

Town of Ripton Old Town Road Reclassification

Scoping Study Alternatives Presentation



Introductions



Allison J. Dickson | Town Clerk / Selectboard Administrator
& Selectboard



Robert M. Clark, P.E. | Principal / Senior Project Engineer



Mike Winslow | Transportation Planner

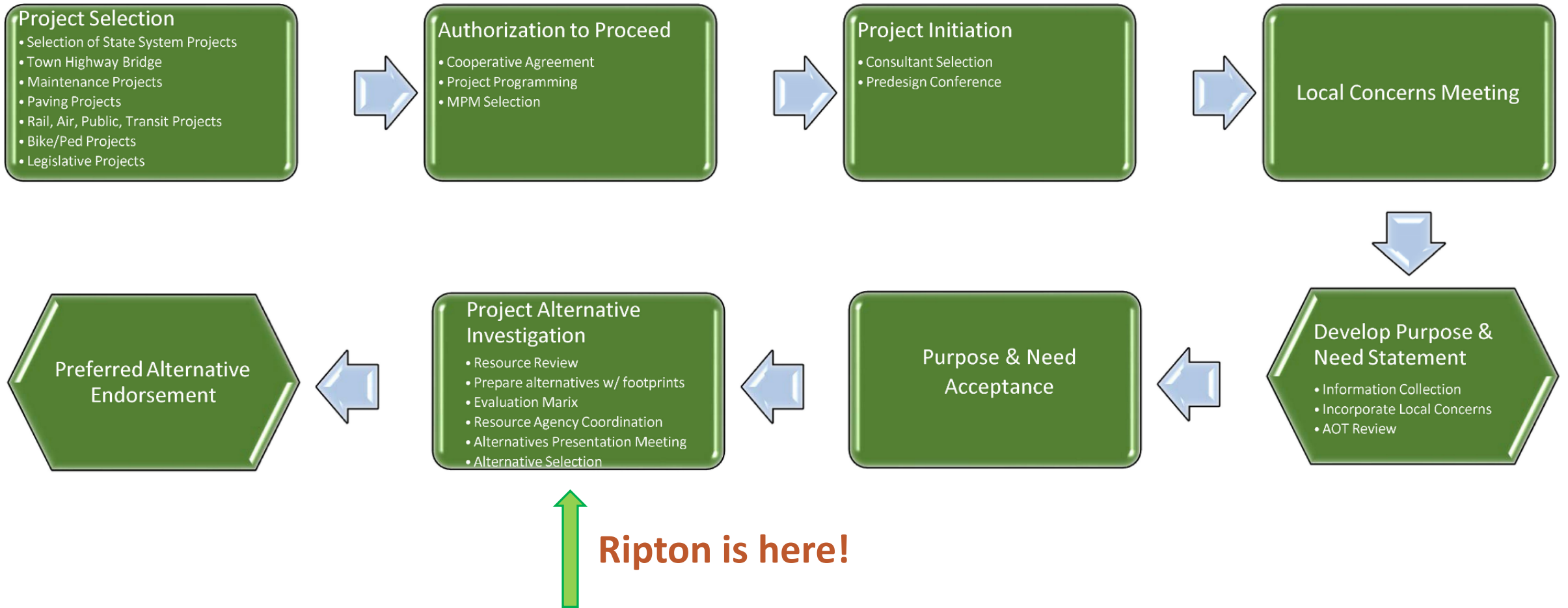


Agenda

- Introductions
- Process
- Purpose of Alternatives Presentation
- Project Area (Segments 1-4)
- Concerns/Impacts
- Alternatives
- Next Steps



VTrans Scoping Process



Process Stages

✓ Project Kick-off Meeting

This is a meeting of the municipality, MPM, Design Consultant and VTrans Project Supervisor to discuss the goals and objectives of the project and define the project development process. Project scope, schedule and budget are some of the areas of discussion at this meeting

✓ Local Concerns Meeting

This is the first of three public meetings. This gives local citizens and stakeholders with interest in the project a chance to comment on the potential details and impacts of the project.

