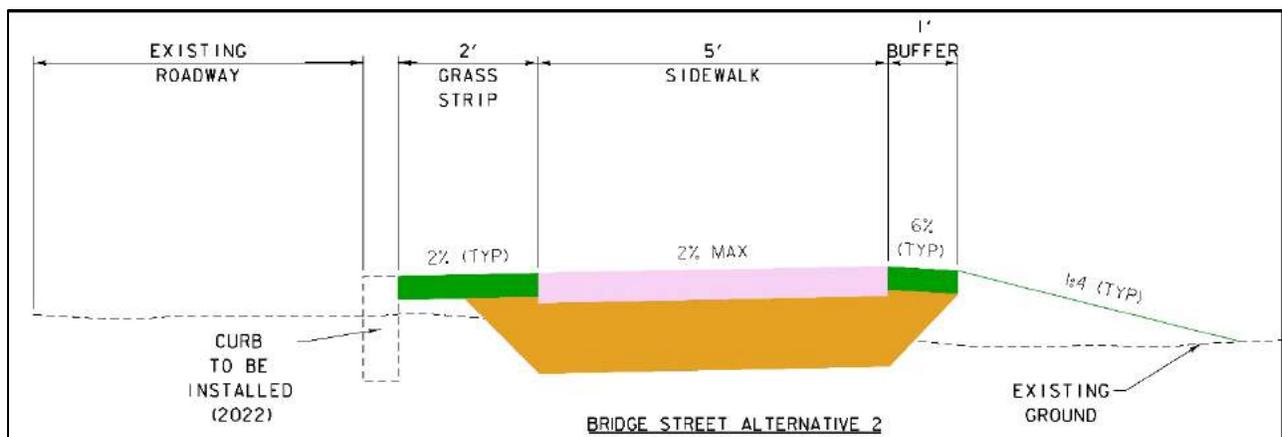
This alternative proposes a 675-foot-long 5-foot-wide sidewalk with a 2-foot grass strip along the east side of Bridge Street. A typical section and plan of this alternative are shown in Figure 23. As shown on the plan this alternative includes the following features:

- The 5-foot-wide concrete sidewalk is offset from the edge of the existing roadway by 2 feet along Bridge Street. This provides for a 2-foot-wide grassed/vegetated buffer. The buffer provides separation between sidewalk and roadway users, some snow storage, and some stormwater treatment. This width is below the typical minimum recommendation; however, it will match the grass strip width along the existing sidewalk on the west side of Bridge Street.
- Connects to proposed sidewalks to the north of the project area and adds a sidewalk to the east side where Town services are located.

## RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

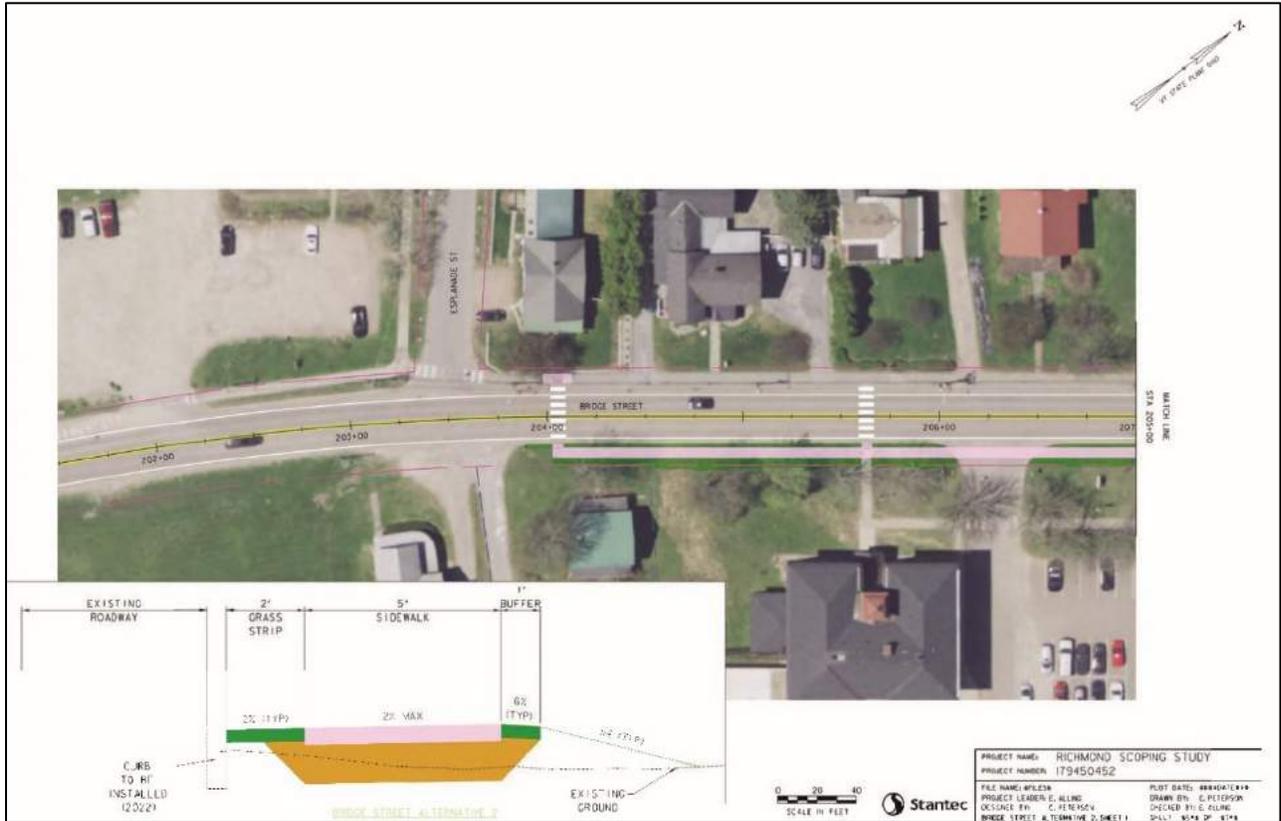
- Limits of the sidewalk are contained within the Town's ROW, but temporary construction impacts extend beyond the existing highway ROW for the entire project area.
- Aerial utility poles are located along the west side of Bridge Street and will not be impacted.
- Concrete curbing and stormwater drainage improvements are planned for 2022. This alternative will not impact the drainage patterns established with the curbing project.
- Estimated construction cost is \$150,000.

**Figure 22 Bridge Street - Alternative 2 Typical Section**



RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

Figure 23 Bridge Street - Alternative 2 Plan



A set of full-size plans is provided in Appendix E.

## 5.4 COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES

### 5.4.1 Alternative Impacts

#### Safety Impacts

Safety for pedestrians is improved in Alternatives 1 and 2 over the No Action Alternative. With a 5-foot grass strip, Alternative 1 creates more separation between motorists and sidewalk users.

#### Right-of-Way (ROW) Impacts

Based on the record plans, the ROW width is 49.5 feet wide. Both build alternatives require no permanent easements, and Alternative 1 will require a much higher number of temporary impacts during the sidewalk construction.

#### Environmental Resource Impacts

Based on the desktop research and site visit, there are no known impacts on streams, wildlife, or rare and endangered species for the alternatives. Neither build alternative will impact any known wetlands. The level of environmental permitting anticipated for this project is limited to a Programmatic Agreement Categorical Exclusion (PACE).

#### Archeological Resource Impacts

A preliminary archeological resources assessment was completed and included in the Appendix. There are no areas of archeological sensitivity identified within the project area. An Archeological Resource Assessment is included in the appendices.

#### Utility Impacts

Existing utilities in the project area include aerial electric distribution and communication lines. They are located along the west side of Bridge Street and will not be impacted.

#### Stormwater Impacts

Both alternatives are under the 0.5-acre threshold of new impervious surface area, and a Stormwater Operational Permit is not required.

### 5.4.2 Project Costs

The following table is a summary of the project costs for the alternatives.

