



Introduction to House Committee on Transportation

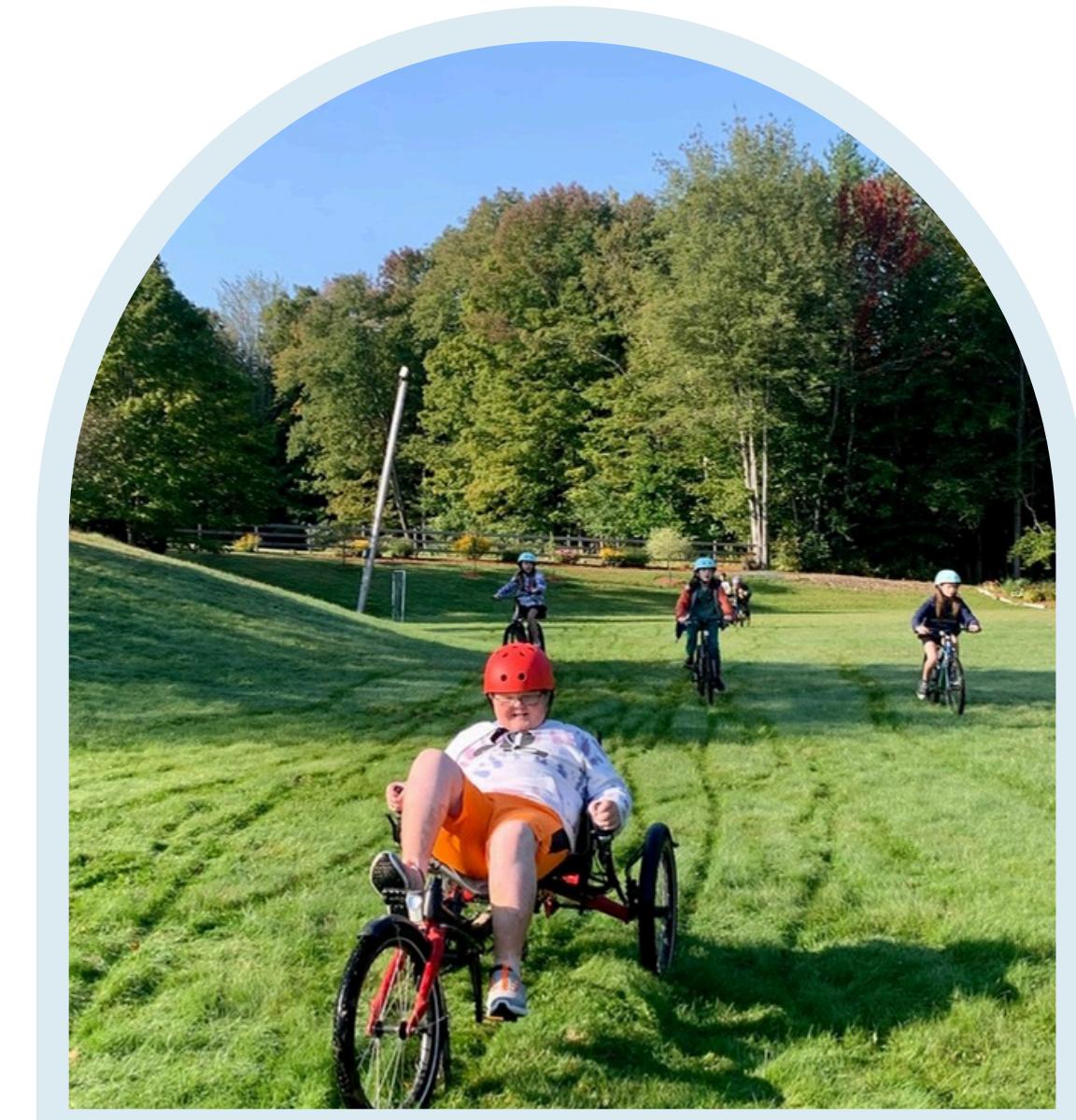
Richard Amore, Programs Director
Marcie Gallagher, Complete Streets Specialist

January 16, 2025





**Local Motion's mission is to make it safe, accessible, and fun
for everyone to bike, walk, and roll in Vermont.**



One of our Fundamental Beliefs:

Streets and roads are for all Vermonters



Everyone should be able to get to where they need to go without risking their lives, and should have freedom of movement by their preferred mode of transportation.

