

# *Technical Assistance and Grant Opportunities*

*From the*

*Vermont Agency of Transportation*

*September 9, 2015*

## *Presentations:*

- 1. Transportation Alternatives Program - Scott Robertson*
- 2. Park and Ride Grant Applications - Wayne Davis*
- 3. Better Back Roads Grants – Joel Perrigo*
- 4. Hydraulics Studies – Nick Wark*
- 5. Vermont Local Roads – Kevin Gadapee*

# VTrans TA Program Fall 2015

By

Scott Robertson, P.E.

*(scott.robertson@vermont.gov)*



<http://vtransengineering.vermont.gov/bureaus/mab/local-projects/transportation-alternatives>



# Transportation Alternatives

New federal transportation legislation entitled Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, or MAP-21, was enacted and signed into law on July 6, 2012. One of the programs established in MAP-21 is the Transportation Alternatives Program. It provides for funding opportunities for a variety of project types, many of which were previously eligible under the former Enhancement Program - which Transportation Alternatives in part replaced. The new Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program provides funding for the following eligible activities which, as with the Enhancement Program, must demonstrate a strong transportation link:

1. *Construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of transportation, including sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle signals, traffic calming techniques, lighting and other safety-related infrastructure, and transportation projects to achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).*
2. *Construction, planning, and design of infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for non-drivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities to access daily needs.*
3. *Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other nonmotorized transportation users.*
4. *Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas.*
5. *Community improvement activities, including--*
  - i. *inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising;*
  - ii. *historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities;*
  - iii. *vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide erosion control; and*
  - iv. *archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project eligible under this title.*
6. *Any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to--*
  - i. *address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff, including activities described in sections 133(b)(11), 328(a), and 329; or*
  - ii. *reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or to restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats.*

## **NEW: Opportunities for Additional Stormwater Mitigation Funding!!**

**\$1.1 million of TAP funding is reserved for applications addressing Environmental Mitigation efforts relating to stormwater and highways.**

**\$50,000 cap on federal funding for salt/sand shed construction projects has been omitted. Potential project ideas may include, but not be limited to:**

**Bank Stabilization**

**Ditching**

**Stormwater Systems Studies**

**Stormwater Systems**

**Phosphorous control plans**

**Salt Sheds (within 50' of a water body)**

**Culvert replacement**

**Infiltration Basins**

**Check Dams**

**Swirl Separators**

**Retaining walls**

**<http://vtransengineering.vermont.gov/bureaus/mab/local-projects/transportation-alternatives>**

# Typical Project Costs

- Total budget:
  - Engineering (20% of construction)
  - Project Management (10% of overall)
  - Right of Way (highly variable)
  - Construction Inspection (10% – 20% of Constr.)
  - Construction

# Eligible Applicants



- Local Governments - City, Town, Village
- State Natural Resource or Public Land Agency
- Federal Natural Resource or Public Land Agency
- Regional Transportation Authority
- Transit Agencies
- A tribal government
- A school district, local education agency or school
- Regional Planning Commissions



# Program Overview

- Can apply for either *Scoping* or *Design & Construction*
- 50% local match required for scoping
- 20% local match required for design/construction
- Maximum award \$300,000 federal dollars
- Award amount is capped
- If *Design/Construction* project does not advance, payback may be required
- **Applications Due October 16, 2015**
- TA application available upon request

# Project Cost Example

Project Activity	Cost
<b>Preliminary Engineering(PE)</b> (Costs associated with planning, engineering/design, survey, permitting, public input and coordination) – Typically between 10% and 30% of the Construction Cost	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>Right-of-Way (ROW)</b> (Includes cost of appraisal, land acquisition and associated legal fees.)	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Construction</b> (Construction costs including a reasonable contingency)	<b>\$250,000</b>
<b>Construction Inspection</b> (Cost to provide oversight during construction – typically 10% to 20% of Construction cost)	<b>\$30,000</b>
<b>Administration</b> (Cost associated with municipal oversight of the project, estimated to be a minimum of 10% of total PE, ROW and Construction phases.)	<b>\$30,000</b>
<b>Other</b> (Please explain)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$340,000</b>
Federal Dollars requested in Application (0.8 * \$340,000)	<b>\$272,000</b>
Local Match (0.2 * \$340,000)	<b>\$68,000</b>

QUESTIONS???

