

**VTrans Fall 2022 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Grant Application**

Thoroughly read the ***Vermont Transportation Alternatives Fall 2022 Application Guide***

before you begin your application. It includes important program information and step-by-step instructions. Pay particular attention to the application process requirements. **Applications are due in hand or by e-mail by December 14, 2022.** Please e-mail the completed application to: [Scott.robertson@vermont.gov](mailto:Scott.Robertson@state.vt.us)

Toonerville Trail Extension

(Project Name/Title)

Jeff Mobus, Town Manager

(Municipality contact person responsible

for the management of this project)

Town of Springfield

(Town)

05156

(Zip Code)

96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont

(Mailing Address)

802-885-2104

(Phone)

tosmanager@vermontel.net

(e-mail address)

**$** 136,174

Amount of **Federal Funds requested** (no more than 80% of the project cost estimate).

$83,004

Amount of Local Match. Example:

Federal Award = $300,000 (*80% of total*)

Local Match = $75,000 (*20% of total*)

Total Project Cost = $375,000 (*100% of the total*)

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| County: Windsor  Town/Village/City: Springfield  Specific location, street, or road: Extension of the Toonerville Trail along the Black River and generally parallel to Clinton Street (VT 11)  Regional Planning Commission: Mount Ascutney Regional Commission  If a linear project, what is the length in feet? 3,280  Is the project on or intersecting to a State maintained highway?  Yes  No   * *Note:* *If yes, be sure to include documentation that you have notified the VTrans District Transportation Administrator of the intent to apply for TA funding and have provided them*   *with a brief (one paragraph) description of the proposed project.*  Project type being applied for:  **Scoping**  **Design/Construction**  The municipality understands that a typical construction project utilizing Transportation Alternatives Program funds will take roughly three years (min.) in the Design and ROW phases prior to going to construction (as pointed out in the TA Program Application Guide)? Yes  No    Does this project have a previously completed scoping or feasibility study? Yes  No  **Note:**  Attach a map(s) of the project area and clearly show the limits of the project as well as surrounding benefits from the proposed improvement. If the project is within or adjacent to a designated downtown, village or growth center, clearly indicate the relationship of the proposed project to the boundary of the designated area. Color photos of the area are also recommended.  **Fiscal Information:**  Accounting System Automated  Manual  Combination  SAM Unique Identifier # DUVKX6F5TAG5  Fiscal Year End Month June 30 | |
| **Property Ownership:**  If the proposed project is on private property that will need to be acquired by the Municipality through purchase, easement, or eminent domain (includes temporary construction rights) in accordance with the “Uniform Act”, then the municipality is committed to exercising its right of ***eminent domain*** to acquire the rights to construct the project if necessary. Yes  No | |
| **Funding:**  Does this project already have existing funding? If so, please describe. Yes  No  Yes, through Springfield STP BP16(8) and TAP TA21(7). We are seeking additional funds due to inflation and complications due to brownfields and permitting-related issues.  Will you accept an award less than you applied for? Yes  No   * If yes, please indicate whether local funds will be used to make up the shortfall, or if the project scope will be reduced. If the project scope is to be reduced, describe what part of the project (please be specific) you would accept partial funding for.   This project has a lot of local support. If an award is offered than is less than we apply for, we intend to fund the project with local funds, either funds from the town or through local fundraising efforts or a combination. However, since the municipal budget is very tight, we may need to reduce the scope to contain costs if possible. | |
| **A support letter from the governing body of the applicant municipality or organization** and an acknowledgement and source of the local match and commitment to future maintenance responsibility for construction projects is required (must be dated within 1 year of the application). Is a letter of support attached?  Yes  No | |
| **Regional Planning Commission Letter of Support:**  In order to apply, the project must have a letter of support from the regional planning commission. Is a letter of support attached?  Yes  No | |
| **Application Scoring Criteria:**     1. **Please give a brief description of the project (be sure to indicate the primary facility type being**   **applied for and be concise). (10 points max.)**  This project involves the final design, permitting and construction of an approximately 3,245-foot-long extension of the Toonerville Trail to connect the existing shared-use path to Bridge Street and the Edgar May Recreation Center. This project seeks additional funds to pay for cost increases associated with inflation and permit conditions for buffer plantings. | |
| 1. **What is the feasibility of this project? Feasibility (or Scoping) study applications will not be scored on this criterion. Also, please describe the extent of project development completed to date.**   **(10 points max.)**  The project is feasible. Considerable effort was made during the past couple years working through existing Act 250 permit conditions. We now have agreement with the VT Fish and Wildlife Department to build this path extension while also addressing riparian buffer issues. The property owners are willing partners in the development of this project, based on the path alignment in the now complete conceptual plans. | |
| 1. **Does this project address a need identified in a local or regional planning document? If so, please describe. (5 points max.)**   Yes. This project helps to implement the Springfield Town Plan and is consistent with the Regional Plan and Active Transportation Plan for the region. The Town Plan specifically calls for extending the Toonerville Trail to Bridge Street. It also implements Phase 2 of a multiple phase cross-town shared-use path concept. See the attached image of that concept. | |