✓ Purpose & Need

Develop a Purpose & Need Statement so that the needs and goals of the project are clearly defined.

Alternatives Presentation

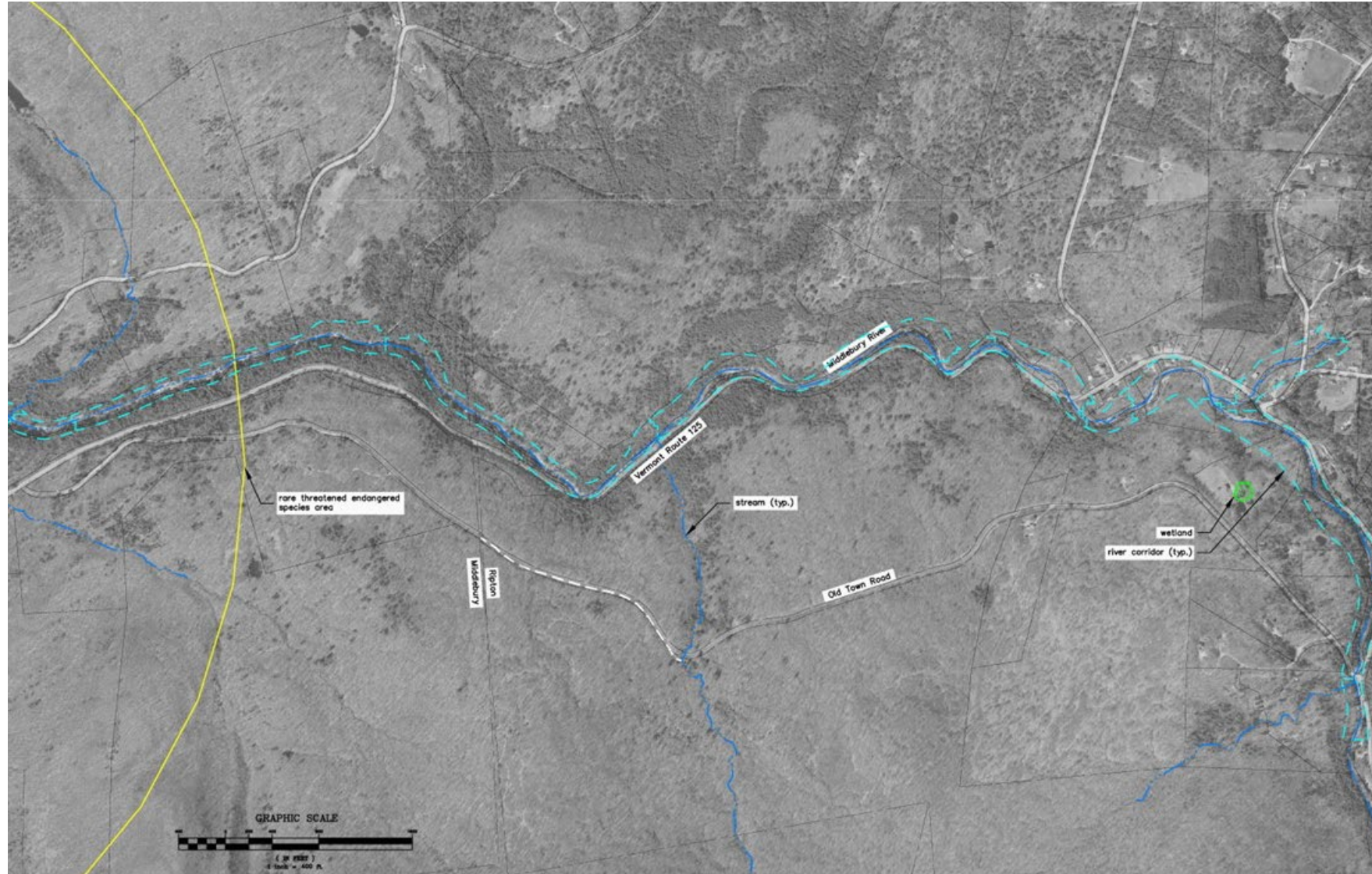
This is the second public meeting. This is when the design consultant presents the alternatives of the project to the public. The purpose of this presentation is to ultimately select a preferred alternative for further development.