**Municipal  
Park-and-Ride  
Grant  
Program**

**Administered by  
the  
VT Agency of  
Transportation**

# West Rutland

on Thrall Avenue



## **MUNICIPAL PARK-AND-RIDE GRANT DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

(a) The General Assembly finds that with increased demand for alternative transportation choices, the need to reduce the number of Singular Occupancy Vehicles, SOVs, and to reduce the amount vehicle pollutants dispersed into the air from the vehicular traffic, municipalities may need assistance in funding Park-and-Ride lot projects.

(b) Grants awarded under this section shall be for preliminary engineering, and construction only of Park-and-Ride lots in municipalities. Any Vermont municipality shall be an eligible applicant. The Agency of Transportation shall develop an application for this demonstration program and notify eligible participants of its availability.

(c) The Agency of Transportation shall develop criteria for approval of applications which shall include, but are not limited to:

(1) Land used must currently be owned by Municipality; (Land can be owned by State of Vermont with an 1111 Permit or privately with minimum twenty year lease) Note that grant funds cannot be used for Right-of-Way or lease expenses.

(2) Lot location must be on or near a State Highway;

(3) Lot must be available for commuters use year around;

(4) Lot size must provide parking spaces for greater than 10 vehicles;

(5) Lot must be maintained by municipality;

(6) Eligible activities may be but not limited to gravel surface, paved surface, lighting and/or signing;

(7) Municipality will collaborate with Public Transit providers when an existing or planned transit route is present;

(d) The sum of \$250,000.00 is appropriated from the transportation fund to the agency of transportation for the purposes of this section.

Each year a letter is sent out to all Municipalities within the State of Vermont, announcing the Municipal Park-and-Ride Grant Program, funding level and details. This letter is mailed out once the Transportation budget is approved and signed which normally occurs in the beginning of June.



State of Vermont  
Program Development Division  
1 National Life Drive  
Montpelier, VT 05633-5001  
[www.aot.state.vt.us](http://www.aot.state.vt.us)

[phone] 802-828-5609  
[fax] 802-828-5712  
[ttd] 800-253-0191

Agency of Transportation

Wayne L. Davis  
Tel. (802) 828-5609  
[wayne.davis@state.vt.us](mailto:wayne.davis@state.vt.us)

June 26, 2014

**RE: 2015 Municipal Park-and-Ride Grant Program**

Dear Town Official:

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is soliciting proposals for the creation of small Park-and-Ride Facilities in Vermont communities. For the eleventh year in a row the Vermont Legislature has provided funding to support the encouragement of local communities to develop small municipality owned and maintained Park-and-Ride Facilities. The 2015 Municipal Park-and-Ride Grant Program has been funded with \$250,000.00. These facilities will assist in the effort of reducing the number of single occupancy vehicles (SOVs) on the roadway, which in turn helps to reduce vehicle pollutants and traffic congestion.

In order to be eligible for this grant, the proposed facility must be located on Municipal, State or privately (with lease) owned land, on or near a State Highway, available to commuters on a daily basis year round, provide parking for a minimum of ten vehicles, and will be owned and maintained by the local municipality. The grant funding is available for engineering and construction activities. If public transit is present nearby, collaboration with the provider is encouraged. Please note that grant awards are made in two payments; the first half of the grant award will be available once construction of the project has begun, with the second half paid after project is completed and accepted. Electric Vehicle (EV) charging Level 1 and 2 can be included in project, but some restrictions apply.

If your community has an interest in developing a Park-and-Ride Facility and would like to receive a grant to do so, please fill out the enclosed application and submit it prior to August 31, 2014. Communities that were unsuccessful in the past are encouraged to reapply. Developed plans are not necessary at this point. Depending upon the number of responses received, a small competitive process may be necessary to determine which towns will receive funding. Additional grant and development information will be provided to interested communities who have submitted applications. You can also find the application and information on-line at the following web site: <http://vtransengineering.vermont.gov/sections/ltf/parkandride>

If you have any questions, I may be reached at the address or telephone listed above.

Sincerely,

Wayne L. Davis  
LTF Project Supervisor



The process to apply for the Municipal Park-and-Ride Grant funding is very easy. The Application is a one page form with a sketch of the proposed project included in the submittal by the deadline date.

