

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

October 2015

Revenue

Nothing new to report.

Beautification

The Town Common Engineering presentation will be held on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at the Dover Town Hall at 6PM. Peter Holden will present the engineering concepts and associated costs on the beautification and redesign of the Town Common area. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

Events

We just finished 2 major events, Wine and Harvest and ITVFest. We have not yet received the summary report for Wine and Harvest but did receive the report for the ITVFest. There are no other major events scheduled for this year.

I understand that Mother's for Daughters' will be applying for funds for their May, 2016 ride. We will evaluate the application when it is submitted.

ITVFest's attendance this year was 625 compared to 750 for last year. That represents a decrease in attendance of 17%. This was attributed to not selling the \$10 one showing ticket and the free Dover School tickets. Revenue for the festival however was up by 60% over last year (\$130,418 vs \$81,243). Additional sponsorships totaled \$39,000. Dover's match of \$0.25 per \$1.00 of donation yielded an additional \$9,750 to the initial \$25,000 event grant.

Fiddleheads has submitted their summary report for their event. This year's attendance was 736 compared to 700 for last year. Out of state attendance was higher by 20% and non-second homeowner was up by 50%. Overnight attendance was down by 25%. Attendance at area lodges was 90 compared to 40 from last year. All receipts were supplied and evaluated. The final 25% was paid to the chamber for this event.

Marketing

Caterpillar Event LLC (Preggers) has completed their Dover shoot. They submitted their receipts and spent \$1144 in lodging and \$1005.22 in food purchases in Dover at Snow Mountain Market, Pizzeria la Toscanella, Dots of Dover and 7-Eleven. They received their 1st payment of \$1500 towards the grant.

MomCave also completed their Dover shoot and have submitted their receipts. They spent \$619.07 in lodging, \$457.54 in food purchases at Last Chair, Valley View Saloon and Dover Forge, and \$245.16 in retail purchases at Green Mountain Vermont (aka formerly Fiddleheads, currently known as The Hub). Their expense check will be processed shortly.

Don Schechter, producer from Charles River Media Group, LLC (Ascendants) did scoping of the area during the ITVFest and will shoot in the next several weeks after his schedules are finalized.

Katie Shannon. Producer from Thompson Film, LLC (Karly and Alex) has not selected their shoot dates.

The picnic table that was ordered for the park and was delivered and will be assembled and installed near the park swings.

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A public suggestion was made to install an additional trash receptacle and doggie bags on the Valley Trail just north of the bridge. This will alleviate carrying dog waste all the way to the park and hopefully keep the trail a little cleaner by making it more convenient.

The cost is as follows:

Trash Receptacle	\$501.00
32 gallon Garbage Can	\$25
Dog Waste Station	\$119
Total	\$645

This product will be ordered in the spring.

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 \$14,066.30 in rebate amounts. We have \$9,933.70 remaining in unpaid funding.

FY '15 – '16

To date 4 applicant has applied for \$6,412.80 of the \$24,000 in DASP funding. To date we have paid \$0.00

Do-It

FY '15 – '16

To date 16 applicants have applied for all of the \$36,000 budgeted for the program. To date we have paid \$5,000. There have been no other requests for funding since the beginning of July. When comparing project cost to rebate cost, the total project cost is \$61,369.10 and the total rebate cost is \$36,000. Only 7 of the 16 applicants will spend a project cost equal to the rebate cost. 56% of the businesses are adding additional funding to their projects.

Bi-Town/Marketing Sub-Committee

The Bi-Town Marketing Committee will meet this month on October 14 at 10:00 AM due to scheduling conflicts. At our last meeting, both Mike Chase and Adam Grinold were absent. We need full participation going forward for effective progress.

In our meeting, we agreed on some 40 key activities that the valley would be known for. This should benefit vendors who develop website code for SEO purposes as well as identifying potential bloggers. We also discussed representative businesses in 3 key areas, lodging, restaurants, and retail. Within each area 3 – 4 questions were formulated as to their participation in providing survey information to the chamber. The initial businesses came from both chamber and non-chamber members.

