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STATE OF VERMONT JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

# MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee Members

From: Nathan Lavery, Fiscal Analyst

Date: October 4, 2012

Subject: Grant Requests

Enclosed please find four (4) items that the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the administration, including the establishment of 21 limited service positions.

JFO #2582 – \$104,178,965 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to the Department of Vermont Health Access. This request includes the establishment of 20 limited service positions. Funds will be used to continue the process of establishing a health benefits exchange required by the federal Affordable Care Act. Expedited review has been requested. Joint Fiscal Committee members will be contacted by October 18<sup>th</sup> with a request to waive the balance of the review period and accept this grant.

[JFO received 10/01/12]

**JFO #2583** – Donation of \$12,008 worth of patio furniture from VFW Post #6471 to the Vermont Veterans' Home. [*JFO received 10/01/12*]

JFO #2584 – \$170,000 grant from the Lake Champlain Basin Program to the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets. These funds will be used to provide 100% of the cost to farmers of implementing conservation practices designed to reduce phosphorus pollution in Lake Champlain. Because this project calls for implementing these practices this fall, expedited review has been requested. Joint Fiscal Committee members will be contacted by October 18<sup>th</sup> with a request to waive the balance of the review period and accept this grant.

[JFO received 10/03/12]

JFO #2585 – Request to establish one (1) limited service position in the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. This position will be responsible for implementing Vermont's Green Infrastructure Initiative Strategic Plan. The Plan was created in 2011 for the purpose of reducing urban stormwater runoff. This position is funded by a grant from the U.S. Forest Service. [JFO received 10/03/12]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Nathan Lavery at (802) 828-1488; <u>nlavery@leg.state.vt.us</u>) if you have questions or would like an item held for Joint Fiscal Committee review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by <u>October 18</u> we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.

## STATE OF VERMONT Joint Fiscal Committee Review Limited Service - Grant Funded Position Request Form

JFO 2585

This form is to be used by agencies and departments when additional grant funded positions are being requested. Review and approval by the Department of Human Resources <u>must</u> be obtained <u>prior to</u> review by the Department of Finance and Management. The Department of Finance will forward requests to the Joint Fiscal Office for JFC review. A Request for Classification Review Form (RFR) and an updated organizational chart showing to whom the new position(s) would report <u>must</u> be attached to this form. Please attach additional pages as necessary to provide enough detail.

Agency/Department:	nvironmental Conservation	Date:	7/31/12

Name and Phone (of the person completing this request): \_\_\_\_\_Joanna Pallito, Financial Director / 583-7111

Request is for:

Positions funded and attached to a new grant.

Positions funded and attached to an existing grant approved by JFO #\_\_\_\_\_

//1. Name of Granting Agency, Title of Grant, Grant Funding Detail (attach grant documents):

VT Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation (VTFPR) / "The Green Infrastructure Initiative" Project / funding is interdepartmental funds (fund 21500) from VTFPR as detailed in attached Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

2. List below titles, number of positions in each title, program area, and limited service end date (information should be based on grant award and should match information provided on the RFR) position(s) will be established <u>only</u> after JFC final approval:

Title\* of Position(s) Requested # of Positions Division/Program Grant Funding Period/Anticipated End Date

Environmental Analyst III -- one (1) -- Watershed Mgmt Div/Ecosystem Restoration Prgrm --- MOA with VTFPR runs from July 1, 2012 - September 30, 2014

\*Final determination of title and pay grade to be made by the Department of Human Resources Classification Division upon submission and review of Request for Classification Review.

3. Justification for this request as an essential grant program need:

Please see attached justification memo.

I certify that this information is correct and that necessary funding, space and equipment for the above position(s) are available (required by 32 / SA Sec. 5(b).

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Signature of Agency or Department Head		Date	
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Approved/Benied by Finance and Managen	hent	Date	······································
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Approved Penied by Secretary of Administr	ation PAENZER	Date	<u></u>
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Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Watershed Management Division 103 South Main Street, Building 10 North Waterbury, VT 05671-0408

Agency of Natural Resources

[phone] 802-338-4847 kari.dolan@state.vt.us

### **MEMORANDUM**

Joint Fiscal Committee Review David K. Mears, Commissioner, VT Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC) Kari Dolan, Manager, Ecosystem Restoration Program, VTDEC
David K. Mears, Commissioner, VT Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC)
Kari Dolan, Manager, Ecosystem Restoration Program, VTDE
Danielle Fitzko, UCF Program Coordinator, VT Dept. of Forest, Parks & Recreation (VTFPR)
July 31, 2012
Limited Service Position Request – Grant Funded

This memorandum accompanies the State of Vermont Joint Fiscal Committee Limited Service Position Request Form reserved for projects that are supported by grants. The intent of this memorandum is to provide a greater explanation about the importance of this project, how the VT Department of Forest, Parks & Recreation (VTFPR) received a federal grant from the US Forest Service (USFS) to support the project, the need to hire a limited service position in order to implement the project, and why the State is pursuing a limited service position via the Joint Fiscal Committee Review process.

The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (VTFPR), (with assistance and collaboration from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation - VTDEC), successfully secured in July 2012 additional US Forestry Service (USFS) federal grant funds for a two-year grant period totaling \$246,500 to implement a project entitled, The Green Infrastructure Initiative: Innovation and Public Benefits in Stormwater Management and Trees." This project involves implementing key portions of the State of Vermont's recently adopted Green Infrastructure Initiative: Strategic Action Plan (2011-2014). Specifically, the project focuses on implementing actions to reduce the water quality impacts from urban stormwater runoff – a major source of water pollution in Vermont – using green infrastructure (vegetated open space-based practices). The period of the additional federal grant funds that VTFPR has received from the USFS is from July 1, 2012 – September 30, 2014.

Part of the VTFPR federal funds (\$100,000) have been earmarked in the attached Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between VTFPR and VTDEC to provide for funding to cover costs for one limited service position which will reside in the VTDEC to implement a significant portion of the project given the targeting of green infrastructure initiatives in stormwater management. VTDEC will be contributing \$25,000 of Ecosystem Restoration Program general funds out of the legislatively approved FY'13 budget (Act 162). These funds were originally budgeted in the "grants-out" expenditure category to fund "to be determined" Ecosystem Restoration Program related projects. This green infrastructure project as detailed in the MOA with VTFPR is perfectly matched with the ERP efforts and so the funds will be kept in-house to match these VTFPR federal funds (and thus the limited service position). This project funding and limited service position, if approved, will be fully budgeted for "year two" in the VTDEC SFY'14 Governor's proposed budget.

Implementation of the Green Infrastructure Initiative Project						
	Year One	Year Two	Total			
VTFPR Federal USFS Grant Funding	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000			
VTDEC (Ecosystem Restoration Program) Funds	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$50,000			
Total	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$150,000			

It is essential to hire a limited service position in order to implement the project. Without this position, the State of Vermont will not be able to complete the grant requirements, and will impede its ability to implement the State's Strategic Action Plan to reduce urban runoff using Green Infrastructure.

- The federal USFS grant program is a nationally competitive program which VTFPR officially submitted an application for on May 21, 2012 and has just received the final approval and official award notice in late July 2012. With that said we are very excited and anxious for this unanticipated opportunity to implement this green infrastructure initiative. Should you have any questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your consideration.

#### Attachments

Cc: Joanna Pallito, VTDEC Financial Director Steve Chadwick, ANR Financial Services Director