

Route 7 Corridor Management Plan (Milton – Georgia) Partners Meeting

This meeting will start at 2pm

You should be able to hear some people talking.
Feel free to unmute yourself and check you can be heard!

If you are having any technical difficulties you cannot solve, please contact
matthew.arancio@vermont.gov 802-793-7489

Route 7 Corridor Management Plan (Milton – Georgia) Partners Meeting

Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 2pm

Online meeting

Presentation by Katharine Otto, Planning Coordinator and Project Lead

Today's presentation and additional materials are available at

<https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/corridor-management/us7-Milton-Georgia>

Welcome and Agenda

5 – 10 mins	Introduction
5 mins	Background, Goals and Types of input
5 mins	Route 7 Corridor Management Plan 2022 Overview
5 – 10 mins	Introduce the StoryMap
5 - 10 mins	Upcoming construction projects
30 – 40 mins	Starting to prioritize <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Crosswalks- Intersections- Other mobility needs- Drainage, water quality and other environmental factors
5 mins	Next Steps

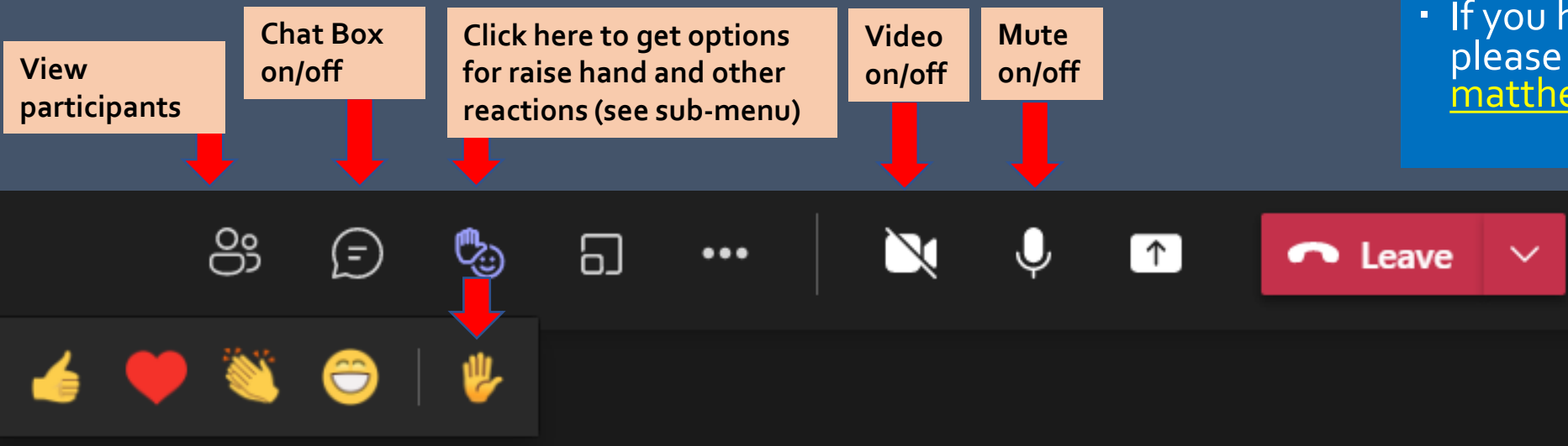
Meeting Housekeeping

- Please keep yourself muted when others are speaking
- Please keep your video turned off until after the presentation
- Submit questions and comments at any time using the chat box, but most will be held until designated times in the agenda
- If you can, please use the “raise hand” function to indicate you wish to speak

