



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

P.O. BOX 495

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Office of Planning & Community Development

TO: Simsbury Planning Commission

FROM: Savannah-Nicole Villalba, AICP, AZT, Assistant Town Planner

DATE: August 4, 2022

SUBJECT: **8-24 Referral - Firetown Road Sidewalk Construction**

On August 8, 2022, the Town of Simsbury Board of Selectmen is expected to refer the above action to the Planning Commission for a referral under Section 8-24 of the State Code.

The Town of Simsbury has been awarded funding for the construction of 5,000 feet of walkway along the south side of Firetown Road from West Street to Plank Hill Road. Additional work includes associated grading and the construction of retaining walls in areas where grading is not feasible. This gap in the Town's sidewalk system was identified as a priority in the 2016 Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan.

State Code requires the Board to request a referral by the Planning Commission. The Commission reviews and reports on consistency with the goals and policies found in the Plan of Conservation and Development.

Sec. 8-24. Municipal improvements. No municipal agency or legislative body shall (1) locate, accept, abandon, widen, narrow or extend any street, bridge, parkway or other public way, (2) locate, relocate, substantially improve, acquire land for, abandon, sell or lease any airport, park, playground, school or other municipally owned property or public building, (3) locate or extend any public housing, development, redevelopment or urban renewal project, or (4) locate or extend public utilities and terminals for water, sewerage, light, power, transit and other purposes, until the proposal to take such action has been referred to the commission for a report.

Staff finds the project is consistent with the Plan of Conservation and Development which seeks to "provide for and maintain safe and efficient circulation systems for pedestrians and bicycles" (Goal 13.2 pg. 110).

SNV

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933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Authorization to Allocate
Local Transportation Capital Improvement Grant (LOTICIP) &
Connecticut Community Connectivity Grant (CCCGP)
Firetown Road Sidewalk Gap Closure and 8-24 Referral to
Planning Commission
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** August 8, 2022
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager;
Thomas J. Roy, PE, Town Engineer/Director of Public Works

4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**

Authorization to allocate funding for the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP) grant and the Connecticut Community Connectivity Grant Program (CCCGP) for the construction of approximately 5,000 linear feet of new sidewalk along Firetown Road, the following motions are in order:

Move, effective August 8, 2022, to authorize the allocation of the LOTICIP grant in the amount of \$1,369,000 and refer this appropriation to the Board of Finance for approval.

And;

Move, effective August 8, 2022, to authorize the allocation of the CCCGP in the amount of \$594,000 and refer this appropriation to the Board of Finance for approval.

And;

Move, effective August 8, 2022, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-24, to refer the Firetown Road Sidewalk Gap Closure project to the Planning Commission.

5. **Summary of Submission:**

Currently, there is not a safe walking area between along Firetown Road between West Street and Plank Hill Road. This gap in our sidewalk system was identified as a priority in our 2016 Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan. Additionally, we have received a number of requests for sidewalks in this area, especially since the development of the Mill Commons townhouses off of West Street. This project includes the construction of approximately 5,000 feet of walkway along the south side of Firetown Road from West Street to Plank

Hill Road. Additional work includes associated grading and construction of retaining walls in areas where grading is not feasible.

The Town has been fortunate and has been awarded two grants for construction and construction related activities associated with the Firetown Road Sidewalk Gap Closure Project. The Town originally submitted a grant in October of 2020 under the *CCCGP* that is administered by the CT DOT. We were originally denied this grant request. We then took the opportunity to apply for same project under the LOTCIP program administered by CRCOG. After we had decided to apply for the LOTCIP program, we were then contacted by CT DOT and awarded the CCCGP grant.

We will be working with the CT DOT and the CRCOG as the grant administrators to manage this unique situation where we have two grants for one project. We will be assigning specific sections of this project to each grant and the intent to be bid as one project to a single contractor.

