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## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Town of Williston Board of Selectmen  
**Cc:** Michael LaCroix (VTrans)  
**From:** Green International Affiliates, Inc. (Green)  
**Date:** August 12, 2020  
**Project Name:** Williston STP 5500(17)  
**Project Number:** Green Project No. 20039.03XX/15008.02x  
**Subject:** Mountain View Road Traffic Control Cost Comparison and Traffic Impacts

VTrans and Green International presented the traffic control options on Mountain View Road for the subject project to the Williston Selectboard on July 28th, 2020. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Selectboard requested additional information related to the cost of the detour option compared to the cost of the temporary widening option, and the estimated impacts to traffic volumes to Town Highways along the detour route. This memorandum summarizes the increased construction and right-of-way costs associated with maintaining two lanes of travel on Mountain View Road (Option 1) and the proposed traffic volume impacts associated with the detour (Option 2).

### **Option 1 Increased Cost**

Traffic Control Option 1 would maintain two lanes of traffic on Mountain View Road, which will require additional temporary widening on Mountain View Road and Industrial Avenue when compared to Option 2. The additional temporary widening and traffic control would cost an additional \$70,000 and the cost of the temporary and permanent easements to accommodate the widening and utility pole relocations would cost approximately \$25,000. This would result in an overall cost increase of \$95,000 to the project to maintain two-way traffic on Mountain View Road.

### **Option 2 Detour Impacts**

Traffic Control Option 2 proposes to detour traffic heading westbound on Mountain View Road via Old Stage Road and US Route 2 between 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM. Approximately 2,450 vehicles use Mountain View Road and 690 vehicles (2 vehicles per minute) use Old Stage Road during this timeframe on a typical day. Based on our review, we anticipate a 1,140 vehicle (166%) per day increase to Old Stage Road during the detour timeframe, resulting in about 5 cars per minute. It is also assumed that a portion of Old Stage Road traffic will be detoured to US Route 2 to access Mountain View Road and VT Route 2A. Conversely, traffic volumes on Mountain View Road between Old Stage Road and Industrial Ave will decrease to approximately 1,300 vehicles during the detour timeframe (approximately 3 cars per minute) or a 53% reduction in traffic volume.

At the July 28<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meeting, town officials indicated that the Town may prefer using North Williston Road (Class 2 Town Highway) to detour truck traffic instead of using Old Stage Road (Class 3 Town Highway). VTrans can sign North Williston Road as a truck detour route, if preferred by the Town. VTrans requests the Town indicate their preference for the truck detour route so the route can be included in the design plans.

The Selectboard also inquired if the Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD) had any comments on the options presented, as trucks regularly use Mountain View Road to access the CSWD facility on Redmond Road. Below is a summary of the comments received and our responses (*in italics*) to their concerns:

- CSWD stated that the off-peak hour restriction will have minimal impact on their operations and if anything critical comes up while the detour is in place, CSWD can haul earlier in the morning.
- CSWD stated that heading east on Mountain View Road and onto North Williston Road should not be an issue and the road rating will support the weight of their trucks.
- CSWD noted a concern related to the posting of roadways in the springtime. *VTrans anticipates that the detour period will be during the summer months.*
- Are there any preliminary timelines regarding the length of the detour? *VTrans anticipates the detour should be in place for three to four weeks. It is ultimately up to how the Contractor phases the work.*
- Hinesburg Sand and Gravel actively pulls sand out of the Redmond Road quarry. It may be worth checking in with them as well. *VTrans can follow up with Hinesburg Sand and Gravel.*

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