Today's meeting is being recorded

Technical difficulties

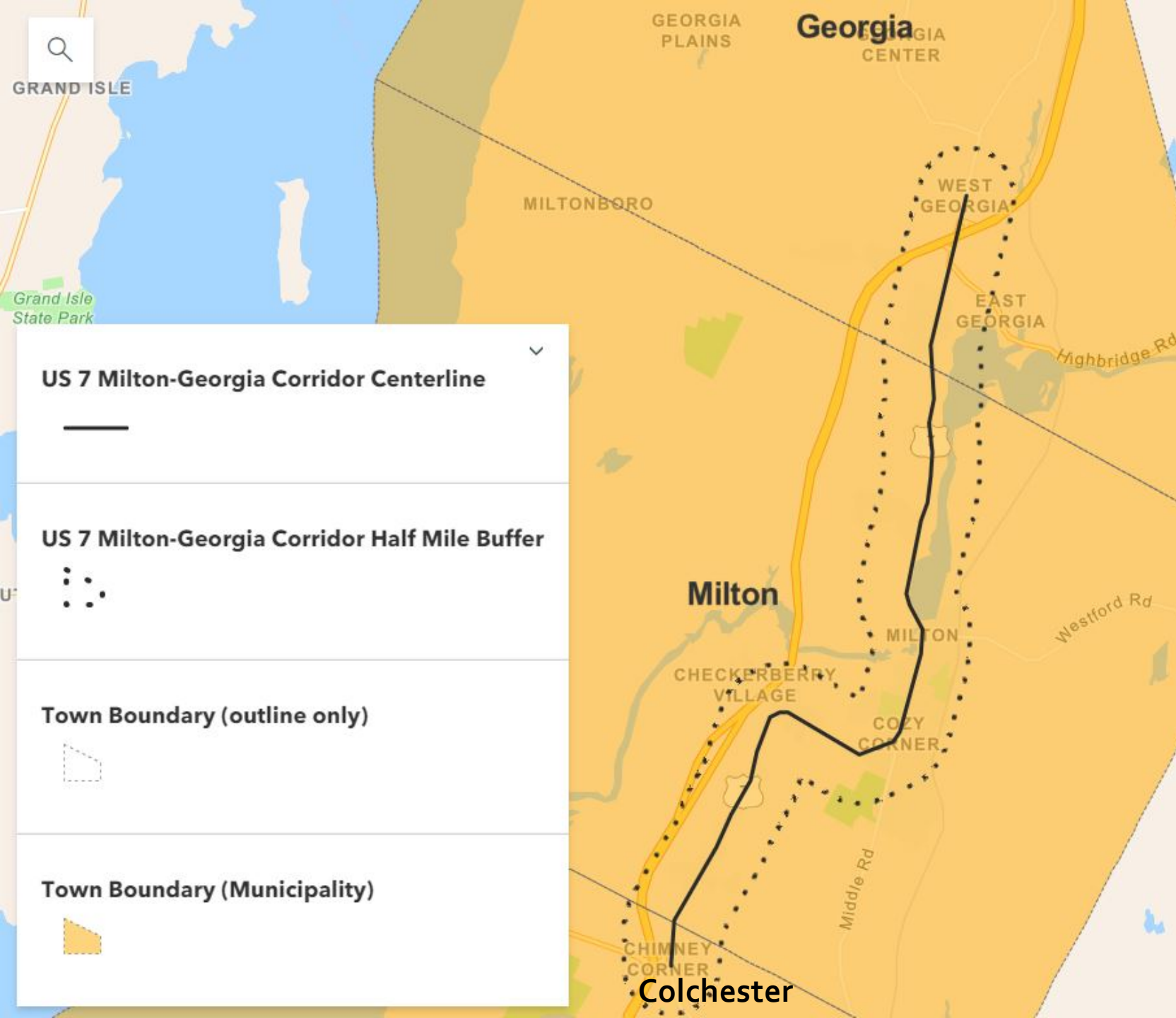
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Introductions

- VTrans staff
- RPC staff – NRPC and CCRPC
- Town staff – Colchester, Milton, Georgia
- Green Mountain Transit
- VT Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) staff
- Local groups representing traditionally underserved populations
- Friends of the Northern Lake Champlain
- Others?

Background



Corridor area

- From Route 2 intersection in Colchester, near I-89 exit 17
- To just beyond I-89 exit 18 in Georgia
- Focus on Route 7 Right of Way (ROW) and area directly adjacent to Route 7 if impacts the ROW.

Goals

Project Goal

- Identify next steps that can be implemented while VTrans or other partners are already doing work along the roadway in the next few years – for example as part of maintenance activities or existing paving or bridge projects
- Identify longer-term needs where more background work is needed first – such as a finding funding, developing partnerships and/or doing more research to identify an appropriate solution.

Goal for Today's Meeting

- Share what is already known about the Corridor
- Explain the parameters of the Corridor Management Plan
- Seek input on the Corridor
- Explain next steps

Keeping it
real and
actionable!

