H.942

An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

* * * Transportation Program Adopted as Amended;

Intent; Reports; Definitions * * *

Sec. 1. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ADOPTED; INTENT; REPORTS;

DEFINITIONS

(a) Transportation program adopted. The Agency of Transportation's

proposed fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program appended to the Agency of Transportation's proposed fiscal year 2021 budget, as amended by this act, is adopted to the extent federal, State, and local funds are available.

(b) Intent.

(1) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Agency's top priority should be the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section, including preserving all funding to municipalities.

(2) In response to the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Assembly acknowledges that continued funding of infrastructure will help boost our local economy and support the health and welfare of Vermonters. Accordingly, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the projects funded in this act, including under Secs. 2 and 3 of this act, will serve to support and help drive growth in Vermont's economy during this uncertain time.

(3) In light of the long-term and ongoing climate change emergency, it is the intent of the General Assembly to continue to invest in and prioritize measures that will directly contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the State's 2016 Comprehensive Energy Plan.

(c) Reports.

(1) The Agency shall, on or before September 1, 2020, file a written report with the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Transportation with the following information:

(A) an update on enacted and anticipated federal COVID-19 legislation;

(B) an update on projects in the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section that are not anticipated to proceed as planned in fiscal year 2021 and the reasons why;

(C) an update on projects not in the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section that will proceed in fiscal year 2021 and the source of funding;

(D) the status of and funding remaining for the programs established pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34;

(E) the balance of funding available for public transit under federal COVID-19 legislation; and

(F) any expected reduction in funding available for municipalities.

(2) The Agency shall, on or before February 15, 2021, file a written

report with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and on

Transportation with the following information:

(A) an update on enacted and anticipated federal COVID-19 legislation;

(B) an update on projects in the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section that are not anticipated to proceed as planned in fiscal year 2021 and the reasons why;

(C) an update on projects not in the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section that will proceed in fiscal year 2021 and the source of funding;

(D) the status of and funding remaining for the programs established pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34;

(E) the balance of funding available for public transit under federal COVID-19 legislation; and

(F) any expected reduction in funding available for municipalities.

(d) Definitions. As used in this act, unless otherwise indicated:

(1) "Agency" means the Agency of Transportation.

(2) "Electric vehicle supply equipment" has the same meaning as in30 V.S.A. § 201 and is abbreviated "EVSE."

(3) "Federal COVID-19 legislation" includes any federal infrastructure bills or other federal legislation that provide the State with additional federal funding for transportation-related projects in fiscal year 2021 or was enacted as a result of COVID-19.

(4) "Plug-in electric vehicle," "plug-in hybrid electric vehicle," and "battery electric vehicle" have the same meanings as in 23 V.S.A. § 4(85) as amended by this act and are abbreviated "PEV," "PHEV," and "BEV."

(5) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Transportation.

(6) "TIB funds" means monies deposited in the Transportation

Infrastructure Bond Fund in accordance with 19 V.S.A. § 11f.

(7) The table heading "As Proposed" means the proposed Transportation Program referenced in subsection (a) of this section; the table heading "As Amended" means the amendments as made by this act; the table heading "Change" means the difference obtained by subtracting the "As Proposed" figure from the "As Amended" figure; and the terms "change" or "changes" in the text refer to the project- and program-specific amendments, the aggregate sum of which equals the net "Change" in the applicable table heading. * * * Summary of Transportation Investments * * * Sec. 1a. FISCAL YEAR 2021 TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS INTENDED TO REDUCE TRANSPORTATION-RELATED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, REDUCE FOSSIL FUEL USE, AND SAVE VERMONT HOUSEHOLDS MONEY

This act includes the State's fiscal year 2021 transportation investments intended to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, reduce fossil fuel use, and save Vermont households money in furtherance of the policies articulated in 19 V.S.A. § 10b and the goals of the Comprehensive Energy Plan and to satisfy the Executive and Legislative Branches' commitments to the Paris Agreement climate goals. In fiscal year 2021, these efforts will include the following:

(1) Park and Ride Program. This act provides for a fiscal year expenditure of \$5,580,568.00, which will fund five park and ride construction projects and the design of four additional facilities scheduled for construction in fiscal year 2022. This year's park and ride program will create 330 new State-owned spaces and result in the installation of 43 level 1 EVSE charging ports. Specific additions and improvements include:

(A) Williston—Construction of 142 new spaces;

(B) Royalton—Construction of 91 new spaces;

(C) Cambridge—Improvements to existing spaces;

(D) Thetford—Construction of 42 new spaces;

(E) Berlin (Exit 6)—Design for 65 spaces;

(F) Berlin (Exit 7)—Design for 75 spaces;

(G) Manchester-Design for 50 spaces; and

(H) Williamstown—Construction of 55 new spaces.

(2) Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Program. This act, in concert with the

Capital Construction Act, provides for a fiscal year expenditure of

\$18,030,970.00, which will fund 39 bike and pedestrian construction projects,

and 12 bike and pedestrian design, right-of-way, or design and right-of

way projects for construction in fiscal year 2021. The construction projects

include the creation, improvement, or rehabilitation of walkways, sidewalks,

shared use paths, bike paths, and cycling lanes. Projects are funded in

Arlington, Bennington, Burlington, Chester, Colchester-Essex, Dover, East

Montpelier, Enosburg Falls, Fairfield, Hardwick, Hartford, Hinesburg, Jericho,

Johnson, Lake Champlain causeway, Middlebury, Milton, Montpelier-Berlin,

Moretown, Pittsford, Plainfield, Proctor, Richford, Rochester, Rutland City,

Shelburne, South Burlington, Springfield, St. Albans City, St. George, St.

Johnsbury, Swanton, Underhill, Waitsfield, Waterbury, West Rutland,

Williston, and Wilmington.

(3) Transportation Alternatives Program. This act provides for a fiscal year expenditure of \$2,763,408.00, which will fund 16 transportation

alternatives construction projects and 22 design, right-of-way, or design and right-of-way projects. Of these 38 projects, 22 involve environmental mitigation related to clean water, stormwater, or both clean water and stormwater concerns, and the remaining 15 involve bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Projects are funded in Bennington, Bridgewater, Bridport, Castleton, Chester, Colchester, Derby, Duxbury, East Montpelier, Enosburg, Essex, Essex Junction, Fair Haven, Franklin, Granville, Hartford, Hyde Park, Jericho, Middletown Springs, Montgomery, Newfane, Norwich, Pittsford, Rutland City, Shelburne, South Burlington, St. Albans, St. Johnsbury, Thetford, Vergennes, Warren, Wilmington, and Winooski.

