

Town Highway Grants (FY 2020)

TH Structures

State grants for bridges, culverts, and retaining walls on Class 1, 2, or 3 town highways. Maximum state grant is \$175,000 per project, to be matched by at least 20% of total cost with municipal funds or 10% municipal funds if town has adopted codes and standards and conducted highway infrastructure inventory. VTrans district personnel work with towns to assist in the application process and to select projects.

FY 2019 appropriation: \$6,333,500
FY 2020 recommended: \$6,333,500

The following is a summary of demand versus actual money awarded to towns for this program for the past five years. The following table summarizes the information that we have in that regard. Please note that “demand” represents total project costs (not just State funds sought). For example, if a town had a project whose total cost estimate was for \$500,000, the maximum State funds they could receive would be \$175,000. So the “demand” for this one project would be \$500,000 and the “funded” would be \$175,000.

Structures	Funded (\$)	Demand (\$)	% Funded
FY2019	\$8,330,825.64	\$16,234,456.95	51%
FY2018	\$6,086,992.20	\$16,403,242.13	37%
FY2017	\$6,931,867.11	\$19,340,151.63	36%
FY2016	\$6,413,177.74	\$20,628,035.22	31%
FY2015	\$6,684,604.33	\$15,392,803.49	43%

TH Class 2 Roadway

State grants for preservation of Class 2 town highways (resurfacing and reconstruction). Maximum state grant is \$175,000 per project, to be matched by at least 30% of total cost with municipal funds or 20% municipal funds if town has adopted codes and standards and conducted highway infrastructure inventory. VTrans district personnel work with towns to assist in the application process and to select projects.

FY 2019 appropriation: \$7,648,750
FY 2020 recommended: \$7,648,750

The following is a summary of demand versus actual money awarded to towns for this program for the past five years. The following table summarizes the information that we have in that regard. Please note that “demand” represents total project costs (not just State funds sought). For example, if a town had a project whose total cost estimate was for \$500,000, the maximum State funds they could receive would be \$175,000. So the “demand” for this one project would be \$500,000 and the “funded” would be \$175,000.

Class 2	Funded (\$)	Demand (\$)	% Funded
FY2019	\$7,701,678.78	\$26,676,130.67	29%
FY2018	\$7,653,925.20	\$25,588,829.17	30%
FY2017	\$7,768,208.23	\$27,558,789.42	28%
FY2016	\$7,102,720.87	\$27,334,203.13	26%
FY2015	\$7,724,668.80	\$23,715,439.28	33%

TH State Aid Non-Federal Disasters

Annual appropriation for emergency aid in repairing, building, or reconstructing Class 1, 2, or 3 town highways and for repairing or replacing drainage structures including bridges on Class 1, 2, 3, and 4 town highways damaged by natural or man-made disasters. Secretary of Transportation shall determine that disaster is of such magnitude that state aid is both reasonable and necessary to preserve the public good. Disaster shall not qualify for assistance from FEMA or from FHWA ER programs.

Towns eligible for the greater of either:

90% of repair/replacement costs

or

The eligible repair/replacement costs, minus an amount equal to 10% of the overall total highway budget minus the town's winter maintenance budget.

FY 2019 appropriation: \$1,150,000

FY 2020 recommended: \$1,150,000

TH State Aid Federal Disasters

Towns receiving assistance under the Federal Highway Administration's emergency relief program for federal-aid highways shall be eligible for state aid when a nonfederal match is required. Eligibility for aid under this subsection shall be subject to the following criteria:

- Towns shall be responsible for up to 10 percent of the total eligible project costs.
- For towns that have adopted road and bridge standards, eligibility for reimbursement for repair or replacement of infrastructure shall be to those standards. For towns that have not adopted these standards, eligibility for reimbursement for repair or replacement of infrastructure shall be limited to the specifications of the infrastructure that preexisted the emergency event; however, the repair or replacement shall be to standards approved by the agency.

FY 2019 appropriation: \$180,000 (\$160,000 federal / \$20,000 State)

FY 2020 recommended: \$180,000 (\$160,000 federal / \$20,000 State)

TH Aid

General state aid to town highways. Annual appropriation to Class 1, 2, and 3 town highways. Distribution is made quarterly, with no application required. No requirement for local match, other than a requirement that municipalities expend no less than \$300 per mile of local tax revenues on their highways. Planned use of funds must be detailed to State in an annual town plan.

6% of appropriation: Class 1 town highways

44% of appropriation: Class 2 town highways

50% of appropriation: Class 3 town highways

FY 2019 appropriation: \$25,982,744

FY 2020 recommended: \$25,982,744

TH Class 1 Supplemental

Annual appropriation for supplemental aid to municipalities having Class 1 town highways with more than two lanes. Distribution based on the measurement of the additional Class 1 town highways with more than two lanes.

FY 2019 appropriation: \$128,750
FY 2020 recommended: \$128,750

TH Public Assistance Grants

Annual appropriation for emergency relief and assistance funds (ERAF) to be used as a partial match to federal (FEMA) grants for federally declared disasters. The ERAF fund is administered by the Secretary of Administration. VTrans processes the expenditure (grants) from these funds as part of the Public Assistance Program. The amounts of spending authority (FEMA / ERAF) are determined based on FEMA approved damage estimates.

FY 2019 appropriation: \$5,059,457 (\$3,000,000 FEMA Fund / \$1,419,457 ERAF Fund / \$160,000 Transportation Fund / \$480,000 Interdepartmental Transfer)
FY 2020 recommended: \$4,140,000 (\$3,000,000 FEMA Fund / \$640,000 ERAF Fund / \$100,000 Transportation Fund / \$400,000 Interdepartmental Transfer)

We currently have six open FEMA Public Assistance disaster declarations assigned to VTrans as follows:

Declaration	Approved Estimate	Federal Share	Federal Paid	Federal Balance	State Share	State Paid	State Balance
1995 (Apr 23 – May 9, 2011)	17,784,542	13,353,020	8,311,309	5,041,711	1,450,032	1,485,427	(35,395)
4001 (May 26-27, 2011)	14,072,257	10,627,158	10,124,008	503,150	1,811,009	2,073,228	(262,218)
4022 (Aug 27 – Sep 2, 2011)	230,736,453	208,429,078	199,810,286	8,618,792	6,023,360	6,367,404	(344,044)
4140 (Jun 25 – Jul 11, 2013)	8,218,537	6,208,980	5,982,338	226,642	925,228	813,997	111,232

Totals	270,811,789	238,618,236	224,227,941	14,390,295	10,209,629	10,740,056	(530,425)
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All FEMA Public Assistance declarations after declaration 4140 are wholly administered by Vermont Emergency Management.