Traditional
planning

Action
planning

Identified needs
and vision

Longer term ideas

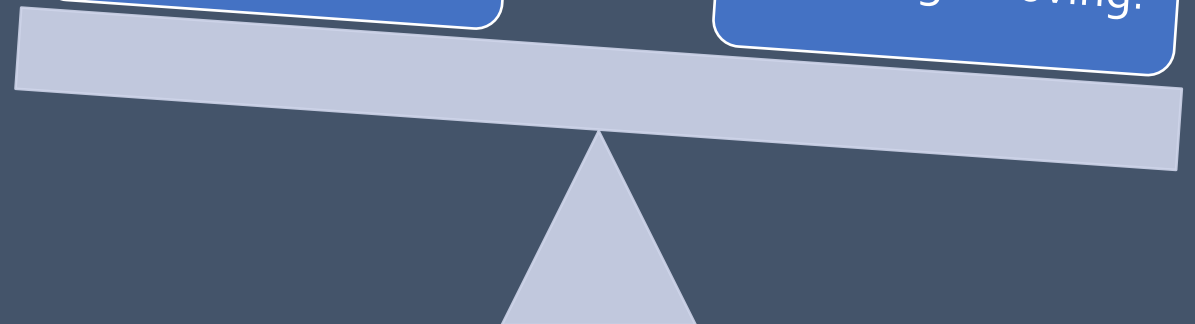
Next steps may
wait for many years

Identify needs and
priorities

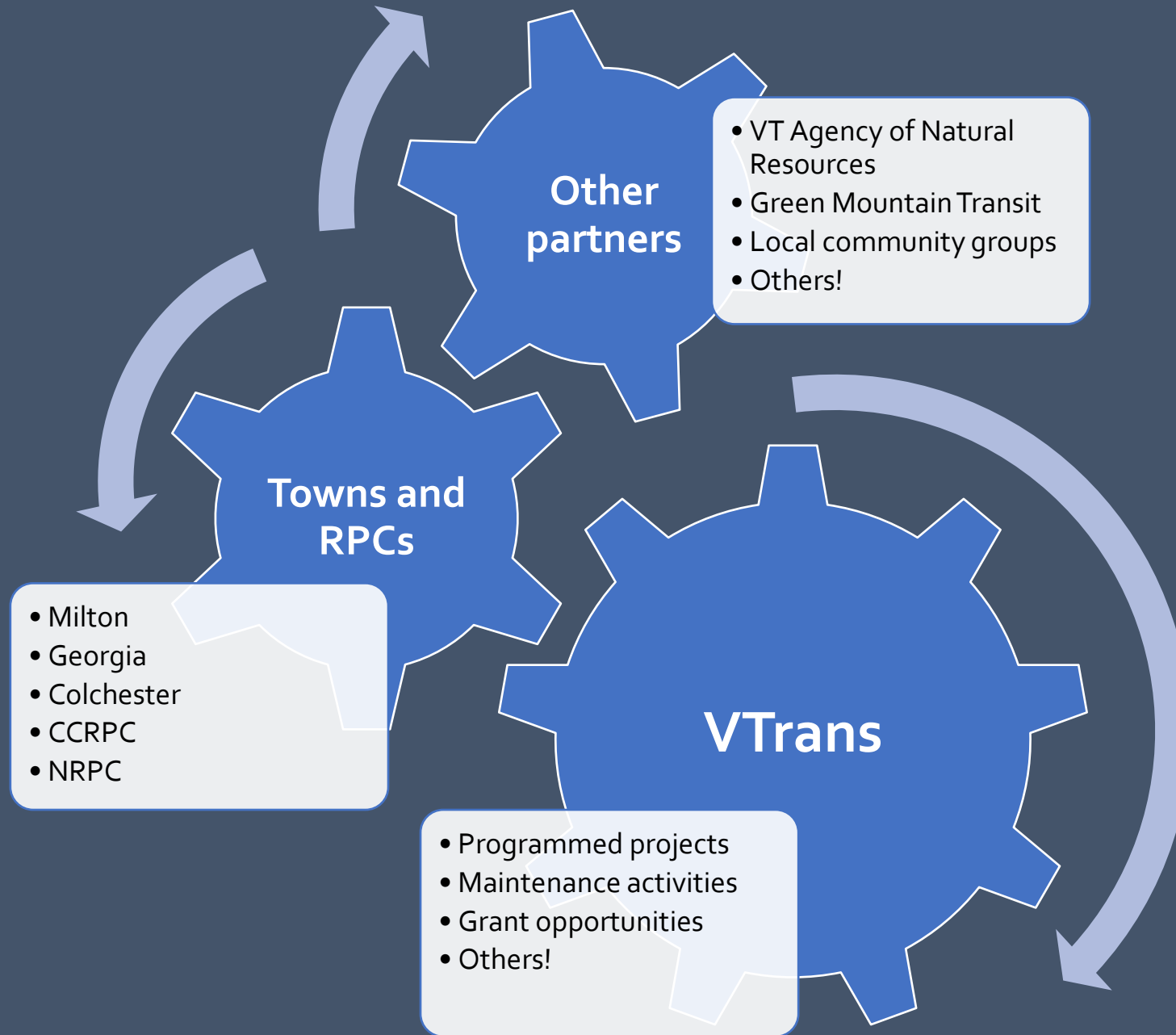
Develop
partnerships

Create action items

Get things moving!