Purpose of Alternatives Presentation

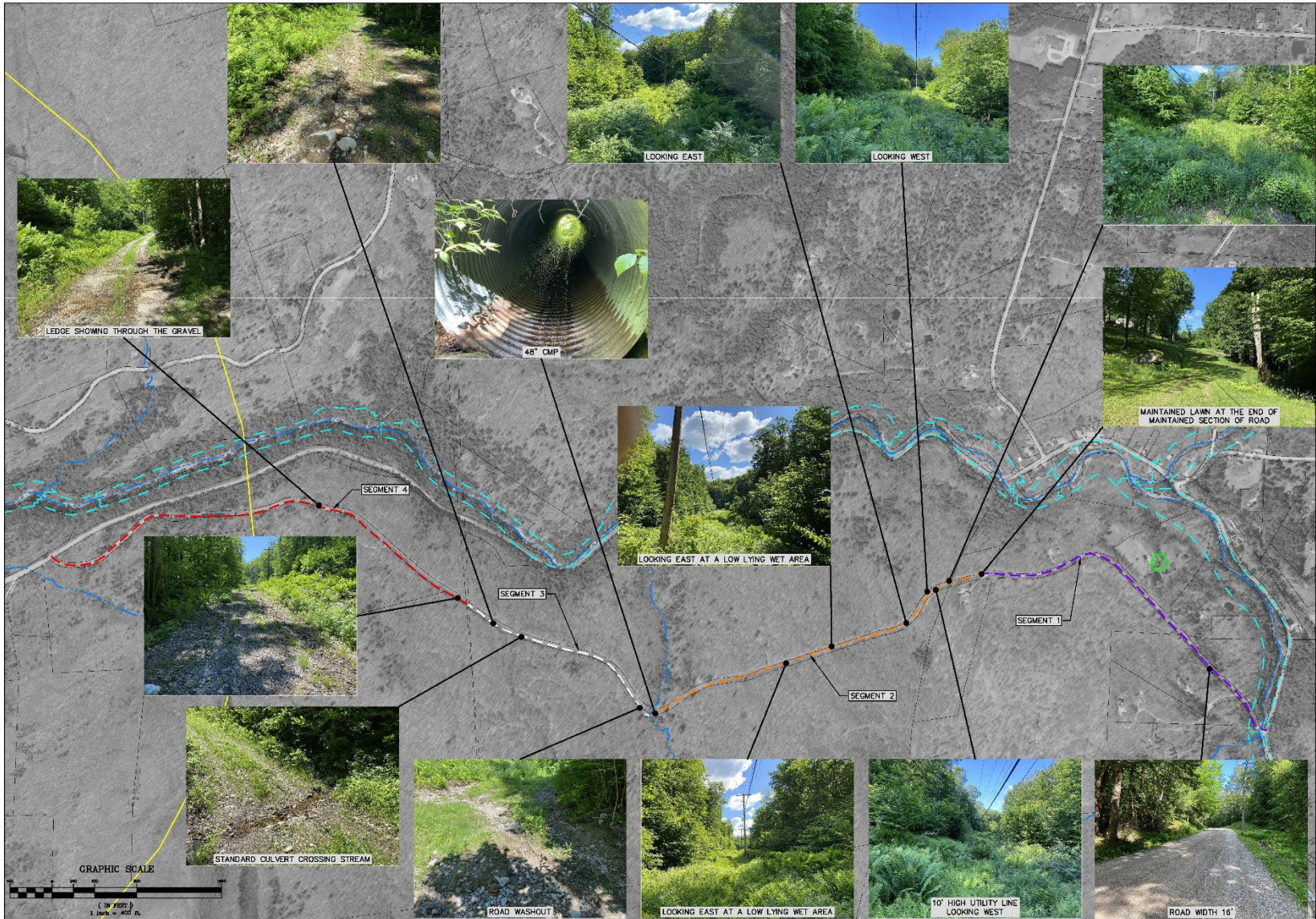
- An “Alternative” is a possible course of action to address the issues that created the project in the first place!
- An Alternatives Presentation shares a variety of possible courses of action—
 - to show what is possible and/or feasible,
 - highlight the pros & cons of each,
 - align with Purpose and Need Statement,
 - help the Town choose the best course of action.



