

# Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Overview

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Partners: Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs)  
coordinated by Northwest RPC

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Participation: 186 municipalities (75% participation)

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Funding: \$2.65 million  
\$2.5 million Capital Funds  
\$150,000 Clean Water Funds

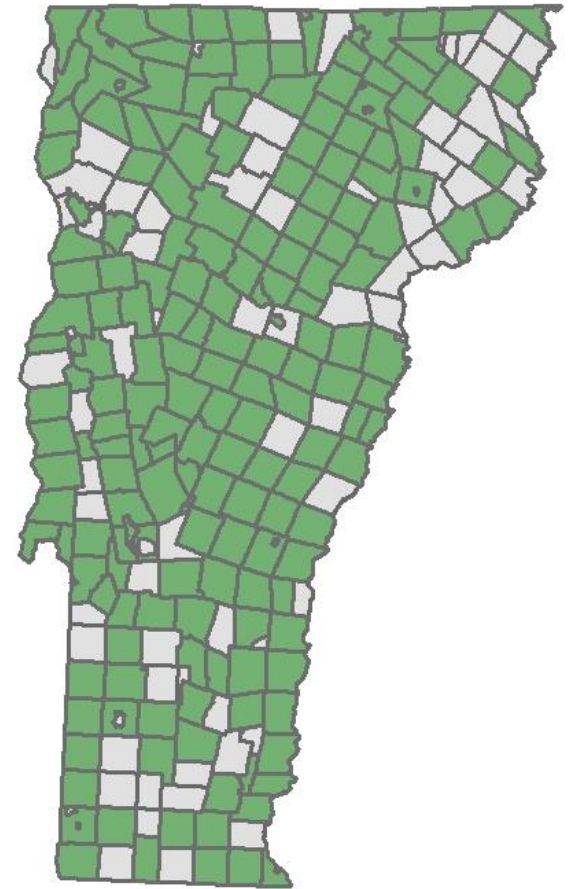
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Description: Implementation of best management practices to bring hydrologically connected municipal roads into compliance with the Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) standards to improve water quality

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Anticipated Results: 42 road miles achieve MRGP compliance

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# WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns' **Weekly Legislative Report** is published each Friday during Vermont's legislative session.

The Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Pilot Program that the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) instituted in 2017 is one example of this collaborative, flexible, and efficient approach to state and local cooperation. The program provided municipalities with money to help implement best management practices on municipal roads to help achieve water quality goals. **It was implemented quickly, efficiently, and without undue administrative or oversight burdens placed on towns and cities.** No grant applications were necessary. Municipalities could simply sign a letter of intent that specified the expectations under the pilot program. With the help of regional planning commissions, municipalities needed to show a minimum 20 percent local match, which could include in-kind contributions such as local labor, staff time, and use of road equipment. Examining the number of hydrologically connected road segments in municipalities that needed treatment to come up to mandated clean water road standards, **the state was able to get money to communities very quickly to get projects up and running.** Over 70 percent of Vermont's towns and cities submitted letters of intent; \$2.1 million was subsequently distributed to them. **Within a few short months, municipalities were able to successfully start and finish projects and use in-kind funding to meet the requisite local match.** The \$2.1 million was only able to bring 30 miles of roads into compliance with the MRGP, a sobering example of how much more money will be needed to fully implement the permit. Still, local officials hope that the state will continue to support these types of programs in the future.

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Link: [https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/wlr\\_01\\_2.pdf](https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/wlr_01_2.pdf)

# Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Benefits

Targets hydrologically connected roads

Pre-construction meetings

Water quality education and technical assistance

Familiarizes municipalities with MRGP standards

Constructed projects count towards permit compliance and TMDL targets

Post-project field verification

Reporting assistance to track and account for results



**Municipal  
Roads  
General  
Permit  
compliance**

# Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Partners

RPCs

Municipalities

VTrans District Offices

VTrans Better Roads





# Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Helps Reduce Administrative Overhead

Partner	Disburse Funds	Enroll	Assist	Implement	Track	Report
DEC Staff	✓					✓
RPCs		✓	✓		✓	✓
Municipalities		✓		✓		
VTrans			✓			



# Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Project Process

