



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee members
From: Daniel Dickerson, Fiscal Analyst
Date: June 10, 2016
Subject: Grant Request #2830, #2831

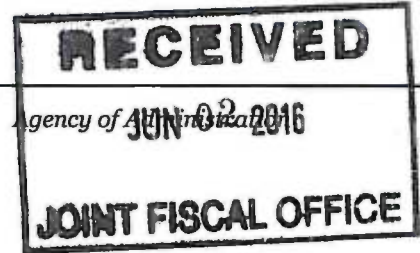
Enclosed please find two (2) items that the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the administration.

JFO #2830 – \$250,000 grant from the Northern Border Regional Commission to the VT Agency of Transportation. These funds will be used to replace the septic system at the Newport State Airport with a new, higher capacity system. State matching funds of \$500,000, which were included in the Agency's FY17 budget request, will be utilized to complete the project.
[JFO received 6/2/16]

JFO #2831 – \$10,000,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration to the VT Agency of Transportation. The funds were awarded to Vermont as part of a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant. Monies from this grant will be used as part of the Vermont Western Corridor rail rehabilitation for replacement of approximately 11 miles of track with new rail, ballast and ties. Additional efforts within the Western Corridor project will be to rehabilitate the Rutland wye, add new gates for public crossings, new passing siding, a new passing lane for trains in Pittsford and a crossover in Leicester, as well as new passenger platforms in Middlebury, Vergennes and Burlington for the future extension of Amtrak's Ethan Allen service to Burlington.

State matching funds of approximately \$9.5 million will be utilized as part of this grant over the course of several years. Of this amount, \$500,000 was included in the Agency's FY17 budget request. \$4 million of State funds will be utilized for the 11 miles of track replacement and \$5.5 million will be utilized for the new passenger boarding platforms. The complete cost of the Western Rail rehabilitation project is estimated to be approximately \$26.4 million over four years.
[JFO received 6/2/16]

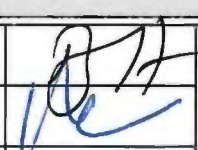
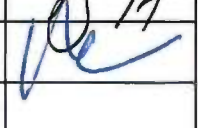
Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Daniel Dickerson at (802) 828-2472; ddickerson@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like an item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by June 24, 2016 we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.



State of Vermont
 Department of Finance & Management
 109 State Street, Pavilion Building
 Montpelier, VT 05620-0401

[phone] 802-828-2376
 [fax] 802-828-2428

STATE OF VERMONT
FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM

Grant Summary:		Western Corridor rail rehabilitation. Project will replace 11 miles of track between Rutland and Burlington, plus work on the Rutland Wye, gates, passing siding, and new platforms in Middlebury, Vergennes, and Burlington, all needed to extend Amtrak Ethan Allen service from Rutland to Burlington.			
Date:		5/26/2016			
Department:		AOT - Rail 8100002300			
Legal Title of Grant:		TIGER VII			
Federal Catalog #:		90.933			
Grant/Donor Name and Address:		FRA Public Affairs Office, 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE, Washington, DC 20590			
Grant Period:		From:	To:		
		7/1/2016	6/30/2020		
Grant/Donation		\$10,000,000.00			
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$500,000	\$5,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$10,000,000	FY20 = \$500,000
Position Information:		# Positions	Explanation/Comments		
Additional Comments:		Total State match (\$500K in FY17 Rail budget, rest planned for future Rail budgets) through FY 2020 is \$9,510,000.			
Department of Finance & Management					(Initial)
Secretary of Administration					(Initial)
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office					Date 5/31/16



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:	Transportation			
2. Department:	Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development Division			
3. Program:	Rail			
4. Legal Title of Grant:	TIGER VII			
5. Federal Catalog #:	90.933			
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address: FRA Public Affairs Office 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590				
7. Grant Period:	From:	7/1/2016	To:	6/30/2020
8. Purpose of Grant: The funds from this Tiger Grant will help improve service on the state-owned rail line between Rutland and Burlington, VT. This includes replacing approximately 11 miles of track with new rail, ballast, and ties; rehabilitating the Rutland Wye; adding new gates for several public crossings; a new passing siding; a passing lane for trains in Pittsford and crossover in Leicester to allow for operational flexibility. This project also includes installing new passenger platforms in Middlebury, Vergennes, and Burlington, which are necessary to enable the extension of Amtrak's Ethan Allen service from Rutland to Burlington.				
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted: Improvements would not occur.				
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	
Personal Services	\$	\$	\$	
Operating Expenses	\$	\$	\$	
Grants	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$1,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$6,000,000	
Revenues:				
State Funds:	\$500,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:	\$500,000	\$5,000,000	\$4,000,000	Excludes FHWA formula funds
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Grant (source)	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$1,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$6,000,000	
Appropriation No:		Amount:	\$	
			\$	

