

1 H.494

2 Introduced by Committee on Transportation

3 Date:

4 Subject: Transportation; environmental mitigation projects; park and rides;
5 public transit; utilities

6 Statement of purpose as introduced: This bill proposes to adopt the State's
7 annual Transportation Program and make miscellaneous changes to laws
8 related to transportation.

9 An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to
10 transportation-related law

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 ~~*** Transportation Program Adopted as Amended; Definitions ***~~

13 Sec. 1. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ADOPTED; DEFINITIONS

14 (a) The Agency of Transportation's proposed fiscal year 2018

15 Transportation Program appended to the Agency of Transportation's proposed

16 fiscal year 2018 budget, as amended by this act, is adopted to the extent

17 federal, State, and local funds are available.

18 (b) As used in this act, unless otherwise indicated:

19 (1) "Agency" means the Agency of Transportation.

20 ~~(2) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Transportation.~~

1 (3) The table heading “As Proposed” means the Transportation Program
2 referenced in subsection (a) of this section; the table heading “As Amended”
3 means the amendments as made by this act; the table heading “Change” means
4 the difference obtained by subtracting the “As Proposed” figure from the “As
5 Amended” figure; and the term “change” or “changes” in the text refers to the
6 project- and program-specific amendments, the aggregate sum of which equals
7 the net “Change” in the applicable table heading.

8 (4) “TIB funds” means monies deposited in the Transportation
9 Infrastructure Bond Fund in accordance with 19 V.S.A. § 11f.

10 * * * Traffic and Safety Operations Program * * *

11 Sec. 2. TRAFFIC AND SAFETY OPERATIONS PROGRAM

12 The fiscal year 2018 Program Development – Traffic and Safety Operations
13 Program is modified as follows:

14 (1) A new project is added for the construction of a roundabout at the
15 intersection of VT 67A, Matteson Road, Silk Road, and College Drive.

16 (2) The Agency shall expend up to \$50,000.00 of federal funds on
17 development and evaluation of the project added under subdivision (1) of this
18 section, to the extent such funds become available as a result of the
19 unanticipated delay of projects approved in the fiscal year 2018 Program
20 Development Program or cost savings on such projects, or both.

21 * * * Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Program, Lamoille Valley Rail Trail

1 ~~Sec. 3. REPEAL~~

2 ~~2016 Acts and Resolves No. 158, Sec. 9a (Bike and Pedestrian Facilities~~
3 ~~Program; Lamoille Valley Rail Trail) is repealed.~~

4 ~~*** Transportation Alternatives Program ***~~

5 Sec. 4. 19 V.S.A. § 38 is amended to read:

6 § 38. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES GRANT PROGRAM

7 ***

8 (c) The Transportation Alternatives Grant Program is created. The Grant
9 Program shall be administered by the Agency, and shall be funded in the
10 amount provided for in 23 U.S.C. § ~~213(a)~~ 133(h), less the funds set aside for
11 the Recreational Trails Program as ~~specified in 23 U.S.C. § 213(f)~~. Awards
12 shall be made to eligible entities as defined under 23 U.S.C. § ~~213(e)(4)~~
13 133(h), and awards under the Grant Program shall be limited to the following
14 activities described at 23 U.S.C. § 213(b) other than Recreational Trails
15 Program grants and as provided in subsection (f) of this section:

16 (1) construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road trail
17 facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of
18 transportation, including sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian and
19 bicycle signals, traffic calming techniques, lighting and other safety-related
20 infrastructure, and transportation projects to achieve compliance with the
21 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.),

1 ~~(2) construction, planning, and design of infrastructure-related projects~~
2 and systems that will provide safe routes for nondrivers, including children,
3 older adults, and individuals with disabilities, to access daily needs;

4 (3) conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for
5 pedestrians, bicyclists, or other nonmotorized transportation users;

6 (4) construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas;

7 (5) community improvement activities, including:

8 (A) inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising;

9 (B) historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation
10 facilities;

11 (C) vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way
12 to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide
13 erosion control; and

14 (D) archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation
15 of a transportation project eligible under this title;

16 (6) any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution
17 prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to:

18 (A) address stormwater management, control, and water pollution
19 prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway
20 runoff; or

21 ~~(B) reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or to restore and~~

1 ~~maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats:~~

2 ~~(7) Safe Routes to School Program projects described in Sec. 1404 of~~
3 ~~Pub. L. 109–59 (SAFETEA–LU); or~~

4 ~~(8) planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways~~
5 ~~largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided~~
6 ~~highways.~~

7 (d) Eligible entities awarded a grant must provide all funds required to
8 match federal funds awarded for a Transportation Alternatives project. All
9 grant awards shall be decided and awarded by the Transportation Alternatives
10 Grant Committee.

11 (e) Transportation Alternatives grant awards shall be announced annually
12 by the Transportation Alternatives Grant Committee not earlier than December
13 and not later than the following March.

14 (f)(1) In fiscal years 2018 and 2019, all Grant Program funds shall be
15 reserved for municipalities for environmental mitigation projects relating to
16 stormwater and highways, including eligible salt and sand shed projects.

17 (2) In fiscal years 2020 and 2021, Grant Program funds shall be
18 awarded for any eligible activity and in accordance with the priorities
19 established in subdivision (4) of this subsection.

20 (3) Each In fiscal year 2022 and thereafter, \$1,100,000.00 of Grant
21 Program funds, or such lesser sum if all eligible applications amount to less

1 ~~than \$1,100,000.00, shall be reserved for municipalities for environmental~~
2 mitigation projects relating to stormwater and highways, including eligible salt
3 and sand shed projects.

