

**Vermont Department of Forests Parks and Recreation
Caring for Vermont's Park, Forest and Recreational Infrastructure**

FPR cares for recreation and support facilities all around the state including:

- Ownership and care for well over 500,000 SF of structural square footage making FPR the third largest owner of building square footage in Vermont State Government.
- A system inherited from the 1930's and the 1960's
 - Much of it historic.
- 36 public water systems
- Hundreds of wastewater treatment systems
- Miles of water and wastewater piping
- Miles of roads and trails
 - Hundreds of culverts and bridges

All this infrastructure supports approximately 1,000,000 counted visits to state parks and countless offseason and dispersed usage throughout state owned land, all supporting the economy and a healthy lifestyle for the State.

Capital appropriations in perspective:

The replacement value of FPR's entire constructed infrastructure is well over \$252 Million. With a system average 40-year life assigned, a standard targeted amount to maintain at 2.5% per year would ideally equal ~\$6.3 Million annual reinvestment.

External pressures have impacted the appropriated amount over the years, however FPR will with any and all funding continue our role in;

- Supporting the construction economy of Vermont
- Maintaining and improving facilities that help drive the recreation economy of Vermont.
 - Including facilities that support both developed and dispersed recreational resources

FPR's capital construction program follows a proven pattern:

- Rehabilitate and improve what exists....
- Improve and enhance current services
- Strategic investments that address failing systems and structures and will;
 - enhance visitor services and experience.
 - reduce maintenance in a manner that is truly worthy of 20-year money.

The current FPR infrastructure program targets four broad categories of spending which address the basic needs of maintaining a vibrant and efficient recreation system.

- **Small Scale** - These projects are generally related to replacement of building components (roofs, electrical supplies and systems, finishes and fixtures), or small structures. This quickly executed and locally coordinated work will reduce the chance of

further building decay and enhance customer service.

- **Wastewater** - These assigned funds replace failed septic systems, or in the event a system does not fail, are used to perform preventative improvements to ensure increased life and performance of existing sewage disposal systems.
- **Small Scale Road Infrastructure** - These funds are used to construct and replace critical road structures on FPR Forest and Park land. Work includes culvert and bridge replacements to protect the existing road system from storm damage and to provide for improved access to all state lands for land management activities and recreation.
- **Larger Scale Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Improvement** - These funds target the rehabilitation of larger components of critical park infrastructure and the addition of facilities to improve the visitor experience and improvements to increase visitation and park revenue.

As demonstrated, FPR can deploy funds.

The key to this shared success

- Keeping the project pipeline filled with the appropriate level of planning and design.
- Consistent funding from the Governor and Legislature.
- Flexibility granted in the appropriation.

FPR can quickly ramp up capital planning and spending to meet any level of capital appropriation. With projects planned to an appropriate level to proceed quickly, and with the use of standard designs, execution can be expedited when more funds are available.

Additionally, as has been done for larger appropriations in the past, FPR can leverage private design and project management resources to deliver project completion with current State staff levels. This partnership with the private sector can execute more projects and refill the planning pipeline to sustain the program.