For a complete set of minutes, please refer to the Town of Dover website <http://www.doververmont.com/bi-town-marketing-subcommittee-0>

Telecommunications

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Fairpoint has completed their analysis of Dover's broadband usage and will meet with us during the 3rd week of October to explain the findings and discuss a plan for going forward. Beth Fastiggi, President of Fairpoint of Vermont will attend personally and French Scott will conduct a teleconference from his location. Their analysis includes only Fairpoint related cables (fiber, DSL, coaxial). They are unable to leave any documentation of their findings due to proprietary issues. We will evaluate the usefulness of the findings after the meeting.

I have still been unable to secure a meeting with Vtel to discuss wireless telecommunications development. Laying fiber is still in the \$25,000 per mile category. Vtel claims that their service will be operational from the Rice Hill Tower of Green Mountain Power by the end of summer, 2015. We will have to evaluate at that time. Another potential solution is for municipal takeover of the internet bandwidth. Perhaps discussions with Burlington, VT would shed some light on the costs and pitfalls of such a project. I will pursue that avenue and report on the pros and cons that Burlington experienced.

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 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

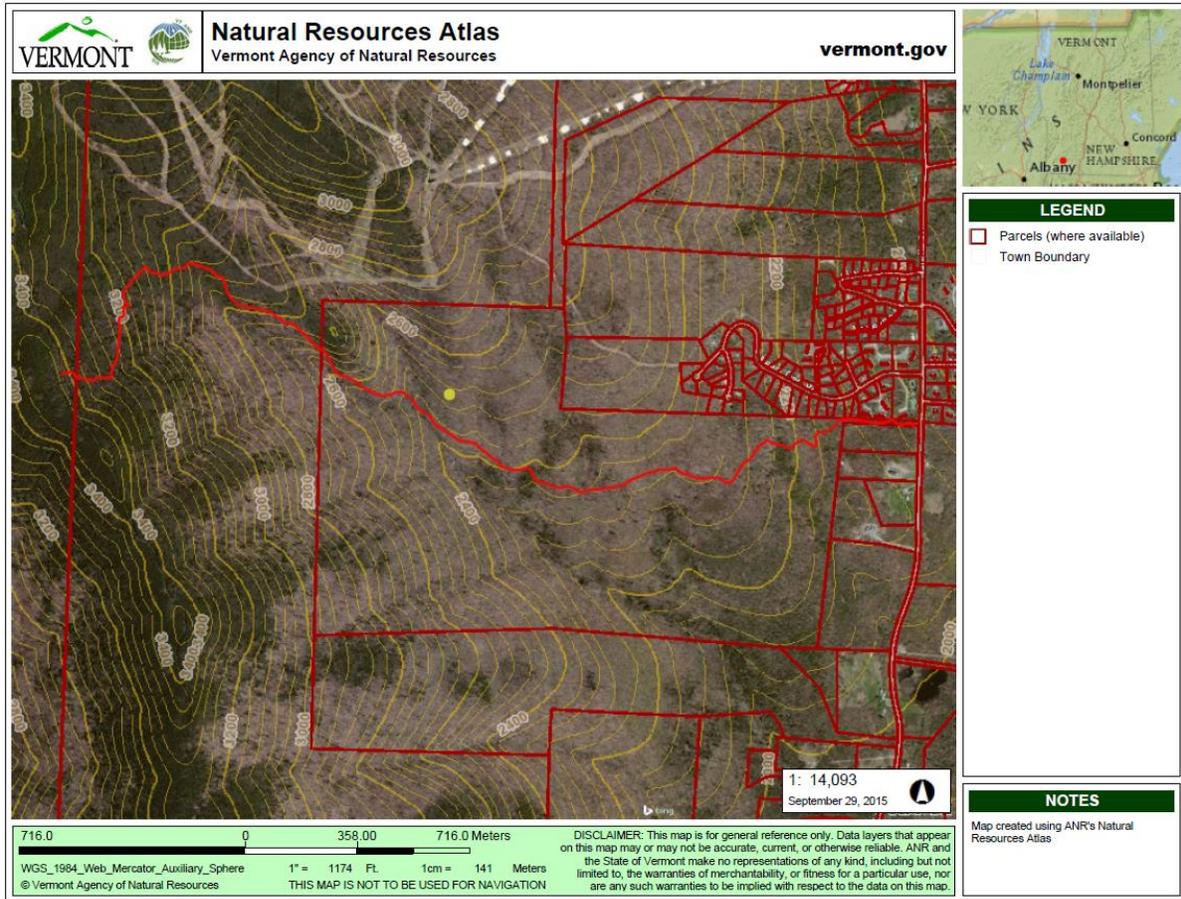
Trails

Road, Parking Area and Trail Leading to Ridge Trail from Handle Road

Andy McLean has mapped the GPS coordinates for the new road, parking lot and trail leading up to the ridge trail and sent them to the US Forest Service for inclusion in the official forest service inventory. This is the initial requirement prior to the Forest Service performing their environmental analysis sometime in October/November timeframe. The Forest Service will then send us the specifications needed for the engineering of the aforementioned trail. We will perform the requisite engineering in the spring. Funding for this project will come from the Economic Development Department. We will be able to better assess costs when we receive the formal specifications from the US Forest Service.

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Dover/Wilmington Trail:

Nothing new to report.

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. Rachel Beauregard has tentatively approved the contractor plans with the modification of various dates that will need modification at the time the bids go out in the December/January timeframe.

The goal is to start construction around mid-May 2016, after the winter's frost. It will take approximately 3 months to complete the project including street light installation.

Task	Duration (business days)	Responsibility	Notes

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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