4 (4) Regarding Grant Program funds awarded in fiscal years 2020 and
5 2021, and the balance of Grant Program funds not reserved for environmental
6 mitigation projects in fiscal year 2022 and thereafter, in evaluating
7 applications for Transportation Alternatives grants, the Transportation
8 Alternatives Grant Committee shall give preferential weighting to projects
9 involving as a primary feature a bicycle or pedestrian facility. The degree of
10 preferential weighting and the circumstantial factors sufficient to overcome the
11 weighting shall be in the complete discretion of the Transportation
12 Alternatives Grant Committee.

13 * * *

14 * * * Maintenance Program * * *

15 Sec. 5. MAINTENANCE

16 For fiscal year 2018, authorized spending in the Maintenance Program is
17 amended as follows:

18 <u>FY18</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
19 Personal Services	45,558,652	43,638,652	-1,920,000
20 Operating Expense	45,265,393	45,265,393	0
21 Grants	421,780	421,780	0

1	Total	91,245,825	89,325,825	-1,920,000
2	<u>Sources of Funds</u>			
3	State	87,376,083	87,376,083	0
4	Federal	3,769,742	1,849,742	-1,920,000
5	Interdept. Transfer	100,000	100,000	0
6	Total	91,245,825	89,325,825	-1,920,000

7 * * * Central Garage * * *

8 Sec. 6. TRANSFER TO CENTRAL GARAGE FUND

9 Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 13(c), in fiscal year 2018, the amount of
10 \$1,296,047.00 is transferred from the Transportation Fund to the Central
11 Garage Fund created in 19 V.S.A. § 13.

12 * * * Future Transportation Fund Appropriations * * *

13 Sec. 7. 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 158, Sec. 5 is amended to read:

14 Sec. 5. FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS TO TOWN HIGHWAY CLASS 2
15 ROADWAY PROGRAM AND TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
16 SAFETY; LEGISLATIVE INTENT

17 The General Assembly intends that:

18 (1) At least \$400,000.00 of the \$900,000.00 reduction in the amount of
19 transportation funds appropriated to the Department of Public Safety
20 ~~scheduled to occur under 19 V.S.A. § 11a(a)(4) in fiscal year 2018 shall be~~
21 ~~used to fund.~~

1 ~~(1) in fiscal years 2018 and 2019, an increase of at least \$400,000.00 in~~
2 ~~transportation funds appropriated to the Municipal Mitigation Assistance~~
3 ~~Program, above the \$1,240,000.00 in transportation funds appropriated to the~~
4 ~~Program in fiscal year 2017; and~~

5 ~~(2) starting in fiscal year 2020, a permanent increase of at least~~
6 ~~\$400,000.00 in transportation funds appropriated to the Town Highway Class~~
7 ~~2 Roadway Program, above the \$7,248,750.00 in transportation funds~~
8 ~~appropriated to the Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program in prior fiscal~~
9 ~~years.~~

10 ~~(2) The Agency shall propose a fiscal year 2018 Transportation Program~~
11 ~~that assumes \$400,000.00 of transportation funds will be appropriated to the~~
12 ~~Department of Public Safety for costs related to State Police vehicles, in~~
13 ~~addition to transportation funds appropriated to the Department of Public~~
14 ~~Safety in fiscal year 2018 pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 11a(a)(4).~~

15 * * * State Aid for Town Highways * * *

16 Sec. 8. 19 V.S.A. § 306 is amended to read:

17 § 306. APPROPRIATION; STATE AID FOR TOWN HIGHWAYS

18 * * *

19 (c) State aid for town highway bridges. There shall be an annual
20 appropriation for town bridge engineering services and for aid in maintaining
21 or constructing bridges having a span of six feet or more on class 1, 2, and 3

1 ~~town highways. Annually the Agency shall distribute expend these funds~~
2 according to a the Transportation Program plan based upon applications
3 submitted by the towns approved by the General Assembly. With the approval
4 of the Agency, funds may be used for alternatives which eliminate the need for
5 a bridge or bridges, including construction or reconstruction of highways,
6 purchase of parcels of land that would be landlocked by closure of a bridge or
7 bridges, payment of damages for loss of highway access, and substitution of
8 other means of access.

9 * * *

10 (h) Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program. There shall be an annual
11 appropriation for grants to municipalities for resurfacing, rehabilitation, or
12 reconstruction of paved or unpaved class 2 town highways. Each fiscal year,
13 the Agency shall approve qualifying projects with a total estimated State share
14 cost of ~~\$7,648,750.00~~ \$7,248,750.00 at a minimum as new grants. The
15 Agency's proposed appropriation for the Program shall take into account the
16 estimated amount of qualifying invoices submitted to the Agency with respect
17 to project grants approved in prior years but not yet completed as well as with
18 respect to new project grants to be approved in the fiscal year. In a given
19 fiscal year, should expenditures in the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway
20 Program exceed the amount appropriated, the Agency shall advise the
21 ~~Governor of the need to request a supplemental appropriation from the General~~

1 ~~Assembly to fund the additional project cost, provided that the Agency has~~
2 previously committed to completing those projects. Funds received as grants
3 for State aid under the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program may be used
4 by a municipality to satisfy a portion of the matching requirements for federal
5 earmarks, subject to subsection 309b(c) of this title.

6 (i) ~~Monies~~ The Agency shall administer a Municipal Mitigation Assistance
7 Program. The Program may be funded with federal transportation funds,
8 monies from the Transportation Fund, and monies disbursed from the Clean
9 Water Fund established in 10 V.S.A. § 1388 for municipalities for
10 environmental mitigation projects related to stormwater and highways ~~shall be~~
11 ~~administered by the Agency through the Municipal Mitigation Grant Program~~
12 and for establishment and operation of stormwater utilities. Grants shall be
13 provided to municipalities from the grant funds appropriated for the Program
14 and shall be matched by local funds sufficient to cover 20 percent of the
15 project costs, ~~except that the Agency may issue grants to assist municipalities~~
16 with the establishment or operation of stormwater utilities without requiring a
17 local match. From the operating expenses appropriated for the Program, the
18 Agency is authorized to pay costs billed to the Agency by municipal
19 stormwater utilities.

