

November 2018 Status Report & Update on Selectboard Project Priorities

Top Three Project Priorities

Downtown Bridge Project

From April to June 2018, the project marketing plan was developed by Neighbors, Together and the Better Middlebury Partnership (BMP). Agreements between the Town and BMP were developed and signed and marketing efforts were initiated.

From July to October 2018:

- Initiated planning for the Triangle Park section of the Green and Printers Alley/Lazarus Property;
- Finalized license agreement with National Bank of Middlebury for use of Printers Alley during construction;
- Solicited public input on and finalized conceptual plans for Merchants Row one-way;
- The BMP updated website was launched;
- BMP and Neighbors Together continued to implement the marketing plan for the downtown, including a very successful Block Party in August;
- Marketing plan included well-received flower planters in the bridge project area and public art on the construction fence.

From November 2018 to January 2019:

- Planning for the Triangle Park section of the Green and Printers Alley/Lazarus Property will be completed;
- Planning for infrastructure improvements (sidewalks, lighting and water and sewer line replacements), which are outside the scope of the bridge project, will continue; and
- The marketing plan for the downtown will continue to be implemented.

Water Bond Vote

From April to June 2018:

- The agreement between the Town and the engineering firm for the water study, the DuFresne Group, was negotiated and signed;
- Planning Advance Loan funding was secured for the project;
- Water line data was gathered and mapped; and
- Water pressure testing began.

From July to October 2018:

- The water system study was completed.

From November 2018 to January 2019:

- The Infrastructure Committee will develop a recommendation for a bond vote for improvements, including an analysis of the impact on water rates; and
- The Infrastructure Committee will also work to develop a public outreach plan for the bond vote, if the Selectboard decides to go forward with a bond vote in March.

Middlebury River Flood Resiliency Project

From April to June 2018:

- A public outreach meeting was held;
- A meeting was held with permitting agencies;
- The VT Department of Public Safety (the pass-through agency for FEMA funding) was contacted several times to obtain funding/authorization to move forward. Currently awaiting approval to go ahead with next phase of archeological work, which is necessary to advance the project.

From July to October 2018:

- obtained authorization to go ahead with next phase of archeological work;

From November 2018 to January 2019:

- Archeological study to be completed;
- Finalize designs, including estimates of ongoing maintenance costs;
- Present to Infrastructure Committee for recommendation to Selectboard for a bond vote in March; and
- Work with the Infrastructure Committee to develop a public outreach plan for the bond vote, if the Selectboard decides to go forward with a bond vote in March.

Updates on Other Projects

Projects Completed April – June 2018

- Negotiated Non-Police Union Contract
- Negotiated MOU with groSolar/EDF Renewables
- Reviewed & Relocated ACTR Main Street Bus Stop
- Applied for Grant Funding for Exchange Street Sidewalk Phase 3
- Paved South Main Street
- Approved Funding for Makers Space

Projects Completed July – October 2018

- Rail Platform Siting Study
- Charles Avenue Infrastructure Projects

- Water Monitoring Project
- Water Reservoir Roof
- Changes to Administrative Staffing of Parks & Recreation Department
- Funding & Planting of Shrubs on Forest Ridge Drive as a follow-up to the tree removal associated with the Airport Project
- Corrective Action Alternatives Report for the Powerhouse Completed
- Trees trimmed on the Town Green
- Chipman Hill Access Policy, Tree Policy and Renewable Energy Policy Adopted
- Completed Work on Development of Employee Performance Management System
- Solicited Public Input on VLCT Legislative Policy

Underway & On-track for Completion November – January 2018

- Negotiation of Police Union Contract
- Chipman Hill Reservoir Fencing
- Roll-out of Performance Management System
- Cross Street Bridge Fund Surplus Analysis and Recommendation from Infrastructure Committee
- Analysis of Options for Solar, Net Metering and/or Energy Efficiency Investment Options stemming from MOU with groSolar/EDF Renewables Recommendation
- Energy conservation measure recommended by Energy Committee for Teen Center
- Application for Better Connections Grant Funding for Downtown Master Planning

Projects Underway with a Longer Implementation Timeframe

- Economic Development Strategy (Economic Health Committee charge developed and committee appointed)
- Creek Road Resiliency (background material developed and landowners contacted; next steps to be discussed by Selectboard on November 27)
- Facility Assessment for Maintenance & Capital Needs (public works building repairs, installation of power doors at Police Department and a major boiler repair at the Library are underway)
- Energy Conservation Measures for the Police Department, as recommended by Energy Committee
- Finalize plans, permitting and right-of-way for construction of Phases 1 and 2 of Exchange Street sidewalk/path, with goal of construction in Summer of 2019
- Construction bids for the Seymour Street/Pulp Mill Bridge Sidewalk Project in process, plan construction in Spring of 2019
- Wastewater Treatment Facility 20-year Evaluation (Planning Advance Loan accepted and Pump Station Improvements authorized)
- Improvements to wastewater pump stations (Engineering services for PS 6-Seminary St, PS 13-Halpin Road and PS 14-Painter Hills authorized)
- Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Improvements (Engineering for Overflow Metering Structure for Pump Station 9 Authorized)

Candidate Projects

- Develop EDI Property
- TIF Designation

- Library Renovation/Expansion
- Broadband