**Vermont Agency of Transportation**  
**MUNICIPAL PARK-AND RIDE GRANT PROGRAM**  
**Application**

Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person/Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax#: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

1) Proposed Site Description and Location Information

Owner of Proposed Site: Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Private/Lease: \_\_\_\_\_  
Proximity of closest State designated highway:

\_\_\_\_\_

Is there an existing Public Transit Route nearby(Y or N): \_\_\_\_\_ Public Transit Provider: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Lot Size (Spaces): 10-20 \_\_\_\_\_ 20-30 \_\_\_\_\_ Greater than  
30: \_\_\_\_\_

Is location presently being used as an informal Park & Ride facility: (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_

2) Proposed Work Desired for facility: (Check appropriate work)

_____ Grading and gravel surface	_____ Asphalt Surface	_____ Line Markings
_____ Signs	_____ Engineering	_____ Drainage Work
_____ Lighting	_____ Other	_____ EV Charging

3) Please attach a rough sketch of proposed Park & Ride Lot.

Total Estimated Cost to Design and Construct Proposal \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Design Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Construction Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Stand-alone Park-and-Ride Facility in Newbury.



# Shared-use Park-and-Ride Facility in Orange



The Park-and-Ride Facility can be very minimalist with just a gravel surface with few amenities like Huntington.



Or be paved and full of amenities like  
Westminster.