20 * * *

21 ~~Sec. 9. 19 V.S.A. § 306(h) is amended to read.~~

1 ~~(b) Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program. There shall be an annual~~
2 ~~appropriation for grants to municipalities for resurfacing, rehabilitation, or~~
3 ~~reconstruction of paved or unpaved class 2 town highways. Each fiscal year,~~
4 ~~the Agency shall approve qualifying projects with a total estimated State share~~
5 ~~cost of ~~\$7,248,750.00~~ \$7,648,750.00 at a minimum as new grants. The~~
6 ~~Agency's proposed appropriation for the Program shall take into account the~~
7 ~~estimated amount of qualifying invoices submitted to the Agency with respect~~
8 ~~to project grants approved in prior years but not yet completed as well as with~~
9 ~~respect to new project grants to be approved in the fiscal year. In a given fiscal~~
10 ~~year, should expenditures in the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program~~
11 ~~exceed the amount appropriated, the Agency shall advise the Governor of the~~
12 ~~need to request a supplemental appropriation from the General Assembly to~~
13 ~~fund the additional project cost, provided that the Agency has previously~~
14 ~~committed to completing those projects. Funds received as grants for State aid~~
15 ~~under the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program may be used by a~~
16 ~~municipality to satisfy a portion of the matching requirements for federal~~
17 ~~earmarks, subject to subsection 309b(c) of this title.~~

18 * * * Transportation Program Terminology * * *

19 Sec. 10. 19 V.S.A. § 10 is amended to read:

20 § 10. DUTIES

21 ~~The Agency shall, except where otherwise specifically provided by law,~~

1 * * *

2 (16) Inform the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee of any
3 anticipated loss or reduction of federal funding for transportation purposes due
4 to either a lack of State funds for matching, or a decrease in federal funds for
5 the ~~one-year capital program~~ Transportation Program.

6 * * *

7 Sec. 11. 19 V.S.A. § 10g is amended to read:

8 § 10g. ANNUAL REPORT: TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM;
9 ADVANCEMENTS, CANCELLATIONS, AND DELAYS

10 (a) The Agency of Transportation shall annually present to the General
11 Assembly a multiyear Transportation Program covering the same number of
12 years as the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan Program (STIP),
13 consisting of the recommended budget for all Agency activities for the ensuing
14 fiscal year and projected spending levels for all Agency activities for the
15 following fiscal years. The Program shall include a description and year-by-
16 year breakdown of recommended and projected funding of all projects
17 proposed to be funded within the time period of the STIP and, in addition, a
18 description of all projects that are not recommended for funding in the first
19 fiscal year of the proposed Program but which are scheduled for construction
20 during the time period covered by the STIP. The Program shall be consistent
21 with the planning process established by 1988 Acts and Resolves No. 200, as
22 ~~codified in 5 V.S.A. Chapter 67 and 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117, the statements of~~

1 ~~policy set forth in sections 10b, 10f of this title, and the long-range systems~~
2 plan, corridor studies, and project priorities developed through the capital
3 planning process under section 10i of this title.

4 * * *

5 Sec. 12. 19 V.S.A. § 1512 is amended to read:

6 § 1512. UTILITY RELOCATIONS

7 (a) When relocation of a utility is required by a project for the
8 improvement, construction, or reconstruction of a highway under the
9 provisions of this chapter, the ~~agency~~ Agency or a municipality, or both, may
10 pay for some or all of the cost of the relocation.

11 (b) The ~~agency~~ Agency, following the procedures set forth in 3 V.S.A.
12 chapter 25, shall adopt rules setting standards for determining when and to
13 what extent the authority granted by subsection (a) of this section may be
14 exercised. These standards shall take into account the following:

15 * * *

16 (4) the overall effect on the ~~state's transportation capital program~~ State's
17 Transportation Program of using available highway construction funds for
18 utility relocation purposes.

19 * * * Automated Vehicle Technology Committee * * *

20 Sec. 13. AUTOMATED VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

21 (a) The Automated Vehicle Technology Committee is created, which shall
22 be composed of the following members.

- 1 ~~(1) the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or designee, who shall be the~~
2 Chair of the Committee;
- 3 ~~(2) the Secretary of Transportation or designee;~~
4 ~~(3) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee;~~
5 ~~(4) the Commissioner of Information and Innovation or designee;~~
6 ~~(5) the Commissioner of Financial Regulation or designee;~~
7 ~~(6) a representative designated by the Vermont Driver and Traffic Safety~~
8 Education Association;
- 9 ~~(7) a representative of the Governor's Highway Safety Program;~~
10 ~~(8) a representative of the Vermont Bar designated by the Vermont Bar~~
11 Association; and
- 12 ~~(9) a representative of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.~~
- 13 (b) The Committee shall gather input from citizens and stakeholders as
14 appropriate, including:
- 15 ~~(1) the Vermont Vehicle and Automotive Distributors Association;~~
16 ~~(2) the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers;~~
17 ~~(3) the Vermont Truck and Bus Association;~~
18 ~~(4) the Vermont Public Transportation Association;~~
19 ~~(5) bicycle and pedestrian advocates;~~
20 ~~(6) the Vermont Center for Independent Living;~~
21 ~~(7) the Commissioner of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living or~~

1 designee:

2 (8) the Vermont chapter of AARP;

3 (9) the Vermont Association of Planning and Development

4 Agencies; and

5 (10) the Vermont Police Association.

