

Date: February 24, 2025  
To: Plainfield Select Board  
From: Plainfield Recovery Grants Work Group  
Re: Recovery Grants Update

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We are closely watching what is happening with federal funding as things unfold in Washington. At this point, there have been two occurrences of funding being held or withdrawn. We received word last week that there is a moratorium on new contracts for the Emergency Watershed Protection. The four eligible property owners have been informed and we await new information at this point. Also, funding for the Americorp intern for Emergency Management was withdrawn. We are exploring other ways to fund this important position.

Updates this month on grants in process:

1. FEMA Public Assistance:
  - a. Gary and The Integrity Group are now working with our third FEMA PDMG, and they have realigned the FEMA portal with our Disaster Inventory.
  - b. Priority permanent projects will include sites outside of Brook Rd right of way.
  - c. Site visits won't begin until the end of March awaiting good weather
  - d. Reimbursements for emergency repairs should begin processing within the next couple of weeks
2. FHWA:
  - a. Hiring a project manager for the Mill Street Bridge project is underway. This is our first permanent repair project under FHWA.
  - b. There are 13 project "sites" identified with FHWA. Each one will have its own Project Manager and process.
  - c. George Springston will be asked to help choose project managers to ensure that sufficient river/watershed experience is included in the decision.
3. ADVANCE SYSTEM FUNDING GRANT:
  - a. Michael Zahner is working with Steve Libby of VEM on this application, which will provide a comprehensive H&H study top to bottom of the Great Brook.
  - b. The estimated request is \$150K, with a 25% match.
4. EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION GRANT:
  - a. These funds are now under a moratorium.
  - b. Qualified properties: 1495 Coburn Road, 99 Brook Road (in buyout program); 203 Martin Meadow, 125 Barre Hill Rd
5. MUNICIPAL PLANNING GRANT:
  - a. \$30K available, 10% match
  - b. No decision has yet been made about the focus of this grant; the deadline for application is March 31.

6. CDBG, VCDP GRANT:

- a. Arion is heading up this application which is for a \$60K planning grant to support the final engineering of the Village Expansion project. 10% match, which can include in-kind hours.

7. CDBG-DR GRANT:

- a. \$68M to Vermont; \$55 Million to Washington and Lamoille Counties. \$10 Million maximum on project application.
- b. Plainfield was on the list of the top five areas to fund provided to Secretary Lindsay Kurril.
- c. We are awaiting details but understand housing and infrastructure are primary focus areas. Application not yet open, expect to hear more in March.

8. ANIMATING INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT:

- a. Met with Jesse Cooper to discuss use of \$5K design grant application
- b. We've reached out to Jamie Spector to include Parks and Public Art for their involvement; awaiting response
- c. Thoughts are to use this grant to kick off a public engagement process about the new green space in the village

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Hatcher, Town Grants Administrator

On behalf of the Grants Work Group:

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