



**VTrans Fall 2023 Transportation Alternatives (TAP)
and
Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Program Grant (MHSMP)
Combined Application**

Thoroughly read the TAP and MHSMP application guidebooks 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 by e-mail by December 8, 2023.** Please e-mail the completed application to: Ross.gouin@vermont.gov and Scott.robertson@vermont.gov.

Ferrisburgh Center Pedestrian Safety
(Project Name/Title)

802-877-3429
(Phone)

Pam Cousino
(Municipality contact person responsible
for the management of this project)

TownClerk@ferrisburghvt.org
(e-mail address)

Ferrisburgh
(Town)

\$ 500,000.00
Amount of **Federal Funds requested** (no more
than 80% of the cost estimate).

05456
(Zip Code)

\$ 125,000.00
Amount of Local Match. Example:
Federal Award = \$600,000 (80% of total)
Local Match = \$150,000 (20% of total)
Total Project Cost = \$750,000 (100% of the total)

3279 U.S. Route 7
Ferrisburgh, VT 05456
(Mailing Address)

County: Addison

Town/Village/City: Ferrisburgh

Specific location, street, or road: U.S. Route 7, and its intersection with Little Chicago Road and Middlebrook Road.

Regional Planning Commission: Addison County Regional Planning Commission

If a linear project, what is the length in feet? 640 linear feet of sidewalk; 80 linear feet of crosswalk

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 TAP or MHSMP Program funds will take roughly three years (min.) in the Design and ROW phases prior to going to construction (as pointed out in the TAP and MHSMP Application Guides)? 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 # 8MVNO

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.](#)

Please note that existing projects will not be considered for additional funding without a current NEPA clearance and ROW clearance. Please provide date of clearances below:

[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.
The town would consider reducing the scope of the project by shortening the length of sidewalk on Little Chicago and/or Middlebrook Roads.

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 ☐

PLEASE NOTE: If this application is for salt or sand shed funding, the applicant must read and understand the **Municipal Assistance Section Salt Shed Application Guide**. All of the following scoring questions below must thoroughly convey an understanding of the salt and sand guidance provided.

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.)

1. Construct 140 ft. of 5 ft. wide concrete sidewalk on the west side of U.S. Route 7 beginning at the intersection of Little Chicago Road heading north.
2. Construct 300 ft. of 5 ft. wide concrete sidewalk on the north side of Little Chicago Road beginning at the intersection of U.S. Route 7 and continuing to the driveway entrance to the Ferrisburgh Central School.
3. Construct 200 ft. of 5 ft. wide concrete sidewalk on the north side of Middlebrook Road beginning at the intersection of U.S. Route 7.
4. Construct crosswalk across U.S. Route 7 joining these sections of sidewalk.

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 to date.

(10 points max.)

In October 2023, the town of Ferrisburgh completed a pedestrian safety Scoping Study through a transportation planning initiative grant from the Addison County Regional Planning Commission. After professional evaluation and public input and participation, the preferred alternative is reflected in this grant application. The scoping study's final presentation and report (attached) included conceptual plans for the preferred alternative.

The 2023 Scoping Study revived some of the recommendations from a broader study commissioned by the Town and completed in 2012, the "Safe Routes to School Travel Plan."

Also in 2023, Ferrisburgh was selected to participate in a \$2 million federal RAISE grant to develop Transit-Oriented Development plans for northwest Vermont. The location of this project is within one of the RAISE grant planning areas.

No significant environmental concerns have been identified by our consultants in the proposed construction area. The project will be constructed within the public right of way, over flat, well-drained terrain. We do not expect any impact to existing drainage patterns on Little Chicago Road.

3. Does this project address a need identified in a local or regional planning document? If so, please describe.

(5 points max.)

