

VLCT GUIDE to HIGHWAY CLASSIFICATION AND MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS

	Defined	Determined	Town Obligations	State Obligations
CLASS 1	Town highways which form an extension of a state highway route and which carry a state highway route number. 19 V.S.A. § 302(a)(1)	By VTrans	Must be kept " in good and sufficient repair during all seasons of the year. " Includes bridges and culverts. 19 V.S.A. § 310(a) General maintenance , including spot patching, traffic control devices, curbs, sidewalks, drainage and snow removal, and major reconstruction. 9 V.S.A. § 306a(a)-(c)	Scheduled surface maintenance at no cost to town 19 V.S.A. § 306a(a)
CLASS 2	Town highways selected as the most important highways in town. 19 V.S.A. § 302(a)(2)	By selectboard, with VTrans approval	Must be kept " in good and sufficient repair during all seasons of the year. " Includes bridges and culverts. 19 V.S.A. § 310(a) Selectboard may decide not to plow in winter based on "safety considerations for the traveling public and municipal employees." Aggrieved property owners may appeal to VT Transportation Board. 19 V.S.A. § 310(a), (d)	X
CLASS 3	All traveled town highways other than class 1 or 2 highways. 19 V.S.A. § 302(a)(3)(A) A "provisional class 3 highway" does not currently meet class 3 standards, but will meet <i>all</i> class 3 standards within 5 years. 19 V.S.A. § 302(a)(3)(C)	By selectboard, after conference with a VTrans representative	Must be kept " in good and sufficient repair during all seasons of the year. " Includes bridges and culverts. 19 V.S.A. § 310(a) Minimum standards: negotiable under normal conditions all seasons of the year by a standard manufactured pleasure car; includes sufficient surface and base, adequate drainage, and sufficient width capable to provide winter maintenance. 19 V.S.A. § 302(3)(B) Selectboard may decide not to plow in winter based on "safety considerations for the traveling public and municipal employees." Aggrieved property owners may appeal to VT Transportation Board. 19 V.S.A. § 310(a)	X
CLASS 4	All other town highways. 19 V.S.A. § 302(a)(4)	By selectboard	Must be " maintained to the extent required by the necessity of the town, the public good and the convenience of the inhabitants. " 19 V.S.A. § 310(b) A town's obligation to maintain a class 4 highway is discretionary ; regular maintenance is not required.	X
Town Trails	A public right-of-way which is "not a highway." 19 V.S.A. § 301(8)	Reclassified or newly laid out by selectboard	A town is not responsible for construction, maintenance, repair, or safety of trails, including culverts and bridges on trails. 19 V.S.A. §§ 302(a)(5), 310(c)	X