6. Financial Impact:

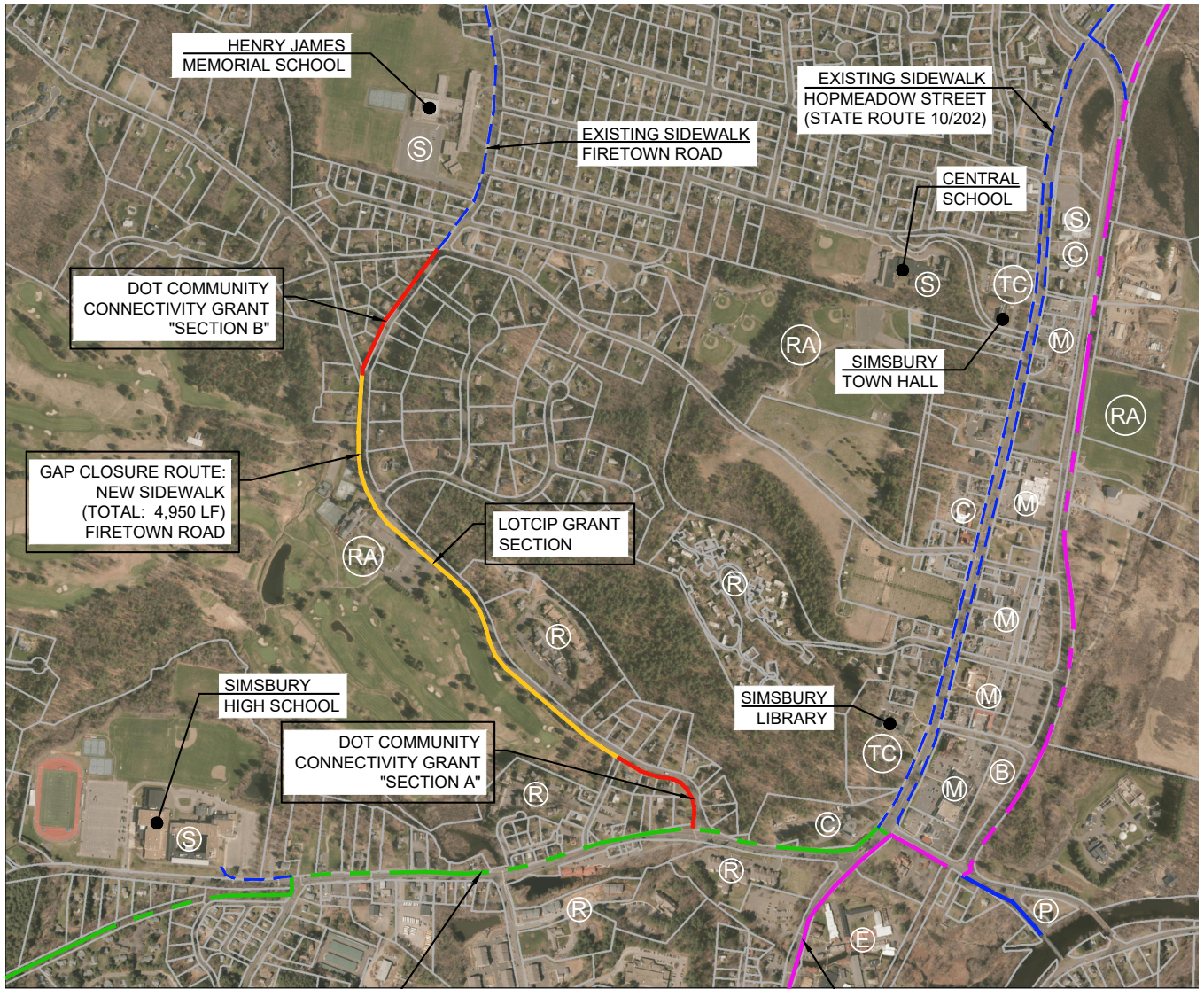
The design for the project will be completed by Engineering Department staff, with supplemental survey support at an estimated cost of \$35,000. If we contracted out the design work, the total design cost is estimated at \$130,000. Funding for the survey/design work is intended to be funded using funds from the capital Sidewalk Improvement Fund.

Construction Phase (100% Grant Funded):

LOTICIP Grant	\$ 1,369,000
<u>CCCGP Grant</u>	<u>\$ 594,000</u>
Total Project Allocation	\$ 1,963,000

7. Description of Documents Included with Submission:

- Location Map



GAP CLOSURE ROUTE:
NEW SIDEWALK
(TOTAL: 4,950 LF)
FIRETOWN ROAD

DOT COMMUNITY
CONNECTIVITY GRANT
"SECTION B"

LOTICIP GRANT
SECTION

SIMSBURY
HIGH SCHOOL

DOT COMMUNITY
CONNECTIVITY GRANT
"SECTION A"

EXISTING SIDEWALK
HOPMEADOW STREET
(STATE ROUTE 10/202)

EXISTING SIDEWALK
FIRETOWN ROAD

CENTRAL
SCHOOL

SIMSBURY
TOWN HALL

SIMSBURY
LIBRARY

EXISTING MULTI-USE TRAIL
FARMINGTON RIVER TRAIL
WEST STREET (STATE ROUTE 167)

EXISTING MULTI-USE TRAIL
FARMINGTON CANAL HERITAGE TRAIL
(STATE ROUTE 10/202)

- (R) RESIDENTIAL AREA
- (P) PARKS
- (RA) RECREATIONAL AREA
- (C) RELIGIOUS FACILITY
- (S) SCHOOL FACILITY
- (TC) TOWN CENTER
- (M) SHOPPING CENTERS
- (E) LARGE EMPLOYMENT BUSINESS
- (B) BUS STOP
- (O) OTHER

**LOCATION MAP: SIDEWALKS GAP CLOSURE
FIRETOWN ROAD**