VTrans Funding Opportunities for Stormwater/Clean Water Projects

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Better Roads Program
- Established in 1997 and formerly administered by local non-profit
- In 2013 transitioned to VTrans oversight
- Grants $8k-$60k
- Constructed with State funding

Transportation Alternatives Program
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds
- Approximately $2.2M annually, all dedicated for Stormwater/WQ related projects in SFY18 & 19, in SFY 20 & 21 no set aside, SFY 22 and thereafter $1.1M set aside
- Intended for larger environmental mitigation related projects, >$250k construction
Better Roads

- Annual solicitation for applications, program typically announced in September, applications typically due end of October or beginning of November
- Awards made in mid-winter
- Projects require 20% local match, can be in-kind
- Category A, Road Erosion Inventories, 1 ½ year grant cycle, July 1 – Dec. 31
- Categories B/C/D, implementation projects, 1 year grant cycle, July 1- June 30

- For the latest information visit our website at:
  http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads
Category “A” Grants: Road Erosion Inventory and Implementation Plan. Capped at $10,000 per project $8,000 (state) $2,000 (local). Inventory of hydrologically connected road segments in compliance with Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) protocol and development of associated implementation plan.

Category “B” Grants: Correction of road erosion problems and stormwater mitigation/retrofits for both gravel & paved roads. Examples of work: stone or grass lined ditches, turnouts, stone check dams, splash pools, rain gardens, swirl concentrator devices, dry wells, gravel wetlands, level spreaders. Capped at $25,000 per project, $20,000 state and $5,000 local.
Category “C” Grants: Correction of stream bank or slope-related problem. Examples of work: stream bank stabilization or restoration, stone lined slopes. Capped at $50,000 per project, $40,000 state and $10,000 local.
Category “D” Grants: Structure/culvert upgrades. Examples of work: Upgrades and replacement of larger (36” or greater) culvert and structures and culvert head cut and gully stabilization. Capped at $75,000 per project, $60,000 state and $15,000 local
Transportation Alternatives Program

- Annual solicitation for applications, program typically announced in September, applications typically due end of October, awards announced February

- Grants capped at $300K federal funds
  - Stormwater treatment projects only eligible for federal funds up the proportion in which the runoff is coming from the highway
  - Example: If the estimated proportion of the stormwater treated is 50% from the highway system and 50% from other sources (parking lots, roof, etc.), only 50% of the project cost eligible for federal funding

- Projects require 20% local match
  - Local match typically cash match, in-kind match rarely approved

- Informational workshops via Skype

- For the latest information visit our website at: http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/transport-alt
Eligibility

Any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff.
Program Parameters

- Applications accepted for scoping/planning, design and construction
  - No design only projects
- Design and construction projects must advance to completion or risk chance of payback
- Reimbursement program
  - Municipality pays for project costs and submits reimbursement request to VTrans
Potentially Eligible Project Types

- Planning Studies
  - Stormwater Inventories
  - Flow Restoration Plans
  - Phosphorus Control Planning
- Salt/Sand Sheds
- Bank Stabilization
- Culvert Replacement/Re-sizing
- Stream Bank Stabilization
- Detention Ponds
- Check Dams
- Swirl Separators
- Permeable Pavers
- Infiltration Basins
- Gravel Wetlands
- Subsurface Detention Systems
- Bio Filters
- Bio Retention Systems
Project Development Process

- Municipal Project Manager Selection
- Design Engineer Selection
- Conceptual Plan Development/Review
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Approval
- Preliminary Plan Development/Review
- Right-of-Way (ROW) Plan Development and Clearance
- Final Plan Development/Review
- Project Advertisement, Bidding, and Award
- Construction and Oversight
- Maintenance

Typical project takes 2-4 years to complete
Examples of Candidate Projects

- Construction cost >$250k
- Requires fully engineered design
- Treat substantial highway runoff
  - Non-highway runoff eligible, but projects that treat a higher portion of highway runoff are more likely to be awarded
- Clear water quality benefit
- Clearly fits within the program’s eligibility requirements
  - Pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities
  - Mitigation to address stormwater management, control
  - Water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff

Large culvert, Cambridge
Retention pond, So. Burlington
Gravel wetland, St. Albans
Better suited for Better Roads?

- No engineering required
- Small construction cost <$250k
- Municipal crews plan to complete work
- Town will not be able to come up with 20% cash match
Questions?
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