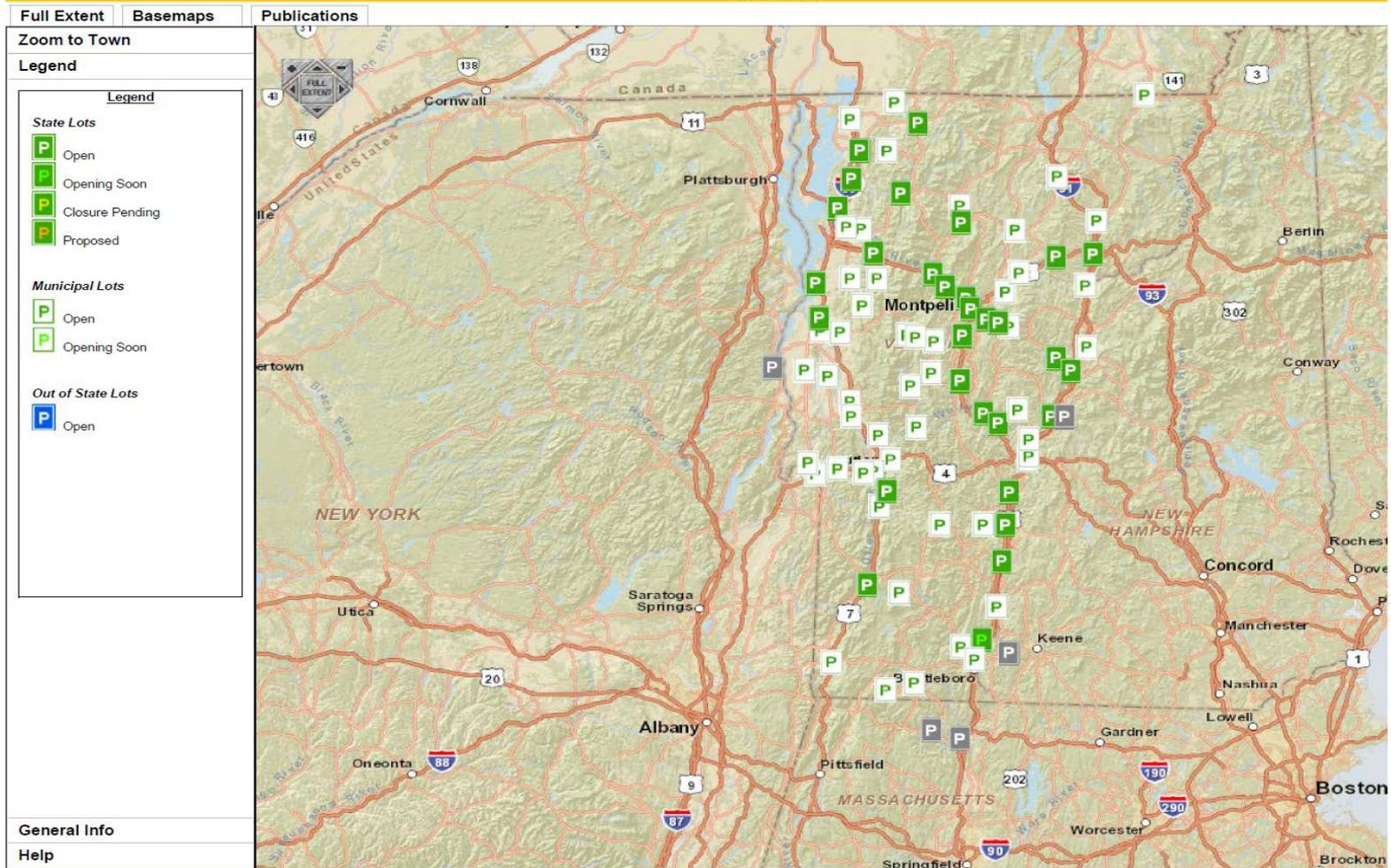


Once the Municipal Park-and-Ride facility is completed, it will be added to the State of Vermont's Park-and-Ride website.

# <http://parkandrides.vermont.gov/>



VTrans Park and Ride Locations  
Agency of Transportation - Online Map Center



The information that is shown  
regarding each Park-and-Ride  
Facility on Vtrans' website  
includes:

Location: WEST RUTLAND, TH 25

Show on Map: (show)

Number of Spaces: 25

Handicap Parking Available?: Yes

Type of Surface: PAVED

Lined?: Yes

Lighted?:No

Shelter?: No

Bike Racks Available?: No

Transit Service: NONE

Directions: ON THRALL AVENUE NEAR INTERSECTION WITH MARBLE STREET

Electrical Vehicle Charging Level 1 Outlets: 0

Electrical Vehicle Charging Level 2 Outlets: 0

Electrical Vehicle Charging Level 3 Outlets: 0

Comments:

Owner: WEST RUTLAND

Owner Email: cwener@westrutlandtown.com

Owner Phone: 8024382204

Status: OPEN

Status Comments: NONE

# Better Backroads Grants

Vermont Agency of Transportation  
Municipal Assistance Bureau  
September 9, 2015



Before

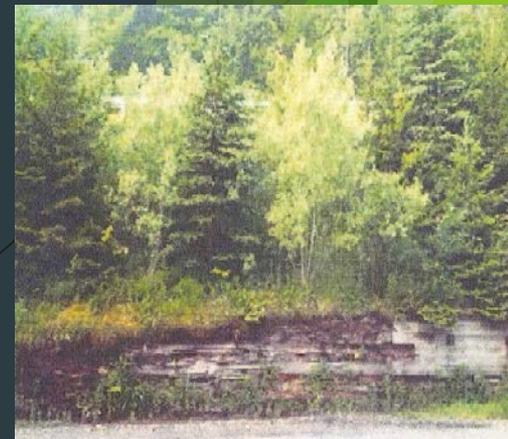
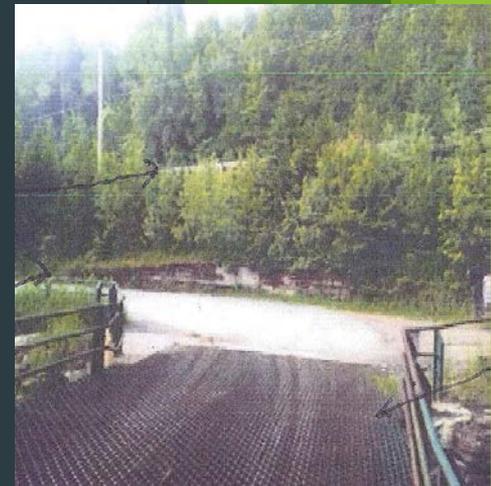


After



# What is the program?

- ▶ Program started in 1997
  - ▶ Started at RC&D and transitioned to VTrans in 2013
- ▶ Projects to address road erosion problems and improve water quality
- ▶ Cost effective solutions for erosion and sediment control projects
- ▶ Planning grants help towns prioritize and plan for erosion control projects
- ▶ Reduce flood damage, erosion, maintenance costs, and accidents