**Table 8 Bridge Street - Summary of Project Costs**

Item	No Action	Alternative 1 (5-ft sidewalk 5-ft grass strip)	Alternative 2 (5-ft sidewalk with 2-ft grass strip)
Construction Costs	\$0	\$150,000	\$150,000
Right-of-Way Costs	\$0	<\$10,000	<\$10,000
Design Engineering	\$0	\$60,000	\$60,000
Municipal Project Management/Admin	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
Construction Engineering	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$265,000</b>	<b>\$265,000</b>

### 5.4.3 Evaluation Matrix

Table 9 provides an evaluation matrix summarizing the above information pertaining to traffic operations, safety, right-of-way, environmental, archeological resources, utilities, and project costs.

RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

**Table 9 Bridge Street - Evaluation Matrix**

CRITERIA	No Build	Alternative 1: Sidewalk with 5 foot Grass Strip	Alternative 2: Sidewalk with 2 foot Grass Strip
Project Construction Costs	\$0	\$150,000	\$150,000
Total Project Costs	\$0	\$265,000	\$265,000
<b>Purpose and Need</b>			
Provide safe, comfortable pedestrian connection	No	Yes	Yes
Facilitate use by all age groups, experience levels, and trip purposes	No	Yes	Yes
Contribute to town & regional pedestrian & bicycle network	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Impacts</b>			
Safety	No Improvement	Improvement for Pedestrians	Improvement for Pedestrians
Right-of-way	None	Greater temporary Impacts During Construction	Temporary Impacts During Construction
Environmental	None	Likely removal of mature trees	Possible removal of mature trees
Cultural Resource	None	Care in the segment adjacent to the cemetery will be required during design and construction	Care in the segment adjacent to the cemetery will be required during design and construction
Winter Maintenance	None	Adequate snow storage	Inadequate snow storage will require coordination between roadway and sidewalk plowing efforts
Utilities/Drainage	None	None Anticipated	None Anticipated
Stormwater	No Change	<0.5 acre	<0.5 acre

### 6.0 STAKEHOLDER INPUT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Two public meetings were held during the scoping process; a Local Concerns Meeting held in December 2021 and an Alternatives Presentation Meeting held in March of 2022. The meetings were publicly noticed, and the Town reached out to abutting property owners. Additionally, a survey among Southview and Valley View Road residents was conducted. Results generally showed support of pedestrian improvements along Jericho Road. Meeting notes for both meetings can be seen in the appendices.

A general summation of the Local Concerns Meeting can be described as support for facilities for all three segments.

The Alternatives Presentation Meeting provided additional feedback from the community. The attendees generally preferred Alternative 2 for Jericho Road, Alternative 2 for Bridge Street, and Alternative 1 for Huntington Road.

### 7.0 MUNICIPAL PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

#### Jericho Road

During the May 24, 2022 Transportation Committee meeting, the Transportation Committee made the following recommendation on the alternatives presented for Jericho Road:

*Motion made by Kart, seconded by Knowles that the Transportation Committee supports a recommendation to the Selectboard for a preferred alternative [for the Jericho Road segment] with the box rail, where the project allows for a five-foot path and a green strip where feasible. Voting: 4 in favor (Gent, Cole, Kart, Knowles) and one abstention (Wong).*

This is a hybrid of Alternatives 1 and 2. To clarify what is meant by "a green strip where feasible", the Transportation Committee acknowledged that a five-foot green strip might be more trouble than it's worth in certain sections of Jericho Road where the embankment is steep. In these situations, they were open to reducing the width of the green strip.

The Transportation Committee's recommendation was unanimously endorsed by the Richmond Selectboard at their June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting.

#### Bridge Street

During the May 10, 2022 Transportation Committee meeting, the Transportation Committee made the following recommendation on the alternatives presented for Bridge Street:

*Motion made by Knowles, seconded by Kart, to select alternative #1 for the Bridge Street east new sidewalk, namely for a five-foot sidewalk and a five-foot green strip. Voting: unanimous affirmative vote.*

## RICHMOND SIDEWALKS SCOPING

It's important to note the Transportation Committee was amenable to narrowing the green strip where necessary to avoid the removal of mature trees or disturbing unmarked graves near the cemetery.

The Transportation Committee's recommendation was unanimously endorsed by the Richmond Selectboard at their June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting.

### Huntington Road

The Transportation Committee recommended the "no build" alternative along with a recommendation for a feasibility study of relocating the farmhouse and/or realigning the road. Relocating the farmhouse or other farm structures, or realigning the road would improve pedestrian, bicycle, and motor vehicle safety. Any such study should include the direct involvement of all property owners within the scope of the study.

The Transportation Committee's position was presented to the Selectboard at their August 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 meeting. The Selectboard did not take action on the Transportation Committee's recommendation.

---

To: Jason Charest  
Chittenden County Regional Planning  
Commission

From: Erik Alling  
Stantec

File: Richmond Sidewalks Scoping Study

Date: November 9, 2021

---

**Reference: Local Concerns Meeting Notes, 6:00 PM on Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021 (Hybrid in-Person and Zoom Meeting)**

**Project Team:**

Ravi Venkataraman, Town Planner  
Jason Charest, CCRPC Transportation Engineer  
Sai Sarepalli, CCRPC Transportation Engineer  
Erik Alling, Stantec Transportation Engineer

**Residents in attendance:**

Gary Bressor  
Jean Bressor  
Jon Kart  
Betsy  
Christopher Cole  
Robin P  
Jed Rankin  
Virginia Clarke

Introduction and Background

**Jason Charest, CCRPC:**

The study is being funded with federal transportation planning dollars that come to Chittenden County through the CCRPC and are used to do transportation planning studies throughout the county. Richmond applied for and was awarded funding for this study through the CCRPC's annual work program.

There is a Project Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from Richmond (Ravi), Richmond Transportation Committee (RTC), and CCRPC (Jason, Sai). The role of the PAC is to attend meetings, review, and comment on materials, provide guidance, and update the Selectboard on the progress of the scoping project.

November 9, 2021

Jason Charest

Page 2 of 4

Reference: Local Concerns Meeting Notes, 6:00 PM on Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021 (Hybrid in-Person and Zoom Meeting)

Jason reviewed the process for this study which begins with project definition, also called scoping. In this phase the problem is identified, and solutions are explored. The goal is to reach a preferred alternative. The next steps after scoping would be to secure funding for engineering and construction and then design and build the project.

Stantec has done the initial data gatherings and will begin looking at alternatives after tonight's meeting.

### Existing Conditions and Discussion with the Public:

#### **Erik Alling, Stantec**

There are three separate study areas:

- 1) along Jericho Road from the school entrance to Valley View Road
  - a. Existing conditions:
    - i. 25-35 mph speed limit
    - ii. 1,105 vehicles per day
    - iii. 49.5' ROW width
  - b. Existing sidewalk south of the project area which connects to the village
  - c. Discussion with public:
    - i. Attendee recommended listing number of houses and residents nearby to project area to estimate how many would use this facility. Strava data can also help.
    - ii. Attendee recognized it as a potentially good connection
    - iii. Attendee mentioned that a number of people walk from the Southview neighborhood and would likely use this facility
      1. There is an email group for this neighborhood and attendee will forward information to Ravi for input for this project
    - iv. Attendee requested that there be a green strip due to the potential for children to use the facility
    - v. Attendee mentioned a possible off-street connection to a path near the intersection with Southview Road
    - vi. Attendee who walks along Jericho Road mentioned that the curve under the interstate overpass is dangerous and has limited sight distance.
- 2) along the east side of Bridge Street from Jolina Court to Volunteers Green
  - a. Existing conditions:
    - i. 25 mph speed limit
    - ii. 5,700 vehicles per day
    - iii. 49.5' ROW width
  - b. Existing sidewalk along western side of Bridge Street and on the east side to the north of the project area
  - c. Discussion with public:

Reference: Local Concerns Meeting Notes, 6:00 PM on Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021 (Hybrid in-Person and Zoom Meeting)