Not just VTrans to implement!



Three types of input

1. VTrans data and staff

2. **Partners** – other state agency, town, RPC or other similar entity which can help us to identify issues along the corridor, and may also be a *partner* is helping to address some of the issues

- ANR, VEM and others
- Green Mountain Transit
- NRPC and CCRPC
- Towns on the corridor
- Local groups representing traditionally underserved populations
- Friends of the Northern Lake Champlain

3. **Stakeholders/ general public** – people who use the corridor

- Towns near the corridor who use it often
- Businesses near and along the corridor
- Residents near and along the corridor
- Advocacy groups near and along the corridor
- Members of the NRPC and CCRPC Transportation Advisory Committees (TACs)

Route 7 Corridor Management Plan 2022

Process

Background research (fall 2021)

- Existing plans
- VTrans staff input
- Initial RPC staff input

Partner outreach (TODAY!)

- Review existing info
- What are your priorities?
- What is missing?

Public outreach (early 2022)

- Survey to solicit needs and priorities

Review next steps (late winter 2022)

- Draft next steps developed by VTrans staff
- Meet with Partners

Finalize plan (mid 2022)

- and start implementing plan where possible

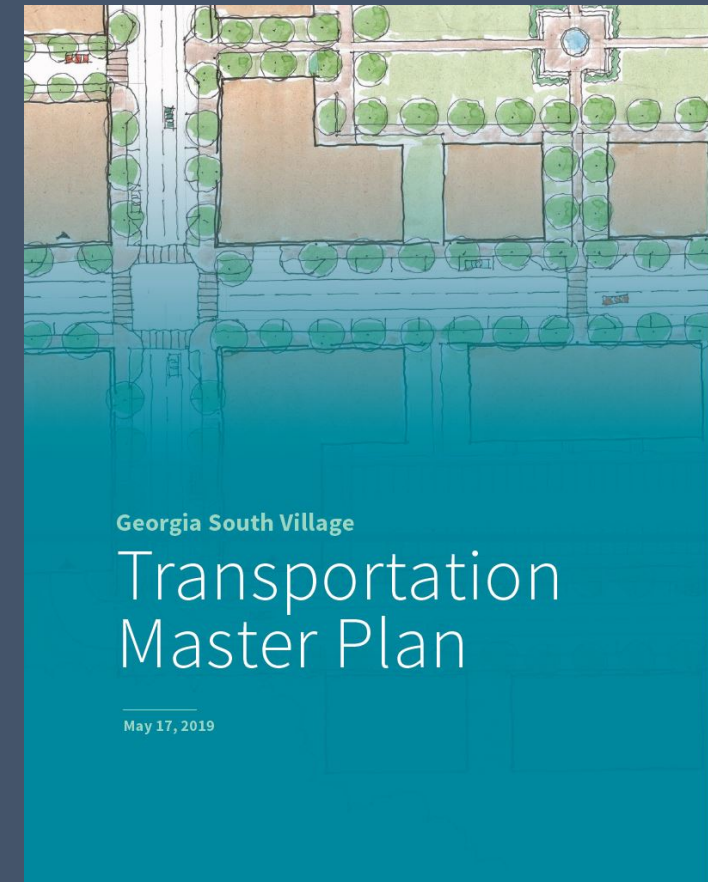
Route 7 Corridor Management Plan 2022

Approx 50 needs and concerns already identified!

View needs/concerns in the StoryMap – link on the [project webpage](#).

Existing information from

- [US Route 7 Milton Corridor Study 2016](#)
- [Georgia South Village Transportation Master Plan 2019](#)
- VTrans staff and data



Where can I view the needs and concerns? How will it be organized?



Project website and StoryMap has various interactive maps and descriptions



4 digit ID (5001, 5012, etc) can help you to cross reference between items



Local name – We tried to include them where we knew them!

Additional info to be added before completion of Corridor Management Plan

Timeline for implementation

- Short term
- Medium term
- Long term
- Await coordination opportunity

Other useful information

- Lead Implementer – not just VTrans!
- Collaboration opportunities

Corridor Management Plan

One plan



Several key themes

Traffic, congestion and safety

Stormwater and drainage

???



Many shared goals for next steps

???

???

???

???

???



