



November 2, 2023

Scott Robertson
Municipal Assistance Bureau
State of Vermont Agency of Transportation
219 North Main Street
Barre, VT 05641

Dear Mr. Robertson,

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is pleased to support the Town of Berlin's application to the Transportation Alternatives set-aside program to complete the construction of a multi-use path, sidewalks, lighting, streetscaping and development of a gravel wetland in the Berlin New Town Center.

The Berlin New Town Center will create a new mixed-use residential and commercial district in the area that is currently the Berlin Mall. The Regional Plan recognizes the compact, pedestrian-friendly, multi-story, and mixed-use development that is proposed in New Town Centers as an important part of future development in Central Vermont and emphasizes the importance of creating pedestrian and bicycle-oriented infrastructure in these areas.

The *2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan, Amended 2020*, promotes the development of active transportation facilities with the following Goals and Policies:

- Transportation Goal 4, Policy 3: Ensure adequate mobility for all segments of the population, including residents who cannot or do not use private automobiles.
- Transportation Goal 6, Policy 4: Promote projects that limit the conflicts between the motor vehicle traffic stream, pedestrians, and the rail system.
- Land Use Goal 7, Policy 2: Encourages Structural Best Management Practices for stormwater, such as artificial wetlands
- Transportation Goal 8, Policy 3: Encourage transportation system improvements that renew and improve downtowns, growth areas, and neighborhoods.

This proposed construction project will help the Town of Berlin promote its New Town Center to employers, employees, visitors, shoppers, and residents alike. The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is pleased to support this work.

If CVRPC can be of further assistance in the development of this process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Christian Meyer
Executive Director