(4) Public Transit Program. This act authorizes \$37,852,845.00 in funding for public transit uses throughout the State, which is a 30.4 percent increase over fiscal year 2019 levels. An additional \$3,000,000.00 flows through the State directly to the Green Mountain Transportation Authority. Included in the authorization are:

(A) Go! Vermont with an authorization of \$858,434.00.This authorization supports the promotion and use of carpools and vanpools.

(B) Barre Transit Expansion with an authorization of \$275,000.00. This authorization increases service available through Barre Transit. (C) Capital Commuters with an authorization of \$100,000.00. This program provides discounted bus passes to those commuting to work in Montpelier.

(D) Vermont Kidney Association Grant with an authorization of \$50,000.00. This authorization supports the transit needs of Vermonters in need of dialysis services.

(E) Transportation Demand Management and Micro-Transit Innovations Grant Program with an authorization of \$500,000.00. Sec. 16 of this act creates the Transportation Demand Management and Micro-Transit Innovations Grant Program, to be administered by the Agency of Transportation, that will provide grant funding to incentivize and continue support for the advancement of transportation demand management programs and new transit initiatives that improve mobility and access for transitdependent Vermonters, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, or both.

(5) Rail Program. This act authorizes \$30,815,640.00 for intercity passenger rail service and rail infrastructure throughout the State, including modifications to the Burlington Vermont Rail Systems railyard to accommodate overnight servicing to facilitate New York City-Burlington rail service.

(6) Transformation of the State Vehicle Fleet. The Department of Buildings and General Services, which manages the State Vehicle Fleet, added 44 additional hybrid vehicles to the fleet in fiscal year 2020. In fiscal year 2021, the Department of Buildings and General Services expects to add 24 additional PHEVs and three additional BEVs to the fleet. The Capital Construction Act authorizes \$75,000.00 for the installation of EVSE in Stateowned parking lots under the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services. This will increase the number of charging stations by eight to 10 stations, with 16 to 20 charging ports in total and is in addition to the following EVSE that will be installed by the Department of Buildings and General Services during the first two months of fiscal year 2021:

(A) Rutland Parking Garage—four stations, with eight charging ports in total;

(B) 134–136 State Street, Montpelier—seven stations, with 12 charging ports in total;

(C) Southern State Correctional Facility—one station, with two charging ports in total; and

(D) Newport Emory Hebard Office Building—one station, with two charging ports in total.

(7) Electric vehicle supply equipment. In furtherance of the State's goal to have a direct current (DC) fast-charging station within 30 miles of every residence in Vermont, the Capital Construction Act authorizes \$750,000.00 to the VW EVSE Grant Program. (8) Vehicle incentive programs. Sec. 14 of this act authorizes an additional \$50,000.00 to support administrative costs associated with MileageSmart, which is the State's used high fuel efficiency vehicle incentive program, and to ensure that the State's emissions repair program is operational not later than July 1, 2021. Secs. 3 and 5 of this act also authorize the Secretary of Transportation to expend additional monies on the New PEV Incentive Program and MileageSmart if such funding becomes available.

* * * Federal Funding * * *

Sec. 2. FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL FUNDING

(a) If federal COVID-19 legislation is enacted, the Secretary is authorized to:

(1) exceed federal spending authority in the fiscal year 2020 Transportation Program and fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program and to obligate and expend the federal monies, as practicable, on the following federally eligible projects, with a priority placed on projects, such as the purchase of PEV buses for public transit and the construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities and EVSE, that will directly contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the State's 2016 Comprehensive Energy Plan and projects that will keep Vermonters employed, promote economic activity, and allow the State and municipalities to catch up on deferred maintenance: (A) projects in the fiscal year 2020 Transportation Program and fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program;

(B) additional town highway projects; and

(C) activities that meet federal eligibility and readiness criteria;

(2) notwithstanding any provision of Title 19 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated to the contrary, waive any Title 19 match requirements for projects funded under federal COVID-19 legislation; and

(3) require that municipalities meet nonfederal match requirements for projects not authorized in the fiscal year 2020 Transportation Program or fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program funded under federal COVID-19 legislation.

(b) The Agency shall promptly report the obligation or expenditure of monies under the authority of subsection (a) of this section in writing to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation and to the Joint Fiscal Office while the General Assembly is in session and to the Joint Fiscal Office, the Joint Fiscal Committee, and the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee when the General Assembly is not in session.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the Secretary to obligate or expend State Transportation Funds, General Funds, or TIB funds above amounts authorized in the fiscal year 2020 Transportation Program or fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program. (d) Subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall continue in effect until February 1, 2021.

* * * Additional Agency Spending; Redirection * * *

Sec. 3. AGENCY SPENDING; AUTHORITY TO REDIRECT; REPORT

(a) Notwithstanding Sec. 1 of this act; 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59,

Sec. 1; 19 V.S.A. § 10g(n); and 32 V.S.A. § 706, the Secretary is authorized to

utilize State and federal monies for any of the following activities that will

keep Vermonters employed, promote economic activity, and allow the State

and municipalities to catch up on deferred maintenance in fiscal years 2020

and 2021, provided that the Agency expects to accept and obligate federal

monies pursuant to subsection 2(a) of this act in an amount sufficient to cover

the additional expenditures:

(1) bridge maintenance;

(2) paving and surface maintenance;

(3) clearing of trees and brush in rights-of-way;

(4) ledge and slope remediation;

(5) culvert repair and replacement; and

(6) any other maintenance activities that are expected to provide an

economic stimulus in Vermont communities.

(b) Notwithstanding Sec. 1 of this act; 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59,

Sec. 1; 19 V.S.A. § 10g(n); and 32 V.S.A. § 706, the Secretary is authorized to

utilize State and federal monies for any of the following greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts in fiscal years 2020 and 2021, provided that the Agency expects to accept and obligate federal monies pursuant to subsection 2(a) of this act in an amount sufficient to cover the additional expenditures:

(1) funding for a grant program for the installation of EVSE that builds upon the existing VW EVSE Grant Program that the Department of Housing and Community Development has been administering on behalf of the Department of Environmental Conservation;

(2) PEV buses for public transit;

(3) PEVs for the State motor vehicle fleet; and

(4) funding, not to exceed \$1,000,000.00, for the New PEV Incentive Program created pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34 as amended by the act.

