



VLR, GIS Training for Municipalities



Todd Eaton, Technical Assistance and Training Specialist
Vermont Local Roads, Vermont Agency of Transportation

Municipal Need for Asset Management

Vermont Local Roads aims to spur municipal capabilities toward utilizing GIS for Asset Management. Municipalities have limited budgets, resources and personnel which creates challenges as they seek to maintain their roadway networks. GIS can aid them in making the best choices in their efforts.



Figure 1. Serious cracking on Vermont roads

How can we help?

Vermont Local Roads has purchased 10 iPads to use during the GIS training workshops. A considerable amount of work has been done to develop a training curriculum and establish a methodology for granting an iPad to participating towns who will then report back their progress in implementing asset management techniques and the impacts and benefits they experience as they begin building an asset management program within their town.



Figure 2. iPad's used for training in GIS data collection

Where we're at in the effort...

As a result of the COVID-19 outbreak we have experienced a setback in our curriculum development process and training schedule as the subject matter expert we have been working with is no longer available. We are now working to update our contract process to procure an instructor and subject matter expert for the training workshops we intend to have in the spring of 2021. In addition, we are continuing conversations with the VTrans legal team to finalize our method of delivery in granting iPads to participating towns.

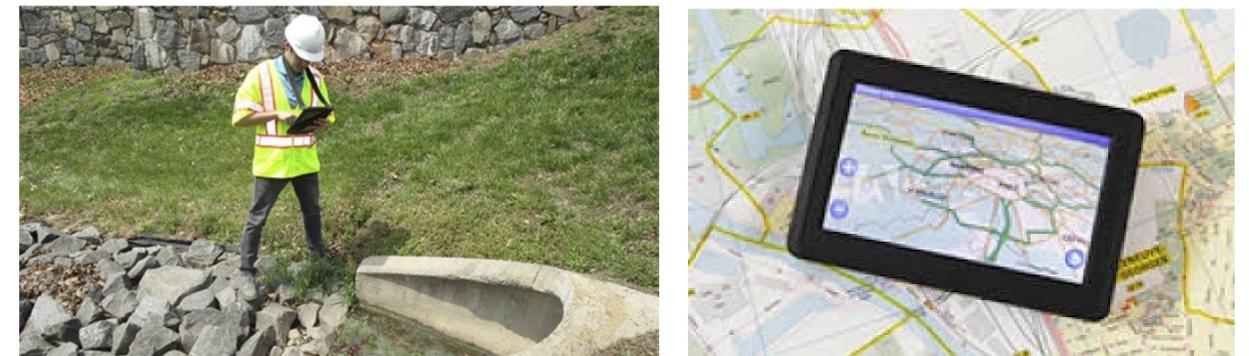


Figure 3. GIS Data Collection

Proposed Impacts

The impacts of encouraging and enabling asset management techniques within Vermont municipalities is multifaceted. As more Vermont municipalities adopt robust management techniques related to the roadway networks, their budgets will increasingly go farther and produce more resilient roadways that provide a higher level of service for all Vermont road users. This improved financial position and roadway resiliency will have a positive impact on the State as municipalities will require less funding to help mitigate roadway failures within their networks.

Acknowledgments

We would like to acknowledge the Vermont State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) for approving and providing the funding for this project. We would like to acknowledge VTrans Contract Admin staff for helping us through the language for the grant we are developing.