Individual next steps

Once completed there will be individual needs and concerns with assigned individual next steps

Go to StoryMap

A link to this StoryMap can be found at

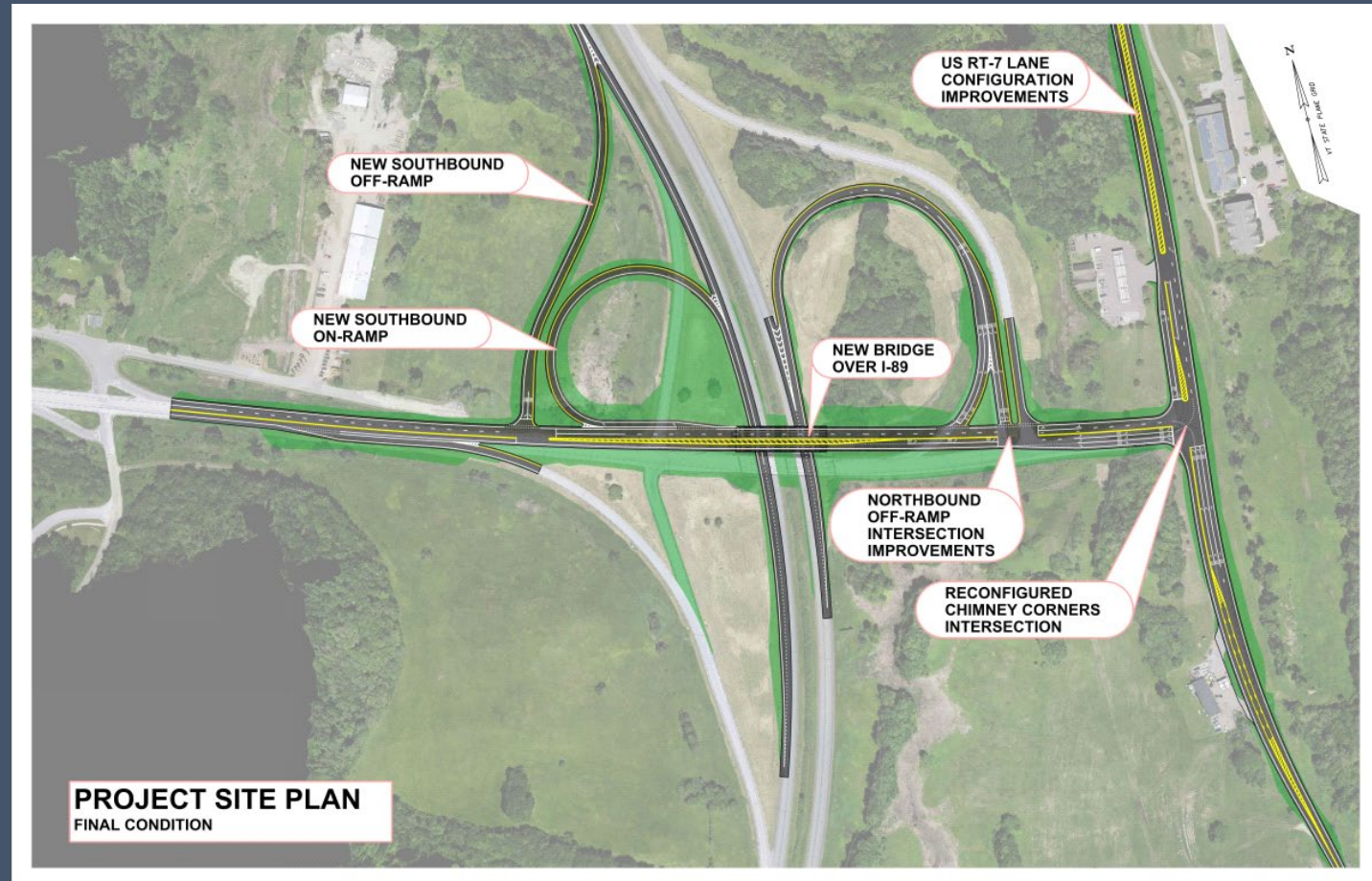
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Upcoming Construction Projects

Significant projects in the few years

Colchester Bridge 18A (I-89 Exit 17/ Chimney Corners)

