

Town of Underhill

ARPA Funds Use Proposal – PHASE 1

Committee/Group/Individual Requesting Funding:

Brewster River Mountain Bike Club | Deborah Towne Memorial | Nick Tanner | Danielle Lyster

Contact Name: Nick Tanner

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Date: December 19, 2022

Proposal Name/Brief Description:**Underhill Central School Recreation Path, Phase One:**

- **Mission:** Utilize funds from Deb Towne memorial to support a community project which increases community access and reduces barriers to outdoor to recreation, provides a landscape for kids to be physically active during and after school hours, and supports year-round programs such as Kids on Bikes, Girls on the Run, PE class, recess, Wall/Roll to School initiative, PTO events, YMCA, Nordic skiing.
- **Plan:** Develop an all-access path for outdoor recreation at Underhill Central School
 - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant and properly signed recreation path around the perimeter of the school grounds with optional challenges
 - Constructed by local professional trail builder in Summer 2023
 - Maintained by Brewster River Mountain Bike Club (BRMBC) with support from community volunteers
- **Approvals:**
 - Conditional approval granted by Underhill Central School and Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District Leadership. Memorandum of Understanding in process and will be complete prior to any construction or costs incurred
 - Plan reviewed with Underhill Zoning Administrator. No permits expected to be required, detailed review in process. Any required permits will be submitted

See PowerPoint slides attached for additional information

Estimated Cost/Description of Estimate Process (use the space here and attach additional pages and any supporting documents):**Project Estimated Cost: \$30,000**

- Quoted and constructed by Rabbit Track Trail Works
- Funding Plan:
 - Deborah Towne Memorial Fund: \$2,500
 - Vermont Mountain Bike Association Grant (Anticipated): \$2,500
 - Brewster River Mountain Bike Club Grant: \$3,000
 - Community Fundraising: \$4,000
 - Donation of trucking equipment and time for raw materials by local contractors and town (to be confirmed) included in \$30,000 project estimate
- **Ask for ARPA Funds: \$18,000**

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Please Answer the following questions by marking the answer in the space provided.

Benefit to Town of Underhill

| Does this proposal | YES | NO | Not Sure |
|---|-----|----|----------|
| Invest in the town without creating a need for additional or ongoing revenue or expenses? Is this a one-time expense? | X | | |
| Benefit a population that was disproportionately impacted by the pandemic? | X | | |
| Benefit a population underserved prior to the pandemic? | | | X |
| Mitigate and/or help the Town adapt to the effects of climate change? | | X | |
| Improve or create infrastructure for Underhill? Ex. Natural resources, pedestrian access, transportation but not limited to | X | | |
| Align with or impact the goals and priorities of the Town Plan? LINK | X | | |

Comments:

Feasibility of Project

| Can this proposal | YES | NO | Not Sure |
|---|-----|----|----------|
| Be fully planned, estimated and obligated to the Town by December 31, 2024? | X | | |
| Be fully completed and paid for by the end of 2026? | X | | |
| Be used to leverage or match other grants, funds or projects? | X | | |

Please attach estimates, quotes, drawings, or supporting documents or elaborate in any way you would like. Please note that the ARPA Advisory Committee only recommends projects to the Selectboard and the Selectboard has the ultimate authority to allocate the funds. [17 V.S.A. § 2664](#)

Links and More Information:

Town of Underhill

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Final Rule – Overview at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Final-Rule-Overview.pdf>

Final Rule – FAQ's at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Final-Rule-FAQ.pdf>

Specific Information for Town of Underhill at https://www.underhillvt.gov/vertical/sites/%7B4E962BB9-B4BB4504-A3EE-ED54521A1BCE%7D/uploads/Coronavirus_Local_Fiscal_Recovery_Fund_Overview_Presentation_06092022.pdf



Underhill Central School Recreation Proposal



Brewster River Mountain Bike Club
Deborah Towne Memorial

Mission of the Project

- Utilize funds from Deb Towne memorial to support a community project
- Increase community access to recreation
- Minimize barriers to entry for participation in outdoor activity
- Provide a landscape for kids to be physically active during school hours and after hours
- Support year-round programs such as: Kids on Bikes, Girls on the Run, PE class, recess, Wall/Roll to School initiative, PTO events, YMCA, nordic skiing
- Provide an all inclusive path within ADA compliance