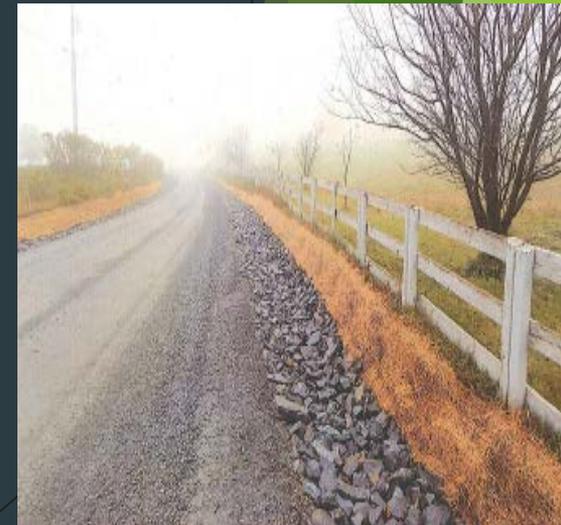
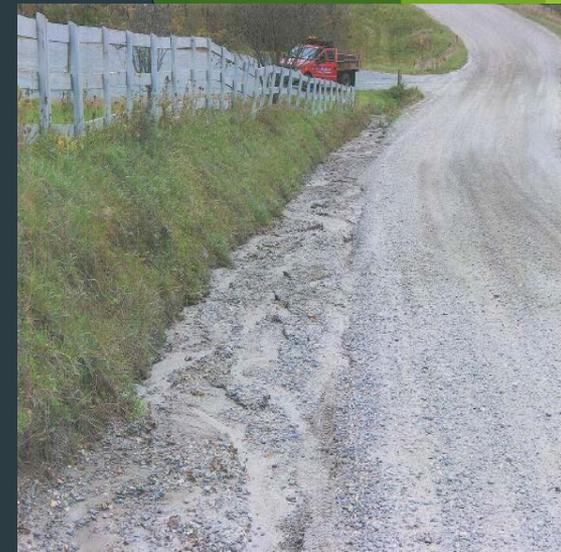
# Program Overview

- ▶ Category A- Erosion Assessment and Capital Budget Planning

- ▶ Maximum \$4,000 planning grant, 20% town match
  - ▶ Road Erosion Inventory resulting in capital budget plan

- ▶ Category B- Correction of a Road Related Erosion Problem

- ▶ Maximum \$10,000 construction grant, 20% town match
  - ▶ Examples include:
    - ▶ Ditches, stone lining ditches
    - ▶ Slope stabilization work
    - ▶ Bridge and culvert replacement and repairs such as headers and wing walls
    - ▶ Water bars and turnouts
    - ▶ Road grade re-alignment
    - ▶ Beaver baffles



# Program Funding

- ▶ Typically ~\$470,000 in total funds available

Year	Total Applications	Total Funded	# Category A	# Category B
2015	151	90	39	51
2014	121	67	23	98
2013	88	88	21	67
2012	67	67	3	64
2011	69	69	14	55
2010	59	59	7	52

- ▶ In anticipation of significant amount of additional funding, program is currently under evaluation
  - ▶ Program evaluation ongoing through winter 2015-16
  - ▶ Anticipated additional funding in available in FY17
  - ▶ Grant cap MAY be higher and allow for larger and more complex projects

# Who is eligible to apply?

- ▶ Towns
- ▶ Lake Associations and public non-profits
  - ▶ Usually only a small portion of the funding is eligible
- ▶ Regional Planning Commissions

# How to apply?

- ▶ Applications usually due around June 1
  - ▶ Application is mailed to every town approx. 1 month before deadline and also available online
- ▶ Application, application deadlines, and other information is available at this link:
  - ▶ <http://vtransengineering.vermont.gov/bureaus/mab/better-back-roads>

# Questions?

## Program Contacts

Alan May

Better Backroads Program Coordinator

1 National Life Dr.

Montpelier, VT 05633

[Alan.may@vermont.gov](mailto:Alan.may@vermont.gov)

Office: (802)828-6502

Cell: (802)828-4585

Joel Perrigo

Municipal Assistance Bureau Project Manager

[Joel.perrigo@vermont.gov](mailto:Joel.perrigo@vermont.gov)