(c) If the expenditure of monies pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section will not significantly delay the planned work schedule of a project in the fiscal year 2020 and 2021 Transportation Programs, the Secretary may enter into a contract for the activity or proceed with the expenditure and shall give prompt notice of the contract or expenditure to the Joint Fiscal Office and to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation when the General Assembly is in session and to the Joint Fiscal Office and the Joint <u>Transportation Oversight Committee when the General Assembly is not in</u> session.

(d) If the expenditure of monies pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section will significantly delay the planned work schedule of a project, the Secretary may enter into a contract for the activity or proceed with the expenditure but shall give advance notice of at least 10 business days prior to executing the contract or making the expenditure to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation when the General Assembly is in session and to the Joint Fiscal Office, Joint Fiscal Committee, and Joint Transportation Oversight Committee when the General Assembly is not in session.

(e) The Secretary of Administration shall, on or before July 31, 2020, file a written report listing all expenditures made during fiscal year 2020 under the authority of subsections (a) and (b) of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, Joint Fiscal Office, Joint Fiscal Committee, and Joint Transportation Oversight Committee.

(f) The Secretary of Administration shall, on or before July 31, 2021, file a written report listing all expenditures made during fiscal year 2021 under the authority of subsections (a) and (b) of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, Joint Fiscal Office, Joint Fiscal Committee, and Joint Transportation Oversight Committee. (g) The reports required pursuant to subsections (e) and (f) of this section shall be in addition to the report required pursuant to 19 V.S.A. <u>§ 10g(e)</u>.

* * * Amtrak; Burlington Rail Yard Realignment * * *

Sec. 4. ADDITION OF BURLINGTON RAIL YARD REALIGNMENT

FOR AMTRAK PROJECT

The following project is added to the development and evaluation list of Rail within the Agency's Fiscal Year 2020 Transportation Program, as adopted pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 1, and the development and evaluation list of Rail within the Agency's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program: Burlington – Railyard Realignment for Amtrak. * * * Highway Maintenance * * *

Sec. 5. HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

(a) Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Maintenance, authorized spending is amended as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	As Proposed	As Amended	<u>Change</u>
Personal	45,757,089	45,757,089	0
Services			
Operating	52,896,134	52,296,134	-600,000
Expenses			

VT LEG #349358 v.1

Grants	240,200	240,200	0	
Total	98,893,423	98,293,423	-600,000	
Sources of fund	<u>ds</u>			
State	96,415,636	95,815,636	-600,000	
Federal	2,377,787	2,377,787	0	
Interdepar	t.			
Transfer	100,000	100,000	0	
Total	98,893,423	98,293,423	-600,000	
(b) If, as of June 30, 2021, the Agency of Transportation has expended less				
on Maintenance Operating Expenses in fiscal year 2021 than it did in fiscal				
year 2020 then:				

(1) authorized spending in the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Maintenance is further amended by decreasing Operating Expenses by the difference between the amount expended on Maintenance Operating Expenses in fiscal year 2020 and the amount expended on Maintenance Operating Expenses in fiscal year 2021 through June 30, 2021, but not to exceed \$700,000.00, and

(2) the Secretary shall authorize the expenditure of the difference between the amount expended on Maintenance Operating Expenses in fiscal year 2020 and the amount expended on Maintenance Operating Expenses in fiscal year 2021 through June 30, 2021, but not to exceed \$700,000.00, in equal proportions, on the New PEV Incentive Program and MileageSmart established pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34 as amended by this act.

* * * Aviation * * *

Sec. 5a. CLARENDON SRE BUILDING

Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021

Transportation Program for Aviation, authorized spending for Clarendon AV-

FY20-001 is amended as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	As Proposed	As Amended	Change
PE	20,000	10,000	-10,000
Construction	575,000	55,000	-520,000
Total	595,000	65,000	-530,000
Sources of funds	<u>8</u>		
State	595,000	65,000	-530,000
Total	595,000	65,000	-530,000

Sec. 5b. MORRISTOWN FUEL FARM

Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021

Transportation Program for Aviation, authorized spending for Morristown AV-

FY21-015 is amended as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	As Proposed	As Amended	<u>Change</u>
Construction	150,000	380,000	230,000

VT LEG #349358 v.1

AS PASSED BY HOUSE AND SENATE 2020			H.942 Page 18 of 51
Total	150,000	380,000	230,000
Sources of funds			
State	150,000	380,000	230,000
Total	150,000	380,000	230,000

* * * Transportation Buildings * * *

Sec. 5c. LUNENBURG GARAGE

Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021

Transportation Program for Transportation Buildings, authorized spending for

Transportation Buildings Lunenburg is amended as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	As Proposed	As Amended	Change
PE	25,000	25,000	0
Construction	350,000	0	-350,000
Total	375,000	25,000	-350,000
Sources of funds	<u>s</u>		
State	375,000	25,000	-350,000
Total	375,000	25,000	-350,000

* * * Program Development * * *

* * * Roadway * * *

Sec. 6. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT; ROADWAY

Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021

Transportation Program for Program Development-Roadway, authorized

spending for Burlington MEGC M 5000(1) is amended as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	As Proposed	As Amended	<u>Change</u>
Construction	8,000,000	6,420,000	-1,580,000
Total	8,000,000	6,420,000	-1,580,000
Sources of funds	<u>8</u>		
TIB	240,000	192,600	-47,400
Federal	7,600,000	6,099,000	-1,501,000
Local	160,000	128,400	-31,600
Total	8,000,000	6,420,000	-1,580,000

* * * Safety and Traffic Operations * * *

Sec. 7. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT; SAFETY AND TRAFFIC

OPERATIONS

<u>Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021</u> <u>Transportation Program for Program Development—Safety and Traffic</u> <u>Operations, authorized spending for Colchester HES NH 5600(14) is amended</u> <u>as follows:</u>