- People walking
- People using wheelchairs and assistive devices
- People driving
- People using transit
- People biking



About Us



Local Motion's work is largely divided into two categories: Programs and Services.





Program Highlight: Bike Smart

Bike Smart is Local Motion's bike skills education program for kids!

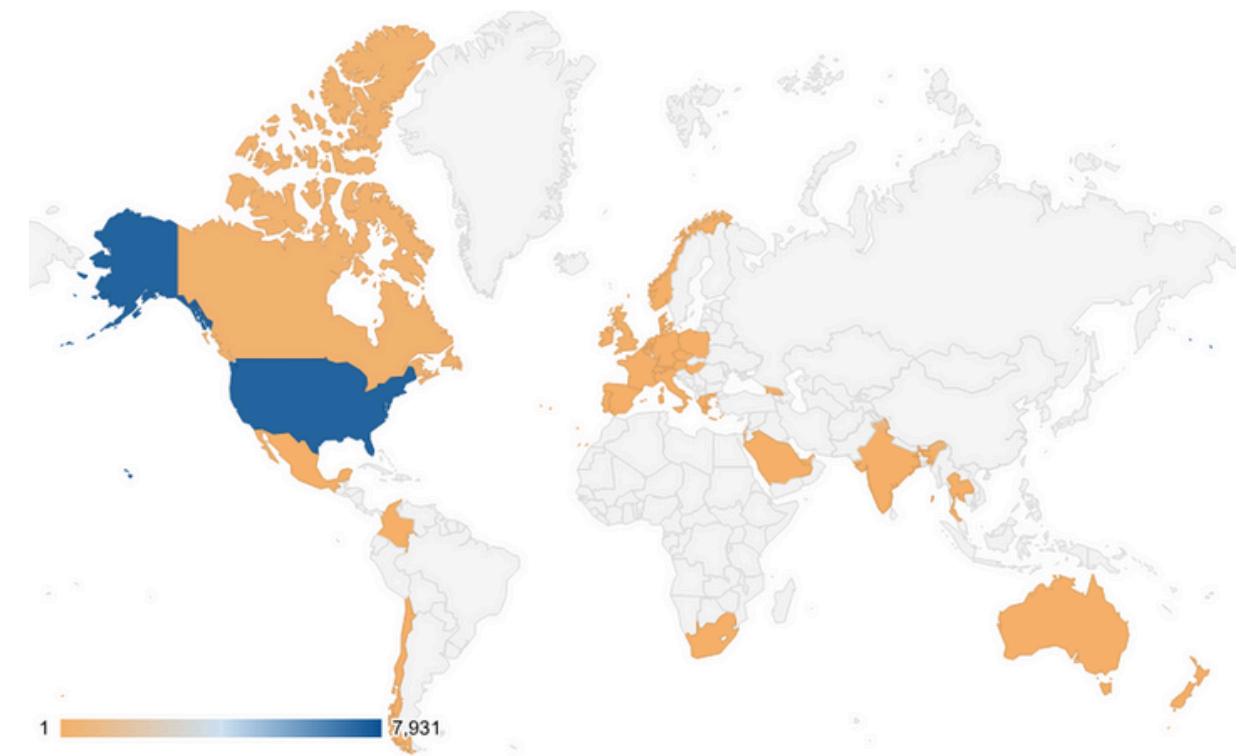
Trailers are delivered to schools and camps for 1-2 weeks, and Local Motion supports instructors with curriculum training.

Since 2012, Bike Smart has served **over 100,000 children**. Bike Smart has gone to over 150 towns and over 200 schools and camps **in all 14 Vermont Counties!**



Service Highlight: Trailside Center

- Outdoor recreation contributes about 5% of Vermont's GDP – the second-highest share in the nation, behind only Hawaii.
- Overnight tourists in Vermont spend about \$450 per day
- Local Motion bike rentals in 2025:
 - Total rentals: over 15,000 people.
 - We hosted folks from 31 different countries and all 50 states, including Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.