- i. Attendee highlighted the multiple destinations on the east side of the road: the Town Offices, library, and post office
  - ii. Attendee said that a sidewalk on the east side would be useful in preventing multiple crossings
    1. Second attendee agrees with this statement.
  - iii. Attendee mentioned that Jolina Court is being developed so sidewalk along both sides will be useful
  - iv. Attendee requested grass strips
    1. Erik mentioned that perhaps one alternative could have a grass strip and another could minimize impacts
  - v. Attendee mentioned that the Bridge Street ROW may be off-center and that it is possible that there is additional Town ROW along the east side.
    1. Stantec will investigate
  - vi. Attendee recommended ending the east sidewalk and installing a crosswalk to connect with the southwest corner of the intersection with Esplanade Street
  - vii. Attendee requested that Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) be included in the scoping for Project Area 2
    1. The attendee then asked if funding for these was separate
    2. Erik and Sai responded that funding for proposed improvements would likely be in the form of an 80/20 funding split between VTrans and the Town and that this grant could include RRFB assemblies.
- 3) along the northerly side of Huntington Road from the Stone Corral Brewery to the Cross Vermont Trail trailhead at Jonnie Brook Road.
- a. Existing conditions:
    - i. 35 mph speed limit
    - ii. 3,429 vehicles per day
    - iii. 49.5' ROW width
  - b. Existing sidewalk to the north/east of the project area on the northwesterly side of Huntington Road/Bridge St which connects to Richmond Village.
  - c. Discussion with public:
    - i. Attendee mentioned that this area is popular with cyclists and recommended considering them in the alternatives
    - ii. Attendees agreed that a multi-use path would be preferred for Project Area 3
    - iii. Attendee recommended extending sidewalk to the farmhouse at 400 Huntington Road, then continuing off the roadway alignment as a shared use path across the farm field.
      1. Attendee added that there is a vernal wet area that may need to be avoided and the entire field experiences regular flooding.
      2. Ravi mentioned that off-alignment options were preferred for this area during the last master planning process

November 9, 2021

Jason Charest

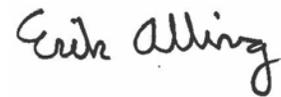
Page 4 of 4

Reference: Local Concerns Meeting Notes, 6:00 PM on Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021 (Hybrid in-Person and Zoom Meeting)

- iv. Attendee said that this segment of Huntington Road is not comfortable to walk on due to the blind curves
- v. Attendee mentioned that sidewalk may be an option worth examining

The meeting ended at approximately 6:50 PM

**Stantec Consulting Services Inc.**



**Erik Alling, PE**  
Project Manager

Phone: 802.864.0223

Erik.Alling@stantec.com

Attachment: PowerPoint Slides

c. Design File

Richmond Scoping Study Alternatives Presentation  
Richmond Scoping Study / 179450452

---

Date/Time: March 17, 2022 / 6:00 PM  
Place: Richmond, VT & Zoom  
Next Meeting:  
Attendees:  
Absentees:  
Distribution:

---

**Item:****Action:****Erik Alling Presents Project****Jericho Road Segment Public Comment**

Jon Kart would like to see a picture of a box beam guardrail and some clarification on the difference between the two alternatives.

Erik showed some pictures of standard box beam guardrail.

Adam Burnett would like to know what the impacts to his property are between southview and valley view road. He would also like to know what the advantages and disadvantages to box beam vs no box beam. Adam is supportive of the project either way.

Erik explained both alternatives are safe for pedestrians, the 2<sup>nd</sup> alternative would push back project limits but still wouldn't impact properties permanently.

Resident of Valley View is very happy about this project. Would like to know if there are any barriers or safety features for the steeper sloped areas along the path.

Erik mentioned that a fence can be added if needed or wanted.

Adam Burnett would like to know if all access points to the properties would remain if a fence were to be added.

Erik explained that yes, any drive or other access points could be maintained.

Jason Charest asked if the residents had any preference between the alternatives

June supports the project, and would prefer alternative 2 with no guardrail for consistency with other sidewalks in the area.

**Bridge Street Segment Public Comment**

Linda Parent says a group of people were in her office discussing the trees at the beginning of the project and if they should be removed due to disease. Coordination should be done. She also had a question regarding impacts to the cemetery and if caskets were to be unearthed what would the

Erik mentioned there are provisions that can be put in contract and plan documents for situations like the cemetery.

**Item:**

**Action:**

procedure be? She also mentions there are telephone cables buried near the cemetery as well.

Cathleen Gent to forward comments she received.

Jon Kart points out that a need for a sidewalk in this segment has been identified as early as 2010 so its been talked about for a while now.

**Huntington Road Segment Public Comment**

Daniel Schmidt frequently runs/walks this segment and would love to see an “off road” trail through this area especially to the Cross Vermont trail. If the shoulder widening option is still the preferred alternative, are there any other alternatives that could be done regarding traffic for safety.

Adam Burnett says that having parking for the trail would be wonderful, or having access between downtown parking to the trail. What are the challenges associated with the permanent and temporary ROW impacts? Are those alternatives even feasible?

Lisa Kory is a frequent walker in the village mentions that the experience of walking this segment in the past has prevented her from revisiting the trail and doesn't think wider shoulders would make her feel more comfortable and would prefer the path option.

Allen Knowles asks if a hybrid option is possible with varying width path and varying width shoulder that could stay within the right of way.

Erin, Farr Farms, lives in the farmhouse with the majority of impacts. They are not opposed to a safer traffic corridor but they have some concerns with all the impacts surrounding their property (utility, drainage, flood plains, row, etc). They would like to know how they would be compensated if the project were to go through. Definitely do not prefer the path option that goes behind the house. The Farris also question how many of the bicyclists would even use the path.

Allen Knowles asked if the question had even been asked if the farmhouse could be moved across the road.

The Farris said they're open to any idea, but that seems like a tall order.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

Erik explains that its definitely easier when there are no permanent ROW impacts on a project, but it is by no means a deal braker. The flood plains are also a challenge but definitely workable.

Erik says that could be a possibility for just pedestrians, but that would not fit the purpose and need for both pedestrians and cyclists.

Erik explains that any impacts outside of ROW are compensated.

March 17, 2022  
Richmond Scoping Study Alternatives Presentation  
Page 3 of 3

The foregoing is considered to be a true and accurate record of all items discussed. If any discrepancies or inconsistencies are noted, please contact the writer immediately.

**Stantec Consulting Services Inc.**

**Caela Peterson**  
Civil Engineering Designer

Phone: 802 864 0223

Caela.Peterson@stantec.com

Attachment:

c.

# **Town of Richmond Selectboard Meeting Minutes of June 6, 2022**

**Members Present:** Bard Hill, David Sander, Jay Furr, Jeff Forward, June Heston

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town Manager; Linda Parent, Town Clerk; Ravi Venkataraman, Town Planner; Kyle Kapitanski, Police Chief; Kendall Chamberlin, Water Superintendent; Lisa Truchon, Lister

**Others Present:** Meeting was recorded by MMCTV, Alexis Lathem, Allen Knowles, Ann Naumann, Ashley Farr, Bonniy Steuer, Cara LaBounty, Cathleen Gent, Connie Van Eeghen, Cristalee McSweeney, Erik Alling, Erin Farr, Erin Wagg, Gretchen Paulsen, Hillary Holmes, Ian Bender, Jason Charest, John Linn, Lauck Parke, Mary Houle, Samuel Waters, Stephanie Seguino, Wafic Faour, Wright Preston

**Call to Order: 7:00pm**

**Welcome by:** Heston

**Public Comment:**

Houle: When the Land Trust asks for monetary contributions to a project then we need to consider the issues of parking first (like at Bombardier field). Please do not provide money where there is no access for parking. Where does the pay for the Fire Department come into concern? Please think about paying the Fire Department properly.

Parent: The Celebrate Richmond Vermont is working on 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration and have currently gathered \$5,000. We will have a Welcome Tent on July 4<sup>th</sup>, we need a few people to help attend the Welcome Tent for an hour or so.

LaBounty: The mowing of the Town Center does not look like it has been mowed very well. The weeds are knee high. The mowing company needs to move some sticks. We need to address the weed whacking and grounds landscaping.

**Additions or Deletions to Agenda:** None

**Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present**

**Consideration of approving corrections to the Compensation Study**

*Furr moved to accept the correct version of the compensation study which correctly states that a Heavy Equipment Operator will receive a three step increase once they obtain their CDL. Forward seconded.*

*Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Heston, Hill, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*

**Consideration of making appointments to Town committees and Offices**

Kapitanski: The mandatory race data collection currently in place is quite a task to get officers trained to collect the data a proper way. It resulted in some bad data being reported out. Collecting race data for every police encounter is not an easy lift. We would need to standardize what is considered a police encounter and how to effectively collect data. For instance, are we collecting data based on perceived race or some other criteria?

