

VTrans Complete Streets Update

PRESENTATION BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024

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Complete Streets

Current Initiatives:

- Annual Compliance Accounting of State-Managed Projects
- 2023 Revision of VTrans Complete Streets Guidance
- Ongoing Training Opportunities



A Complete Streets Approach

A Complete Street...

“...is safe, and feels safe, for all users.” (FHWA)

“provides safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for individuals of all ages and abilities,
including walking, cycling, public transportation, and motor vehicles” (19 V.S.A. 2401)

Complete Streets is a ***principle*** which encompasses ***many approaches*** to planning, designing, and maintaining roadways and rights of way with all users in mind.

- No single “Complete Street” solution
- Selection of design elements (curb extensions, bicycle lanes, etc.) is informed by context and the needs of the users of the specific transportation facility

2023 Legislative Request – Enhanced Reporting

As requested in 2023, Act No. 62, § 36, eff. July 1, 2023:

Public Data Tool	<u>Sec. 36. IMPLEMENTATION; PUBLIC DATA SOURCE</u> The Agency shall create and make accessible to the general public the web-accessible and web-searchable data source required under 19 V.S.A. § 2404(b)... on or before January 1, 2024.
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Project details to be provided to the public as stated in 19 V.S.A. § 2404(b)(1):

- **All State-managed transportation projects** (bid since January 1, 2023)
- **Description of the project**
- **Location of the project**
- **Identify which complete streets principles were incorporated in the project**
- **An explanation for projects not incorporating complete streets principles**

Complete Streets Compliance Reporting

Enhanced data reporting tool underdevelopment!

- Search by criteria – Town, Program, Reporting Year
- Link to each project Fact Sheet for detailed information

Complete Street Projects & Characteristics

Town: Program: Reporting Year:







Current Projects

Project Name	Project Number	Town(s)	Route(s)	Fact Sheet	Program	Reporting Year	Project Description
Barton-Coventry	STP FPAV(63)	Barton, Coventry, Irasburg	US-5	Fact Sheet	Paving	2023	Paving along US 5 from Barton N
Berlin	ER P23-1(636)	Berlin	VT-12	Fact Sheet	State Highway Bridges	2023	Construction of a new precast co
Brighton-Ferdinand	STP FPAV(81)	Brighton, Ferdinand	VT-105	Fact Sheet	Paving	2023	Paving on VT 105 from Brighton
Cambridge-Belvidere	STP FPAV(69)	Belvidere, Cambridge, Waterville	VT-109	Fact Sheet	Paving	2023	Paving on VT 109 from Cambridg

- Details on project design elements by category


Complete Street Details

Hartford

Bike - Shared Use Lanes		Bike Path or Lane Details New buffered bicycle lane, New bicycle lane
Crosswalk Markings, Installation, Signs		CrosswalkDescription New Crosswalk, Remark Crosswalk
Lighting		Lighting Details
Sidewalk Ramps		Sidewalk Details Install new ramp, Reconstruct ramp for compliance
Signals		Signals Details
Public Transit		Transit Details
Street Scaping		Shoulder Improvements Widened with new pavement, Increase shoulder width
Pavement Improvements Replacement		Other Features Island reconfiguration, slip lane removal

VTrans Complete Streets Guidance

2023 Revision of VTrans Complete Streets Guidance

- Guidance not a design manual
 - Includes state and national references as a resource to aid in planning and designing
 - Provides VTrans project managers, planners, engineers, and designers with an understanding of the benefits of Complete Streets and how they can apply to common projects
 - Highlights the importance of contextual application of Complete Streets principles
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Highlights of the 2023 Update

- Expanded description of principles as a planning and design tool
- Greater focus on project context
 - *Context is key to determine the appropriate design elements*
- Includes graphics and photos to show Complete Streets applications to enhance the user's comprehension of intention.
 - *Explore how items have been implemented before*
 - *Visualize designs with conceptual diagrams*
- Single questionnaire for project review; facilitate understanding of context and aid in selection of appropriate design elements
 - *Prior checklists for planning and design phases separate*

Complete Streets Training

- VTrans has partnered to provide training opportunities for internal and external stakeholders since the 2012 guidance release.

- *Example: 3/2022 VT Complete Streets training provided by VTrans and FHWA*

- New training under development!

- *Interactive and hands-on curriculum*

- Phased Rollout of Training

- *Round 1 – VTrans stakeholders*
 - *Round 2 – Municipalities & other stakeholders*



DRAFT AGENDA

PART I: INTERACTIVE

- Observational walk (AARP Walk Audit Tool)

PART II: LECTURE

- What are they & Why are they important?
- Emphasis on not a one size fit all solution and provides a examples of design consideration based on the context
- Changes from the 2012 to 2023 Guidance

PART III: INTERACTIVE

- Tabletop demonstration project activities