Locations that Local Motion bike renters travelled from in 2025

Complete Streets



Local Motion's Complete Streets Team works with communities across the state to provide **technical assistance and advocacy support** to improve conditions for walking, biking, and rolling. We collaborate with local walk/bike committees and groups, town officials, schools, regional planning commissions, or other local organizations.



Complete Streets



Planning input



Design review



Community surveys



Local policy work



Bike parking



Demonstration projects



Community case study: Chester



Complete Streets



A **Complete Streets** approach is required by law in Vermont, which requires the State to: “Ensure that the needs of all users of Vermont’s transportation system— including motorists, bicyclists, public transportation users, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities —are considered in all state and municipally managed transportation projects and project phases, including planning, development, construction, and maintenance.”



Complete Street



Incomplete Street



Complete Street

VS

Incomplete Streets



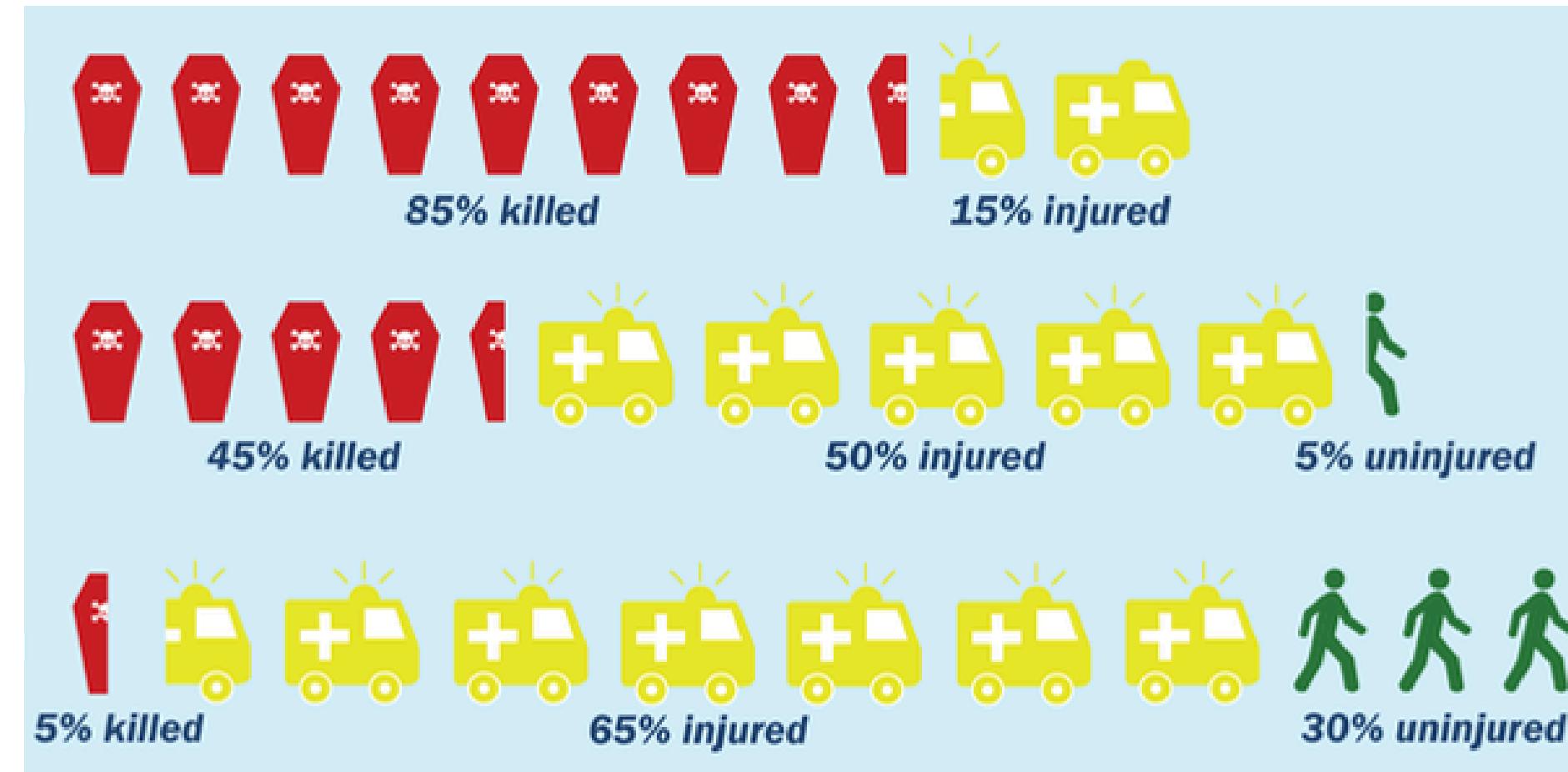
Why Complete Streets?

