

SELECTBOARD OFFICE
(802) 843-2552



P.O. Box 180
Grafton, Vermont 05146

TOWN OF GRAFTON

December 8, 2023

Mr. Ross Gouin
Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Program Manager
VT Agency of Transportation
Highway Division
Municipal Assistance Bureau
219 North Main Street
Barre, VT 05641

Dear Ross,

Thank you for considering the Town of Grafton for the VTrans Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation program. The funding is to replace an existing 77" by 72" squash pipe culvert on Fisher Hill Road with a 17' by 7' concrete box culvert. The existing culvert is undersized and does not meet the standards of the VTrans Hydraulic Manual nor does the existing structure meet state stream equilibrium standards for bankfull width.

The Selectboard acknowledges that there is a 20% match if awarded the grant.

The existing culvert is undersized and has failed repeatedly during high water events in the past several years, even since before the Tropical Storm Irene in 2011. The stream overtops the culvert and washes out Fisher Hill Road incurring significant continuing maintenance costs for the town and putting a large amount of sediment into the stream and then eventually the Saxtons River. During past stormwater events, the failure of the culvert has made the road impassable and made getting to and from the Town Highway Garage quite challenging. In addition, the volunteer Fire and Rescue department obtains their fuel from the Highway Garage. Replacing the existing culvert with a box culvert that meets State standards for bankfull width will address these issues, improving resiliency and water quality as well as reducing future maintenance costs for the town.

The Town of Grafton will continue to maintain the culvert in accordance with the Town's Road and Bridge Standards as set forth by the state.

Thank you,

Morgan Wilbur
Morgan Wilbur, Town Administrator
Authorized to sign on behalf of the Grafton Selectboard.