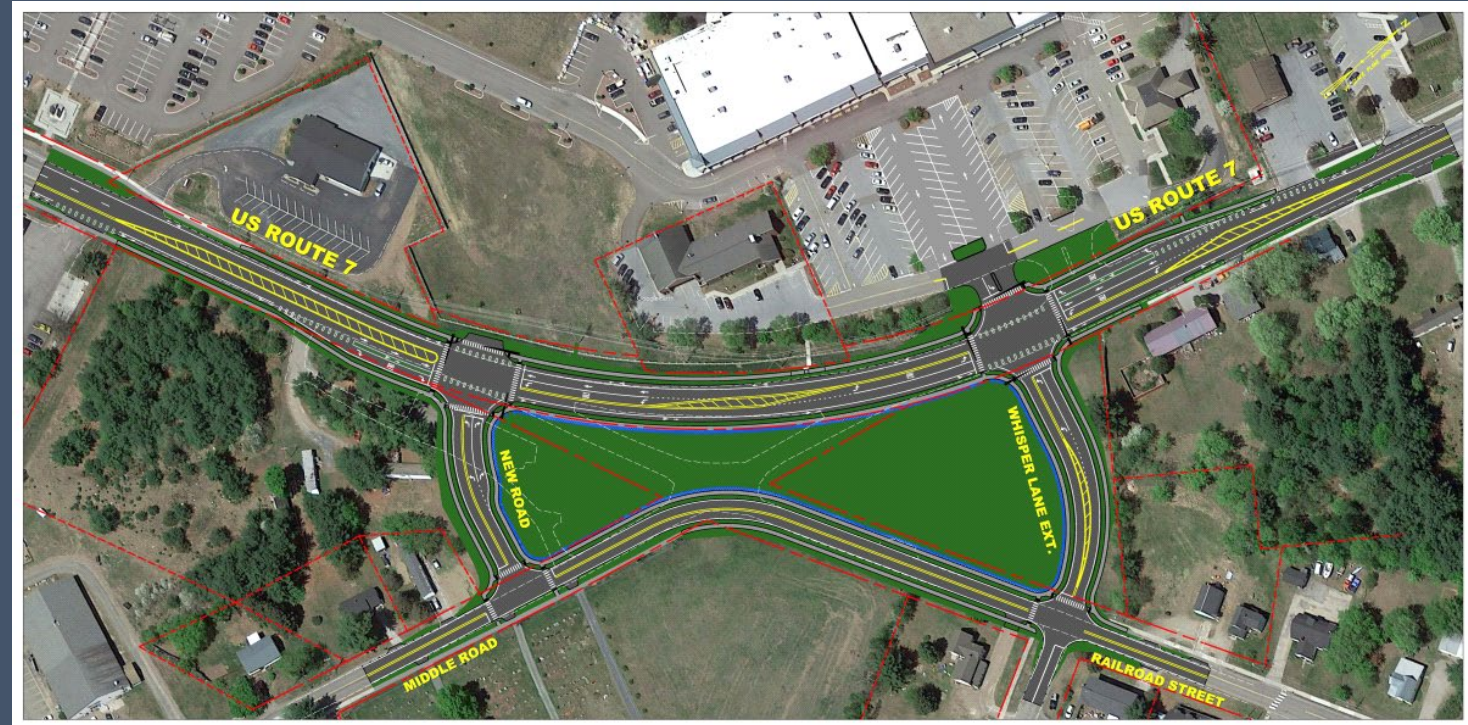
- Construction expected Fall 2024 – Fall 2025
- Includes improvements on Route 7
 - Reconfigured Chimney Corners intersection
 - Lane configuration improvements
- More info in [Project Factsheet](#)



Significant projects in the few years

Milton Hourglass at Cozy Corner (Route 7/ Middle Rd/ Railroad St)

- Construction expected Winter 2023 – Winter 2025
- Includes improvements on Route 7
 - Realigned intersections with new traffic signals
 - Lane configuration improvements
- More info in [Project Factsheet](#)



Significant project further out

Paving project (Milton to Georgia)

- Not yet in the VTrans budget but anticipated for FY23
- Anticipate construction around 2027
- Project scope includes slab removal for approximately 8 miles of roadway (exact begin and end points are not yet finalized)
- To keep projects focused and moving, projects of this size
 - Stay within the existing ROW
 - Try to avoid environmental impacts
 - Avoid complex environmental permits
- Project factsheet forthcoming

Other significant projects?

VTrans led projects are not everything!

What are Towns and others doing?

- Georgia – stormwater improvements?
- Milton – sidewalk and streetscape improvements?
- Other projects?