LOCAL
MOTION

Because slow speeds save lives.



40
MPH



30
MPH

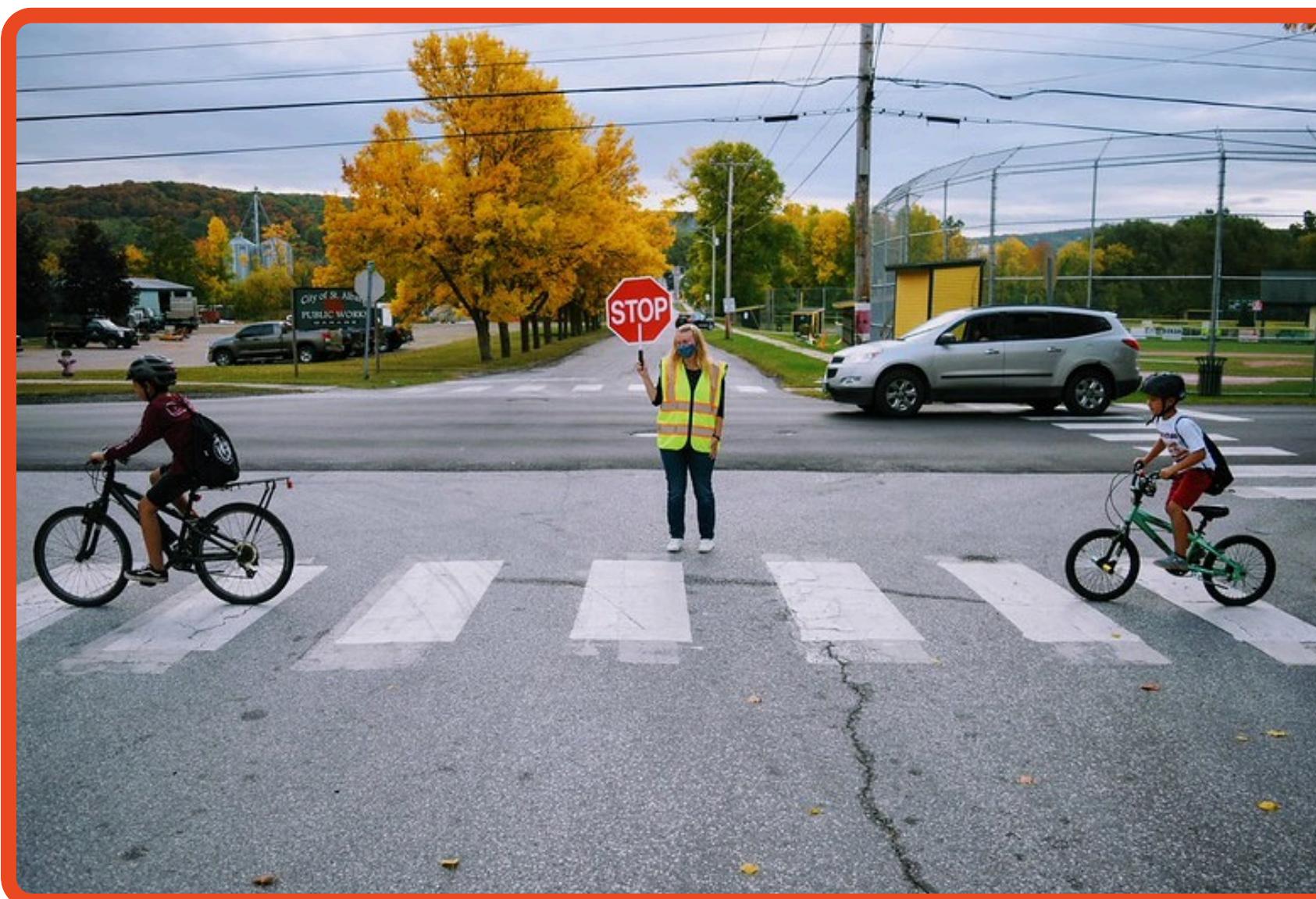


20
MPH

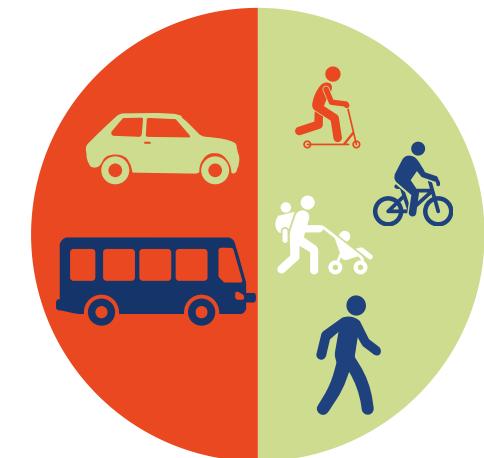
Why Complete Streets?



Because they help to foster independence in children.



1969



In 1969, nearly 50% of all children in the US walked or biked to school.

2025



Today, that number has plummeted to fewer than 15%.

Why Complete Streets?

LOCAL
MOTION

Because there's no better marketing, tourism draw, or talent recruitment strategy than investing in vibrant places where people want to live, work, and visit.





**When we design Complete
Streets, we find they can
support...**

movement



meals



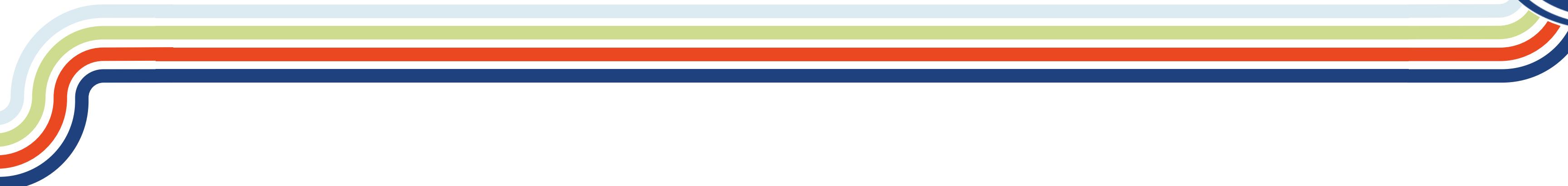
music



culture



Credit: Vermont Public

A decorative graphic consisting of three wavy lines in light blue, light green, and dark blue, which curve from the left side of the frame towards the Local Motion logo.

Local Motion's 2026 Legislative Priorities

Local Motion's 2026 Legislative Priorities



Support the implementation of Act 181

Passed in 2024, Act 181 overhauls Vermont's planning framework for coordinating state, regional and municipal land use.

Along with the HOME Act of 2024, Act 181 provides unprecedented support to compact, smart growth housing.

Compact development means:

- Drivers take fewer and shorter trips - making roads safer for all users,
- Reduction of long-term municipal costs, and
- Towns can grow in a fiscally responsible way.



Local Motion's 2026 Legislative Priorities



Fund Transit, Active Transportation and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Programs

- Secure Long-Term, Sustainable Funding for Public Transportation
- Fund MTI, Better Connections, Downtown Transportation Fund, Bicycle/pedestrian program
- Amend Vermont's Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) to allocate dedicated funding to Safe Routes to School



Local Motion's 2026 Legislative Priorities



Enact a statewide “right to charge” law guaranteeing that residents of rental, condo, and multifamily housing can install EV and micromobility charging devices.



Local Motion's 2026 Legislative Priorities



No or low-cost policies

1. Close outdated safety gaps in Vermont's traffic statutes

Prohibit parking within 20 feet of all crosswalks, including mid-block crossings, and designate center turn lanes as a “no passing zone”.

