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

Maquam Shore Stormwater Scoping Study
(Project Name/Title)

David K. Allerton
(Municipality contact person responsible for the management of this project)

Saint Albans Town
(Town)

05481
(Zip Code)

P.O. Box 37
(Mailing Address)

802-393-9096
(Phone)

d.allerton@stalbanstown.com
(e-mail address)

$ 40,000
Amount of **Federal Funds requested** (no more than 80% of the project cost estimate).

$10,000
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*)

County: Franklin

Town/Village/City: Town of Saint Albans

Specific location, street, or road: Maquam Shore Rd, from Lapan Rd to St. Albans/Swanton Town Line

Regional Planning Commission: Northwest Regional Planning Commission

If a linear project, what is the length in feet? 26,770 feet (5.07 miles)

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 # 036002629

Fiscal Year End Month June

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 ☒
Click here to enter text.

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.
  Click here to enter text.

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.)**
   The goal of this project is to provide a scoping level study of stormwater improvements along Maquam Shore Road in Saint Albans, from Lapan Road to the Saint Albans/Swanton Town line. Maquam Shore Road is a Class 2 road, and the length of the road to study is approximately 5.07 miles long. I have only worked in Saint Albans for about two months now, and have seen silty/muddy runoff from rainstorms emanating from the fields to the east of Maquam Shore Road, two sections of road being underwater during a rainstorm, and the silty/muddy runoff flowing directly into Lake Champlain. There are undersized and failing culverts, inadequate ditching, and no stormwater practices constructed to assist in alleviating eroded soils from getting into Lake Champlain. Additionally, farmers in the area have been installing drain tiles in their fields, which has resulted in increased water drainage toward Maquam Shore Road. The study is intended to provide alternatives and potential locations for the construction of stormwater best management practices to alleviate the stormwater issues in this area.

2. **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.)**
   There has been no work done on this project to date.

3. **Does this project address a need identified in a local or regional planning document? If so, please describe. (5 points max.)**
   Stormwater has been identified as an issue in the Northwest Regional Planning Commission's "Plan for the Northwest Region 2015-2023." Additionally, the Town of Saint Albans is an MS4 permitted community (Municipal Separate Storm and Sewer System), and has obligations concerning stormwater, including education and outreach, ongoing inspections, and stormwater system maintenance and management. This project will be directly related to regional planning regarding stormwater management, and the health of Lake Champlain. Stormwater management is also identified in the "Town of Saint Albans, Franklin County, Vermont, Town Plan," approved by the Select Board on June 15, 2020.

4. **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
   Stormwater in the area emanates from higher elevation areas in both the City and the Town of Saint Albans, so the project will indirectly benefit stormwater discharges from the area.

5. **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)*	$40,000
Right-of-way / Acquisition (ROW) *(appraisals, land acquisition and legal fees)*	$ Click here to enter value
Construction *(construction costs with reasonable contingency)*	$ Click here to enter value
Construction Engineering *(cost to provide inspection during construction)*	$ Click here to enter value
Municipal Project Management Costs *(minimum of 10% of total PE, ROW and Construction Phases).*	$ 10,000
Total Project Cost	**$ 50000**

Addition Funding Comments: (ex. Total and additional funding for existing projects)
None

6. **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.**

(i) Will the project contribute to a system of pedestrian and/or bicycle facilities? **(10 points max.)**
Click here to enter text.

(ii) Will the project provide access to likely generators of pedestrian and/or bicyclist activity? **(10 points max.)**
Click here to enter text.

(iii) Will the project address a known, documented safety concern? **(10 points max.)**
Click here to enter text.

☐ **B. Community Improvement Activities:**

i. 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.

ii. Describe the anticipated impact to the public; degree of visibility, public exposure and/or public use. **(10 points max.)**
Click here to enter text.

iii. Answer only one of the following based on the type of project:

a) 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.

b) 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.

c) 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.

d) 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**

i. Please describe how this application provides environmental mitigation relating to stormwater and highways. **(10 points max.)**
The goal of this project is to identify best management practices for stormwater mitigation infrastructure along Maquam Shore Road in Saint Albans Town. Muddy/silty water has been observed flowing from properties to the east of Maquam Shore Road, across the road through inadequate conveyance structures, and directly to Lake Champlain in this area. We need assistance in identifying the proper stormwater practices and locations in order to pursue and construct proper stormwater mitigation infrastructure.

ii. What information or data is provided to substantiate the current stormwater problem and associated environmental impacts? **(10 points max.)**
Since I started working for the Town in late October, I have personally seen the muddy/silty water flowing directly into the Lake during rain events. I met with Chris Brunelle, a Rivers Management Engineer at ANR, and took him to Maquam Shore Road to look at the culverts and pick his brain on the situation. He thought it was a difficult area to control stormwater, due to the flatness of the terrain, numerous farms, and old stormwater conveyances. Pictures of the area are attached. Hiring a stormwater consultant to assist in this effort will definitely help the town in meeting stormwater goals.