Starting to prioritize

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actionable!**

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Longer term ideas

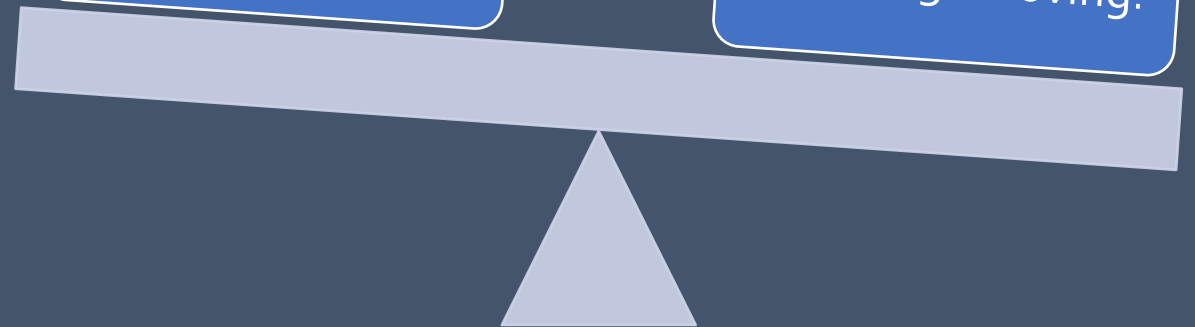
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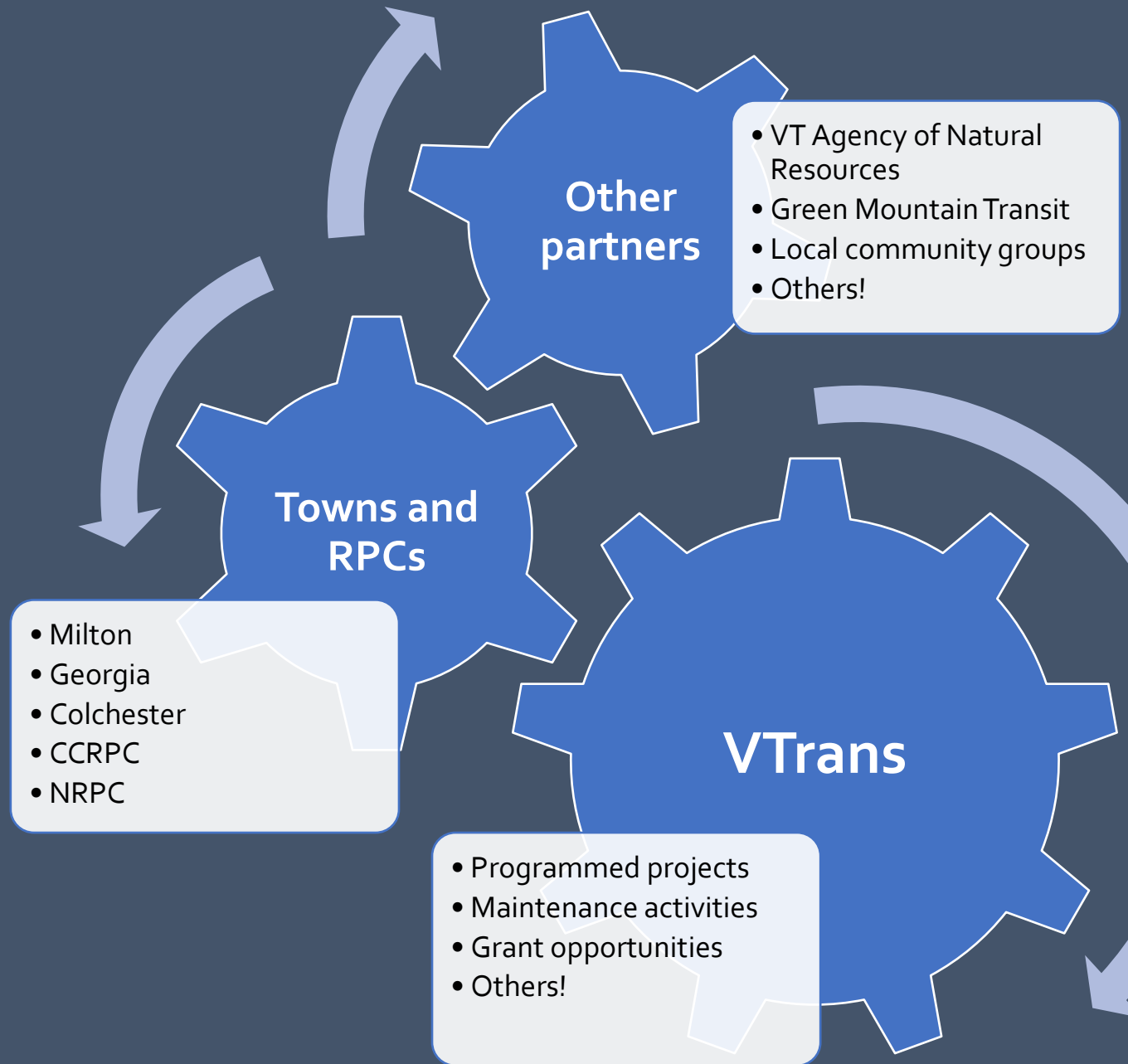
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Slab removal project

What could be in this project?

