

FHWA Alternative-Fuels Corridor Program

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ALTERNATIVE
FUELS
CORRIDOR

FHWA Alternative Fuels Corridor Program

With the designation of alternative fuel corridors, FHWA is establishing a national network of alternative fueling and charging infrastructure along national highway system corridors. FHWA intends to support the expansion of this national network through a process that:

- Provides the opportunity for formal corridor designations on an annual basis;
- Ensures that corridor designations are selected based on criteria that promote the "build out" of a national network;
- Develops national signage and branding to help catalyze applicant and public interest;
- Encourages multi-State and regional cooperation and collaboration; and,
- Brings together a consortium of stakeholders including state agencies, utilities, alternative fuel providers, and car manufacturers to promote and advance alternative fuel corridor designations in conjunction with the Department of Energy.
- Corridor-ready segments currently contain a sufficient number of fueling facilities to allow for corridor travel with the designated alternative fuel.
- Corridors that do not have sufficient alternative fuel facilities to support alternative fuel vehicle travel are designated as corridor-pending.

Alt-Fuels Corridor Program: Round 1 Designations

- In 2016, FHWA designated Vermont's entire Interstate highway system as alternative-fuel vehicle corridors for PEVs.
- These designations were primarily "corridor-ready," with one segment of "corridor-pending."
- The State of Vermont is investing over \$2 million into a public-private partnership with Blink Charging to build out coverage of DCFC at 11 locations along key travel corridors in the state. This investment will close gaps in DCFC availability along the existing interstate highway corridor-ready and corridor-pending designations within Vermont.
- Once these investments are completed in 2021-2022, Vermont will be able to advance the 2016 corridor-pending interstate segment (I-91 from Norwich, VT to the VT-Canada border) to corridor-ready status.

Round 5 Nominations

(Submitted to FHWA Feb. 22, 2021)

1. **US Route 7** from the Vermont-Massachusetts border to I-189 in South Burlington. Corridor-Ready based on existing charging infrastructure.
2. **US Route 2** from the Vermont-New Hampshire border to Montpelier, Vermont, minus a five-mile section of this highway that is not on the NHS near St Johnsbury, Vermont. Corridor-Ready based on existing charging infrastructure.
3. **US Route 4** from I-89 Exit 1 in Hartford to the Vermont-New York border. Corridor-Pending based on existing and planned (under contract) charging infrastructure.
4. **Vermont Route 9** from Brattleboro, Vermont to the Vermont-New York border. Corridor-Ready based on existing charging infrastructure.

FHWA Review

- FHWA expects to make a decision on the latest round of nominations within the next two months or so.
- FHWA asked nominations for Round 5 to focus on interstates. Vermont nominated four non-interstate National Highway System routes because Vermont's interstates have already been designated, and the nominated routes represent critical travel connections in parts of the State that are not served by interstates.

Signage Plan

- ❖ Signage on designated corridors will conform to VTrans' adopted Policy for the Installation of General Service and Directional Signs for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.
- ❖ VTrans does not intend to install corridor identification signs authorized for designated corridors.

Corridor-Designation Benefits

- ❑ Designation does not currently come with federal funding, but federal funding could be linked to designation in the future.
- ❑ Federal funding may allow VTrans to fill gaps between charging stations, increase the power of charging stations, and build redundancy at charging stations.
- ❑ Federal designation of Vermont's Round 5 nominations may help Vermont organize its continuing work on EVSE deployment, assist Vermont and surrounding states and provinces with regional collaboration on vehicle electrification and travel and tourism, and help Vermont promote its commitment to sustainable energy and technological modernization.

Additional Resources

- FHWA Alt-Fuels Corridor Website:

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/alternative_fuel_corridors/

- FHWA Round 5 Website:

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/alternative_fuel_corridors/resources/rfn5.cfm

State of Vermont FHWA Alternative Fuel Corridors Proposed Round 5 Designations

