

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE
July 2015

Revenue

We finally received the full report from Whitney Tucker of the Vermont Department of Taxes. She was on maternity leave and the full report did not go out on time – only the total check for Meals and Rooms and Sales. Below is the data that Whitney normally sends.

	Meals and Rooms	Sales
Qtr	1	1
Dates Returns Processed	2/10/15 – 5/10/15	2/10/15 – 5/10/15
Returns	233	571
Tax Collected	\$145,205.62	\$287,461.53
70% of Tax Collected	\$101,643.93	\$201,223.07
Minus Fee (\$5.96/rtn x 70%)	\$972.08	\$2,382.21
Town Check Amount	\$100,671.86	\$198,840.86

Beautification

We have received the additional traffic pattern layout with and without plantings from Peter Holden as well as a set of preliminary costs. The layouts do not include the stone wall or sign that was specified in the original landscape architecture report. Peter will add that and has also agreed to layout stakes at the Town Common where the parking area would interact with the tree line. A presentation is tentatively scheduled for the August 18 Selectboard meeting to review the current proposal.

All barrels have been filled with flowers and 6 new barrels were added. These locations include:

1. Bennington Furniture
2. Chadwicks
3. South side of the valley trail bridge
4. 7-11
5. In front of the bridge paralleling Handle Road at Tannery Road
6. Snow Mountain Market

Events

Nothing new to report.

Marketing

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Eilis Cahill, producer from Caterpillar Event LLC (Preggers), has notified us that she wants to shoot at the Austrian Haus. She is in contact with them to work out the details. The shoot dates still need to be worked out.

We have 3 new bench donations on order. They are from:

- Virginia Dittrich in memory of her husband John Dittrich
- Gail Filler in memory of her son-in-law Tim Bolognani and grand daughter, Jessica Bolognani
- Louie Cibischino in memory of Kathleen McGowan Alliotts

These should be installed in the next couple of weeks.

DASP

FY '14 – '15

To date 18 applicants have applied for \$23,253.92 of the \$24,000 in DASP funding. To date we paid \$14,054.18 in rebate amounts. We have \$9,945.82 remaining in unpaid funding.

FY '15 – '16

To date 1 applicant has applied for \$2,400 of the \$24,000 in DASP funding. To date we have paid \$0.00

Do-It

FY '14 – '15

16 businesses have applied for and received Do-It funding. The program is now committed for \$38,500 and is closed for this fiscal year. To date, we have paid out \$28,500 in Do-It funding and have a balance of \$12,500.00 remaining for FY 2014-2015. Two businesses, Doveberry Inn and Pioneer Timber Frames, LLC have not completed their projects and cannot collect \$5,000.00. We have not gotten the paperwork from West Dover Inn but they have completed their project. We have not checked on Green Mountain Nutmeggers. The deadline for completion is June 30, 2015.

FY '15 – '16

To date 14 applicants have applied for \$33,050 of the \$36,000. It is expected that we will utilize the remaining available funding.

Bi-Town

Nothing new to report

Telecommunications

In conversations with the head of their wireless program at Vtel, Jeff Monder, they will initiate service from their Rice Hill tower by the end of the summer. The antennas have been installed and they are waiting for installation of bandwidth to the tower. This will come in the form of a microwave backhaul off of a tower at Mount Snow. It is expected that service will hit the west side of the ridge, Cooper Hill

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Road, and parts of Dover Hill Road. It is not known what the maximum bandwidth or costs are, but 40 Mbps was mentioned as a bandwidth for the area.

We also spoke about a more aggressive infrastructure within Dover and a meeting with Michel Guite. Their website offers Internet plans of 1 Gbps for \$60 per month and 10 Gbps for \$400 per month. This is a direct fiber connection. The cost estimate of \$25,000 per mile to lay the fiber was mentioned.

Website

Nothing new to report

Trails

Dover/Wilmington Trail:

We have received the additional trail maps and will distribute them as needed.

Valley Trail A:

Contractor plans for Trail A have been submitted to Vtrans. Explanations regarding comments made by Vtrans on the final plan have been answered by Roger Dickinson. We have received the formal Right of Way certificate (ROW) from Vtrans. The proverbial ball is currently with Vtrans. Once the Contractor plans are approved, we can then advertise at any time. In separate conversations with Vtrans and L&D Engineering, it is suggested that we wait until year end or January to advertise. The reason given is that with fluctuating materials costs, construction companies are reluctant to give accurate bids for say 6 – 8 months hence. What they do is raise the estimate to account for such price fluctuations.

Another approach suggested by Roger Dickinson is to perform some preliminary tasks later this year. This will leave the area in a state of disarray at the start of the winter season. I believe we should start fresh when the frost leaves around mid May, 2016. It will take approximately 3 months to complete the project including street light installation.