| 1. **Does this project benefit a State Designated Center per the link below (i.e., downtowns, villages, or neighborhood growth centers recognized by the Vermont Department of Economic, Housing and Community Development? (10 Points Max.)**   [**http://maps.vermont.gov/ACCD/PlanningAtlas/index.html?viewer=PlanningAtlas**](http://maps.vermont.gov/ACCD/PlanningAtlas/index.html?viewer=PlanningAtlas)  Yes. The project is located just outside of Springfield’s designated Downtown. The trail extension will make a meaningful shared-use path connection to a dense residential neighborhood surrounding the downtown via Bridge Street. A future Phase 3 planned project envisions another path extension that would connect the Toonerville Trail to Main Street along a water/sewer line on the north side of the Black River, further benefiting the designated Downtown. | |
| 1. **Provide a project cost estimate below (project costs below include both federal dollars and local dollars). Projects will be scored based on whether the cost appears realistic for the size and scope of the project. For scoping studies, use PE and Local Project Management lines only.**   **Note:** If you are applying for additional funds for an existing project, show the amount being requested for this grant in the PE, ROW, Construction, Construction Engineering, and Municipal Project Management rows below. Also, be clear regarding total project cost and other funding amounts and sources in the additional funding comments box below. **(10 points max.)** | |
| Preliminary Engineering (PE)  *(Engineering, Surveying, Permitting) $* 29,060 | |
| Right-of-way / Acquisition (ROW)  *(appraisals, land acquisition and legal fees) $*0 | |
| Construction  *(construction costs with reasonable contingency) $* 160,118 | |
| Construction Engineering  *(cost to provide inspection during construction) $*25,000 | |
| *Municipal Project Management Costs*  *(minimum of 10% of total PE, ROW and Construction*  *Phases). $*5,000 | |
| ***Total Project Cost $*** 219,178 | |
| **Addition Funding Comments: (ex. Total and additional funding for existing projects)**  The above project estimate is for the additional request only. Through the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program, the town has been previously awarded $364,500 in federal funds with a local match of $91,125 and through Transportation Alternatives federal funds of $163,826 and a local match of $40,957. Our engineering consultant’s updated probable cost estimate for the project is now $879,586. The intent with this TAP application is to bridge that funding gap. | |
| 1. **Select the eligibility category below (A, B, C or D) that best fits your project and answer the corresponding questions for that category (choose only one category). 10 bonus points will be awarded to projects that are primarily Bicycle or Pedestrian facilities.** | |
| **A. Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities (includes Safe Routes for Non-Drivers and Conversion of abandoned railroad corridors.**  Will the project contribute to a system of pedestrian and/or bicycle facilities?  **(10 points max.)**  Yes, this project will extend the existing shared-use path and make connections with the Edgar May Recreation Center as well as connections with a dense residential neighborhood via Bridge Street. The project also implements a section of a long-term planned cross-town bicycle path facility that hopes to ultimately connect the existing Toonerville Trail to Downtown Springfield, the village of North Springfield and with further connections to the North Springfield Dam recreational area.  Will the project provide access to likely generators of pedestrian and/or bicyclist activity? **(10 points max.)**  Yes, the existing Toonerville Trail is very popular and busy even though it does not presently directly connect to an activity generator. This project will extend the Trail to connect with likely generators of pedestrian and bicyclist activity. As discussed above, these generators include both the recreation center as well as the residential areas accessed from Bridge Street.  Will the project address a known, documented safety concern? **(10 points max.)**  We are not aware of documented safety concerns. This Trail extension project will result in improved access to the facility which will likely lead to increased use of the facility. Simply having more users on the Trail at any given time will improve the safety, or at least the perceived safety, of users. | |
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| **B. Community Improvement Activities:**  Explain how the project improves the economic wellbeing of the community and/or provide a benefit to state tourism? **(10 points max.)**  Click here to enter text.  Describe the anticipated impact to the public; degree of visibility, public exposure and/or public use. **(10 points max.)**  Click here to enter text.  Answer only one of the following based on the type of project:   1. Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas as related to scenic or historic sites. *To what extent will the project provide a view of a highly unique and scenic area?* **(10 points max.)**     Click here to enter text.   1. Preservation or rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities. *Describe the historic significance of the historic transportation facility and the importance of the facility to the state.* **(10 points max.)**   Click here to enter text.   1. Archeological planning and research related to impacts from a transportation project. *Describe the associated transportation project and benefit of the proposed activities.* **(10 points max.)**   Click here to enter text.   1. Vegetation management in transportation rights of way to improve roadway safety, prevent invasive species, and provide erosion control. *Describe the extent of the current problem and the impact on the site and surrounding area.* **(10 points max.)**   Click here to enter text.    **C. Environmental Mitigation Activity Related to Stormwater and Highways**   * 1. Please describe how this application provides environmental mitigation relating to stormwater and highways. **(10 points max.)**   Click here to enter text.   * 1. What information or data is provided to substantiate the current stormwater problem and associated environmental impacts? **(10 points max.)**   Click here to enter text.   * 1. What substantiating data or information is provided to show that the proposed application is an effective and maintainable solution to the problem? **(10 points max.)**   Click here to enter text.  **D. Environmental Mitigation Activity Related to Wildlife**  i. Please describe how this application will reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or will restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats. **(10 points max.)**  Click here to enter text.   * + 1. What information or data is provided to substantiate the current problem and associated environmental impacts? **(10 points max.)**   Click here to enter text.   * + 1. What substantiating data or information is provided to show that the proposed application is an effective and manageable solution to the problem? **(10 points max.)**   Click here to enter text. | |