Heston: We have a proposal in front of us. We are not taking any action tonight. At a future meeting we can have a conversation with the Chief about what we can do immediately, what do we need to improve for the future, and what are some of the challenges.

Forward: Maybe Dr. Seguíno and Chief Kapitanski can collaborate to what would be appropriate and consistent with other districts.

Naumann: We would like the Selectboard to support the proposal. We would work the Josh and Chief Kapitanski about reporting on some of these issues.

Hill: I suggest Josh, Chief Kapitanski and the Richmond Racial Equity group start sorting through how we collect and report data. They could look at short-term and long-term solutions. People do not actually have to fill out the box to define race.

Furr: If I run a report of patients on Medicare then about a third of people do not identify their race.

Hill: I encourage Josh, Chief Kapitanski and the Richmond Racial Equity group to begin those difficult conversations.

Kapitanski: How we decide to collect data based on self-identified or perceived race is also a function of how we want to use that data.

Heston: I would be interested in participating as a Selectboard member in a meeting with the Chief, Josh, and the Racial Equity group.

Furr: I would also like to be a part of those conversations.

### **Consideration of endorsing the Richmond Sidewalks Scoping Report**

Alling: We are here to discuss the Richmond Sidewalks Scoping Report at [http://www.richmondvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/3n2-2022.06.06\\_Selectboard-Meeting-Updated-Sidewalk-Study.pdf](http://www.richmondvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/3n2-2022.06.06_Selectboard-Meeting-Updated-Sidewalk-Study.pdf)

This consists of three different sections. We are here to gather feedback on the the alternatives from the Selectboard and Selectboard endorsement of preferred alternative.

Charest: I am the project manager on behalf of the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC). Our original intent was for each of the three roadways, Jericho Rd, Bridge St, and Huntington Rd. We are now just presenting Huntington Rd for information only. We recently became aware of some adjacent landowners' issues and

hope to reach a compromise before any endorsement. We are looking for endorsements for the Jericho Rd and Bridge St sections.

Farr, A: Was there a follow up meeting after the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting?

Charest: There were meetings with the Richmond Transportation Committee.

Farr, A: We are a substantial landowner and ask that we be included in the process. It needs to be much more transparent.

Heston: There will be no decision on the Huntington Rd conversation tonight.

Alling: Segment 1 on Jericho Rd is from School driveway up to Valley View Rd on the west side. Segment 2 is the east side of Bridge St from Jolina Ct to Volunteers Green. Segment 3 is the Huntington Rd from Stone Corral Brewery to Cross Vermont trailhead at Johnnie Brook Rd.

\*Segment 1 on Jericho Rd has two alternatives to improve pedestrian safety. Alternative 1 is a 5-foot sidewalk separated by a box beam guardrail. Alternative 2 is a 5-foot sidewalk separated by a 5-foot grass strip with a box beam guardrail. We have compared different criteria for both Alternatives to show that costs are fairly similar. Alternative 2 provides better Winter Maintenance for snow banks but it might create some ice across the sidewalks. Both Alternatives do not require a stormwater treatment or storm water permit.

\*Segment 2 on Bridge St has two alternatives to improve pedestrian safety. Alternative 1 is a 5-foot sidewalk separated by a 5-foot grass strip. Alternative 2 only has a 2-foot grass strip. Both Alternatives would have a curb to be installed in 2022. The Transportation Committee is recommending Alternative 1. We have compared different criteria for both Alternatives to show that costs are fairly similar. Alternative 1 will likely have to remove mature trees but will have adequate snow storage.

Charest: The Transportation Committee's sentiment was to preserve the trees by narrowing the 5-foot green strip where needed.

Alling: Both Alternatives require additional care associated with the adjacent cemetery. Both Alternatives do not require a stormwater treatment or storm water permit.

\*Segment 3 on Huntington Rd has two alternatives to improve both pedestrian and cyclist safety. Alternative 1 is a 10-foot path separated by a 5-foot grass strip. By the farmhouse, we taper away the 5-foot grass strip and bring in a box beam guardrail. Alternative 2 is a 10-foot path separated by a 5-foot grass strip with a different alignment behind the farmhouse. This avoids having to taper the grass strip as it goes behind the farmhouse instead of following the road. The Transportation Committee is recommending Alternative 1. We have compared different criteria for both Alternatives total project costs. Both Alternatives require a stormwater treatment and stormwater permitting.

\*Public feedback for Jericho Rd generally favored a grass strip (Alternative 2). Public feedback for Bridge St showed strong support to east side sidewalks to eliminate multiple

crossings. Public feedback for Huntington Rd agreed it is currently a challenge for walkers and bikers and supported minimizing impacts near the Farr Farms farmhouse.

\*Transportation Committee Recommendations:

-Jericho Rd preferred alternative with box rail to allow for a 5-foot path and green strip

-Bridge St preferred alternative with 5-foot sidewalk with 5-foot grass strip

-Huntington Rd preferred alternative with a 10-foot path with 5-foot grass strip.

Forward: What is our goal for tonight?

Alling: To answer any questions and to seek an endorsement for Jericho Rd and Bridge St.

Forward: I support the Jericho Rd and Bridge St projects. I agree we should delay the discussion on the Huntington Rd proposals.

Hill: How do the people from Valley View and Southview get to the sidewalk?

Alling: That would be a project to look at in the future.

Hill: We have a Park & Ride that people cannot get to. This solves 200 yards of the problem. We still have 500 yards in Valley View and Southview. Would residents allow students to walk to school with the proposed sidewalk?

Charest: We received feedback from those residents at our public meeting that they were in favor of using the Jericho Rd sidewalk.

Venkataraman: Jericho Rd was the major obstacle for Southview residents to get to the Village.

Heston: You can see cars coming on Southview, but Jericho Rd is an issue as there is no safe way between Southview and the school.

Hill: I think we should look at the Bridge St project as going all the way up to Main St.

Furr: The Bridge St sidewalk would be very useful. It is difficult to use at busy times during the day with the many crossings. Jericho Rd is a nightmare with excessive speeds both coming down and going up the hill. I think building the sidewalk to Southview would increase the number of students walking rather than taking the bus or getting dropped off.

Knowles: The Bike Pedestrian Master Plan 1 recommends traffic calming measures on Southview to accommodate the pedestrians going to the Jericho Rd sidewalk.

Forward: The crosswalks between the Community Kitchen and Richmond Market/Beverage should be included in the costs. At least temporary structures could be put up to alleviate safety concerns.

Heston: We have the proposal in front of us based on Transportation Committee recommendations.

Farr, E: The box guard rail was added to the study for Jericho Rd.

Gent: That is the preferred alternative for Jericho Rd. The next agenda item deals with the entire East side of Bridge St and applying for a Federal Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant.

Linn: On Jericho Rd, you will add a lot more water runoff downhill.

Alling: I agree but it is not enough to require State permits.

Linn: Have all the landowners on these parcels been included in your conversations and will they be reimbursed for the loss of land.

Alling: Yes, any project that takes any rights from private property does receive compensation.

Venkataraman: We sent out mailers to property owners and provided information from our list-serve. We sent out flyers and posted on Front Porch Forum about the public meetings.

Linn: When we change the road then the adjacent homes are closer to the setback.

Venkataraman: It is all speculative and needs to be reviewed based on structure, location, and setback.

LaBounty: Are you looking at eminent domain for easements on private property?

Venkataraman: Also, very speculative.

LaBounty: Are you proposing to be on any private property?

Alling: Only during the construction phase of Jericho Rd and Bridge St. Huntington Rd would require a permanent easement. The 10-foot segments on Huntington Rd were based on safety of bicyclists as well as pedestrians.

LaBounty: I think you should work directly with the Farris to see what works best for them in the Huntington Rd sidewalks. I strongly recommend the 2-foot green strip as there is none on the other side of the road.

Alling: This summer there are plans to put in a 2-foot grass strip on the west side of Bridge St sidewalks.

LaBounty: I am very concerned about the sidewalk 5-foot grass area. It is a potential issue along that hill of the Cemetery. I recommend a crosswalk from Jolina Ct to the Richmond Market & Beverage. This sidewalk should not end at a road.