<u>FY21</u>	As Proposed	As Amended	<u>Change</u>
Construction	7,000,000	4,900,000	-2,100,000
Total	7,000,000	4,900,000	-2,100,000
Source of funds			
Federal	7,000,000	4,900,000	-2,100,000
Total	7,000,000	4,900,000	-2,100,000

* * * Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities * * *

Sec. 7a. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT; BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN

GRANT PROGRAM

Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021

Transportation Program for Program Development-Bicycle and Pedestrian

Facilities, authorized spending for Statewide State-Aid Construction Projects is

amended as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	As Proposed	As Amended	<u>Change</u>
Construction	468,500	668,500	200,000
Total	468,500	668,500	200,000
Sources of funds	<u>s</u>		
State	234,250	334,250	100,000
Local	234,250	334,250	100,000
Total	468,500	668,500	200,000

* * * Public Transit * * *

Sec. 8. PUBLIC TRANSIT; FARE-FREE

It is the intent of the General Assembly that public transit operated by

transit agencies that are eligible to receive grant funds pursuant to 49 U.S.C.

§ 5307 or 5311, or both, in the State shall be operated on a fare-free basis with

monies for public transit from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic

Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (CARES Act) as practicable.

Sec. 9. PUBLIC TRANSIT; ADDITION OF INCREASED PUBLIC

TRANSIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

(a) The following project is added to the Agency of Transportation's

Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Public Transit:

Increased Public Transit for Fiscal Year 2021.

(b) Spending authority for Increased Public Transit for Fiscal Year 2021 is authorized as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	As Proposed	As Amended	<u>Change</u>
Other	0	500,000	500,000
Total	0	500,000	500,000
Sources of fun	<u>ds</u>		
State	0	500,000	500,000
Total	0	500,000	500,000

(c) To the extent that the Agency is able to secure additional unobligated federal funds for Increased Public Transit for Fiscal Year 2021, the spending authority for Increased Public Transit for Fiscal Year 2021 is increased by that same amount in federal funds.

(d) The Agency shall increase public transit initiatives in fiscal year 2021 in conformance with the implementation plan in the Agency of Transportation's 2019 Public Transit Policy Plan (PTPP) and findings of the Report on Methods to Increase the Use of Public Transit in Vermont prepared pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 20. Additional initiatives may include:

(1) adding new local and regional service connections to improve rural ridership;

(2) providing support for technology improvements for transit;

(3) expanding access to available seats in transit vehicles; and

(4) marketing and engaging with the public to increase awareness of

public transit options.

* * * Lamoille Valley Rail Trail * * *

Sec. 10. LAMOILLE VALLEY RAIL TRAIL

(a) Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Program Development—Bike & Pedestrian Facilities, authorized spending for Swanton-St. Johnsbury LVRT () is

amended as follows:

	As Proposed	As Amended	Change
<u>FY21</u>			
Other	2,500,000	7,030,000	4,530,000
Total	2,500,000	7,030,000	4,530,000
<u>FY22</u>			
Other	3,500,000	7,000,000	3,500,000
Total	3,500,000	7,000,000	3,500,000
<u>FY23</u>			
Other	4,500,000	0	-4,500,000
Total	4,500,000	0	-4,500,000
<u>FY24</u>			
Other	3,500,000	0	-3,500,000
Total	3,500,000	0	-3,500,000
Sources of fun	<u>ds FY21</u>		
State	0	0	0
Other	500,000	1,430,000	930,000
Federal	2,000,000	5,600,000	3,600,000
Total	2,500,000	7,030,000	4,530,000
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Sources of funds FY22

VT LEG #349358 v.1

AS PASSED BY HOUSE AND SENATE 2020

State	0	0	0
Other	0	1,400,000	1,400,000
Federal	0	5,600,000	5,600,000
Total	0	7,000,000	7,000,000

(b) In the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021

Transportation Program for Program Development—Bike & Pedestrian

Facilities, "Other funds of \$500,000 are General Obligation Bond proceeds

appropriated in the capital bill for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail" is struck,

and "Other funds of \$2,830,000 are General Obligation Bond proceeds

appropriated in the capital construction act for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail,

but if matching federal funds are not available or if federal funds do not require

a state match, the funds shall be used for projects in a future capital

construction act" is inserted in lieu thereof.

* * * Central Garage * * *

Sec. 11. TRANSFER TO CENTRAL GARAGE FUND

Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 13(c)(1), in fiscal year 2021, the amount of \$1,605,358.00 is transferred from the Transportation Fund to the Central Garage Fund created in 19 V.S.A. § 13.

Sec. 12. CENTRAL GARAGE EQUIPMENT

In fiscal year 2021, the amount of \$8,668,094.00 is authorized for replacement equipment pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 13(b) and, of this amount, a minimum of \$250,000.00 shall be dedicated for the replacement of Department of Motor Vehicles enforcement fleet vehicles.

* * * Plug-In Electric Vehicle Definitions * * *Sec. 13. 23 V.S.A. § 4(85) is amended to read:

(85) "Plug-in electric vehicle" means a motor vehicle that can be powered by an electric motor drawing current from a rechargeable energy storage system, such as from storage batteries or other portable electrical energy storage devices provided that the vehicle can draw recharge energy from a source off the vehicle such as electric vehicle supply equipment. A "plug-in electric vehicle" includes both a <u>"battery electric vehicle" and a</u> <u>"plug-in hybrid electric vehicle" where:</u>

(A) "battery electric vehicle" means a motor vehicle that can only be powered by an electric motor drawing current from a rechargeable energy storage system; and

(B) "plug-in hybrid electric vehicle" means a motor vehicle that can be powered by an electric motor drawing current from a rechargeable energy storage system but also has an onboard combustion engine.

* * Programs and Incentives to Foster Efficient Vehicle Adoption * * *Sec. 14. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34 is amended to read:

Sec. 34. VEHICLE INCENTIVE AND EMISSIONS REPAIR

PROGRAMS

(a) Vehicle incentive and emissions repair programs administration.