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 \$111,356.50 of the \$118,208 engineering study. This leaves \$6,851.50 remaining on the engineering contract.

The cost estimate for the Valley Trail A sidewalk project is still \$753,609.26. **This leaves a current deficit of (\$52,232.82).** 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

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The cost for the additional engineering on the bridge portion of Valley Trail A- is \$17,133.79. 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 for the bridge 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. The actual bridge estimate at this time is \$192,000. The estimate for the foundation, retaining wall and installation of the bridge is \$80,000. We will get a better feel for actual prices on A- as we get into the construction portion of A, next spring. To date we have spent \$1,169.20 of the \$17,133.79 in additional engineering costs. The remaining engineering cost is \$15,964.59.

Valley Trail B Plus: Mountain Park Plaza to Stugger Rd:

Holden Engineering has countersigned the contract to perform the scoping study on B+. We are scheduling a kickoff meeting with Holden Engineering and Vtrans for early September. The study is due to be completed in March, 2016 but will likely be concluded by the end of 2015.

Valley Trail C: Stugger Road to South Access Road

We were awarded a grant for the Scoping Study for Valley Trail C in the amount of \$33,000 of which 10% are comprised of local funds.

Trails Trail Balance

Item	Cost
Trail A	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Trail "A" Account	\$401,376.44
Federal Grant	\$300,000.00
Sub Total	\$701,376.44
<u>Expense</u>	
Current Construction Estimate	\$446,646.80
State Suggested Contingency	\$44,664.68
Resident Engineer	\$89,329.36
Remaining L&D Engineering	\$6,851.50
Street Lights (21)	\$126,000.00
Electrical Accessories (Wire, Conduit, etc)	\$29786.92
Easement Costs	\$10,330.00
Sub Total	\$753,909.26
<u>Net Revenue/Future Expense Total</u>	(\$52,232.82)
Trail A- (Tollgate Village to Dorr Fitch Rd)	

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<u>Revenue</u>	
Trail "A-" Account (Local Portion)	\$32,349.45
Federal Grant Portion	\$263,510.00
State Grant Portion	\$28,990.00
Sub Total	\$324,849.25
<u>Expense</u>	
L&D Engineering	\$17,133.79
Bridge over Deerfield River	\$272,000.00
Resident Engineer	N/A
Construction	\$60,000.00
Street Lights	N/A
Sub Total	\$349,133.79
<u>Net Revenue/Expense Total</u>	(\$22,284.54)
Trail B+ Scoping Study (Mountain Park Plaza to West Dover Fire House)	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Trail B+ Account (Local Portion)	\$2,777.30
Federal Grant Portion	\$26,756.00
State Grant Portion	\$2,944.00
Sub Total	\$32,477.30
<u>Expense</u>	
Advertising for Scoping Study	\$135.89
Engineering Study	\$22,919.71
<u>Net Revenue/Expense Total</u>	\$9,121.70

Venue

Nothing new to report.

Financial

Full statements are included under separate cover.