



December 30, 2024

Elise Schadler  
VT UCF Program Manager  
Elise.schadler@vermont.gov

RE: Urban and Community Tree Removal Grant  
Swanton Village Application

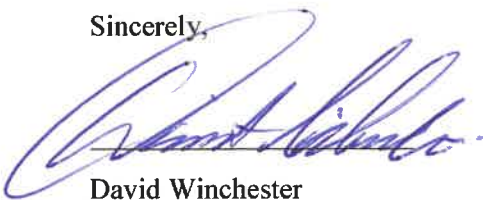
Dear Ms. Schadler,

The Village Board of Trustees request your consideration for \$20,000 of funding to address tree maintenance issues in our Village Green.

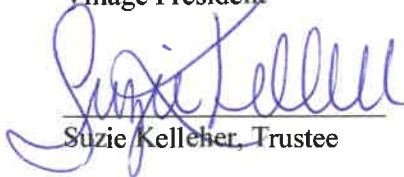
We have received fair, competitive bids from four local tree firms that attended a mandatory site visit to our Village Green. We have evaluated those bids with support from the Franklin County Forester, Charlie Hancock, and our Village Tree Warden, Frank Shumway. The proposed scope of work include removal and care for several trees in the Village Green. This work has been postponed for many years and removal has been determined to be the most logical option for a few trees that are at the end of their useful life. Fortunately, while our older trees are aging out, the Swanton Beautification Committee (SBC) has been planting trees to fill the void left by the loss of our mature trees. This proactive work from our volunteers will leave the park with ample canvas and color to continue to please all visitors.

The Trustees value the Village Green as the outdoor gathering space of the community for both joyful and somber events. The trees are a beloved part of our history and removal of any of these treasures has been a thoughtful and even emotional process. The Trustees fully support the work of the SBC's volunteers and the Tree Warden to keep our community a lush and inviting space. Concurrent with this application, SBC is applying to the CCRPC for funding to install 100 more trees in our Village area to ensure that future generations have the same joy and comfort surrounding them as our mature trees have provided to the community for decades. Our support for this application stems from the conviction that streetscapes make a place more enjoyable to visit and add to the economic vitality of the community. We support this application to manage our existing trees for the health and safety of the community.

Sincerely,



David Winchester  
Village President



Suzie Kelleher, Trustee



Adam Paxman, Trustee



Eugene LaBombard, Trustee