6 (c) The Committee shall study and develop recommendations on legal and
7 policy issues related to automated vehicle technology and the operation of
8 automated vehicles (AVs) on Vermont highways, including:

9 (1) the licensing of AV operators and the registration of AVs;

10 (2) AV operator education and training;

11 (3) insurance and liability issues;

12 (4) enforcement of laws governing AV operation;

13 (5) inspections of AVs;

14 (6) a program to authorize testing of AVs in Vermont;

15 (7) emergency response practices in relation to AVs;

16 (8) infrastructure needs associated with the rollout of AVs; and

17 (9) social, economic, and environmental consequences of the rollout
18 of AVs.

19 (d) The Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair, and shall meet no
20 fewer than two times in calendar year 2017 and no fewer than three times per
21 year until 2022.

1 ~~(e) The Committee shall have the administrative, technical, and legal~~
2 ~~assistance of the Agency of Transportation.~~

3 ~~(f) Annually, on or before January 15, starting in 2018 and continuing until~~
4 ~~2022, the Committee shall submit a written report summarizing its activities~~
5 ~~and recommendations to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation.~~
6 ~~The Committee shall cease to exist on January 15, 2022.~~

7 ~~(g) Members of the Committee who are not employees of the State of~~
8 ~~Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their~~
9 ~~attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of~~
10 ~~expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than five meetings~~
11 ~~per year.~~

12 * * * Park and Roads * * *

13 Sec. 14. 19 V.S.A. chapter 5 is amended to read:

14 CHAPTER 5. CONDEMNATION FOR STATE
15 HIGHWAY PROJECTS

16 § 500. INTENT

17 The purpose of this chapter is to ensure that a property owner receives fair
18 treatment and just compensation when the owner's property is taken for State
19 highway projects, and that condemnation proceedings are conducted
20 expeditiously so that highway projects in the public interest are not
21 ~~unnecessarily delayed.~~

1 § 501. DEFINITIONS

2 The following words and phrases as used in this chapter shall have the
3 following meanings:

4 * * *

5 (4) "Highway" shall include park and rides.

6 * * *

7 * * * Distribution of Public Transit Program Funds * * *

8 Sec. 15. 24 V.S.A. § 5091 is amended to read:

9 § 5091. FUNDING

10 (a) The Secretary of Transportation, within the annual budget setting
11 process, shall meet with the Public Transit Advisory Council and
12 representatives of public transit systems to establish the level of State funds
13 needed by public transit systems in Vermont, and shall consider this level in
14 formulating the Agency of Transportation's ~~State Budget request~~ proposed
15 Transportation Program.

16 (b) State funds authorized by the ~~Legislature~~ General Assembly as grant
17 assistance for the operation of public transit services shall be eligible for use as
18 a matching source for federal funds.

19 (c) The same fiscal accountability requirements and regulatory standards
20 shall apply to all grantees of funds as provided by rule of the Secretary of
21 Transportation.

1 ~~(d) Rideshare, capital, contracted services, and transportation brokerage~~
2 services are not to be considered as operating funds under this section.

3 (e) State funds shall be paid on a semi-annual payment basis to eligible
4 grantees with the first payment paid immediately upon approval of the contract
5 and the second payment to occur at the start of the third quarter of the State
6 fiscal year as follows:

7 (1) the first payment of 50 percent of the estimated annual fiscal year
8 total shall be paid immediately upon execution of the grant;

9 (2) subsequent payments shall be paid quarterly based on projected need
10 determined by current fiscal year spending and availability of funds;

11 (3) additional payments, if necessary, shall occur only if actual costs
12 exceed the previous payments and if funds are available.

13 * * *

14 * * * Highways; Utility Facilities * * *

15 Sec. 16. 19 V.S.A. § 1111 is amended to read:

16 § 1111. PERMITTED USE OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY; RELOCATION OR
17 ADJUSTMENT ORDERS

18 (a) Permits; relocation or adjustment orders.

19 (1) Permits must be obtained by anyone or any corporation wishing to
20 use as described in this section any part of the highway right-of-way on either
21 the State or town system. Notwithstanding any other statutory requirement, a

1 ~~permit shall be required for any use of any highway right-of-way, consistent~~
2 with the provisions of this section. In issuing a permit under this section for a
3 use of a State highway right-of-way, the Secretary may require a transportation
4 impact fee in accordance with 10 V.S.A. chapter 151, subchapter 5. Except for
5 this transportation impact fee authority of the Secretary, the authority given to
6 the Board, the Secretary, and the Attorney General under this section shall also
7 apply to the legislative bodies of towns, or their designees.

8 (2) Except in emergencies, the Agency or the municipality shall seek
9 input and consider input received from affected utilities before issuing a utility
10 relocation or adjustment order. In specifying the times for utility relocation or
11 adjustment work, the Agency or the municipality shall allocate to each a
12 reasonable time for its role in the relocation or adjustment work after taking
13 into account:

14 (A) the season of the year; and

15 (B) the respective duties and responsibilities of the pole or conduit
16 owner and the involved utilities, including the need to install, transfer, or retire
17 individual components in a specific sequence.