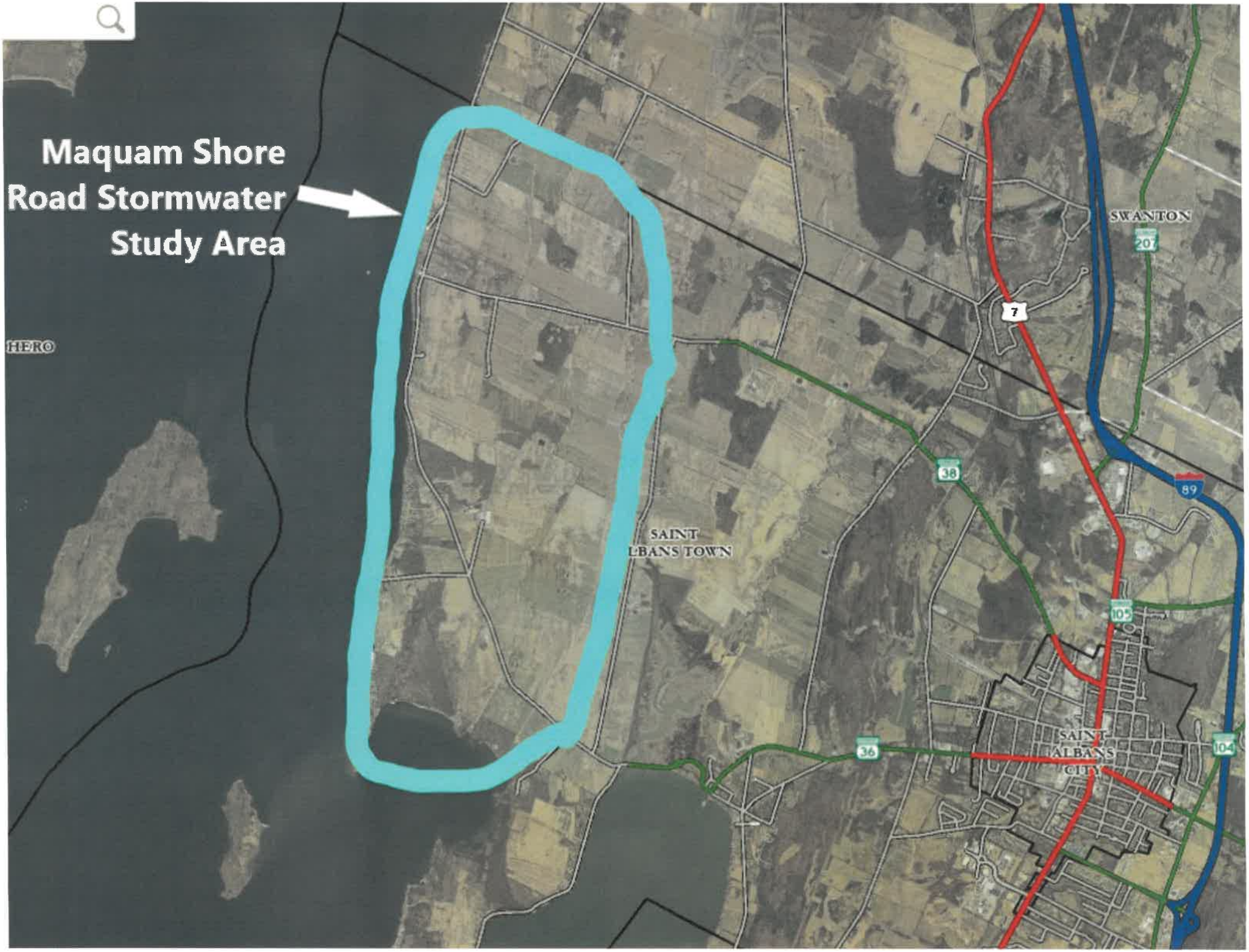
iii. What substantiating data or information is provided to show that the proposed application is an effective and maintainable solution to the problem? **(10 points max.)**
A scoping study is the first step in understanding what can be done in this area to mitigate stormwater runoff impacting the Lake. By evaluating best management practices in regards to stormwater, we can advance issues identified in local regional and town plans. The goal is to identify areas we can improve water quality, and lessen impacts stormwater has on Lake Champlain in this area.