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
	Total	\$

Has current fiscal year budget detail been entered into Vantage? Yes No

PERSONAL SERVICE INFORMATION

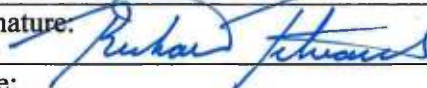
11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.

Appointing Authority Name: Agreed by: RMT (initial)

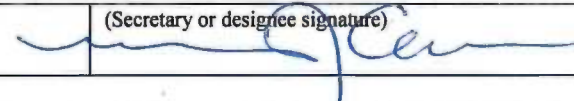
12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
Total Positions		

12a. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available. Can be obtained with available funds.

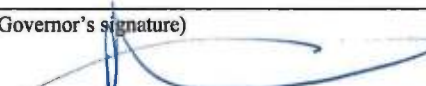
13. AUTHORIZATION AGENCY/DEPARTMENT

I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application preparation and filing costs have been expended or committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee approval of this grant, unless previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if applicable):	Signature: 	Date: <u>5-17-16</u>
	Title: <u>DEPUTY SECRETARY</u>	
	Signature: _____	Date: _____
	Title: _____	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Approved: 	Date: <u>05/27/16</u>
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15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check One Box:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Accepted	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rejected	(Governor's signature)  Date: <u>5/31/16</u>

16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Required GRANT Documentation

<input type="checkbox"/> Request Memo <input type="checkbox"/> Dept. project approval (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Award <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Donation (if any) <input type="checkbox"/> Grant (Project) Timeline (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable)
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End Form AA-1

Standard Questions for AA-1 Grant Approval

1. Are there any state matching requirements or contributions?

Yes.

- Transportation Funds: \$500,000 is budgeted in the FY17 Rail appropriation. Total State match required is \$9,510,000.

2. Is the State already performing the function for which the funds are intended?

- Yes, VTrans has been awarded and is currently managing two prior Tiger grants along the same corridor of the State.

3. After the term of the grant expires, what is the intent for the underlying activity? Does the grant funded activity cease to exist? Will the state be asked to assume financial responsibility?

- The grant funding ends. Maintenance of installed construction projects will be the responsibility of the State.

4. What are the measurements that are going to be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the expenditure?

- FRA includes specific performance measures into each Cooperative Agreement. VTrans will be reporting on these measures throughout the life of the grant.

5. How will the grant funds be expended? What is the budget for the grant funds, including all funding sources, for the duration of the grant?

	FRA	FHWA Section 167	State	Total
Welded Rail & Track	\$10,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$4,010,000	\$16,010,000
Railroad Station Platforms	\$0	\$0	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000
Total	\$10,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$9,510,000	\$21,510,000

6. What entities are collaborating on this grant; departments, community organizations?

- FRA, VTrans, Vermont Railway and Communities between Rutland and Burlington.

7. What is the intended staffing level for the grant funded activity?

- No additional staffing will be needed. There is an existing project management team already in place in the Rail Section for existing FRA grants.

Western Vermont Freight-Passenger Rail Project

Rural

APPLICANT/SPONSOR: Vermont Agency of Transportation

TIGER GRANT AWARD: \$10,000,000

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$26,460,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The funds from this TIGER grant will help improve service on the state-owned rail line between Rutland and Burlington, VT. This includes replacing approximately 11 miles of track with new rail, ballast, and ties; rehabilitating the Rutland Wye; adding new gates for several public crossings; a new passing siding; a passing lane for trains in Pittsford and crossover in Leicester to allow for operational flexibility. The project also includes installing new passenger platforms in Middlebury, Vergennes, and Burlington, which are necessary to enable the extension of Amtrak's Ethan Allen Express service from Rutland to Burlington.