The Ferrisburgh Town Plan (2017-2025) states a goal of providing safe and adequate transportation facilities, to include working with VTTrans “to ensure safety at road intersections, especially those that intersect with U.S. Route 7.”¹ The town plan refers to the 2012 Safe Routes to School travel plan that calls for infrastructure improvements such as sidewalks and crosswalks to increase safety for students walking and biking to and from school.² The town plan’s transportation policy recommends improved and safer pedestrian routes, and specifically calls for making safety improvements at the intersection of Little Chicago Road and U.S. Route 7.³

4. Does this project:

- A. 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?)**

Not applicable for Environmental Mitigation Categories (5 points max.)

<http://maps.vermont.gov/ACCD/PlanningAtlas/index.html?viewer=PlanningAtlas>

Yes. The project lies within and benefits the Ferrisburgh village center, as recognized by the Vermont ACCD.

- B. Benefit mobility for disadvantaged populations to include elderly, disabled, minorities, and low-income residents. Please describe this impact (if applicable) in detail. Supporting documentation, including recent data must be included.**

Not applicable for Environmental Mitigation Categories (10 points max.)

Neighborhood walkability is key to promoting health, accessibility and pedestrian safety, for elders and children in particular, as well as the community as a whole. This project aims to address one aspect of mobility challenges for elders--lack of safe space to walk. The Town Plan supports this need.⁴ A letter of support from the Superintendent of Schools for the Addison Northwest School District, identifying this as a priority need for our schoolchildren, is attached.

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.

¹ Ferrisburgh Town Plan, p. 3.

² Ferrisburgh Town Plan, p. 54.

³ Ferrisburgh Town Plan, p. 68.

⁴ Ferrisburgh Town Plan, p. 56.

(10 points max.)

Preliminary Engineering (PE) (Engineering, Surveying, Permitting)	\$ <u>51,000</u>
Right-of-way / Acquisition (ROW) (appraisals, land acquisition and legal fees)	\$ <u>3,000</u>
Construction (construction costs with reasonable contingency)	\$ <u>485,000</u>
Construction Engineering (cost to provide inspection during construction)	\$ <u>55,000</u>
Municipal Project Management Costs (minimum of 10% of total PE, ROW and Construction Phases).	\$ <u>31,000</u>
Total Project Cost	\$ <u>625,000</u>

Addition Funding Comments: (ex. Total and additional funding for existing projects)

See attached project cost estimate, prepared by scoping study consultant.

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.)**

Yes. The project specifically creates a safe walking route across U.S. Route 7, linking town center destinations, including the elementary school; school/town recreational facilities, softball field and winter skating rink; school/town gardens; the post office; the 180-year-old Union Meeting Hall; and the town Historical Society. The proposed project would also connect with existing and proposed offroad trails. Ferrisburgh recently received a municipal planning grant to plan the design, development and maintenance of trails in the municipality. The sidewalks and crosswalk identified in the Scoping Study are intended to link with offroad trails identified in the MPG.

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

Yes. With its link to the elementary school, projects and programs that involve and promote walking and biking both on the project route and on other current and anticipated trails will be facilitated. Destinations and links include the school/town recreational field, baseball field, winter skating rink, internal trails to town offices and community center, school gardens.

- (iii) Will the project address a known, documented safety concern? **(10 points max.)**

Yes. Pedestrian and cyclist safety at this intersection of Route 7 has been documented in the Safe Routes to School Travel Plan (2012) and the Ferrisburgh Town Plan (2017). Ferrisburgh residents have repeatedly voiced their concerns about traffic and pedestrian safety in this area, most recently at several Selectboard meetings in 2023. The speed limit at the intersection is 40 mph. Given that efforts to lower the speed limit near this intersection have been unsuccessful, the town believes that installing sidewalks and a crosswalk will improve pedestrian safety.

☐ **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.)**
- ii. Describe the anticipated impact to the public; degree of visibility, public exposure and/or public use. **(10 points max.)**
- 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?*
b) **(10 points max.)**
 - c) 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.](#)
 - d) 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.](#)
 - e) 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
(Including Salt and Sand Sheds)**

- i. Please describe how this application provides environmental mitigation relating to stormwater and highways. **(10 points max.)**
[Click here to enter text.](#)
- ii. What information or data is provided to substantiate the current stormwater 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 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.](#)
- 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.](#)