18 (3) When the Agency or a municipality issues a utility relocation or
19 adjustment order in accordance with law in connection with highway
20 maintenance or construction activities, and a utility fails to move or adjust its
21 line or other facility within the time specified in the order, that utility shall be

1 ~~liable to the State or to the municipality for damages that the State or the~~
2 ~~municipality is required to pay a contractor for delay caused by the failure.~~
3 ~~However, a utility shall not be liable for such damages if its failure to move or~~
4 ~~adjust the line or facility is for reasons beyond its control, including:~~
5 ~~emergency restoration activities; inclement weather; timing restrictions~~
6 ~~imposed by law or permits; terms of collective bargaining agreements; or the~~
7 ~~failure of another utility to complete its assigned responsibilities for the~~
8 ~~installation, transfer, or retirement of its facilities. If the Agency or the~~
9 ~~selectboard cannot agree with a utility as to whether the utility is liable or as to~~
10 ~~the amount of damages under this subdivision (a)(3), the Agency or~~
11 ~~selectboard may bring an action in accordance with subsection (h) of this~~
12 ~~section.~~

13 * * *

14 (g) Permit suspension. In addition to any other enforcement powers that
15 may be provided for by law, the Secretary or his or her designated
16 representative, on behalf of the Agency or the legislative body, or designee on
17 behalf of a municipality, may suspend any permit under this section until
18 compliance is obtained. If there is continued use or activity after suspension,
19 the Secretary, on behalf of the Agency, or the legislative body, on behalf of a
20 municipality, may physically close the driveway or access point if, in the
21 ~~opinion of the Secretary or the legislative body, the safety of highway users is~~

1 or may be affected

2 (h) Restraining prohibited acts; damages. Whenever the Secretary believes
3 that any person is in violation of the provisions of this chapter, he or she may
4 also bring an action in the name of the Agency in a court of competent
5 jurisdiction against the person to collect civil penalties as provided for in
6 subsection (j) of this section and, for damages, and to restrain by temporary or
7 permanent injunction the continuation or repetition of the violation. The
8 selectboard shall have the same authority for town highways. The Court may
9 issue temporary or permanent injunctions without bond, and any other relief as
10 may be necessary and appropriate for abatement of any violation. An action,
11 injunction, or other enforcement proceeding by a municipality relating to the
12 failure to obtain or comply with the terms and conditions of any permit issued
13 by a municipality pursuant to this section shall be instituted within 15 years
14 from the date the alleged violation first occurred and not thereafter. The
15 burden of proving the date on which the alleged violation first occurred shall
16 be on the person against whom the enforcement action is instituted.

17 * * *

18 (j) Civil penalty. Any person who violates the provisions of this chapter or
19 the terms of an order issued by a court under this chapter shall forfeit and pay
20 to the State a civil penalty of not less than \$100.00 and not more than
21 \$10,000.00 for each violation, provided however, where violation of an order

1 ~~is of a continuing nature, each day during which the violation continues after~~
2 the date fixed by the court for the correction or termination of the violation
3 shall constitute an additional separate and distinct offense except during the
4 time an appeal from the order may be taken or is pending. For the purposes of
5 this subsection, the court issuing the injunction on petition of the Secretary
6 shall retain jurisdiction for purposes of awarding the civil penalty.

7 * * *

8 * * * Effective Dates * * *

9 Sec. 17. EFFECTIVE DATES AND RETROACTIVITY

10 (a) This section and Sec. 13 (automated vehicle technology committee)
11 shall take effect on passage.

12 (b) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. 7 (future appropriations) shall
13 apply retroactively to July 1, 2016.

14 (c) Sec. 9 (amending 19 V.S.A. § 306(h)) shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

15 ~~(d) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2017.~~

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(4) "TIB funds" means monies deposited in the Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund in accordance with 19 V.S.A. § 11f.

** * * Department of Motor Vehicles * * **

Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

For fiscal year 2018, spending authority for the Department of Motor Vehicles is amended as follows:

<u>FY18</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
<i>Personal Services</i>	<i>18,395,579</i>	<i>18,395,579</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Operating Expense</i>	<i>11,106,337</i>	<i>10,906,337</i>	<i>-200,000</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>29,501,916</i>	<i>29,301,916</i>	<i>-200,000</i>

Sources of Funds

<i>State</i>	<i>27,973,478</i>	<i>27,773,478</i>	<i>-200,000</i>
<i>Federal</i>	<i>1,423,438</i>	<i>1,423,438</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Interdept. Transfer</i>	<i>105,000</i>	<i>105,000</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>29,501,916</i>	<i>29,301,916</i>	<i>-200,000</i>

** * * State Highway Bridge Program * * **

Sec. 2a. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT – STATE HIGHWAY BRIDGE

PROGRAM

The following project is added to the development and evaluation (D&E) list of the Program Development – State Highway Bridge Program within the fiscal year 2018 Transportation Program: NH 020-2 () – Quechee – Rehab of Bridge 61 on U.S. Route 4 in the town of Hartford over the Ottauquechee River. To the extent funds become available as a result of the unanticipated delay of or cost savings on projects in the fiscal year 2018 Transportation Program, the funds may be spent as necessary for D&E of this project.

** * * Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Program; Lamoille Valley Rail Trail * * **

Sec. 3. REPEAL

(a) 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 158, Sec. 9a (Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Program; Lamoille Valley Rail Trail) is repealed.

(b) In the Program Development – Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Program section of the Agency’s fiscal year 2018 proposed Transportation Program, within the project information description for the Swanton–St. Johnsbury

LVRT() project, the projected cash requirement fields are amended as follows:

(1) under "Projected FY 2019," the estimated amount of construction expenditures and the total expenditures is amended from "980,000" to "1,000,000";

(2) under "Projected FY 2020," the estimated amount of construction expenditures and the total expenditures is amended from "0" to "1,000,000"; and

(3) under "Projected FY 2021," the estimated amount of construction expenditures and the total expenditures is amended from "0" to "1,000,000."

