

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 21, 2022

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## Agency of Transportation Seeks Public Input on Lamoille Valley Rail Trail Management Plan

Barre, Vt. – The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) will host a public meeting to seek input for a management plan for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) on March 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Johnsbury Welcome Center at 51 Depot Square and virtually via <u>Zoom</u>.

"We are excited to be undertaking this management planning process, which is the first of its kind for Vermont's State-owned rail trails," said Michele Boomhower, AOT Director of Policy, Planning, and Intermodal Development. "This process is going to set the stage for the development of management plans for 149 miles of the State-owned rail trails as we move forward creating a consistent approach to management and user experience."

The LVRT management plan seeks to develop a cohesive vision for the trail; identifies longrange strategies for management, maintenance, and operations of the trail; and supports opportunities for community and economic development efforts along the LVRT. Construction of the LVRT is scheduled to be completed in 2022; the 93-mile trail will connect 18 communities across five counties in northern Vermont from Swanton to St. Johnsbury. The plan will provide a model rail trail management planning framework for all State-owned rail trails in Vermont, including the Missisquoi Valley, Beebe Spur, and Delaware & Hudson rail trails.

For more information on the management plan development and other information on the LVRT project, please visit <u>https://vtrans.vermont.gov/lvrt</u>.

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