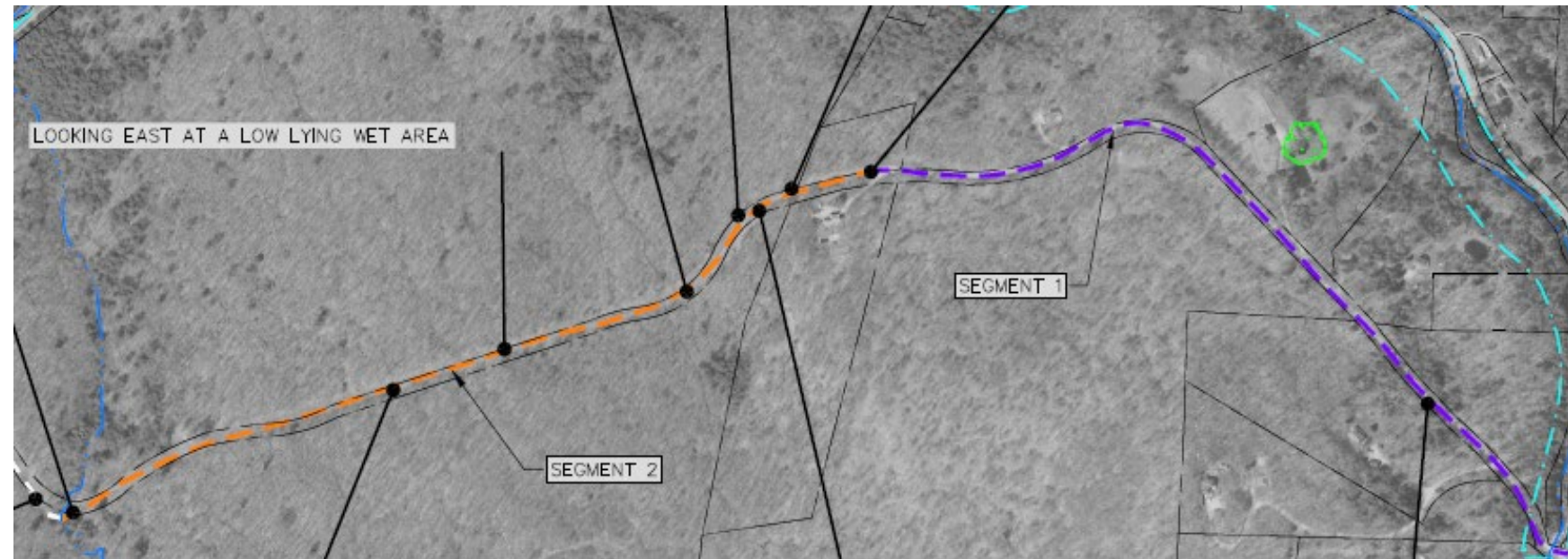
Project Area



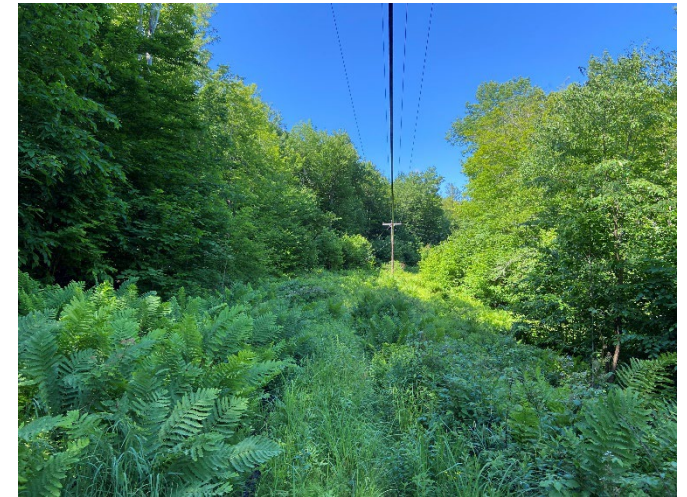
Old Town Road Segments with Photos



Segment 1 (Off 125)



Segment 2



Segment 1 (Off 125)



Classification – A class 3 road maintained by the Town of Ripton.

