



Town of Hardwick
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November 30, 2023

Vermont Agency of Transportation
Municipal Assistance/Transportation Alternatives Program
219 N. Main Street
Barre, VT 05641

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Hardwick Select Board to express our support for the Town's application to the Vermont Agency of Transportation for a grant of \$40,000 from the Transportation Alternatives Program. If awarded, the grant will support a scoping study covering approximately two blocks in the heart of Hardwick's designated downtown. The Town is committed to matching the grant funds with \$10,000 from interest earned on our General Fund account.

The blocks of Mill Street and South Main Street that are called out in the grant application are among the busiest and most congested in Town. As a result, they are also among the most challenging for those traveling by foot or bicycle. We see this scoping study as a natural "next step" following work that has already been done by the Hardwick Planning Commission and the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Task Force. Additionally, the proposed study is in line with specific goals identified in our municipal plan and in the Northeast Kingdom Regional Transportation Plan.

The relocation of the Buffalo Mountain Co-op, the potential redevelopment of the historic bank building at 21 Mill Street, and the pending re-opening of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, have combined to move the Mill Street/Main Street project up the list of Hardwick Planning Commission priorities. We are excited to move forward with planning for improvements to pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in this area of our downtown through the completion of the scoping study proposed in the Hardwick's TAP grant application.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Eric Remick
Chair, Hardwick Select Board

Town Manager
Town Clerk
Public Works Foreman

David Upson
Tonia Chase
Tom Fadden

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