** * * Maintenance Program * * **

Sec. 4. MAINTENANCE

For fiscal year 2018, spending authority for the Maintenance Program is amended as follows:

<u>FY18</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
<i>Personal Services</i>	45,558,652	43,638,652	-1,920,000
<i>Operating Expense</i>	45,265,393	45,265,393	0
<i>Grants</i>	421,780	421,780	0
<i>Total</i>	91,245,825	89,325,825	-1,920,000

Sources of Funds

<i>State</i>	87,376,083	87,376,083	0
<i>Federal</i>	3,769,742	1,849,742	-1,920,000

<i>Interdept. Transfer</i>	<i>100,000</i>	<i>100,000</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>91,245,825</i>	<i>89,325,825</i>	<i>-1,920,000</i>

**** License Plate Savings ****

Sec. 4a. SAVINGS RELATED TO SINGLE LICENSE PLATES;

ANALYSIS; SPENDING AUTHORITY

(a) Secs. 2 and 5 of this act reallocate \$200,000.00 in spending authority from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to the Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program as result of cost savings projected to result from the requirement that DMV issue one license plate instead of two license plates for most motor vehicles registered in Vermont.

(b) On or before December 1, 2017, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Transportation an updated analysis of cost savings projected to result in fiscal year 2018 from requiring one license plate. If the cost savings are projected to exceed \$200,000.00, the Administration shall propose in its fiscal year 2018 Budget Adjustment Act submission an increase in spending authority for the Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program for fiscal year 2018, and a decrease in spending authority for the Department of Motor Vehicles for fiscal year 2018, to the extent the savings are projected to exceed \$200,000.00.

**** Town Highway Bridge Program ****

Sec. 4b. TOWN HIGHWAY BRIDGE PROGRAM

The following project is added to the Town Highway Bridge Program within the fiscal year 2018 Transportation Program: FLAP (1) – Derby – culvert replacement on the access road to the Eagle Point Wildlife Management Area in Derby. To the extent funds become available for the project from the Federal Lands Access Program in fiscal year 2018, the funds may be expended as necessary for advancement of this project.

** * * Town Aid Programs * * **

Sec. 5. TOWN HIGHWAY CLASS 2 ROADWAY PROGRAM

For fiscal year 2018, spending authority for the Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program is amended as follows:

<u>FY18</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
Grants	7,248,750	7,848,750	600,000
Total	7,248,750	7,848,750	600,000
<u>Sources of funds</u>			
State	7,248,750	7,848,750	600,000
Federal	0	0	0
Total	7,248,750	7,848,750	600,000

Sec. 6. TOWN HIGHWAY FEDERAL DISASTERS PROGRAM

Spending authority for the fiscal year 2018 Town Highway Federal Disasters Program is amended as follows:

<u>FY18</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
-------------	--------------------	-------------------	---------------

<i>Grants</i>	<i>200,000</i>	<i>180,000</i>	<i>-20,000</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>200,000</i>	<i>180,000</i>	<i>-20,000</i>
<u><i>Sources of funds</i></u>			
<i>State</i>	<i>20,000</i>	<i>20,000</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Federal</i>	<i>180,000</i>	<i>160,000</i>	<i>-20,000</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>200,000</i>	<i>180,000</i>	<i>-20,000</i>

** * * Transportation Alternatives Program * * **

Sec. 7. 19 V.S.A. § 38 is amended to read:

§ 38. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES GRANT PROGRAM

** * **

(c) The Transportation Alternatives Grant Program is created. The Grant Program shall be administered by the Agency, and shall be funded in the amount provided for in 23 U.S.C. § ~~213(a)~~ 133(h), less the funds set aside for the Recreational Trails Program ~~as specified in 23 U.S.C. § 213(f)~~. Awards shall be made to eligible entities as defined under 23 U.S.C. § ~~213(e)(4)~~ 133(h), and awards under the Grant Program shall be limited to the activities described at 23 U.S.C. § ~~213(b)~~ other than Recreational Trails Program grants authorized under federal law.

(d) Eligible entities awarded a grant must provide all funds required to match federal funds awarded for a Transportation Alternatives project. All grant awards shall be decided and awarded by the Transportation Alternatives

Grant Committee.

(e) Transportation Alternatives grant awards shall be announced annually by the Transportation Alternatives Grant Committee not earlier than December and not later than the following March.

~~*(f)(1) In fiscal years 2018 and 2019, all Grant Program funds shall be reserved for municipalities for environmental mitigation projects relating to stormwater and highways, including eligible salt and sand shed projects.*~~

~~*(2) Each In fiscal year 2020 and thereafter, \$1,100,000.00 of Grant Program funds, or such lesser sum if all eligible applications amount to less than \$1,100,000.00, shall be reserved for municipalities for environmental mitigation projects relating to stormwater and highways, including eligible salt and sand shed projects. Regarding the balance of Grant Program funds, in evaluating applications for Transportation Alternatives grants, the Transportation Alternatives Grant Committee shall give preferential weighting to projects involving as a primary feature a bicycle or pedestrian facility. The degree of preferential weighting and the circumstantial factors sufficient to overcome the weighting shall be in the complete discretion of the Transportation Alternatives Grant Committee.*~~

~~*(f)(1) In fiscal years 2018 and 2019, all Grant Program funds shall be reserved for municipalities for environmental mitigation projects relating to stormwater and highways, including eligible salt and sand shed projects.*~~

(2) In fiscal years 2020 and 2021, Grant Program funds shall be awarded for any eligible activity and in accordance with the priorities established in subdivision (4) of this subsection.

(3) ~~Each~~ In fiscal year 2022 and thereafter, \$1,100,000.00 of Grant Program funds, or such lesser sum if all eligible applications amount to less than \$1,100,000.00, shall be reserved for municipalities for environmental mitigation projects relating to stormwater and highways, including eligible salt and sand shed projects.