Condition Assessment–This segment of road is crowned and has drainage swales on either side to facilitate stormwater runoff. There are several 12-inch culverts at driveways and 18-inch culverts beneath the roadway to facilitate the drainage.

Improvements needed for Emergency Vehicle Access - There are no improvements necessary to this segment in order for it to be passable by emergency vehicles.



Segment 2



Classification – A class 4 road unmaintained by the Town of Ripton.

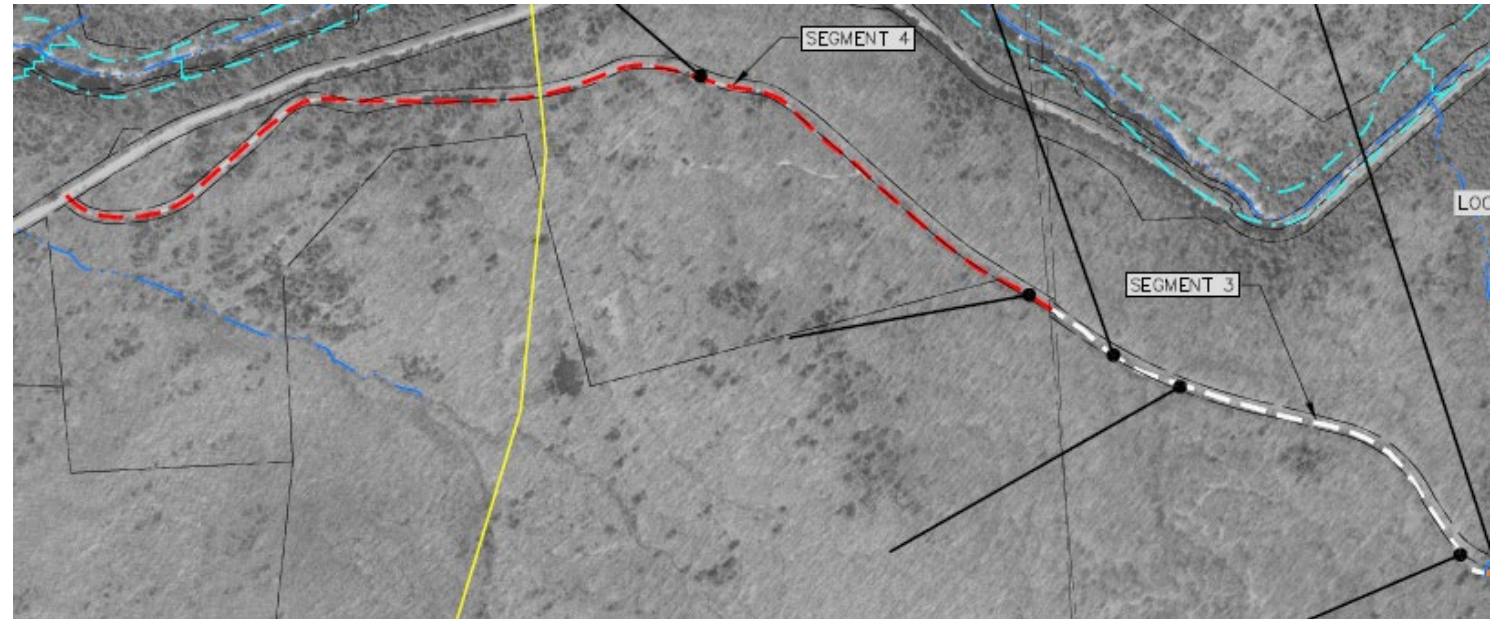
Condition Assessment - This section of road is completely overgrown with dense, ferny vegetation. It is unpassable with most vehicles, and difficult to navigate by foot. There were limited signs of gravel from the old road bed identified during the site visit. There were locations where water did not drain, indicating potential wetlands had developed within the former roadway bed.



