



State of Vermont Agency of Transportation

Planning Policy And Intermodal Development, Public Transit Section

One National Life Drive

Montpelier, VT 05663-5001

Ross.MacDonald@state.vt.us

[phone] 802-828-5577

[fax] 802-828-3983

[ttd] 800-253-0191

January 2019

To: Town Selectboards, Staff, Energy Committees, and K-12 School Groups

Subject: Go Vermont Pilot - Support for Local Volunteer Committee

To whom it may concern;

The VTrans Public Transit Section is offering grants to municipalities and schools to assist in building a statewide outreach and advocacy network for the Go! Vermont Program ([www.connectingcommuters.org](http://www.connectingcommuters.org)). Local Selectboards, School groups and Volunteer Committees are a logical partner in this effort as you can bring local credibility, energy, and innovation to the ongoing effort to expand the reach of the Go Vermont Program. VTrans will provide a \$500 grant to participating municipal energy committee or volunteer group including K-12 school engagement.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

Go Vermont is a web-based clearinghouse for all transportation modes in Vermont, featuring an automated carpool, vanpool and public transit matching service, a vanpool program, information for State Park and Ride locations, and a link to “511” traffic conditions. In effect, the framework and services have been established for Go Vermont, and the focus has now shifted toward building program participation to achieve the necessary critical mass for rideshare matches, and toward facilitating efficient transportation options versus continued operation of single occupancy vehicles. To this end, the project objectives are as follows:

- Broaden Go Vermont outreach efforts
- Build relationships with local committees and advocates
- Identify local and regional transportation priorities and activities
- Build local and regional program capacities and awareness
- Increase participation (the number of registrants) in Go Vermont (database online sign-ups)
- Promote and advocate for plug-in electric vehicles (EVs) and infrastructure
- Increase traffic to the Go Vermont website ([www.connectingcommuters.org](http://www.connectingcommuters.org))
- Focus regional and local initiatives and advocacy efforts

The ultimate goal of this program is to increase program awareness, carpool registrations, numbers of vanpools and general activity on the Go Vermont website.

**PROCESS and TIMELINE:**

VTrans is interested in keeping this process as simple as possible, and the below list outlines the necessary steps to do so:

- Select boards, School groups or Volunteer Committees submit Letters of Interest to VTrans
- VTrans selects municipalities from the submittals and informs the corresponding RPC's
- Go Vermont program manager will meet with the group, provide Go Vermont promotional materials, discuss specific services, and collectively review various outreach opportunities and events

**LETTERS OF INTEREST:**

Interested parties should send their Letter of Interest to the address listed above and should include the following:

- Contact name and municipality on municipal letterhead
- Proposed list of activities and deliverables. Please consider the following:
  - Present program and materials at two events held in your municipality (e.g. farmer's markets, fairs, holiday events)
  - Post promotional materials at the municipal offices and on local business and community bulletin boards
  - Meet and work with participating local employers to promote and advocate for the efficient transportation services offered through Go Vermont
  - Present program and materials at a select board meeting and at the annual Town Meeting.
  - Host a special event to address transportation costs and options
  - Perform a door-to-door campaign, sharing information and dropping off promotional materials
  - Place a Go Vermont sign at municipal Park and Ride(s)
  - Promote and advocate for EV plug-in vehicles and infrastructure
  - Additional efforts to help build awareness and to support efficient transportation choices
  - Work with your school and partners to encourage more efficient travel options

**REPORTING:**

Within 3 days after the 6-month timeframe, a Process Report is submitted outlining efforts performed during the project period, along with general comments and suggestions for the Go Vermont program. Additionally, please provide comments/suggestions in terms of future projects or initiatives that VTrans should consider for future projects/initiatives.

**REIMBURSEMENT GRANT:**

Include Summary with invoice of \$500 and check made payable to: XX (Town or School of).

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the Go Vermont program, and I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Ross MacDonald  
Go Vermont Program Manager