



MEMORANDUM

TO: South Hero Selectboard
FROM: Dean Pierce, Senior Planner
VIA: Sue Arguin, Town Administrator
RE: Vote on Preferred Alternative
DATE: January 21, 2026

As Municipal Project Manager for the Route 2 / Featherbed Lane safety scoping study working on behalf of the Town, I am writing to reiterate the next important step in the VTrans scoping process requires Selectboard action.

A cornerstone of the scoping process is the selection of a preferred alternative. This action allows the project to advance beyond conceptual analysis and provides clear direction for any subsequent engineering, funding considerations, or future coordination with VTrans.

The draft final scoping report discussed at the Board's January 12 meeting presents four distinct alternatives for the Board's consideration. Based on my experience with similar projects, I note that Selectboards sometimes choose to endorse one of the presented alternatives as written, and in other cases elect to identify a hybrid approach that combines elements of multiple options or tweaks them. (I believe either approach is acceptable within the scoping framework, provided the Board's intent is clearly stated.)

The four alternatives in the draft final scoping report are:

- **Alternative 1**- Two crosswalks with RRFBs and pedestrian landings, sidewalk, full roadway reconstruction
- **Alternative 2**- Two Crosswalks with RRFBs and temporary pedestrian landings and roadway re-striping
- **Alternative 3**- Two Crosswalks with RRFBs and roadway re-striping
- **No Build**- For the No Build Alternative, the existing transportation facilities in the project area remain as they exist today.

I would like to encourage the Selectboard to consider taking action to endorse a preferred alternative (or hybrid alternative) at an upcoming meeting. I would be glad to attend the meeting on January 26, or another meeting, to support the Board's deliberation. I note that the current consultant contract for this phase of work is scheduled to expire on February 28, which may be helpful context for scheduling.

I will be in touch with Sue Arguin to confirm meeting date.