Improvements needed for Emergency Vehicle Access

- Roadway must be cleared of vegetation.
- Install cross culverts.
- Level edges of roadway for stormwater to enter drainage swales.
- Add a +/- 6-inch layer of surface gravel will likely be needed to establish an adequate crown (cross slope) to facilitate runoff.

Segment 3



Segment 4 (in Middlebury)



Segment 3



Classification – A Class 4 road unmaintained by the Town of Ripton.

Condition Assessment– Road conditions on this section are variable. Most of the road is in a condition as reflected in the image to the left. In many locations, there is evidence of washouts and deposition of sediments and silts along the roadway because stormwater is unable to leave the road bed. Travel is feasible for vehicles with elevated ground clearance and 4-wheel drive.

Improvements needed for Emergency Vehicle Access –

- Level edges of roadway for stormwater to enter drainage swales.
- Install cross culverts.
- Add a +/- 6-inch layer of surface gravel will likely be needed to establish an adequate crown (cross slope) to facilitate runoff.
- Replace 48-inch culvert (pictured)

Segment 4 (in Middlebury)



Classification – A class 4 road unmaintained by the Town of Middlebury.

Condition Assessment – While unmaintained, there appears to be regular vehicular access by local hunters and the U.S. Forest service.

Improvements Needed for Emergency Vehicle Access –

- Level edges of roadway for stormwater to enter drainage swales.
- Install cross culverts.
- Add a +/- 6-inch layer of surface gravel will likely be needed to establish an adequate crown (cross slope) to facilitate runoff.



Concerns/Impacts



1. Wetlands



2. Surface Waters



3. Floodplains



4. Stormwater



5. Rare, Threatened, & Endangered Species



6. Agricultural Land



7. Historic, Archeological, and Architectural Resources

Alternative 1: No Build

- It's always possible to do nothing!
- No maintenance, no improvements
- No emergency route if Route 125 is unpassable!
- The Roadway corridor would return to a natural condition
- **No construction cost**



Alternative 2A: Emergency Access Road Improvements

- Clear and Grade unpassable sections of Old Town Road
- Add cross culverts for drainage improvements
- Segments of Road would be gated except during emergency events

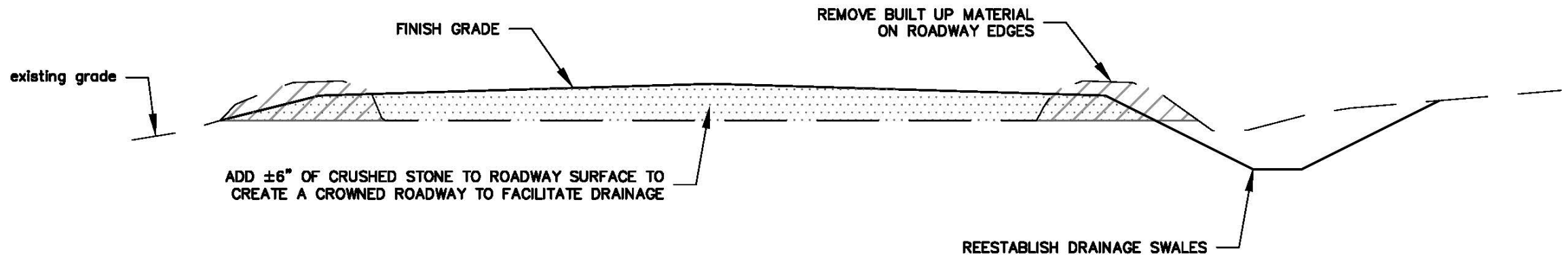


Alternative 2A: Priority Projects

- Clear and Grade vegetation
- Remove built up debris on roadway shoulders
- Reconstruct drainage swales
- Add cross culverts and eliminate water bars.
- Regrade roadway travel surface and add crushed gravel to establish a crown.
- Gate portions for use only during emergency events
- **Estimated Construction Cost: \$400,000 (\$240,000 in Ripton)**



