



TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

77 MAIN STREET, MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753

June 13, 2024

Peter Pochop
Vermont Agency of Transportation
219 North Main Street
Barre, VT 05641

Re: 2024 Vermont Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Application
Selectboard Letter of Support

Mr. Pochop:

The Town of Middlebury is seeking funding to design and construct a sidewalk to provide connectivity from Seminary Street Extension to Route 7. To create this complete network, the segments of sidewalk to be constructed in this process are along Valley View Drive, Rogers Road and Monroe Street. The goal of the project is to improve pedestrian safety through the greater Buttolph Neighborhood and to create connectivity to three public schools, a local preschool, the Designated Downtown area and the Route 7 corridor.

The Town recently completed a Bike/Ped Connectivity Plan that provided a vision for improving safety, capacity and efficiency for non-vehicular traffic. The Greater Buttolph Neighborhood was identified within the study as a densely populated area with gaps in the pedestrian connection to local schools and commercial areas on Route 7 and downtown. This proposal was presented to the Infrastructure Committee, a group appointed by the Selectboard to review and make recommendations on projects for the highway, water, and wastewater divisions of Public Works. The committee gave full support to advance the project and recommended that the Selectboard approve the funding request. On May 28, 2024, the Selectboard gave full approval for the request. The Town has a Sidewalk Engineering and Construction Capital Fund that will be utilized to support the required 20% match for the project.

The Town of Middlebury recognizes the importance of providing a safe pedestrian atmosphere for our residents and visitors. This project will help us get closer to achieving that goal. We appreciate the opportunity.

Sincerely,

Andy Hooper

Selectboard Vice Chair