

Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements are critically important to meet the goals of the Vermont Climate Action Plan, Comprehensive Energy Plan, Health Equity Plan, and state planning goals [24 V.S.A. §4302], as well as to further flood resilience and housing strategies. Vermont's Complete Streets law is an important way to improve this infrastructure. Section 29 of H.868 contains proposed amendments to Complete Streets law [19 V.S.A. §§ 2402 and 2403].

I am currently serving as the Chair of the Transportation Committee of the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies (VAPDA). The Committee is happy to see the change to incorporate complete streets principles based on municipal request [19 V.S.A. §§ 2402 (b)(4)]. It could be bolstered by including complete streets principles specifically identified in duly adopted regional plans.

The VAPDA Transportation Committee does not support the proposed language that enables a project manager to ignore design elements desired by the municipality without written justification. We respectfully suggest the attached additional amendments that promote better transparency and encourage more complete streets improvements to be made.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.



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