(802)828-2583

# Hydraulic Studies

Nick Wark, P.E., CFM  
VTrans Hydraulics Engineer  
Municipal Day





# Hydraulic Studies For Towns

- No cost for towns
  - FHWA funded – hazard mitigation
  - No private roads/drives
  - Drive culverts?
- “Preliminary Hydraulic Study” meant for low to moderate risk sites
  - Generally OK for structures under 16’
  - Bridges will need a more detailed study
- Try to include ANR requirements



**Hydraulic study**



**Stream Alt Permit**



# What ISN'T it?

- It is not a permit
- It is not detailed study
- It is not an environmental/resource review
  - Wetland
  - Archeology
  - Historic
  - Stormwater
  - Other

# How to Request

1. Preferred method is to work through your VTrans District Office
2. Will also accept email/phone requests

Please include accurate location:

1. GPS
2. 911 Address
3. Written directions

Flag the site

# Better results in summer



# Why Do I Need A Hyd Study?

- Typically required by ANR on all perennial stream
- May be required in Town Codes and Standards
- Makes sense!

# Mode of Failure - Bridges

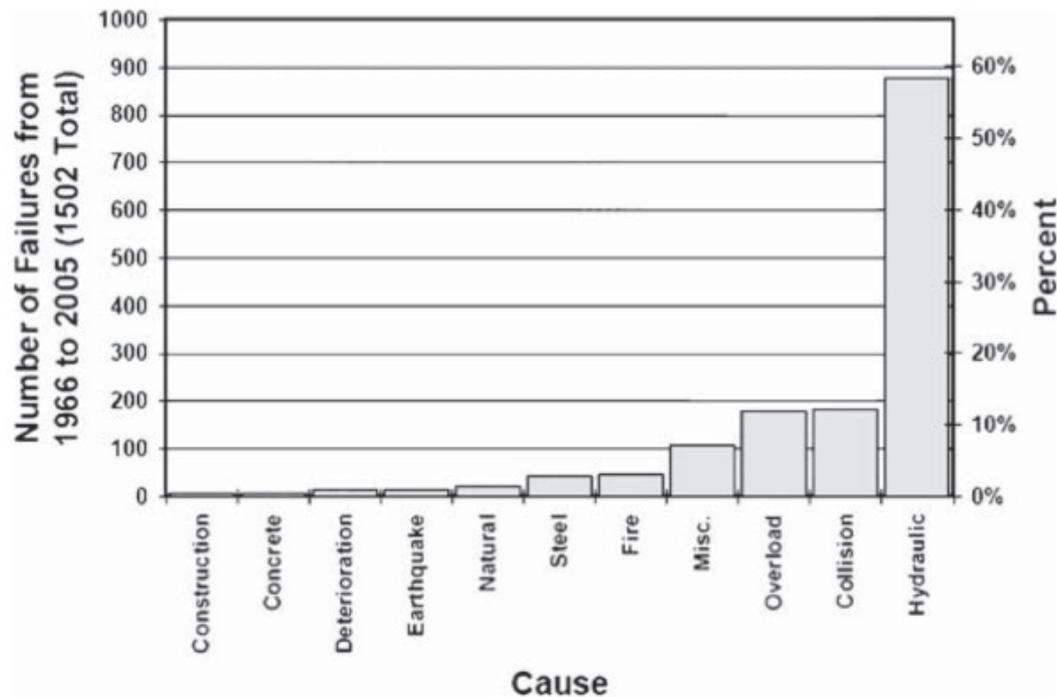
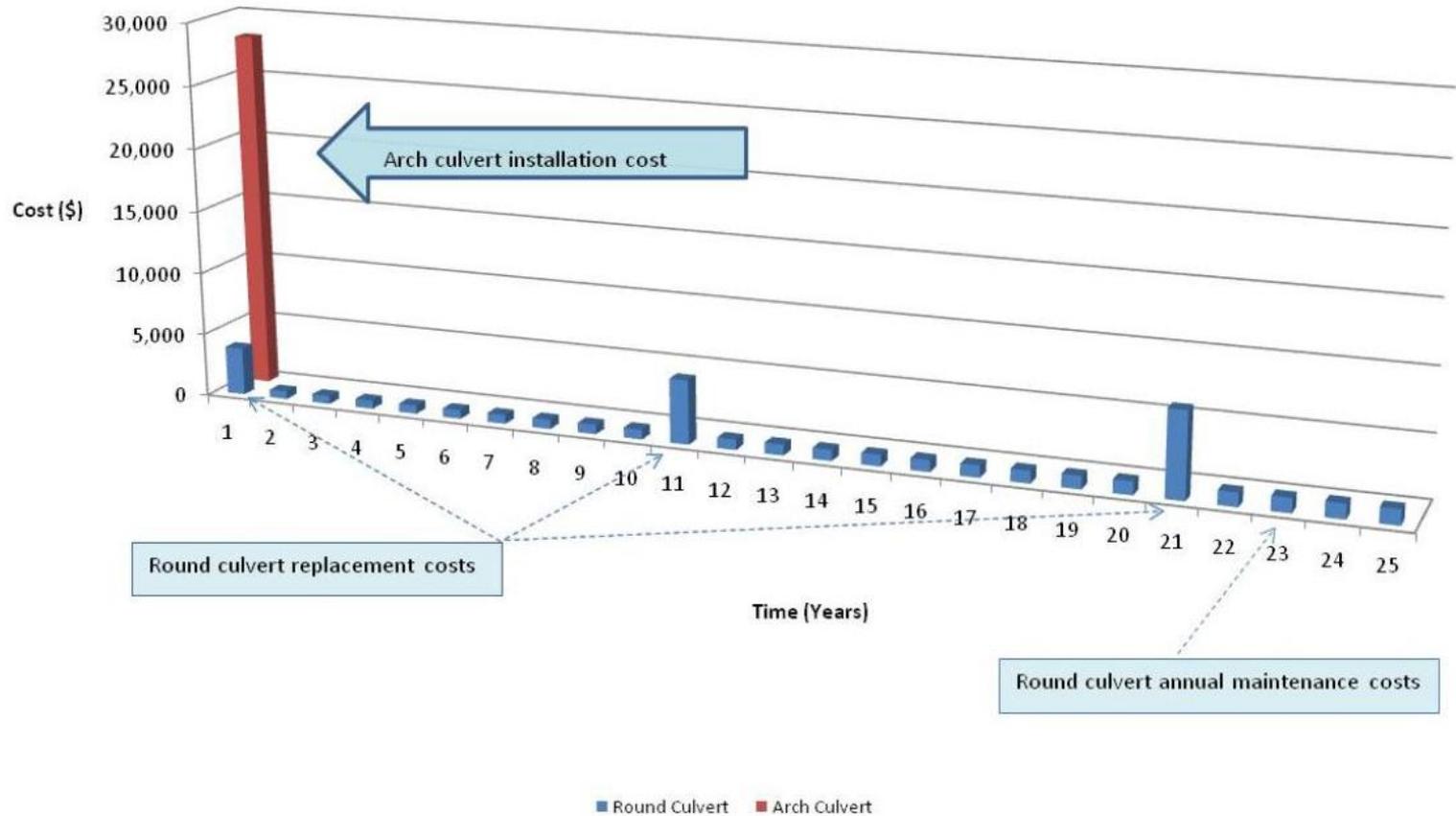
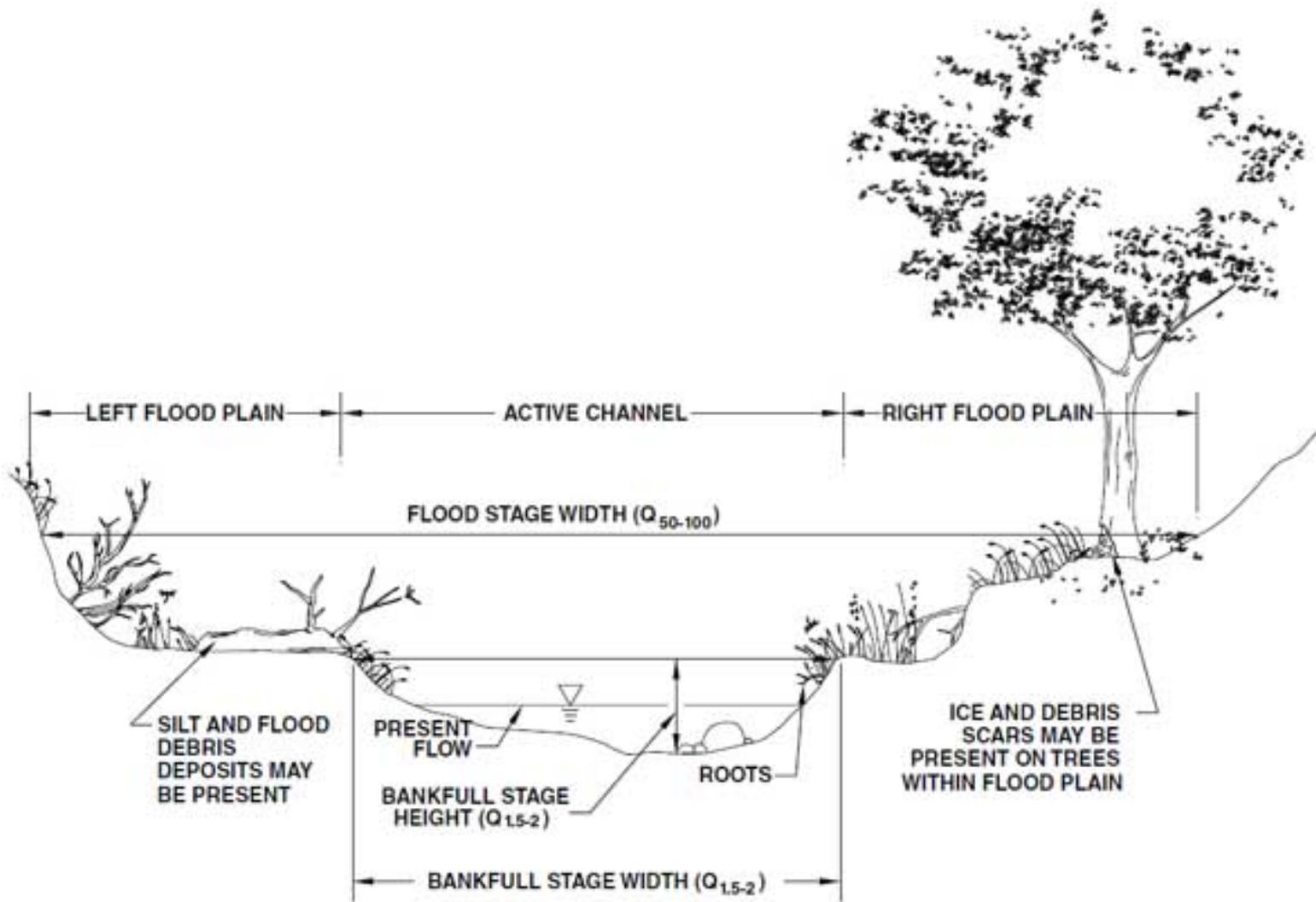


