Placemaking & Demonstration Projects

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Pictured: Demonstration bulb outs in Island Pond.
Placemaking animates public and private spaces, rejuvenates structures and streetscapes, improves local businesses viability and public safety, and brings people together to celebrate, inspire, and be inspired... 

Ann Markusen
Placemaking is not new...and it is happening in Vermont
What’s the **benefit** of demonstration projects?

- Test project with temporary materials and installation
- Opportunity for public input
- Deepen understanding of user’s needs
- Evaluate before investment in permanent facilities
Types of Projects

- Bike Lanes
- Separated Bike Lanes
- Crosswalks
- Median refuge islands
- Curb extensions/Bulb-outs
- Lane narrowing/Road Diet
- Corner radii changes
- Non-transportation - parklets
Limitations to Consider in State ROW

- Speed limit & vehicle/bike/ped volume
- Adequate sight distance
- MUTCD, lane width, and other design standards
- More flexibility if municipality considers Class 1 Town Highway
Demonstration Project in State Highway ROW

Who can apply?

- Anyone – Municipality, business, community group
- Must demonstrate support from the municipality
- Must meet Applicant responsibilities
  - Project design & planning
  - Project materials & labor
  - Liability insurance
  - Public engagement
  - Project installation, maintenance, and removal
  - Evaluation
Application Process

PHASE 1: PRE-APPLICATION & CONSULTATION

• Purpose: Information gathering and interactive communication/problem solving between VTrans and Applicant
• Materials required: Demonstration Project Pre-Application Form
• Timeframe: No deadline. Complex projects may take several months of coordination
• Facilitated through VTrans Planning Section

PHASE 2: STATE HIGHWAY ACCESS AND WORK PERMIT

• Purpose: Ensure compliance under Title 19 VSA Section 1111 Statute
• Materials required:
  1) State Highway Access and Work Permit Application
  2) Supplemental Phase 2 Demonstration Project Application
  3) Fees, if applicable
• Timeframe: No deadline. Permit decision made within 30 days of receipt of a complete application
• Facilitated through VTrans Permitting Services
Advisory Bike Lanes in Danville

Image credit: http://bloomington.in.gov
Demonstration bike lane and parklet along VT Route 12 in downtown Bethel, part of the Bethel Better Block initiative.
Berlin - RT 302 Buffered Bike Lane
Questions?