☐ **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.

ii. What information or data is provided to substantiate the current problem and associated environmental impacts? **(10 points max.)**
Click here to enter text.

iii. 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.


Maquam Shore
Road Stormwater
Study Area
HERO
SAINT
LBANS TOWN
SWANTON
7
38
89
105
36
SAINT
ALBANS
CITY
104

Maquam Shore Road Stormwater Scoping Study Photos, Town of Saint Albans

Example 1

Photo 1. Outfall on the west side of Maquam Shore Road

Photo 2. Same outfall on the west side of Maquam Shore Road, leading directly to Lake Champlain.

Photo 3. Farm field with drainage tile draining to the outfall. Muddy/silty water emanates from this field during rain storm events.

Example 2

Photo 4. Undersized culvert on farm field access.

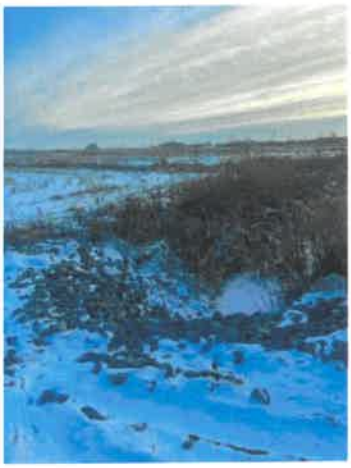
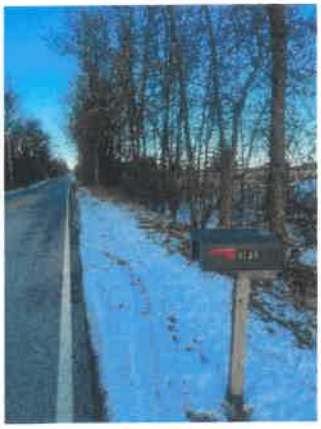


Photo 5. Farm field draining to culvert and roadside ditch, emanates muddy/silty water during rain storm events.

Photos 5, 6 and 7. More ditch photos.



St. Albans Bay
Vermont 05481

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Fax
802-524-5816

Website
www.stalbanstown.com

December 13, 2022

Mr. Scott Robertson
Project Manager, Municipal Assistance Section
Vermont Agency of Transportation
Barre City Place
219 North Main St. – 4th floor
Barre, VT 05641

Re: TAP Grant Application for Maquam Shore Stormwater Scoping Study, Town of Saint Albans

Dear Mr. Robertson,

This letter is to serve as confirmation of the Town of Saint Albans commitment to provide local match of $10,000 for the Maquam Shore Stormwater Scoping Study, to match $40,000 in funds requested through the Transportation Alternatives Program. The source of these matching funds will be the Town's stormwater budget line item.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carrie Johnson
Town Manager, Town of Saint Albans

C: David Allerton, P.E., Public Works Director/Town Engineer

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Northwest
Regional Planning Commission

75 Fairfield Street • St. Albans, VT 05478 • (802) 524-5958 • Fax (802) 527-2948

December 12, 2022

Scott Robertson
Municipal Assistance Bureau – Local Projects Group
Vermont Agency of Transportation
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05633-5001

Re: Letter of Support for Maquam Shore Road Scoping Study

Dear Mr. Robertson:

The Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) is pleased to support the Town of St Albans' application to the Vermont Transportation Alternatives Program. The funding would be used for a scoping study to identify stormwater mitigation opportunities along Maquam Shore Road from Lapan Road to the Saint Albans/Swanton Town line. This project fits well with the goals and policies of the 2017 Northwest Regional Plan. Some of the goals that support this project are:

- Ensure that construction and maintenance of the transportation network minimizes negative impacts on natural, cultural and scenic resources.
- Improve surface water quality and protect it from point and non-point nutrient loading.
- Recognize the connections between land use, stormwater, road design and maintenance as well as their effects from disasters, and incorporate mitigation into site design and infrastructure planning.

Thank you for considering our comments. Please feel free to call me or if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely:

Bethany Remmers
Assistant Director