Forward: I am worried about snow storage on the Bridge St section.

Gent: Pete recommends 5-foot grass strips for snow storage.

Paulsen: There is a very steep hill between the Community Kitchen and the Main Street lights. Would you create a wall?

Venkataraman: The study from last year identified the need for a retaining wall.

Farr, E: I would like to look at the 4 different Huntington Rd options that were presented at the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting when we reconvene on this subject. Our opposition to Alternative 2 is that it is in a flood plain that is under water at least twice every year.

Alling: The 3<sup>rd</sup> option was widened shoulders on Huntington Rd. The issue is that it does not provide a safe walking and riding space for all abilities.

Farr, E: We would like to talk about this with the Selectboard in the future.

LaBounty: Can we talk to Pete Gosselin about the 5-foot and 2-foot green space on Bridge St again?

Knowles: We did discuss this on the Transportation Committee. The west side is based on the current utility poles, sidewalks and right of way. The east side we do not have those constraints. A 5-foot strip allows for plowing space that does not bury the sidewalks like what always happens on East Main St.

LaBounty: Be cautious of the cemetery or digging up graves.

Knowles: These are scoping studies of what is possible. There are not specific design plans yet where we might go down to 4-foot or 2-foot green space to avoid taking out a mature tree to disrupting the cemetery.

*Furr moved to endorse the recommendations by the Project Advisory Committee and the recommendations for alternatives from the Transportation Committee for the Bridge Street and Jericho Road portions of the Richmond Sidewalks Scoping Report. Forward seconded.*

*Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Heston, Hill, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*

### **Consideration of approval of submitting for 2022 Federal Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant**

Venkataraman: The Transportation Committee would like to apply for this grant to connect the sidewalk from Main Street all the way down the east side of Bridge St to Esplanade. This would include crosswalk improvements for proper crossings. The total cost of this project would be \$577,000. This grant would include engineering and construction coinciding with future public meetings. If we were to receive this award, build out would occur 3-5 years from now. We are applying to only one of the two grants available. I talked to the VTrans Grant Program Manager and this one is a strong candidate due to the gap, the need, and population served in our designated center.

*Furr moved to approve applying for a 2022 Federal Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant to fund the construction of sidewalks on the east side of Bridge Street and streetscape improvements along Bridge Street, allocating \$115,400 for the construction grant match, and naming Town Planner Ravi Venkataraman as the grant manager. Hill seconded*

*Roll Call Vote: Forward, Furr, Heston, Hill, Sander in favor. Motion approved.*



55 Green Mountain Drive  
 South Burlington, VT 05403  
 Tel: (802) 864-0223

Quantity Summary  
**RICHMOND SCOPING STUDY**  
 179450452

**BRIDGE ST ALTERNATIVE 1 & 2**

	Initials	Date
Calc'd By:	CJP	3/16/2022
Checked By:	DMY	5/31/2022
Revised By:		
Checked By:		

Item No.	Item Description	Unit	Unit Price	Quantity	Item Total
201.10	CLEARING AND GRUBBING, INCLUDING INDIVIDUAL TREES AND STUMPS	LS	\$5,000.00	1	\$5,000.00
203.15	COMMON EXCAVATION	CY	\$25.00	175	\$4,375.00
301.25	SUBBASE OF CRUSHED GRAVEL, COARSE GRADED	CY	\$50.00	100	\$5,000.00
301.26	SUBBASE OF CRUSHED GRAVEL, FINE GRADED	CY	\$55.00	50	\$2,750.00
618.10	PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALK, 5 INCH	SY	\$100.00	400	\$40,000.00
630.15	FLAGGERS	HR	\$45.00	800	\$36,000.00
635.11	MOBILIZATION/DEMOBILIZATION -10%	LS	\$10,800.00	1	\$10,800.00
641.11	TRAFFIC CONTROL, ALL-INCLUSIVE	LS	\$10,000.00	1	\$10,000.00
651.35	TOPSOIL	CY	\$60.00	75	\$4,500.00

Subtotal	\$118,425.00
Contingencies ( 20%)	\$23,685.00

<b>Total Opinion of Probable Construction Cost (Rounded)</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
<b>Engineering</b>	<b>\$60,000.00</b>
<b>Right-of-Way Acquisition</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
<b>Municipal Project Management/Admin</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>
<b>Construction Inspection</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>
<b>Total Opinion of Probable Project Cost (Rounded)</b>	<b>\$275,000.00</b>

# **APPENDIX C**

## **Archeological Resource Assessment**

**ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT**  
**Richmond Sidewalk Scoping Study**

Town of Richmond  
Chittenden County, Vermont

HAA # 5824-11

**Submitted to:**

Erik Alling, P.E.  
Senior Transportation Engineer  
Stantec  
55 Green Mountain Drive  
South Burlington, VT 05403-7824  
(P) 802.497.6004 ext. 129  
[Erik.Alling@stantec.com](mailto:Erik.Alling@stantec.com)

**Prepared by:**

Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc.

P.O. Box 81  
Putney, VT 05346  
p +1 802 387 6020  
f +1 802 387 8524  
e [hartgen@hartgen.com](mailto:hartgen@hartgen.com)

[www.hartgen.com](http://www.hartgen.com)

An ACRA Member Firm  
[www.acra-crm.org](http://www.acra-crm.org)

May 2022

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

SHPO Project Review Number:

Involved State and Federal Agencies: *Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans)*

Phase of Survey: *Archeological Resource Assessment*

## LOCATION INFORMATION

Municipality: *Town of Richmond*

County: *Chittenden County*

## SURVEY AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE):

The project includes three proposed sidewalk segments:

*Huntington Road Alignment* – Proposed 10-foot shared use path with 5-foot grass strip on the north side of the road, extending approximately one-half mile in length.

*Bridge Street Alignment* – Proposed 5-foot sidewalk with 5-foot grass strip on the east side of the street, extending approximately 500-feet in length.

*Jericho Road Alignment* – Proposed 5-foot sidewalk separated by Box Beam Guardrail on the west side of the road, extending approximately one-half mile in length.

## RESULTS OF RESEARCH

Precontact Archeological sites within one mile: *1*

Historic Archeological sites within one mile: *2*

Surveys in or adjacent: *0*

NR/NRE sites within project area: *0*

### Precontact Sensitivity

- *Huntington Road Alignment* – High on the western end where project plans are proposed on the floodplain. Low sensitivity on the eastern end in front of historic houses.
- ***Bridge Street Alignment* – Low due to previous road and utility disturbance.**
- *Jericho Road Alignment* – Low due to slope and previous road disturbance

### Historic Sensitivity

- **Low historic sensitivity for the presence of intact deposits within the three road alignments.**

Report Authors: *Elise H. Manning-Sterling, MA*

Date of Report: *May 2022*

Points were detracted from the Jericho Road alignment because of extreme slope, resulting in a total score of 8, indicating low precontact sensitivity (Appendix 1).

## **6.2 Historic Archeological Sensitivity Assessment**

The historic sensitivity of an area is based primarily on proximity to previously documented historic archeological sites, map-documented structures, or other documented historical activities (e.g. battlefields).

Historic research has indicated that the location of a blacksmith shop on the 1869 Beers map and the later residence as shown on the 1910 Sanborn map, which was located between the library (previously the Universalist Church) and the U.S. Post Office (previously the Richmond High School). The most likely location for the blacksmith/residence is directly west of the library, in the grassy area in front of the Post office parking area (Photo 7). It appears that this structure was razed or removed from the site sometime between 1910 and 1948. While there may be subsurface evidence that a structure was located at this location, it is unlikely that any intact features or deposits are still present that could provide potentially significant data or information to inform the archeological or historical record.

At the time of the site visit, there was recent disturbance noted along the east side of Bridge Street, as indicated by yellow flags along the roadway, exposed soils, and grass seed/protective hay covering. This disturbance may have been associated with the town's proposed drainage improvements (storm drain installation) along this street. In addition, there are fire hydrants located within the Bridge Street project area, indicating previous disturbance from utility installation.

## **6.3 Archeological Potential and Recommendations**

Archeological potential is the likelihood of locating intact archeological remains within an area. The consideration of archeological potential takes into account subsequent uses of an area and the affect those uses would likely have on archeological remains.