- Wider/ consistent shoulders
- Minor culvert replacements
- Modest geometry improvements including at intersections
- Turn lanes (if warranted)
- Crosswalks (if meet VTrans standards)
- Bike lanes

Are there projects which could be coordinated?

- Drainage and streetscape improvements

To keep projects focused and moving, paving projects of this size

- Stay within the existing ROW
- Try to avoid environmental impacts
- Avoid complex environmental permits

Remember this is a rehabilitation not a reconstruction!

Public survey includes questions asking preferences on priorities

Adding crosswalks

Help us to identify potential crosswalk locations

- Where are pedestrians commonly travelling from and to?
- Where do you often see pedestrians trying to cross the road?
- Are there areas outside the core Milton section where crosswalks should be considered?

Go to interactive map when facilitating discussion

Some considerations when installing crosswalks

- Need good sight distances
- Need sidewalk on both ends of the crosswalk
- Pedestrian signals should be included in signalized intersections
- Each location needs specific evaluation

Public survey includes questions asking preferences on priorities

Prioritizing intersection improvements

Help us prioritize future intersection projects

- 5012 – Bartlett Rd, W. Milton Rd, Legion Rd and Racine Rd in Milton
- 5013 – Bombardier Rd in Milton
- 5020 – Rebecca Lander Dr, Lamoille Terrace and Barnum St in Milton
- 5015 – Main St in Milton
- 5008 – Ballard Rd in Georgia
- 5006 – Route 104A intersection in Georgia
- 5001 - Exit 18 northbound exit and Skunk Hollow Rd in Georgia

Some considerations when making intersection changes

- MUTCD criteria must be met for each location (Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices)
- For most needs, VPSP₂ used to select projects to move forward (“Vermont Project Selection and Prioritization Process”)

Public survey includes questions asking preferences on priorities

What are the numbers? 4 digit ID (5001, 5012, etc) can help you cross reference between items!

Other mobility needs

Are there other mobility needs that should be considered?

- Transit stop locations
- Access management
- People using bicycles
- Others?

Are there any other projects nearby which we should be aware of?

Drainage, stormwater and environmental factors

Many stormwater and drainage issues identified in the plan

- 5026 and many others - Between Main St in Milton and the Georgia townline - drainage issues in this area due to ledge preventing wider roads, longer culverts and better ditches.
- 5003 – Georgia South Village near I-89 northbound ramps – Stormwater issues causing gully erosion in the Deer Brook
- 5029 – near Chrisemily Lane
- And more! *See StoryMap for full list!*

Are there other needs that should be considered?

- Wildlife crossing?
- Rare, threatened or endangered species?
- Water quality?
- Others?

Are there any other projects nearby which we should be aware of?

What are the numbers? 4 digit ID (5001, 5012, etc) can help you cross reference between items!

Non-construction needs

Some examples that are being considered:

- Class 1 Town Highway conversion
- Integrating new Phosphorous Control Plan for VTrans lands

Are there any partnerships or coordination efforts which should be developed?

Next steps

Can you help?

- Sidewalk GIS data
- Community project info we may not have (eg a construction project)
- Emails for key people
 - who should be invited to provide input, including advocacy groups
 - who can help distribute information to the wider community (eg Front Porch Forum, community listserv, facebook groups, etc)
- Anything related and notable we have not yet discussed?

Please pass along any of this information to Katharine Otto (Planning Coordinator) – Katharine.otto@vermont.gov 802-917-3451

What comes next?

Partners review draft CMP

- Provide feedback on needs
- Provide info on recent and upcoming projects nearby

Public outreach

- Survey to solicit needs and priorities

Review next steps

- Draft next steps developed by VTrans staff
- Meet with Partners

Finalize plan

- Expected mid 2022

2024

- Check in with VTrans staff and local partners for updates on progress
- Email update to Partners and Stakeholders

Updates, comments or questions? Email Katharine.otto@vermont.gov

Resources and contacts

Project website and link to the StoryMap

<https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/corridor-management/us7-Milton-Georgia>

Questions or comments? Reach out to Katharine Otto (Planning Coordinator) –
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