FIGURE 1 Causes of bridge failures in the United States  
(Courtesy: New York State DOT and Texas A&M University).

Figure Two. Comparison of Installation, Replacement and Maintenance Costs Over 25 Years for Site 1







# Ludlow TH3 (Okemo Access Rd)



Old - 8'-6" Pipe

Recommended - 12' x 8' Box



# Readsboro VT8 Br2



Old – 8'-10" x 6'-1" Pipe Arch

New – 12' x 8' Box with Bed  
Retention Sill & Downstream  
Grade Control



# Buel's Gore VT17 Br27



Old – 7' Pipe

New – 16' x 8' Precast Arch



# VERMONT LOCAL ROADS



VERMONT LOCAL ROADS



TRAINING CENTER



# What we do: *Training*

## **TRAINING**

- ✓ **Equipment**
- ✓ **Safety**
- ✓ **Environmental**
- ✓ **Supervisory**
- ✓ **Technical**



**Road Scholar  
Program**

# What we do: *Technical Assistance*

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ✓ **How it works**
- ✓ **Services we provide**
- ✓ **Onsite visits**



# What we do: *Technical Assistance*

## COMMUNICATION

- ✓ **Listserv**
- ✓ **Website**
- ✓ **Newsletters**



# Who we provide for:

- ✓ **Municipal Transportation Staff**
- ✓ **State Transportation Staff**
- ✓ **Elected Municipal Officials**
- ✓ **Regional Planners**



# Why we do it:

## ✓ **Mission:**

To foster a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound surface transportation system by improving skills and increasing knowledge of the transportation workforce and decision makers.

## ✓ **Vision:**

Improve the quality and safety of the surface transportation system through collaborative partnerships, training and information exchange.



Questions