A site visit was made to the Richmond Sidewalk project area on April 15, 2022 by a Hartgen archaeologist in order to assess existing ground conditions and identify areas of previous disturbance or archeological sensitivity. The field reconnaissance encompassed the assessment of the areas along the roadway within the three proposed sidewalk alignments (Map 2).

*Huntington Road* – The area directly adjacent to the Huntington Road project alignment is considered to be previously disturbed from road construction. The floodplain below Huntington Road is considered to be sensitive for precontact resources. If there will be any proposed disturbance to the floodplain during project development, then Phase IB testing is recommended on this lower landform.

*Bridge Street* – The proposed location of the sidewalk on the east side of Bridge Street has previously been disturbed from utility installation and preparation for storm drain installation. The Old Village Cemetery was established on rise above the street level, so no burials would be anticipated within the project area. No further archeological investigation is recommended for this portion of the sidewalk improvement project.

*Jericho Road* – The Jericho Road project alignment is proposed along a steep and winding stretch of road. No further archeological testing is recommended.

This ARA report and recommendations should be submitted to the VTtrans archeology officer for review and concurrence.

**Appendix 1: VDHP Environmental Predictive Models  
Huntington Road & Bridge Street**

**VERMONT DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION**  
**Environmental Predictive Model for Locating Pre-contact Archaeological Sites**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Town</b>
<b>DHP No.</b>	<b>Map No.</b>	<b>Date</b>
	<b>Staff Init.</b>	

**Additional Information**

Environmental Variable	Proximity	Value	Assigned Score
<b>A. RIVERS and STREAMS (EXISTING or RELICT):</b>			
1) Distance to River or Permanent Stream (measured from top of bank)	0- 90 m	12	
	90- 180 m	6	
2) Distance to Intermittent Stream	0- 90 m	8	
	90-180 m	4	
3) Confluence of River/River or River/Stream	0-90 m	12	
	90 –180 m	6	
4) Confluence of Intermittent Streams	0 – 90 m	8	
	90 – 180 m	4	
5) Falls or Rapids	0 – 90 m	8	
	90 – 180 m	4	
6) Head of Draw	0 – 90 m	8	
	90 – 180 m	4	
7) Major Floodplain/Alluvial Terrace		32	
8) Knoll or swamp island		32	
9) Stable Riverine Island		32	
<b>B. LAKES and PONDS (EXISTING or RELICT):</b>			
10) Distance to Pond or Lake	0- 90 m	12	
	90 -180 m	6	
11) Confluence of River or Stream	0-90 m	12	
	90 –180 m	6	
12) Lake Cove/Peninsula/Head of Bay		12	
<b>C. WETLANDS:</b>			
13) Distance to Wetland (wetland > one acre in size)	0- 90 m	12	
	90 -180 m	6	
14) Knoll or swamp island		32	
<b>D. VALLEY EDGE and GLACIAL LAND FORMS:</b>			
15) High elevated landform such as Knoll Top/Ridge Crest/ Promontory		12	
16) Valley edge features such as Kame/Outwash Terrace**		12	

17) Marine/Lake Delta Complex**		12	
18) Champlain Sea or Glacial Lake Shore Line**		32	
<b>E. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:</b>			
19) Caves /Rockshelters		32	
20) <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Travel Corridor <input type="checkbox"/> Sole or important access to another drainage <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage divide		12	
21) Existing or Relict Spring	0 – 90 m 90 – 180 m	8 4	
22) Potential or Apparent Prehistoric Quarry for stone procurement	0 – 180 m	32	
23) ) Special Environmental or Natural Area, such as Milton aquifer, mountain top, etc. (these may be historic or prehistoric sacred or traditional site locations and prehistoric site types as well)		32	
<b>F. OTHER HIGH SENSITIVITY FACTORS:</b>			
24) High Likelihood of Burials		32	
25) High Recorded Site Density		32	
26) High likelihood of containing significant site based on recorded or archival data or oral tradition		32	
<b>G. NEGATIVE FACTORS:</b>			
27) Excessive Slope (>15%) or Steep Erosional Slope (>20)		- 32	
28) Previously disturbed land as evaluated by a qualified archeological professional or engineer based on coring, earlier as-built plans, or obvious surface evidence (such as a gravel pit)		- 32	
<b>** refer to 1970 Surficial Geological Map of Vermont</b>			
			<b>Total Score:</b>
<b>Other Comments :</b>			
<b>0- 31 = Archeologically Non- Sensitive</b> <b>32+ = Archeologically Sensitive</b>			

# **APPENDIX D**

## **Natural Resources**

---

To:	Erik Alling, Stantec South Burlington VT Office	From:	Carla Fenner, Stantec South Burlington Office
File:	179450452	Date:	May 25, 2022

---

**REFERENCE: Preliminary Desktop Natural Resource Review for Richmond Sidewalks Project, Richmond**

**GENERAL SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Richmond Sidewalks Project focuses on assessing links between three discrete project areas (segments) in Richmond, Vermont that would be valuable in enhancing corridor safety, connecting residents to schools, workplaces, shopping, and recreational areas with multiple modes, promote active transportation, and various other benefits. These project areas include:

- Segment 1: Jericho Road from the school entrance to Valley View Road, consisting of rural roadway with residential neighborhoods at Southview Drive and Valley View Road;
- Segment 2: Bridge Street from Volunteers Green to Jolina Court in the heart of the Richmond Village, with businesses, Town services, and Volunteers Green; and
- Segment 3: Huntington Road from Stone Corral Brewery to the Cross Vermont Trails trailhead along a rural road with few residences or businesses.

For this investigation, Stantec conducted a preliminary desktop review using the Vermont Agency of Natural Resource's (ANR's) Natural Resources Atlas<sup>1</sup> (accessed May 23, 2022) for each of the three project areas to identify natural resources and sensitive environmental areas which may require further assessment and/or constrain the Project or require permitting. Resources included in this preliminary desktop review include mapped:

- Wetlands and vernal pools
- River corridors and streams
- Floodways and flood hazard areas
- Stormwater and impaired waters
- Hazardous sites and urban soil background areas
- Primary agricultural soils
- Rare, threatened, or endangered species
- Significant natural communities and uncommon species
- Habitat blocks (flora/fauna), deer wintering areas, and forest land
- 4(f) and 6(f) public lands

As the Project is in a scoping phase, a desktop review of available databases was determined to be suitable for preliminary planning purposes and inform any future in-field resource delineation and/or assessment. Appendix A shows images from each of the three project areas. Following is a summary of the findings based on a review of existing resource information for each project area (see Appendix B – ANR Mapping). Historic and archeological resources will be evaluated by others.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/anra5/>

Reference: Preliminary Desktop Natural Resource Review for Richmond Sidewalks Project, Richmond

## DESKTOP SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

### **Wetlands and Vernal Pools**

The project area associated with Segment 1 not located within or immediately adjacent to mapped Vermont Significant Wetland Inventory (VSWI) wetlands or vernal pools (confirmed or unconfirmed, which indicates if a pool site as been surveyed in the field or identified only as a potential pool via desktop determination). The ANR Wetlands Advisory map layer (a database which indicates the potential presence of wetlands based on other publicly available database information such as mapped hydric soils) depicts a potential wetland within the vicinity of the Segment 1 project area. **Segment 2 is not located within, immediately adjacent to, or in the vicinity of mapped Vermont Significant Wetland Inventory (VSWI) or Advisory wetlands or vernal pools (confirmed or unconfirmed).** The Segment 3 project area is located adjacent to a mapped Class 2 VSWI and Advisory wetland but no mapped vernal pools (confirmed or unconfirmed).

### **River Corridors, Streams, Floodways, and Flood Hazard Areas**

Segment 1 is not located within or immediately adjacent to a river corridor, stream, floodway, or flood hazard area. **The Segment 2 project area is partially located within a river corridor and flood hazard area associated with the Winooski River.** The Segment 3 project area is partially located within or adjacent to a river or stream corridor and flood hazard area, also associated with the Winooski River. Additionally, Segment 3 intersects stream road crossings (tributaries to the Winooski River) as mapped by the Vermont Hydrography Dataset (VHD).