VERMONT

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS AND BENEFITS:

The project will result in increased operating speeds of up to 40 mph for freight and nearly 60 mph for passenger trains on the entire Rutland-Burlington corridor. Freight shippers will benefit from the increased velocity and reliability brought on by the project. The project will also reduce long-term maintenance costs for the state, and enhance safety at multiple crossings.



U.S. Department
of Transportation

www.transportation.gov/tiger

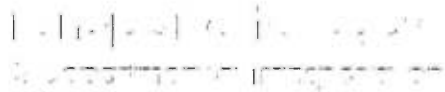
TIGER

	TIGER	FHWA Section 130	FHWA Freight Funds (FAST)	State	Total
Welded Rail & Track	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$4,010,000	\$16,010,000
Crossing Upgrades	\$0	\$3,375,000	\$0	\$375,000	\$3,750,000
Bridge Repairs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Station Platforms	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000
Total	\$10,000,000	\$3,375,000	\$2,000,000	\$11,085,000	\$26,460,000

Grant Summary for AA-1:

	TIGER	FHWA Section 130	FHWA Freight Funds (FAST)	State	Total
Welded Rail & Track	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$4,010,000	\$16,010,000
Station Platforms	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000
Total	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$9,510,000	\$21,510,000

FY2017	\$500,000			\$500,000	\$1,000,000
FY2018	\$5,000,000			\$2,000,000	\$7,000,000
FY2019	\$4,000,000			\$2,000,000	\$6,000,000
FY2020	\$500,000			\$5,010,000	\$5,510,000
	<u>\$10,000,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$9,510,000</u>	<u>\$19,510,000</u>



U.S. Department of Transportation Announces \$10 Million TIGER Grant to Extend Amtrak Service to Burlington

Project includes new passenger platforms in Middlebury, Vergennes, and Burlington

BURLINGTON, Vt. – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx and Federal Railroad Administrator Sarah E. Feinberg joined U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy, U.S. Congressman Peter Welch, and Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin at an event today to announce that the U.S. Department of Transportation will provide \$10 million to extend Amtrak's Ethan Allen Express passenger train service all the way to Burlington, Vermont. Currently, the service begins in New York City and stops in Rutland, Vermont.

"Transportation is always about the future. If we're just fixing today's problems, we'll fall further and further behind. We already know that a growing population and increasing freight traffic will require our system to do more," said Secretary Foxx. "In this round of TIGER grants, we selected projects that focus on where the country's transportation infrastructure needs to be in the future: safer, more innovative, and more targeted to open the floodgates of opportunity across America."

The \$10 million grant will fund approximately 11 miles of new rail track along the state-owned line and three passenger platforms in Middlebury, Vergennes, and Burlington. The project will also reduce long-term maintenance costs for the state, allow passenger trains to operate up to 60 miles per hour, and enhance safety at multiple railroad crossings.

The project is one of 39 federally-funded transportation projects in 34 states selected to receive a total of nearly \$500 million under the Department's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) 2015 program. Secretary Foxx announced project selections for this round of TIGER grants on October 29, 2015. The Department received 627 eligible applications from 50 states and several U.S. territories, including tribal governments, requesting 20 times the \$500 million available for the program, or \$10.1 billion, for needed transportation projects.

With this latest round of funding, TIGER continues to invest in transformative projects that will provide significant and measurable improvements over existing conditions. The awards recognize projects nationwide that will advance key transportation goals such as safety, innovation, and opportunity.

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"Every week, there are communities from across the country that meet with the Federal Railroad Administration wanting, and needing, to expand passenger rail service. But many do not have the partnerships and leadership like Vermont does to move those projects from conception to reality," said FRA Administrator Sarah E. Feinberg. "Passenger rail service has been part of Burlington's past, and with this grant we are making it part of its future."

This grant is part of the seventh round of TIGER grants since 2009, bringing the total grant amount to more than \$4.6 billion provided to 381 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, including 134 projects supporting rural and tribal communities.

Demand for the program has been overwhelming: to date, the U.S. Department of Transportation has received more than 6,700 applications requesting more than \$134 billion for transportation projects across the country.

Click [here](#) for additional information on individual TIGER grants.

###

Friday, May 6, 2016

Contact:

FRA Public Affairs Office
FRA - Public Affairs Office
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590
United States

Phone: 202-493-6024

Business Hours:
9:00am-5:00pm ET, M-F

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