

1 Sec. XX. 19 V.S.A. § 306 is amended to read:

2 § 306. APPROPRIATION; STATE AID FOR TOWN HIGHWAYS

3 \* \* \*

4 (e) State aid for town highway structures.

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

15 (2) Each fiscal year, the Agency shall approve qualifying projects with a  
16 total estimated State share cost of ~~\$5,833,500.00~~ \$7,200,000.00 at a minimum  
17 as new grants. The Agency's proposed appropriation for the Program shall  
18 take into account the estimated amount of qualifying invoices submitted to the  
19 Agency with respect to project grants approved in prior years but not yet  
20 completed as well as with respect to new project grants to be approved in the  
21 fiscal year. In a given fiscal year, should expenditures in the Town Highway

1 Structures Program exceed the amount appropriated, the Agency shall advise  
2 the Governor of the need to request a supplemental appropriation from the  
3 General Assembly to fund the additional project cost, provided that the Agency  
4 has previously committed to completing those projects.

5 \* \* \*

6 (h) Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program. There shall be an annual  
7 appropriation for grants to municipalities for resurfacing, rehabilitation, or  
8 reconstruction of paved or unpaved class 2 town highways. However,  
9 municipalities that have no State highways or class 1 town highways within  
10 their borders may use the grants for such activities with respect to both class 2  
11 and class 3 town highways. Each fiscal year, the Agency shall approve  
12 qualifying projects with a total estimated State share cost of \$7,648,750.00  
13 \$8,600,000.00 at a minimum as new grants. The Agency's proposed  
14 appropriation for the Program shall take into account the estimated amount of  
15 qualifying invoices submitted to the Agency with respect to project grants  
16 approved in prior years but not yet completed as well as with respect to new  
17 project grants to be approved in the fiscal year. In a given fiscal year, should  
18 expenditures in the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program exceed the  
19 amount appropriated, the Agency shall advise the Governor of the need to  
20 request a supplemental appropriation from the General Assembly to fund the  
21 additional project cost, provided that the Agency has previously committed to

1 completing those projects. Funds received as grants for State aid under the  
2 Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program may be used by a municipality to  
3 satisfy a portion of the matching requirements for federal earmarks, subject to  
4 subsection 309b(c) of this title.

5 \* \* \*

6 Sec. YY. 19 V.S.A. § 309b is amended to read:

7 § 309b. LOCAL MATCH; CERTAIN TOWN HIGHWAY PROGRAMS

8 (a) Notwithstanding subsection 309a(a) of this title, grants provided to  
9 towns under the town highway structures program shall be matched by local  
10 funds sufficient to cover 20 percent of the project costs, unless the town has  
11 adopted road and bridge standards, has completed a network inventory, and has  
12 submitted an annual certification of compliance for town road and bridge  
13 standards to the ~~secretary~~ Secretary, in which event the local match shall be  
14 sufficient to cover 10 percent of the project costs. The ~~secretary~~ Secretary may  
15 adopt rules to implement the town highway structures program. Town  
16 highway structures projects receiving funds pursuant to this subsection shall be  
17 the responsibility of the applicant municipality, and a municipality shall not  
18 receive a grant in excess of \$200,000.00.

19 (b) Notwithstanding subsection 309a(a) of this title, grants provided to  
20 towns under the class 2 town highway roadway program shall be matched by  
21 local funds sufficient to cover 30 percent of the project costs, unless the town

1 has adopted road and bridge standards, has completed a network inventory, and  
2 has submitted an annual certification of compliance for town road and bridge  
3 standards to the ~~secretary~~ Secretary, in which event the local match shall be  
4 sufficient to cover 20 percent of the project costs. The ~~secretary~~ Secretary may  
5 adopt rules to implement the class 2 town highway roadway program. Class 2  
6 town highway roadway projects receiving funds pursuant to this subsection  
7 shall be the responsibility of the applicant municipality, and a municipality  
8 shall not receive a grant in excess of ~~\$175,000.00~~ \$200,000.00.