2. Study E-bike and E-moto regulations

3. Reform historic resource review requirements for active transportation projects

4. Support Burlington's adoption of traffic enforcement cameras



2025: By the Numbers



23 Transportation-related Plans/Studies Supported

32 Community Walk/Bike Groups Assisted

90 Community and Safety Events Attended

1,489 Free Bike Helmets and Lights Distributed

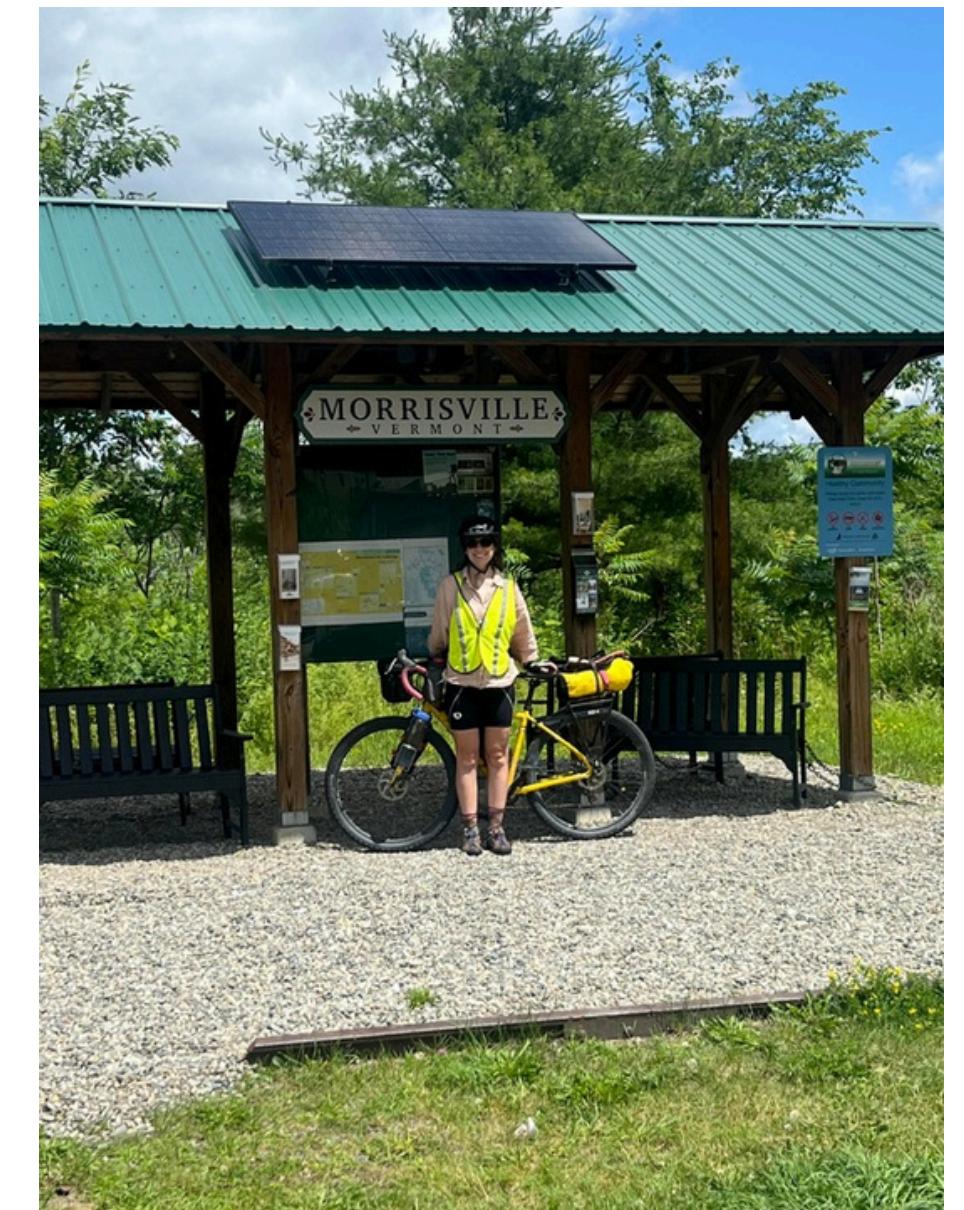
55,547 Hours of Safety Training Delivered

Looking Ahead to 2026 - New Initiatives



**Technical Assistance on the
Lamoille Valley Rail Trail**

Streets as Places microgrants





**Thank you!
Questions?**

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