

**8.A. 25/26-38: Presentation by Town Engineer and possible action: Proposed LOTCIP grant project**

**Town Council Action Requested:** Town Council will receive a presentation from Town Engineer Todd Penney on a proposed roadway reconstruction project that is eligible for Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP) funding from the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation. The Town Council will consider approving this project for submittal.

**Purpose:** The LOTICIP provides State funds to municipal governments through Council of Governments (COG's) for transportation projects of regional significance, including reconstruction, pavement rehabilitation, sidewalk, bridge, intersection improvement, and multi-use trail projects. The Town has used this program over the years to construct improved roadways, sidewalks, and drainage. The program funds construction 100% but requires the Town pay for the design engineering costs. These costs vary depending on the complexity of the project but usually are between 10-15% of the project construction cost. Town Council will need to approve pledging the engineering/design costs for this project should it be funded.

**History:** The State has designated only certain local arterial roads eligible for LOTICIP funding in each municipality. The Town has received funding for several other roadway improvement projects over the years using this program. The Town currently has two active LOTICIP Projects. One being the Swamp/South Street Re-construction Project and the other the Daly Road Re-construction Project. Both projects will realign and provide a better level road surface. Daly Road will also include sidewalk construction.

**Facts about the issue:** CTDOT LOTICIP program guidelines establish the responsibilities for municipalities, planning regions, and CTDOT. LOTICIP projects are subject to a competitive selection process prior to being advanced. Through a collaborative, transparent process projects are numerically rated on a pre-determined criteria ranging from structural improvement and traffic volume to environmental and complete street components. A project's regional significance also factors into the criteria. The grant application for this cycle is due on February 18th

**Funding Information:** The LOTICIP program will fund projects up to \$5 million dollars. The Town Engineer will present the estimated cost of the project that staff is proposing. If approved, the Town will be responsible for all engineering and design expenses. The financial return to the Town for putting engineering funding forward is exceptional. A project costing \$3.75 Million would require a pledge of at least \$375,000 toward design. The Town would be responsible for all engineering cost even if they exceed the minimum amount pledged. The exact cost of the project will not be determined until final engineering and the approval of the successful construction bid.

**Town Manager Comments:** The Town Manager, Public Works Director, Planning and Development Director and other key staff members have reviewed a limited list of eligible projects and determined this proposed project would provide the best improvement for transportation.

**Town Manager's Recommendation:** Motion to approve the Town's proposed LOTICIP grant project, the pledge for Town funding of design/engineering, and the grant application to be submitted to the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) and the CTDOT.