## TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER, VERMONT PLANNING COMMISSION

Juliana Potter, Chair 40 Kelton Rd, P.O. Box 157 East Montpelier, VT 05651-0157

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September 5, 2019

Britt Haselton, Farm Project Director Vermont Land Trust 8 Bailey Avenue Montpelier, VT 05602

Re: Letter of Support for Fairmont Dairy/VT Land Trust/Cross VT Trail Conservation Project

Dear Mr. Haselton:

The East Montpelier Planning Commission has considered the proposed Fairmont conservation project and Cross Vermont Trail easement for the main parcel of the former Lylehaven Farm on VT 14S. The Planning Commission has determined that this project provides positive benefits to the town.

This project is consistent with the following goals and actions in the 2018 East Montpelier Town Plan:

**Action 4.5.1**: Support efforts to locate off-road segments of the Cross Vermont Trail in East Montpelier.

**Goal 9.12**: Support the conservation of prime and actively-used farmland outside of village and growth areas.

Inclusion of the trail easement provides a major link in completing the Cross Vermont Trail. Conservation of the farm parcel will permanently protect this high quality agricultural property which is located outside of the boundary of East Montpelier Village, as depicted on the Future Land Use Map in the Town Plan.

The Planning Commission supports the trail easement and farm conservation easement as proposed and encourages funding approval by the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB). We appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on this project prior to VHCB action.

Sincerely,

Juliana Potter, Chair

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East Montpelier Planning Commission