Task	Duration (business days)	Responsibility	Notes
Issuance of a 1111 permit	5 days	Vtrans	Done concurrently with Final Plan approval
Issuance of a Right of Way Certificate	5 days	Vtrans	Done
Final Plan approval	21 days	Vtrans	
Utility Clearance	5 days	GMP/Fairpoint	
Contractor Plans Development & Approval	21 days	Lamoureux & Dickinson/Vtrans	Contractor Plans completed and sent to Vtrans but not approved. Can occur simultaneously with final plan approval

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Contractor Advertising	21 days	Vtrans/Economic Development	
Resident Engineer Advertising & Selection	21 days	Economic Development/Vtrans	Can occur simultaneously with contractor advertising
Construction Award	21 days	L&D, Vtrans, Economic Development, Dover Selectboard	Includes review of bids and presentation to Dover Selectboard
Construction	3 months	TBD	

To date we have spent \$105,809.25 of the \$118,208 engineering study. This leaves \$12,398.75 remaining on the engineering contract.

The cost estimate for the Valley Trail A sidewalk project is now \$759,156.51. **This leave a current deficit of \$50,590.98.** The actual bids will change this number.

The cost for street lighting was taken directly from the actual cost at the Dover Park. We did have some issues with the company who manufactured the lights and would consider switching to an alternate company whose light is similar. The pole would remain the same. The previous lighting estimate did not reflect the cost of installing the concrete poles which the highway department performed. Installing 21 lights verses 4 is a far different task. This function is now added to the street light cost as well as a modest increase in the cost of the light caused by switching companies.

The current cost estimate for the project is listed below. This contains the latest cost estimate from the project engineer.

Valley Trail A Minus: Dorr Fitch to Tollgate Village and Valley Trail B Plus: Mountain Park Plaza to Stugger Rd:

The cost for the additional engineering on the bridge portion of Valley Trail A- is \$17,133.79. This cost is payable from the construction grant. Given the length of time necessary to satisfy the grant requirements, I feel it is unlikely that construction will take place in 2016. It is more likely to be in 2017.

The cost estimate is based on a bridge project that L&D is working on in Williston, VT. This estimate does not include contingency, resident engineer or easement costs. We will get a better feel for actual prices on A- as we get into the construction portion of A, next spring.

Holden Engineering was chosen as the engineering firm to perform the scoping study on B+

Trails Trail Balance

Item	Cost

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Trail A	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Trail "A" Account	\$408,565.53
Federal Grant	\$300,000.00
Sub Total	\$708,565.53
<u>Expense</u>	
Current Construction Estimate	\$446,646.80
State Suggested Contingency	\$44,664.68
Resident Engineer	\$89,329.36
Remaining L&D Engineering	\$12,398.75
Street Lights (21)	\$126,000.00
Electrical Accessories (Wire, Conduit, etc)	\$29,786.92
Easement Costs	\$10,330.00
Sub Total	\$759,156.51
<u>Net Revenue/Expense Total</u>	(\$50,590.98)
Trail A- (Tollgate Village to Dorr Fitch Rd)	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Trail "A-" Account (Local Portion)	\$32,500.00
Federal Grant Portion	\$263,510.00
State Grant Portion	\$28,990.00
Sub Total	\$325,000.00
<u>Expense</u>	
L&D Engineering	\$17,133.79
Bridge over Deerfield River	\$270,000.00
Resident Engineer	N/A
Construction	\$60,000.00
Street Lights	N/A
Sub Total	\$347,133.79
<u>Net Revenue/Expense Total</u>	(\$22,133.79)
Trail B+ Scoping Study (Mountain Park Plaza to West Dover Fire House)	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Trail B+ Account (Local Portion)	\$3,300.00
Federal Grant Portion	\$26,756.00
State Grant Portion	\$2,944.00
Sub Total	\$33,000.00
<u>Expense</u>	

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Advertising for Scoping Study	\$135.89
Engineering Study	\$22,919.71
<u>Net Revenue/Expense Total</u>	\$9,944.40

Venue

The first concert is Sunday, July 5, 2015 at the Dover Park. The Peter Miles Band is appearing. The schedule is listed below.

- Miles Band (Popular – Rock) July 5
- The Equalites (Reggae) July 12
- The Lonesome Brothers (American Rock) July 19
- Patty Carpenter and the Dysfunctional Family Jazz Band (Jazz) July 26
- Stockwell Brothers (Bluegrass) August 2
- Slippery Sneakers (Zydeco) August 9
- American Pop (Popular – Rock) August 16
- The Nines (Popular – Rock) August 23

Financial

Full statements are included under separate cover.