(1) The Agency of Transportation (Agency), in consultation with the Agency of Natural Resources, the Agency of Human Services, the Department Departments of Environmental Conservation and of Public Service, Vermont electric distribution utilities that are offering incentives for PEVs, and the State's network of community action agencies, shall establish and administer the programs described in subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

(2) The Agency is authorized to spend \$2,000,000.00 as appropriated in the fiscal year 2020 budget<u>, \$50,000.00 in Transportation Fund monies, and</u> any additional monies as appropriated in the fiscal year 2021 budget or <u>Transportation Fund monies authorized to be expended by the Secretary of</u> <u>Transportation pursuant to Secs. 3 and 5 of this act, or both</u>, on the two programs described in subsections (b) and (c) of this section. <u>Notwithstanding</u> any other provision of law and subject to the approval of the Secretary of <u>Administration</u>, appropriations for the programs described in subsections (b) and (c) of this section remaining unexpended on June 30, 2021 shall be carried forward and designated for expenditure on these programs in the subsequent fiscal year.

(3) Subject to State procurement requirements, the Agency may retain a contractor or contractors to assist with marketing, program development, and administration of the two programs-and up. Up to \$150,000.00 of program

funding may be set aside for this purpose. for the programs described in subsection (c) of this section in fiscal year 2020 and \$50,000.00 of program funding shall be set aside for this purpose for the programs described in subsection (c) of this section in fiscal year 2021 and to ensure that the emissions repair program is operational not later than July 1, 2021. In fiscal year 2021, the Agency is authorized to spend up to \$200,000.00 in program funding to continue and expand the Agency's public-private partnership with Drive Electric Vermont to support the expansion of the PEV market in the State through technical and consumer assistance; auto dealer education; outreach and incentive program management, including marketing, consumer support, record keeping and reporting, program development and modification, and general program administration for the program described in subsection (b) of this section; and PEV promotional efforts. The Agency shall develop, in consultation with the Departments of Environmental Conservation and of Public Service, a scope of work for funding the Agency's grants to Drive Electric Vermont pursuant to this section.

(4) <u>The Agency shall administer the program described in subsection (b)</u> of this section through no-cost contracts with the State's electric distribution <u>utilities.</u>

(5) The Agency shall annually evaluate the two programs to gauge effectiveness and submit a written report on the effectiveness of the programs

to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, the House Committee on Energy and Technology, and the Senate Committee on Finance on or before the 31st day of December <u>January</u> in each year <u>following a year</u> that an incentive or repair voucher is <u>was</u> provided through one of the programs. <u>Notwithstanding 2 V.S.A. § 20(d), the annual report required under this section</u> <u>shall continue to be required if an incentive or repair voucher is provided</u> <u>through one of the programs unless the General Assembly takes specific action</u> <u>to repeal the report requirement.</u>

(b) Electric vehicle incentive program. A new PEV purchase and lease incentive program for Vermont residents shall structure PEV purchase and lease incentive payments by income to help all Vermonters benefit from electric driving, including Vermont's most vulnerable. <u>The program shall be known as the New PEV Incentive Program</u>. Specifically, the <u>program New PEV Incentive Program</u> shall:

(1) apply to both purchases and leases of new PEVs with an emphasis on creating and matching incentives for exclusively electric powered vehicles that do not contain an onboard combustion engine <u>BEVs</u>;

(2) provide incentives not more than one incentive of \$1,500.00 for a <u>PHEV or \$2,500.00 for a BEV</u> to Vermont households with low and moderate income at or below 160 percent of the State's prior five-year average Median Household Income (MHI) level: (A) an individual domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is single or head of household with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States greater than \$50,000.00 and at or below \$100,000.00;

(B) an individual domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is surviving spouse with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States greater than \$50,000.00 and at or below \$125,000.00;

(C) a married couple with at least one spouse domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is married filing jointly with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States greater than \$50,000.00 and at or below \$125,000.00; or

(D) a married couple with at least one spouse domiciled in the State and at least one spouse whose federal income tax filing status is married filing separately with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States greater than \$50,000.00 and at or below \$100,000.00;

(3) provide not more than one incentive of \$3,000.00 for a PHEV or\$4,000.00 for a BEV to:

(A) an individual domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is single, head of household, or surviving spouse with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States at or below \$50,000.00; (B) a married couple with at least one spouse domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is married filing jointly with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States at or below \$50,000.00; or

(C) a married couple with at least one spouse domiciled in the State and at least one spouse whose federal income tax filing status is married filing separately with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States at or below \$50,000.00;

(4) apply to manufactured PEVs with a Base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) of \$40,000.00 or less; and

(4)(5) provide no not less than \$1,100,000.00, of the initial
\$2,000,000.00 authorization, and up to an additional \$2,050,000.00 in fiscal
year 2021 in PEV purchase and lease incentives.

(c) High fuel efficiency vehicle incentive and emissions repair program programs. A used Used high fuel efficiency vehicle purchase incentive and emissions repair program programs for Vermont residents shall structure high fuel efficiency purchase incentive payments and emissions repair vouchers by income to help all Vermonters benefit from more efficient driving, including Vermont's most vulnerable. <u>Not less than \$750,000.00 shall be provided in</u> <u>point-of-sale and point-of repair vouchers.</u>

(1) Specifically, the <u>The high fuel efficiency vehicle incentive</u> program shall <u>be known as MileageSmart and shall</u>:

AS PASSED BY HOUSE AND SENATE 2020

(1)(<u>A</u>) apply to purchases of used high fuel-efficient motor vehicles, which for purposes of this program shall be pleasure cars with a combined city/highway fuel efficiency of at least 40 miles per gallon or miles per gallon equivalent as rated by the Environmental Protection Agency when the vehicle was new, and repairs of certain vehicles that failed the on board diagnostic (OBD) systems inspection;

(2)(B) provide <u>point-of-sale</u> vouchers through the State's network of community action agencies and base eligibility for the point of sale voucher on the same criteria used for income qualification for weatherization services through the Weatherization Program and eligibility for the point of repair vouchers on the same criteria used for income qualification for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) through the State's Economic Services Division within the Department for Children and Families; and

(3)(C) provide one of the following to qualifying individuals:

(A) a point-of-sale voucher of up to \$5,000.00 to assist in the purchase of a used high fuel-efficient motor vehicle that may require that a condition of the voucher be that if the individual is the owner of either a motor vehicle that failed the OBD systems inspection or a motor vehicle that is more than 15 years old and has a combined city/highway fuel efficiency of less than 25 miles per gallon as rated by the Environmental Protection Agency when the vehicle was new that the vehicle will be removed from operation and either donated to a nonprofit organization to be used for parts or destroyed; or.