### **Hazardous Sites and Urban Soil Background Areas**

There are no mapped hazardous sites at or in the immediate vicinity of Segments 1 or 3; nor are these segments located on mapped Urban Soil Background Areas. **There is one mapped hazardous site within the vicinity of Segment 2 and the entire project area is mapped as Urban Soil Background Area.**

### **Stormwater and Impaired Waters**

The three project areas are not located within a Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Area nor are they located in stormwater-impaired watersheds.

### **Primary Agricultural Soils**

**The project areas associated with Segments 2 and 3 include lands mapped as Primary Agricultural Soils (PAS), and lands identified with these soils can be subject to the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA). Typically, projects within existing developed areas, including transportation infrastructure are not subject to the FPPA.** The project area associated with Segment 1 does not include lands mapped as PAS.

### **Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species**

There are no mapped rare, threatened, or endangered (RTE) species within or immediately adjacent to the three project areas although there are mapped RTE species within the vicinity of each project area. Also, all of Vermont is within the known habitat range for the state- and federal listed northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), as well as additional State-listed bat species. If proposed activities will involve cutting of trees or reconstruction of existing bridges, both of which provide potential habitat for this species, work proposed for this project may need to comply with assessment, survey, and/or impact avoidance and mitigation measures in accordance with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Range-wide Programmatic Informal Consultation for Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bats or the Vermont ANR.

May 25, 2022

Erik Alling, Stantec

Page 3 of 9

Reference: Preliminary Desktop Natural Resource Review for Richmond Sidewalks Project, Richmond

**Significant Natural Communities, Uncommon Species, Habitat Blocks (Flora/Fauna), and Deer Wintering Area, and Forest Land**

The three project areas are not located within mapped significant natural communities, areas with mapped uncommon animal or plant species, or priority habitat blocks. Segment 2 abuts a mapped Significant Natural Community occurrence of a Silver Maple-Ostrich Fern Floodplain Forest which extends to the east and southeast from the project area. A portion of Segment 1 project area borders a mapped deer wintering area (DWA) and Segments 2 and 3 are not located in the vicinity of DWA. There is no significant forest land present within each of the three project areas, as all project segments occur along existing developed transportation corridors.

May 25, 2022

Erik Alling, Stantec

Page 4 of 9

Reference: Preliminary Desktop Natural Resource Review for Richmond Sidewalks Project, Richmond

**4(f) and 6(f) Public Lands**

The three project areas do not contain Section 4(f) publicly owned parks, recreation areas, or wildlife/waterfowl refuges, or 6(f) Land and Water Conservation Fund acquired properties.

**X**

**STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC.**

**Krista Clark**

Principal, Environmental Services

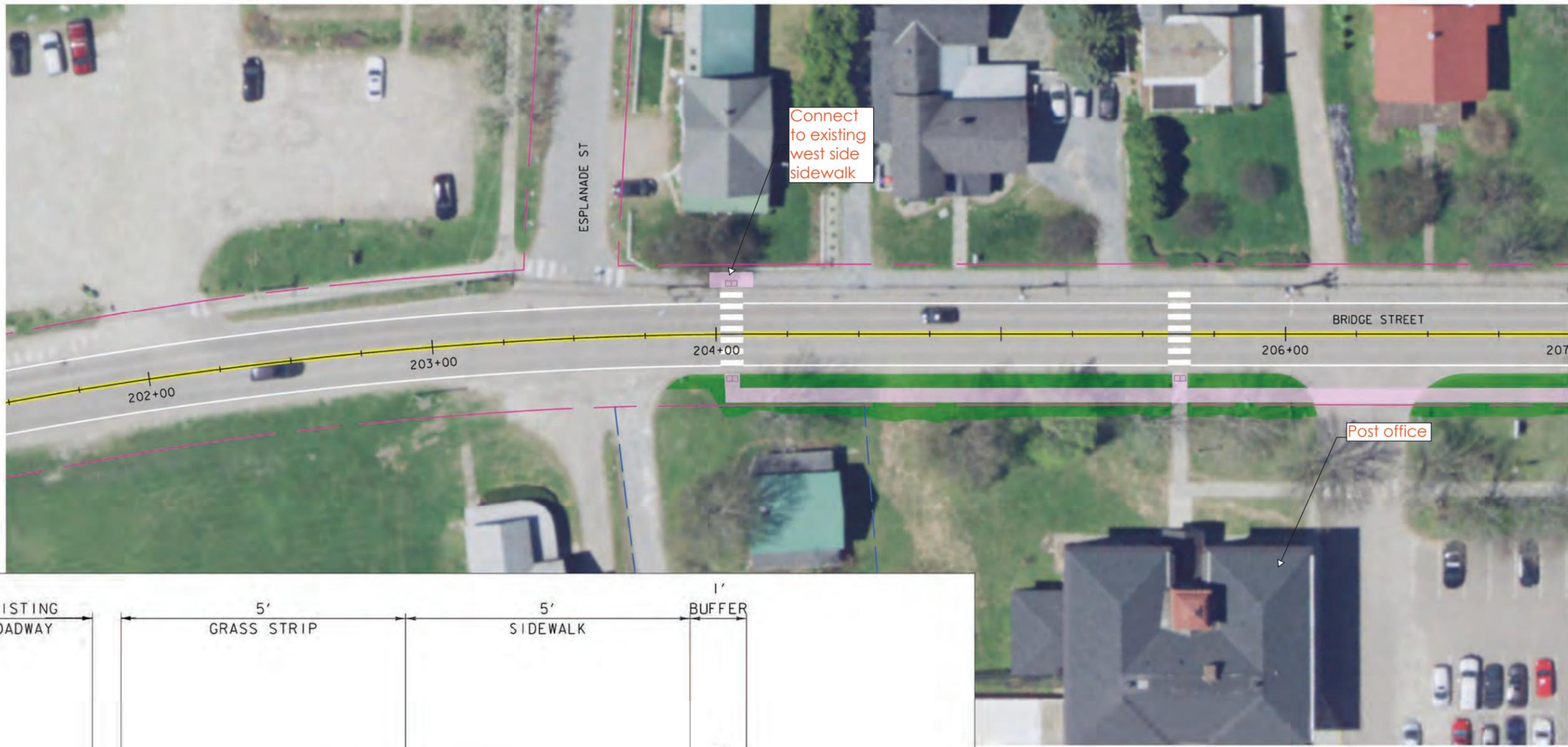
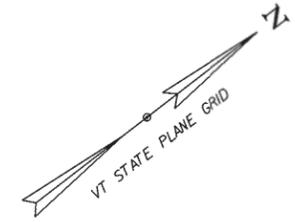
Mobile: 207-576-9527

