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February 18, 2014

Jonathan Williams VT League of Cities and Towns Associate, Public Policy & Advocacy

Re: Comment to the House Transportation Committee On VTrans Limited Service Tech Positions

Dear Mr. Williams,

I am responding to the notice of discussion in the House Transportation Committee on the value of the VTrans Limited Service Tech Positions to the Towns. I have forwarded the information on Local Government Day to the Selectboard and while we were unable to send a representative to the event, we request that you forward these comments to the committee on our behalf.

Diane Perley, District 8 Service Tech, has been an invaluable resource to the Town of Highgate in achieving our goals. She has assisted the Highway Department with technical questions and has assisted me with multiple projects, including grant applications, disaster relief efforts, road standards, and with finding the appropriate department contact for the job. Her ability to perform site visits and spend time assisting with a project has been very useful in getting things accomplished in a timely manner. Unquestionably, we have been able to accomplish more work as a result of her assistance.

We have had fewer occasions to work with Michael Chrastina but when we did cross paths, it was an equally efficient and productive endeavor. The Town has benefited from these positions and we support the decision to make the positions permanent.

Sincerely,

Heidi Britch-Valenta

Highgate Town Administrator