(B)(2) The emissions repair program, which shall be operational on or before July 1, 2021, shall:

(<u>A)</u> apply to repairs of certain vehicles that failed the on board diagnostic (OBD) systems inspection;

(B) provide point-of-repair vouchers through the State's network of community action agencies and base eligibility for voucher on the same criteria used for income qualification for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) through the State's Economic Services Division within the Department for Children and Families; and

(C) provide a point-of-repair voucher to repair a motor vehicle that was ready for testing, failed the OBD systems inspection, requires repairs that are not under warranty, and will be able to pass the State's vehicle inspection once the repairs are made provided that the point-of-repair voucher is commensurate with the fair market value of the vehicle to be repaired and does not exceed \$2,500.00, with \$2,500.00 vouchers only being available to repair vehicles with a fair market value of at least \$5,000.00.

* * *

* * Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program * * *Sec. 15. 19 V.S.A. § 306(h) is amended to read:

(h) Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program. There shall be an annual appropriation for grants to municipalities for resurfacing, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of paved or unpaved class 2 town highways. However, municipalities that have no State highways or class 1 town highways within their borders may use the grants for such activities with respect to both class 2 and class 3 town highways. Each fiscal year, the Agency shall approve qualifying projects with a total estimated State share cost of \$7,648,750.00 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 Class 2 Town Highway Roadway 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. Funds received as grants for State aid under the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program 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.

* * * Transportation Demand Management and

Micro-Transit Innovations Grant Program * * *

Sec. 16. TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT AND MICRO-

TRANSIT INNOVATIONS GRANT PROGRAM

(a) The Agency shall establish and administer a transportation demand management and micro-transit innovations grant program within the Public Transit Program to incentivize and continue support for the advancement of transportation demand management programs and new transit initiatives.

(b) The Agency shall distribute \$500,000.00 in grant awards, with each recipient only eligible to receive up to \$100,000.00 in grant awards.

(c) Grant awards may be used for one or more of the following: matching funds for other grant awards; program delivery costs; or for the extension of existing programs.

(d) Grant awards shall be distributed not later than November 30, 2020 and shall incentivize innovative strategies that improve both mobility and access for transit-dependent Vermonters, reduce the use of single occupancy vehicles for work trips, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

* * * All-Terrain Vehicles * * *

Sec. 17. 23 V.S.A. §§ 3501 and 3502 are amended to read:

§ 3501. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles unless otherwise stated.

(2) "Department" means Department of Motor Vehicles unless otherwise stated.

(3) "Operate" includes an attempt to operate and shall be construed to cover all matters and things connected with the presence and use of all terrain vehicles whether they be at motion or rest.

(4) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Natural Resources.

(5) "All-terrain vehicle" or "ATV" means any nonhighway recreational vehicle, except snowmobiles, having no <u>not</u> less than two low pressure tires (10 pounds per square inch, or less), not wider than 64 inches with two-wheel ATVs having permanent, full-time power to both wheels, and having a dry weight of less than 1,700 pounds, when used for cross-country travel on trails or on any one of the following or a combination thereof: land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, and natural terrain. An ATV on a public highway shall be considered a motor vehicle, as defined in section 4 of this title, only for the purposes of those offenses listed in subdivisions 2502(a)(1)(H), (N), (R), (U),

(Y), (FF), (GG), (II), and (AAA); (2)(A) and (B); (3)(A), (B), (C), and (D);
(4)(A) and (B) and (5) of this title and as provided in section 1201 of this title.
An ATV shall not include an electric personal assistive mobility device.

(2) "Department" means the Department of Motor Vehicles unless otherwise stated.

(3) "Direct supervision" means that the supervisor shall be sufficiently close and able to control, by communicating visually or orally, the operation of an ATV by an operator under 16 years of age, taking into account the noise created by an ATV and protective headgear worn by the operator.

(4) "Farm" means a parcel or parcels of land owned, leased, or managed by a person and devoted primarily to farming.

(5) "Forestry operation" has the same meaning as in 10 V.S.A. § 2602.

(6) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Natural Resources.

(7) "State lands" means land owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the State.

(6)(8) "Club or association" means an all terrain vehicle club or "VASA" means the Vermont ATV Sportsman's Association, a statewide association of ATV clubs.

§ 3502. REGISTRATION AND TRAIL ACCESS DECAL (TAD)

REQUIRED; EXCEPTIONS

(a)(1) An all terrain vehicle may not be operated Except as otherwise provided in this section, an individual shall not operate an ATV on the VASA Trail System, on State land designated by the Secretary pursuant to subdivision 3506(b)(4) of this title, or along any highway that is not adjacent to the property of the operator unless the ATV:

(A) is registered pursuant to this chapter or any other section of this title by the State of Vermont and unless the all-terrain vehicle or in accordance with subsection (e) of this section; and

(B) displays a valid Vermont ATV Sportsman's Association (VASA) VASA Trail Access Decal (TAD) when operating on a VASA trail, except when operated:

(1)(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, neither registration nor display of a TAD is required to operate an ATV:

(A) On on the property of the owner of the all terrain vehicle. ATV;

(2)(B) Off the highway, In in a ski area while being used, off the highway, for the purpose of grooming snow, maintenance, or in rescue operations-;

(3)(C) For for official use by a federal, State, or municipal agency and only if the all-terrain vehicle \underline{ATV} is identified with the name or seal of the agency in a manner approved by the Commissioner-: or

(4)(D) Solely on privately owned land when the operator is specifically invited to do so by the owner of that the property and has on his or her person carries the written consent of the owner.

(5)(3) By a person who Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, an operator may operate an ATV without a TAD displayed if the operator possesses a completed TAD form processed electronically and within the prior 10 days that is either printed out or displayed on a portable electronic device. The printed or electronic TAD form shall be valid for 10 days after the electronic transaction. Use of a portable electronic device to display a completed TAD form does not in itself constitute consent for an enforcement officer to access other contents of the device.

* * *

(c) The <u>possession of a valid TAD or</u> registration of an <u>all terrain vehicle</u> <u>ATV</u> does not constitute a license to cross or operate an <u>all-terrain vehicle</u> <u>ATV</u> on public or private lands, even if temporarily while crossing the public <u>or private lands</u>.