krista.clark@stantec.com

# **APPENDIX E**

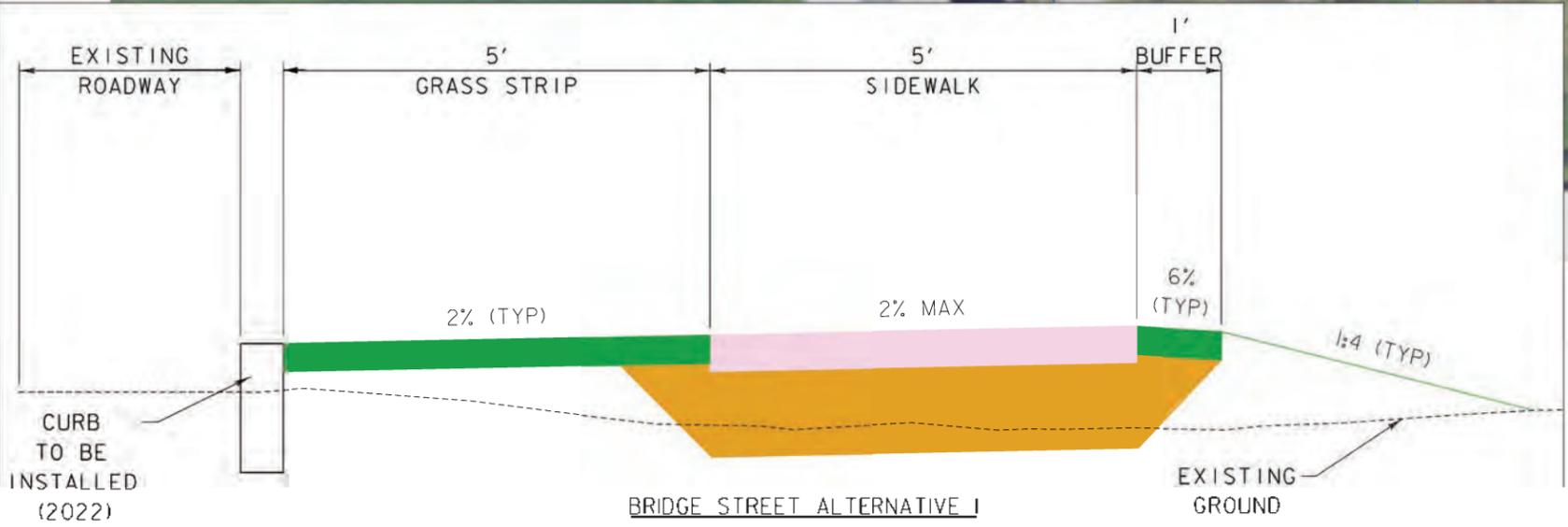
## **Alternative Sketches**

**BRIDGE STREET ALTERNATIVE 1 - 5 FOOT SIDEWALK WITH 5 FOOT GRASS STRIP**

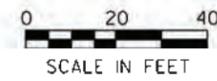


Connect to existing west side sidewalk

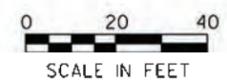
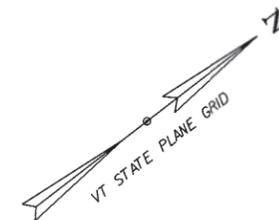
Post office



BRIDGE STREET ALTERNATIVE 1

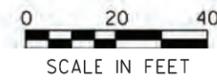
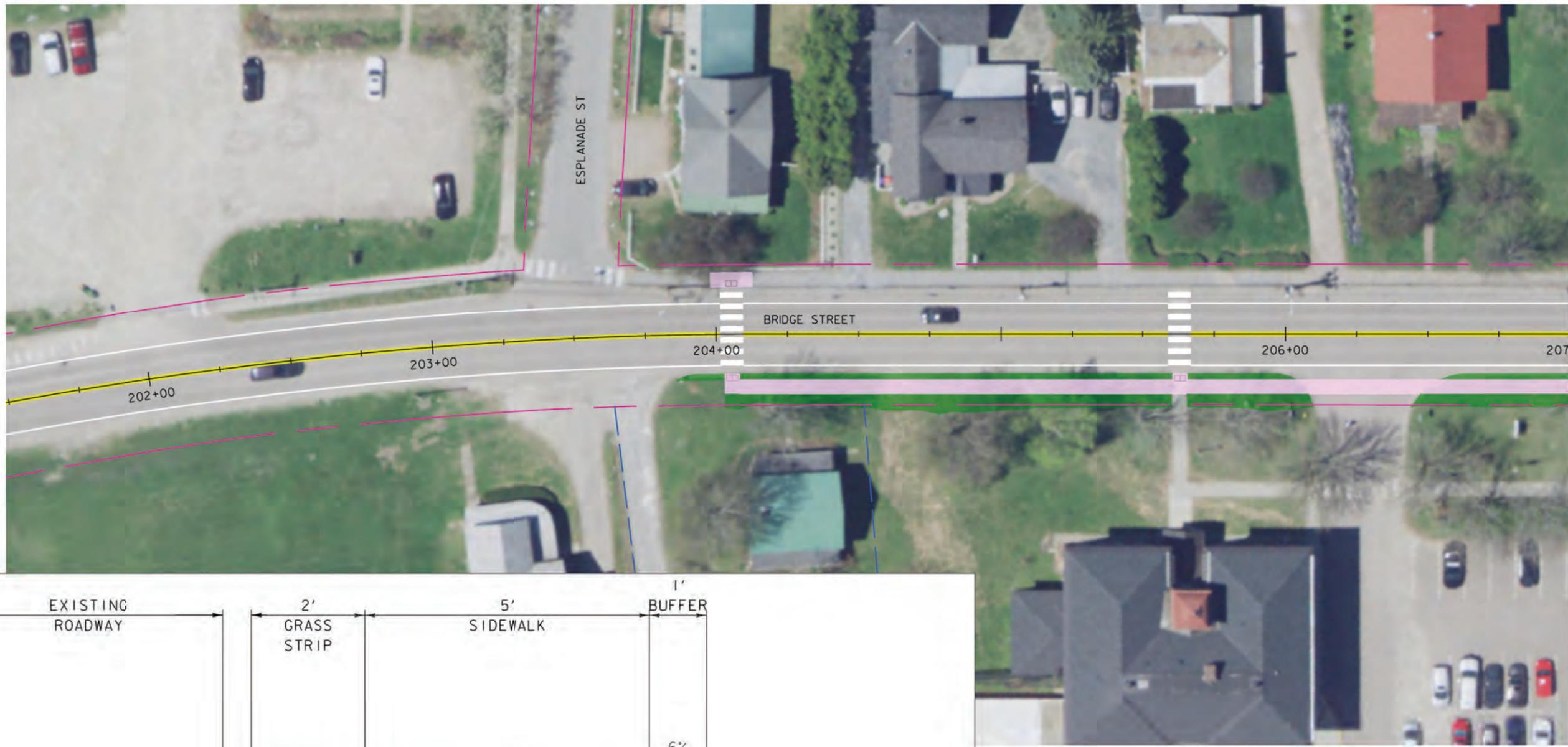
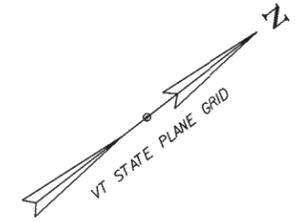


PROJECT NAME: RICHMOND SCOPING STUDY	
PROJECT NUMBER: 179450452	
FILE NAME: \$FILES\$	PLOT DATE: \$\$\$DATE\$\$\$
PROJECT LEADER: E. ALLING	DRAWN BY: C. PETERSON
DESIGNED BY: C. PETERSON	CHECKED BY: E. ALLING
BRIDGE STREET ALTERNATIVE 1, SHEET 1	SHEET \$\$S\$ OF \$T\$S

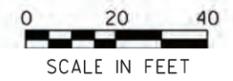
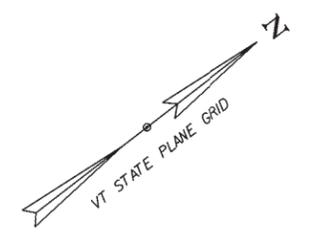


PROJECT NAME: RICHMOND SCOPING STUDY	
PROJECT NUMBER: 179450452	
FILE NAME: \$FILES\$	PLOT DATE: \$\$\$DATE\$\$\$
PROJECT LEADER: E. ALLING	DRAWN BY: C. PETERSON
DESIGNED BY: C. PETERSON	CHECKED BY: E. ALLING
BRIDGE STREET ALTERNATIVE 1, SHEET 2	SHEET \$\$S\$ OF \$T*\$

**BRIDGE STREET ALTERNATIVE 2 - 5 FOOT SIDEWALK WITH 2 FOOT GRASS STRIP**



PROJECT NAME: RICHMOND SCOPING STUDY	
PROJECT NUMBER: 179450452	
FILE NAME: \$FILES\$	PLOT DATE: \$\$\$DATE\$\$\$
PROJECT LEADER: E. ALLING	DRAWN BY: C. PETERSON
DESIGNED BY: C. PETERSON	CHECKED BY: E. ALLING
BRIDGE STREET ALTERNATIVE 2, SHEET 1	SHEET \$\$S\$ OF \$T\$



PROJECT NAME: RICHMOND SCOPING STUDY	
PROJECT NUMBER: 179450452	
FILE NAME: \$FILES\$	PLOT DATE: \$\$\$DATE\$\$\$
PROJECT LEADER: E. ALLING	DRAWN BY: C. PETERSON
DESIGNED BY: C. PETERSON	CHECKED BY: E. ALLING
BRIDGE STREET ALTERNATIVE 2, SHEET 2	SHEET \$\$*\$ OF \$T*\$