

19 VSA § 306. APPROPRIATION; STATE AID FOR TOWN HIGHWAYS

(e) State aid for town highway structures.

(1) There shall be an annual appropriation for grants to municipalities for maintenance (including actions to extend life expectancy) and for construction of bridges and culverts; for maintenance and construction of other structures, including causeways and retaining walls, intended to preserve the integrity of the traveled portion of class 1, 2, and 3 town highways; and for alternatives that eliminate the need for a bridge, culvert, or other structure, such as the construction or reconstruction of a highway, the purchase of parcels of land that would be landlocked by closure of a bridge, the payment of damages for loss of highway access, and the substitution of other means of access.

(2) Each fiscal year, the Agency shall approve qualifying projects with a total estimated State share cost of \$5,833,500.00 at a minimum as new grants. The Agency's proposed appropriation for the Program shall take into account the estimated amount of qualifying invoices submitted to the Agency with respect to project grants approved in prior years but not yet completed as well as with respect to new project grants to be approved in the fiscal year. In a given fiscal year, should expenditures in the Town Highway Structures Program exceed the amount appropriated, the Agency shall advise the Governor of the need to request a supplemental appropriation from the General Assembly to fund the additional project cost, provided that the Agency has previously committed to completing those projects.

(3) Funds received as grants for State aid for town highway structures may be used by a municipality to satisfy a portion of the matching requirements for federal earmarks, subject to subsection 309b(c) of this title.

History

2004 \$4.8 million in accumulated carry-forward in the TH Structures program was reverted to the TFund as of close of FY-04 for use in the FY-05 budget

2004 Session ■ FY-05 TBill Act 160, Sec. 18 amended §306(e) directing AOT to (1) annually award grants in the total amount of \$3,490,000 and (2) recommend an annual appropriation based on the agency's estimate of the actual cash draw down of outstanding grants that would occur during the fiscal year.

2011 Session ■ FY-12 Tbill Act 62, Sec. 19 amended §306(e) to increase the annual grants from \$3,490,000 to \$5,833,500