Alternative 2A: Typical Detail



TYPICAL ROAD SECTION

NOT TO SCALE

Alternative 2B: Upgrade for Year-Round Use

Priority Projects Include:

- 1) Upgrade to Class 3 Road**
- 2) Replace Old Town Road Bridge**
- 3) Replace Culvert in Segment 3**

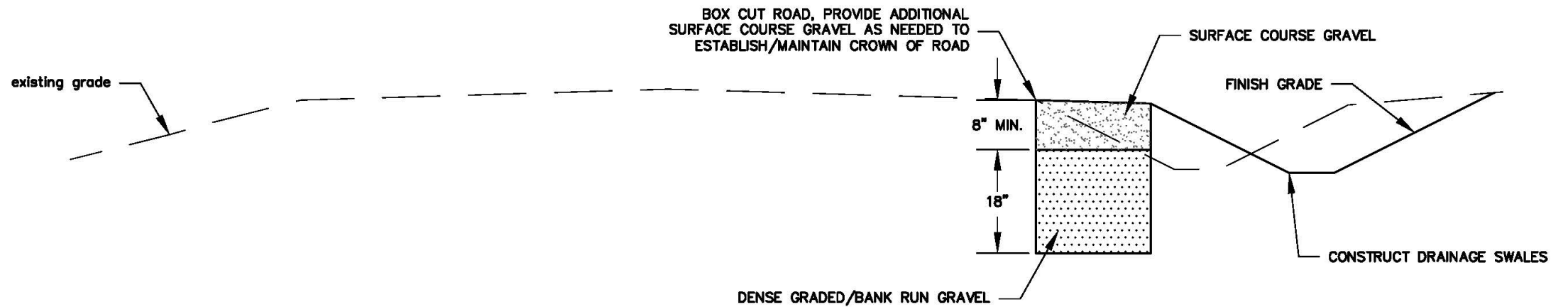


1) Upgrade to Class 3 Road

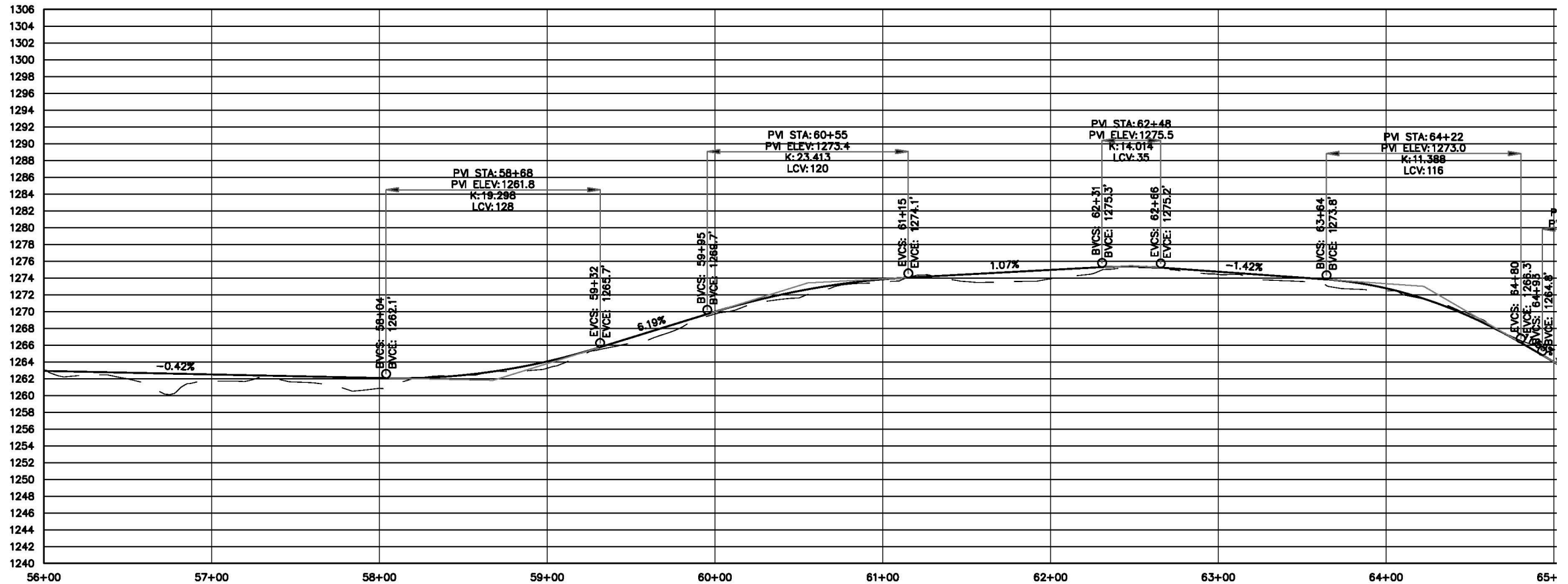
- Utility Relocation
- Additional Clearing and Grading
- Widen Road to 22-feet
- 10 foot travel lanes
- 1 foot gravel shoulders
- Horizontal / Vertical curve adjustments to accommodate a design speed of 30 mph
- **Estimated Cost: \$650,000**



