

Construction Update
Middlebury Bridge & Rail Project
Construction Update - Week of September 14, 2020



The photo above shows how Merchants Row is being restored to its former width. Gone is the temporary bridge/sidewalk that sat about midway down the photograph since Summer 2017.

DATE: Friday, September 11, 2020

PROJECT TYPE: Construction of Rail Tunnel

LOCATION: VT Route 30 (Main Street) & Merchants Row, in downtown Middlebury in Addison County, VT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in collaboration with the Town of Middlebury, is replacing two nearly 100 year old rail bridges in the center of Middlebury with a tunnel. The bridges are about 300 feet apart, with one located on Main Street/VT 30 and the other on Merchants Row.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

If everything goes according to plan—and so far that plan has unfolded as expected throughout the 10-week closure of our downtown roadways—**Main Street and Merchants Row will reopen to thru traffic next Friday, September 18** for the first time since Monday, July 13. The public can expect communication about reopening next week. We encourage you to visit and enjoy the transformed central downtown!

CONSTRUCTION NEXT WEEK

- Now that the granite is installed, Waters Excavation will continue pouring concrete for the Battell Block sidewalk through the end of the week and then

move to Main Street.

- In the rail corridor, ECI will replace railroad ties with continuous welded rail (CWR). The cap wall work will continue on the north end of the project later this month.

TRAFFIC IMPACTS:

- Main Street is anticipated to open on Friday, September 18.
- Merchants Row is anticipated to open on Friday, September 18. It will remain a one-way road going uphill toward Court Square and South Pleasant Street.
- Printer's Alley is anticipated to open to pedestrians this week. Initially, it will be a compacted stone walkway.
- There is a **temporary ban on left-hand turns** from South Pleasant Street to Cross Street during the 10-week closure.

PLANNED PROJECT COMPLETION: 2021



The above photo shows the pedestrian railing that will sit atop the cap walls to provide safety and aesthetics.

Ride the Shuttlebury

VTrans and ACTR provide the Shuttlebury, **free for riders. ACTR is diligent about providing a safe and healthy experience, with frequent cleanings.** View the route map, schedule, and other information [here](#).

Or, call 388-2287 if you're traveling within the downtown area for a pick-up.

[Project Website](#)

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To learn more about VTrans Construction Projects, visit our [projects website](#).