(4) Regarding Grant Program funds awarded in fiscal years 2020 and 2021, and the balance of Grant Program funds not reserved for environmental mitigation projects in fiscal year 2022 and thereafter, in evaluating applications for Transportation Alternatives grants, the Transportation Alternatives Grant Committee shall give preferential weighting to projects involving as a primary feature a bicycle or pedestrian facility. The degree of preferential weighting and the circumstantial factors sufficient to overcome the weighting shall be in the complete discretion of the Transportation Alternatives Grant Committee.

* * *

Sec. 8. MUNICIPAL MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Authorized spending in the Municipal Mitigation Assistance Program for fiscal year 2018 is amended as follows:

<u>FY18</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	150,000	150,000	0
<i>Grants</i>	8,032,342	9,032,342	1,000,000
<i>Total</i>	8,182,342	9,182,342	1,000,000
<u>Sources of Funds</u>			
<i>State</i>	1,640,000	1,240,000	-400,000
<i>Federal</i>	5,442,342	5,442,342	0
<i>Clean Water Fund</i>	1,100,000	1,100,000	0
<i>Other</i>	0	1,400,000	1,400,000
<i>Total</i>	8,182,342	9,182,342	1,000,000

Sec. 9. FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS; REPEAL

2016 Acts and Resolves No. 158, Sec. 5 (future appropriations) is repealed.

Sec. 10. 19 V.S.A. § 306 is amended to read:

§ 306. APPROPRIATION; STATE AID FOR TOWN HIGHWAYS

* * *

(c) State aid for town highway bridges. There shall be an annual appropriation for town bridge engineering services and for aid in maintaining or constructing bridges having a span of six feet or more on class 1, 2, and 3 town highways. Annually the Agency shall ~~distribute~~ expend these funds according to ~~a the Transportation Program plan based upon applications submitted by the towns~~ approved by the General Assembly. With the approval

of the Agency, funds may be used for alternatives which eliminate the need for a bridge or bridges, including construction or reconstruction of highways, purchase of parcels of land that would be landlocked by closure of a bridge or bridges, payment of damages for loss of highway access, and substitution of other means of access.

** * **

(i) ~~Monies disbursed from the Clean Water Fund established in 10 V.S.A. § 1388 for~~ The Agency shall administer the Municipal Mitigation Assistance Program. Through the Program, the Agency shall provide assistance and grants to municipalities for environmental mitigation projects related to stormwater and highways shall be administered by the Agency through the Municipal Mitigation Grant Program and for the establishment and operation of stormwater utilities. Grants provided to municipalities under the Program shall be matched by Municipalities shall match grants with local funds sufficient to cover 20 percent of the project costs, except that the Agency may issue grants for the establishment or operation of stormwater utilities without requiring a local match. From the operating expenses appropriated for the Program, the Agency is authorized to pay costs billed to the Agency by municipal stormwater utilities.

** * **

** * * Central Garage * * **

Sec. 11. TRANSFER TO CENTRAL GARAGE FUND

Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 13(c), in fiscal year 2018, the amount of \$1,296,047.00 is transferred from the Transportation Fund to the Central Garage Fund created in 19 V.S.A. § 13.

** * * Transportation Program Terminology * * **

Sec. 12. 19 V.S.A. § 10 is amended to read:

§ 10. DUTIES

The Agency shall, except where otherwise specifically provided by law:

** * **

(16) Inform the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee of any anticipated loss or reduction of federal funding for transportation purposes due to either a lack of State funds for matching, or a decrease in federal funds for the ~~one-year capital program~~ Transportation Program.

** * **

Sec. 13. 19 V.S.A. § 10g is amended to read:

*§ 10g. ANNUAL REPORT; TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM;
ADVANCEMENTS, CANCELLATIONS, AND DELAYS*

(a) The Agency of Transportation shall annually present to the General Assembly a multiyear Transportation Program covering the same number of years as the Statewide Transportation Improvement ~~Plan~~ Program (STIP), consisting of the recommended budget for all Agency activities for the ensuing fiscal year and projected spending levels for all Agency activities for the

following fiscal years. The Program shall include a description and year-by-year breakdown of recommended and projected funding of all projects proposed to be funded within the time period of the STIP and, in addition, a description of all projects that are not recommended for funding in the first fiscal year of the proposed Program but which are scheduled for construction during the time period covered by the STIP. The Program shall be consistent with the planning process established by 1988 Acts and Resolves No. 200, as codified in 3 V.S.A. chapter 67 and 24 V.S.A. chapter 117, the statements of policy set forth in sections 10b–10f of this title, and the long-range systems plan, corridor studies, and project priorities developed through the capital planning process under section 10i of this title.

** * **

Sec. 14. 19 V.S.A. § 1512 is amended to read:

§ 1512. UTILITY RELOCATIONS

(a) When relocation of a utility is required by a project for the improvement, construction, or reconstruction of a highway under the provisions of this chapter, the ~~agency~~ Agency or a municipality, or both, may pay for some or all of the cost of the relocation.

(b) The ~~agency~~ Agency, following the procedures set forth in 3 V.S.A. chapter 25, shall adopt rules setting standards for determining when and to what extent the authority granted by subsection (a) of this section may be exercised. These standards shall take into account the following:

* * *

(4) the overall effect on the ~~state's transportation capital program~~ State's Transportation Program of using available highway construction funds for utility relocation purposes.

** * * Automated Vehicles * * **

Sec. 15. AUTOMATED VEHICLES

(a) On or before December 15, 2017, the Secretary shall convene a meeting of public and private stakeholders with expertise related to:

(1) the licensing of automated vehicle (AV) operators and the registration of AVs;

(2) AV operator education and training;

(3) insurance and liability issues related to AVs;

(4) enforcement of laws governing AV operation;

(5) inspections of AVs;

(6) testing of AVs in Vermont;

(7) emergency response practices in relation to AVs;

(8) infrastructure needs associated with the rollout of AVs; and

(9) social, economic, and environmental consequences of the rollout of AVs.