Alternative 2B: Typical Detail of Road Widening



Alternative 2B: Typical Profile Adjustment



2) Replacing the Old Town Road Bridge

- The Potash Bridge Connects VT 125 to Old Town Road
- As pictured, one of the wingwalls of the bridge has failed
- A previous study concluded the bridge would wash out in a 100-year storm
- **Estimated Cost: \$725,000**



3) Replace Culvert in Segment 3 at unnamed tributary of the Middlebury River

- The 48-inch corrugated metal pipe culvert is undersized and past its useful life
- Like the bridge, it would wash out in a 100-year storm
- Upgrade to a precast concrete box culvert with 10-foot wide clear opening
- **Estimated Construction Cost: \$225,000**



Total Estimated Construction Cost

	Alternative 2A	Alternative 2B	Total
Segment 1	\$0	\$940,000	\$940,000
Segment 2	\$150,000	\$275,000	\$425,000
Segment 3	\$90,000	\$380,000	\$470,000
Total Ripton	\$240,000	\$1,595,000	\$1,835,000
Segment 4	\$160,000	\$100,000	\$260,000
Total Project	\$400,000	\$1,695,000	\$2,095,000

Evaluation Matrix

Criteria	Alternative 1	Alternative 2A	Alternative 2B
	No Build	Emergency Access	Upgrade
Impacts			
ROW Acquisition	None	None	None
Stormwater/Drainage	None	Moderate	Substantial
Elevations/Grading	None	Minimal	Substantial
Utility Relocation	None	None	Substantial
Archeological & Historic	None	None	Potential
Prime Agricultural Soils	None	None	None
Hazardous Materials	None	None	None
Floodplains	None	Minimal	Minimal
T&E Species	None	Bat & Deer	Bat & Deer
Wetlands	None	Minimal	Minimal
Local and Regional Issues			
Access to Properties	No Change	Minimal	Moderate
Maintenance	No Change	Minimal	Moderate
Character	No Change	Minimal	Moderate
Conformance to Town/Regional Plan	No	Yes	Yes
Satisfies Purpose & Need	No	Yes	Yes
Permits/Approvals			
19 V.S.A. 111 Access Permit	No	No	Yes
Act 250	No	No	No
Floodplain	No	Yes	Yes
Stream Alteration	No	No	Yes
Stormwater Discharge	No	No	Yes
Stormwater Construction	No	No	Yes
Shoreline	No	No	No
Wetlands	No	No	No
Cost Estimates			
Construction Cost	0	\$400,000	\$1,850,000
Engineering / Technical Services	0	\$60,000	\$335,000
Legal / Fiscal / Administrative	0	\$15,000	\$40,000
Contingency	0	\$95,000	\$450,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	0	\$570,000	\$2,675,000

Additional Considerations

- Town Work vs. Contracted Work in Alternatives 2A and 2B
- Project Phasing, Sequencing, and Priority
- Funding opportunities
- Interlocal Agreement with Middlebury and Ripton

Questions?
Thank you for your time!

Please visit bit.ly/RiptonOldTownRoad
to complete a survey questionnaire



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