The Plan

Phase one: Develop an all access path for outdoor recreation at Underhill Central School

→ Recreation path

All access path around the perimeter of the school grounds with optional challenges

- ◆ What will not be included are: jumps, rails, metal features, pump track
- ◆ What will be included are: ADA standards, posted rules/requirement signage, optional rock/wood variations

→ Work with local trail builders and bike clubs to support the project and maintain the grounds going forward

Increase community involvement and support from local recreation clubs (BRMBC trail days)

→ Utilize funds from Deborah Towne Memorial Fund

Utilize funds received from Deb's memorial in a way that honors her and supports the community

→ Gather additional funds through grants and fundraising

Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA) grants, state grants, GoFundMe, BRMBC fundraiser

The Plan

Phase two: Clean up existing trails and add more trails for multi-purpose use

→ Clean up current trails to enhance safety and increase use

Remove down trees and overgrown brush to make the trails more usable

→ Add on to current trail network for walking, running, biking, outdoor classrooms

Build more trails connecting to the current network to make it more of a destination to recreate

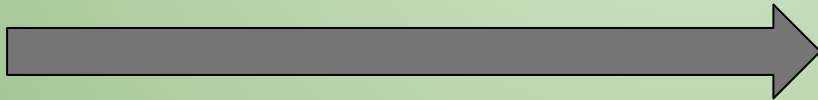
→ Provide a more extensive opportunity for recreation programs such as physical education classes, Kids on Bikes, initiatives to get kids walking/biking to school

Support programs that get kids outside and moving as well as daily programming during school hours

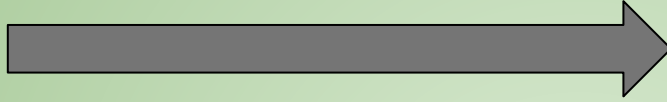
Phase One

Build a path around the perimeter of the school for walking, biking, strollers, skiing, wheelchairs, etc.

This would be designed with a crushed stone surface to aid in all inclusive access. There would be additional variations along the route to provide an opportunity to challenge users in a fun and engaging way.



Phase Two



Clean up existing trail and add more trails through wooded areas within property lines

Design entry level trails to expand on current network



Types of Beginner Features



Additional Considerations

Phase one: All access path for outdoor recreation at Underhill Central School

- ➔ **Other schools in the district have similar projects**
- ➔ **This would encourage physical activity among children and parents**
- ➔ **Increase access for all abilities to recreate with adherence to ADA guidelines**
- ➔ **Deb Towne memorial fund, grants, and fundraising would cover costs with no cost to the school**

Phase Two: Increase multi-use trail access

- ➔ **The community, classroom, and extra-curricular programs would benefit**
- ➔ **The local bike club will be involved to maintain the trails and keep them safe and passable**

— Estimate of Plan

Approximately \$30,000 including materials, labor, and equipment

Plan to minimize costs

1. Grants/Fundraising (state funding, VMBA, recreation incentives)
2. Discuss with town of Underhill the donation of gravel/trucks
3. Ask local excavating businesses to donate trucks/trips to haul material
4. Utilize additional labor from bike club (BRMBC)

Brewster River Mountain Bike Club (BRMBC)

Local club with main focus of creating a community surrounding biking, hiking, and outdoor recreation.

Rabbit Tracks (Greg Fatigate)

Local trail builder with years of experience building multi-use trails and working alongside local organizations to create the perfect recreation opportunities.

Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA) serves as the unified voice for mountain biking in Vermont. While they are not directly involved in this project, they offer information and support for projects like these throughout the state. They will be a valuable resource for this project.

Additional support from the community

Multiple parents, teachers, and community members have been in contact regarding this project and are overwhelmingly supportive.

Questions????

Contact Danielle Lyster
danidigangi@gmail.com or 802-922-5150