(d) An all-terrain vehicle which <u>ATV that</u> does not comply with the provisions of this chapter may <u>shall</u> not be registered by the Commissioner.

(e) An all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> owned by a person who is a resident of any other state or province shall be deemed to be properly registered for the purposes of this chapter if it is registered in accordance with the laws of the state or province in which its owner resides. <u>An operator who is a resident of</u> <u>any other state or province shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter</u> <u>while operating an ATV within this State, including possessing a valid TAD in</u> <u>the same circumstances that a resident of this State is required to possess a</u> valid TAD.

Sec. 18. 23 V.S.A. § 3506 is amended to read:

§ 3506. OPERATION; PROHIBITED ACTS; FINANCIAL

RESPONSIBILITY; HEADGEAR

(a) A person shall only operate <u>an ATV</u>, or permit an all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> owned by him or her or under his or her control to be operated, in accordance with this chapter.

(b) An all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> shall not be operated:

(1) Along a public highway except if one or more of the following applies:

(A) the highway is not being maintained during the snow season;

(B) the highway has been opened to all terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> travel by

the selectboard or trustees or local governing body legislative body of the

municipality where the town highway is located or, for State highways, the Secretary of Transportation and is so posted by the municipality;

(C)(B) the all terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> is being used for agricultural purposes and is operated not closer than three feet from the traveled portion of any highway for the purpose of traveling within the confines of the farm; or

(C) the ATV is being use for forestry purposes and is operated not closer than three feet from the traveled portion of any highway for the purpose of traveling within the confines of the forestry operation; or

(D) the all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> is being used by an employee or agent of an electric transmission or distribution company subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Utility Commission under 30 V.S.A. § 203 for utility purposes, including safely accessing utility corridors, provided that the all- terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> shall be operated along the edge of the roadway and shall yield to other vehicles.

(2) Across a public highway unless except if all of the following conditions are met:

(A) the crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing; and

(B) the operator brings the all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> to a complete stop before entering the travelled traveled portion of the highway; and (C) the operator yields the right-of-way right of way to motor vehicles and pedestrians using the highway; and

(D) the operator is 12 years of age or older; and that

(E) in the case of an operator under 16 years of age, must be the operator is under the direct supervision of a person an individual 18 years of age or older who does not have a suspended operator's license or privilege to operate.

(3) On any privately owned land or <u>privately owned</u> body of private water unless <u>either</u>:

(A) the operator is the owner, or member of the immediate family of the owner of the land; Θ

(B) the operator has, on his or her person, <u>carries</u> the written consent of the owner or lessee of the land <u>or the land surrounding the privately owned</u> <u>body of water</u> to operate an all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> in the specific area and during specific hours and/or <u>or</u> days, <u>or both</u> in which the operator is operating, or:

(C) the all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> displays a valid <u>TAD decal VASA</u> <u>Trail Access Decal (TAD)</u> as required by subsection 3502(a) of this title that serves as proof that the all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> and its operator, by virtue of the TAD, are members of a VASA-affiliated club to which such <u>VASA</u> and consent has been given orally or in writing to operate an all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> in the area in which where the operator is operating; or

(C)(D) the owner of the land has <u>or the land surrounding the privately</u> <u>owned body of water</u> designated the area for use by all terrain vehicles <u>ATVs</u> by posting the area in a manner approved by the Secretary to give reasonable notice that use is permitted.

(4) On any public land <u>municipal lands unless opened to ATV travel by</u> <u>the legislative body of the municipality where the land is located or on any</u> <u>State lands</u>, body of public water, or natural area established under the provisions of 10 V.S.A. § 2607 unless the Secretary has designated the area <u>by</u> <u>the Secretary</u> for use by all terrain vehicles pursuant to <u>ATVs in</u> rules <u>promulgated adopted</u> under provisions of 3 V.S.A. chapter 25.

(5) By a person <u>an individual</u> under 12 years of age unless <u>he or she is</u> wearing on his or her head protective headgear of a type approved by the <u>Commissioner while operating the ATV or riding as a passenger on the ATV</u> and either:

(A) he or she is on land owned by his or her parents, family, or guardian;

(B) he or she has written permission of the landowner or lessee; or

(C) he or she is under the direct supervision of a person at least an individual 18 years of age or older who does not have a suspended operator's license or privilege to operate.

(6) In any manner intended or <u>that could</u> reasonably to be expected to <u>harm</u>, harass, drive, or pursue any wildlife.

(7) If the registration certificate or consent form is and proof of insurance are not available for inspection, and the registration number, or plate of a size and type approved by the Commissioner, is not displayed on the all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> in a manner approved by the Commissioner.

(8) While the operator is under the influence of drugs or alcohol as defined by this title.

(9) In a careless or negligent manner or in a manner that is inconsistent with the duty of ordinary care, so as to endanger a person an individual or property.

(10) Within a cemetery, public or private, as defined in 18 V.S.A.§ 5302.

(11) On limited access highways, rights of way rights-of-way, or approaches unless permitted by the Traffic Committee under section 1004 of this title. In no cases shall the use of all terrain vehicles <u>ATVs</u> be permitted on any portion of the <u>Dwight D. Eisenhower</u> National System of Interstate and Defense Highways unless the Traffic Committee permits operation on these highways.

(12) On a sidewalk unless permitted by the selectboard or trustees of the local governing legislative body of the municipality where the sidewalk is located.

(13) Without liability insurance as described in this subdivision. The owner or operator of an ATV shall not operate or permit the operation of an ATV at locations where the ATV must be registered in order to be lawfully operated under section 3502 of this title without having in effect a bond or a liability policy in the amounts of at least \$25,000.00 for one individual and \$50,000.00 for two or more individuals killed or injured and \$10,000.00 for damages to property in any one accident. In lieu of a bond or liability policy, evidence of self-insurance in the amount of \$115,000.00 must be filed with the Commissioner. Financial responsibility shall be maintained and evidenced in a form prescribed by the Commissioner, and persons who self-insure shall be subject to the provisions of subsection 801(c) of this title.

(14) While the operator's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle
 is suspended, unless operated at a location described in subdivision
 3502(a)(2)(A) or (D) of this title.

(15) Outside the boundaries of trails established by the VASA Trail System unless such operation is specifically authorized pursuant to another provision of this chapter.

