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3 **Town Working Group  
& Village Working Group**

4 December 6, 2017, 2017 – 1:00 p.m. at LCPC Offices

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6 Better Connections Pre-Application Meeting with ACCD/VTrans

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8 Members Present: Tim Yarrow, Co-Chair; Paul Trudell ex-officio; Ken McPherson; Jim  
9 Fontaine; Dan Young

10 Members Absent: Susan Bartlett, Co-Chair

11 Others Present: Jackie Cassino, VTrans; Town Administrator Ron Rodjenski; Seth Jensen,  
12 LCPC; and Richard Amore, ACCD (by phone)

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13 1. Welcome & Agenda Changes: Tim opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

14 2. Open Public Comments: Tim welcomed all present noting that the town and village initiative  
15 to pursue technical funding assistance under the 2018 Better Connections grant program is  
16 being received well by the community. Tim summarized Public Outreach #2 (Ten Bends)  
17 comments; connect the town and village across Route 15, sidewalk planning and  
18 improvements, safe bike lanes and incorporating the on-going work of the water and sewer  
19 improvements. No other public comments received.

20 3. Current Activities in Hyde Park: Ron provided an overview of the past town and village capital  
21 planning projects, the recent designations of two Village Centers, and the Town holding  
22 highway surface projects, such as paving and stormwater improvements, while a more  
23 comprehensive planning effort is completed. The Town's recent Municipal Mitigation  
24 design/construction grant for \$435,000 will correct stormwater issues on the western side of  
25 the Village and an upcoming Village of Hyde Park Stormwater Master Plan will be completed  
26 for the Main Street corridor. Tim mentioned that safe bike lanes was mentioned as a high  
27 priority at recent public meetings. Jackie noted that having a strong village-town partnership  
28 is a key element of a solid grant application, noting that with the multiple infrastructure  
29 planning efforts on-going it shows that the local governments can work well together. The on-  
30 going \$9.5 million school renovation adds another layer of community support for investment  
31 in its capital infrastructure. Jackie noted that the grant application needs to show community  
32 capacity and clearly explain why the current timing to seek technical assistance is important,  
33 i.e. a Master Plan to guide projects. Jackie explained that describing how a steering committee  
34 or other group will move projects forward over the long-term, and how stakeholders will be  
35 kept informed on that progress, is very important, especially with how economic development  
36 will opportunities will be improved and how prior planning reports will be incorporated.  
37 Suggestions for stakeholders' letters of support: legislators, LEDC John Mandeville, Hyde  
38 Park Opera House, Restorative Justice, library trustees, Hyde Park Community Circle, ANR  
39 Jim Pease, Town Tree Warden on village tree inventory, and the Hyde Park Solar  
40 project/Village Electric. The third public outreach event could be a stakeholders meeting to  
41 focus on the grant objectives. Jackie suggested defining the projects study area, keeping a  
42 central area of the Village for infrastructure improvements and identifying routes and links to  
43 other areas in the community. Other areas could benefit from wayfinding signs, e.g. North  
44 Hyde Park, Green River Reservoir and neighboring towns' amenities. Richard Amore left the  
45 meeting. The Better Connections grant could be supported by a market assessment study,  
46 possibly with funding though LEDC. The group agreed that Seth Jensen would be asked to  
47 be the Local Project Manager to connect with ACCD and VTrans due to the other projects  
48 already on-going being managed by town and village staff. The group agreed that additional

49 discussion with Richard Amore and John Mandeville should occur before the grant deadline  
50 to firm up economic development needs and goals.

51 4. Discussion on Public Outreach #3 – The group expressed interest in focusing on business for  
52 the last public outreach event before the grant is due. Jackie said that if a market study is  
53 pursued for economic development needs, then it would be good to include housing needs  
54 assessment. The group agreed that seeking the maximum award would be appropriate  
55 considering the scope of work and consideration for existing studies and on-going studies.  
56 Ken noted that building or creating small housing units could result in retirees relocating to  
57 Hyde Park. Tim agree to work on a business owners' contact list. Tentative dates were set for  
58 Thursday morning January 11<sup>th</sup> for the business owners' meeting, possibly at the Governors'  
59 House, and January 25<sup>th</sup> for a grant application review by the group before it is finalized and  
60 submitted.

61 5. Minutes: Motion by Tim to approve the September 27, 2017 with a correction to Item 4 –  
62 Delete #4 and replace #4 with " 4. Trudell ROW concerns: Tim noted the Trudell's concerns  
63 about possible Town road widening plans on West Main Street. Tim stated that the Trudell's  
64 have invested time and effort into roadside beautification efforts (landscaping, planting  
65 flowers, etc.) that would be damaged or destroyed if the road was widened. Tim mentioned  
66 that in past years the electric department had to clear the electric line ROW along the Trudell's  
67 property, which raised concerns in the past. The group agreed that there is a need to  
68 communicate public rights & public needs to private landowners in a more thoughtful manner,  
69 especially when new ditching is likely to occur in response to the new town highway state  
70 permit (MRGP) being issued in 2018." Seconded by Jim. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion  
71 passed. (Paul Trudell did not vote as ex-officio member)

72 Motion by Ken to approve the 10/11/2017 minutes as written, seconded by Dan, so voted.

73 Minutes of 11/17/2017 deferred for lack of quorum.

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75 6. Next Steps:

76 • Next Meeting: Tim and Ron will work on a meeting notice and send around shortly.

77 7. Adjourn: Adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

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79 Submitted by Ron Rodjenski