(b) The purpose of the meeting required under subsection (a) of this section is to gather information related to and raise awareness of opportunities and

challenges related to AVs, and identify policy areas requiring further research or possible legislation. On or before January 15, 2018, the Secretary shall report back to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation on its activities and any recommendations related to AVs, including any proposed legislation.

(c) The Secretary shall monitor guidance from the federal government, activities in other states, and industry trends related to the development and rollout of AVs.

** * * Park and Rides * * **

Sec. 16. 19 V.S.A. chapter 5 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 5. CONDEMNATION FOR STATE

HIGHWAY PROJECTS

§ 500. INTENT

The purpose of this chapter is to ensure that a property owner receives fair treatment and just compensation when the owner's property is taken for State highway projects, and that condemnation proceedings are conducted expeditiously so that highway projects in the public interest are not unnecessarily delayed.

§ 501. DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases as used in this chapter shall have the following meanings:

* * *

(4) "Highway" shall include park and rides.

* * *

** * * Distribution of Public Transit Program Funds * * **

Sec. 17. 24 V.S.A. § 5091 is amended to read:

§ 5091. FUNDING

(a) The Secretary of Transportation, within the annual budget setting process, shall meet with the Public Transit Advisory Council and representatives of public transit systems to establish the level of State funds needed by public transit systems in Vermont, and shall consider this level in formulating the Agency of Transportation's ~~State Budget request~~ proposed Transportation Program.

(b) State funds authorized by the ~~Legislature~~ General Assembly as grant assistance for the operation of public transit services shall be eligible for use as a matching source for federal funds.

(c) The same fiscal accountability requirements and regulatory standards shall apply to all grantees of funds as provided by rule of the Secretary of Transportation.

(d) Rideshare, capital, contracted services, and transportation brokerage services are not to be considered as operating funds under this section.

(e) State funds shall be paid ~~on a semi-annual payment basis~~ to eligible

~~grantees with the first payment paid immediately upon approval of the contract and the second payment to occur at the start of the third quarter of the State fiscal year as follows:~~

~~(1) the first payment of 50 percent of the estimated annual fiscal year total shall be paid immediately upon execution of the grant;~~

~~(2) subsequent payments shall be paid quarterly based on projected need determined by current fiscal year spending and availability of funds;~~

~~(3) additional payments, if necessary, shall occur only if actual costs exceed the previous payments and if funds are available.~~

* * *

* * * *Highways; Utility Facilities* * * *

Sec. 18. 19 V.S.A. § 1111 is amended to read:

§ 1111. PERMITTED USE OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY; RELOCATION OR
ADJUSTMENT ORDERS

(a) Permits; relocation or adjustment orders.

(1) Permits must be obtained by anyone or any corporation wishing to use as described in this section any part of the highway right-of-way on either the State or town system. Notwithstanding any other statutory requirement, a permit shall be required for any use of any highway right-of-way, consistent with the provisions of this section. In issuing a permit under this section for a use of a State highway right-of-way, the Secretary may require a transportation

impact fee in accordance with 10 V.S.A. chapter 151, subchapter 5. Except for this transportation impact fee authority of the Secretary, the authority given to the Board, the Secretary, and the Attorney General under this section shall also apply to the legislative bodies of towns, or their designees.

(2) Except in emergencies, the Agency or the municipality shall seek input and consider input received from affected utilities before issuing a utility relocation or adjustment order. In specifying the times for utility relocation or adjustment work, the Agency or the municipality shall allocate to each a reasonable time for its role in the relocation or adjustment work after taking into account:

(A) the season of the year; and

(B) the respective duties and responsibilities of the pole or conduit owner and the involved utilities, including the need to install, transfer, or retire individual components in a specific sequence.

(3) When the Agency or a municipality issues a utility relocation or adjustment order in accordance with law in connection with highway maintenance or construction activities, and a utility fails to move or adjust its line or other facility within the time specified in the order, that utility shall be liable to the State or to the municipality for damages that the State or the municipality is required to pay a contractor for delay caused by the failure. However, a utility shall not be liable for such damages if its failure to move or

adjust the line or facility is for reasons beyond its control, including: emergency restoration activities; inclement weather; timing restrictions imposed by law or permits; terms of collective bargaining agreements; or the failure of another utility to complete its assigned responsibilities for the installation, transfer, or retirement of its facilities. If the Agency or the selectboard cannot agree with a utility as to whether the utility is liable or as to the amount of damages under this subdivision (a)(3), the Agency or selectboard may bring an action in accordance with subsection (h) of this section.

* * *

(h) Restraining prohibited acts; damages. Whenever the Secretary believes that any person is in violation of the provisions of this chapter, he or she may also bring an action in the name of the Agency in a court of competent jurisdiction against the person to collect civil penalties as provided for in subsection (j) of this section ~~and~~, for damages, and to restrain by temporary or permanent injunction the continuation or repetition of the violation. The selectboard shall have the same authority for town highways. The Court may issue temporary or permanent injunctions without bond, and any other relief as may be necessary and appropriate for abatement of any violation. An action, injunction, or other enforcement proceeding by a municipality relating to the failure to obtain or comply with the terms and conditions of any permit issued

by a municipality pursuant to this section shall be instituted within 15 years from the date the alleged violation first occurred and not thereafter. The burden of proving the date on which the alleged violation first occurred shall be on the person against whom the enforcement action is instituted.

* * *

** * * Effective Dates * * **

Sec. 19. EFFECTIVE DATES AND RETROACTIVITY

(a) This section, Sec. 9 (future appropriations; repeal), and Sec. 15 (automated vehicles) shall take effect on passage. Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. 9 shall apply retroactively to July 1, 2016.

(b) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2017.