(16) Unless the operator and all passengers wear properly secured protective headgear, of a type approved by the Commissioner and as intended by the manufacturer, if the ATV is operated at locations where the ATV must be registered in order to be lawfully operated under section 3502 of this title.

(c) No public or private landowner shall be liable for any property damage or personal injury sustained by any person individual operating or riding as a passenger on an all terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> or upon a vehicle or other device drawn by an all terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> upon the public or private landowner's property, whether or not the public or private landowner has given permission to use the land, unless the public or private landowner charges a cash fee to the operator or owner of the all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> for the use of the property or unless damage or injury is intentionally inflicted by the landowner.

(d) In addition to all other requirements, an all terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> may not be operated:

(1) if equipped with an exhaust system with a cut out, bypass, or similar device; or

(2) with the spark arrester removed or modified, except for use in closed course competition events.

(e) In addition to all other requirements, an all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> may not be operated by an operator who is less than 18 years of age unless one of the following criteria is met:

(1) the operator is operating on property owned or leased by the operator or his or her parents or guardian; Θ

(2) the operator is taking a prescribed safety education training course and operating under the direct supervision of a certified all-terrain vehicle <u>ATV</u> safety instructor; or

(3) the operator holds an appropriate safety education certificate issued by this State or issued under the authority of another state or province of Canada.

(f) <u>A person An individual</u> who is required to hold an appropriate safety education certificate under the provisions of subsection (e) of this section shall exhibit the safety education certificate upon demand of a law enforcement officer having authority to enforce the provisions of this section.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule to the contrary, the Commissioner may authorize the temporary operation of all-terrain vehicles not registered in this State on Route 253 in Beecher Falls for an annual special event, provided the all-terrain vehicle is registered in another state or province. [Repealed.] * * * U.S. Postal Service; Vehicle Inspection; Sunset Repeal * * *

Sec. 19. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 71, Sec. 31(a)(4) is amended to read:

(4) 23 V.S.A. § 1222(e), added in Sec. 27 (inspections; mail carrier

vehicles), shall be repealed on July 1, 2020. [Repealed.]

* * * Permit Fees; Waiver * * *

Sec. 20. AUTHORITY TO WAIVE RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMIT FEES

(a) Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 1112(b), the Secretary is authorized to waive fees associated with permits or permit amendments issued pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 1111 for any reason associated with the response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section shall continue in effect until six months after the conclusion of a state of emergency declared under 20 V.S.A.

chapter 1 due to COVID-19.

* * * Use of Pozzolans as an Alternative to Portland Cement * * *

Sec. 21. USE OF POZZOLANS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO PORTLAND

CEMENT

(a) Findings. The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Pozzolans, such as pulverized fuel ash (commonly known as "fly ash"), ground granulated blast-furnace slag, and silica fume, can be used to partially replace a portion of the Portland Cement used in the production of concrete.

(2) Using pozzolans in the production of concrete for transportation infrastructure projects can typically reduce the use of Portland Cement by 40 to 50 percent.

(3) Using pozzolans in a concrete mix design can:

(A) reduce the carbon dioxide emissions associated with

transportation infrastructure projects, such as bridges and sidewalks;

(B) increase the compressive strength and durability of concrete; and

(C) decrease construction costs.

(4) Pozzolans cannot be used as a complete substitute for Portland

<u>Cement in a concrete mix design because they enhance and do not replace the</u> <u>cementitious properties of Portland Cement as it hydrates as part of the overall</u> chemical reaction that binds and strengthens the concrete.

(b) Use of Portland Cement. The Agency is encouraged to continue researching, testing, and wherever practicable, using pozzolans and alternatives to Portland Cement as part of the concrete mix designs for all transportation infrastructure projects.

* * * Study on Direct-to-Consumer Motor Vehicle Sales; Report * * *

Sec. 22. STUDY ON DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER MOTOR VEHICLE

SALES; REPORT

(a) The Agency of Transportation, in consultation with the Attorney General's Office, the Department of Financial Regulation, a manufacturer that engages in direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales to Vermont consumers, and the Vermont Vehicle and Automotive Distributors Association, shall conduct a study and, on or before December 15, 2020, file a written report on the findings of its study, sources reviewed, and recommendations regarding the regulation of direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales with the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Transportation and the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on Transportation.

(b) The report shall, at a minimum, include a review of:

(1) all Vermont consumer protection laws and regulations that currently apply when a consumer purchases a motor vehicle from a dealer registered pursuant to 23 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 4, whether those consumer protections currently apply to direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales, and, if not, whether those consumer protections should apply to direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales;

(2) how consumers currently obtain financing in direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales and any proposals that would better protect Vermont consumers who engage in direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales;

(3) how consumers are currently taxed in direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales and whether there are steps the State can take to maximize the collection of taxes owed on direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales where the vehicles are operated in Vermont;

(4) any enforcement issues related to direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales;

(5) what reasons, if any, exist to prohibit manufacturers engaged in direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales from owning, operating, or controlling a motor vehicle warranty or service facility in the State and a recommendation on whether a sales center should be required if a manufacturer engaged in direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales is permitted to own, operate, or control a motor vehicle warranty or service facility in the State;

(6) laws, rules, and best practices from other jurisdictions and any model legislation related to the regulation of direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales; and

(7) how any proposed amendments to Vermont law regulating direct-toconsumer motor vehicle sales will affect dealers registered pursuant to 23 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 4; franchisors and franchisees, as defined in 9 V.S.A. § 4085; and other persons who are selling motor vehicles to Vermonters.

(c) As used in this section, "direct-to-consumer motor vehicle sales" means sales made by:

(1) motor vehicle manufacturers that sell or lease vehicles they

manufacture directly to Vermont consumers and not through dealers registered

pursuant to 23 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 4; or

(2) other persons that sell or lease new or used motor vehicles directly to

Vermont consumers and not through Vermont licensed dealers registered

pursuant to 23 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 4 on websites such as Carvana,

Vroom, and TrueCar.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 23. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. 2 (federal funding), 3 (spending redirection),

4 (Amtrak), 19 (U.S. Postal Service vehicle inspection exemption sunset

repeal; 23 V.S.A. § 1222(e)), and 20 (section 1111 permit fee waiver) shall

take effect on passage.

(b) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2020.