



## AMTRAK to Burlington - Railroad Improvements and Greenway Projects

### **Overview:**

Starting in 2021, Amtrak's Ethan Allen Express train, which currently travels from New York City to Rutland, VT via Albany, NY, and Castleton, VT, will extend service beyond the current line's terminus in Rutland and continue north to Burlington, with new planned stops in Middlebury and Vergennes. The current plans are for the Ethan Allen Express to arrive in Burlington in the evening and depart southbound in the morning for New York City, with stops in Vergennes, Middlebury, Rutland, and Castleton. The new northern terminus for the Ethan Allen Express line will be Burlington's Union Station, which is located at the foot of Main Street on Burlington's waterfront.

### **Construction Phasing:**

#### **Phase 1: Fall 2020 (College Street)**

- Existing stormwater system was replaced. Required utility work has been completed
- Vermont Rail Systems shifted the railroad tracks to the east
- Existing platform canopy at Union Station was disassembled

#### **Phase 2: Spring/Summer 2021 (College Street/Union Station)**

- Construction of a new Amtrak platform at Union Station
- Reconstruction of the railroad crossing at College Street
- Improvements to the railroad signal system at College Street for increased safety
- Relocation of the bike path to the west side of the railroad tracks between College Street and King Street
- Roadway improvements of the College Street/Bike Path intersection

#### **Phase 3: Late Summer through early Winter, 2021**

- Reconstruction of the railroad crossings at King Street and Maple Street
- Reconstruction of the bike path between King Street and Maple Street
- Work in the Vermont Rail Systems' rail yard to facilitate the arrival of AMTRAK

#### **Phase 4a: Fall 2021**

- Realignment of LaValley Lane south of Maple Street in order to install a new set of railroad tracks to accommodate AMTRAK trains



#### **Phase 4b: Fall 2021 through early Winter 2021**

- Work within the Vermont Rail Systems' rail yard to provide overnight parking for AMTRAK trains

#### ***“How will access be affected?”***

- Expect the section of the bike path between College and Maple Streets to remain closed during Phases 1, 2 and 3
- Pedestrian access to all Waterfront businesses will remain open all season
- There will be intermittent disruptions to vehicle and parking access throughout Phases 1, 2 and 3

#### ***“How will I know when access will be restricted?”***

##### **College Street:**

VTrans has given the contractor the ability to close the intersection at College Street to vehicular traffic on two (2) of the following weekends:

- May 21 to 23, or
- June 18 to 20, or
- July 9 to 11, or
- July 23 to 25, or
- August 20 to 22

In addition to these dates, the contractor is permitted to close College Street at the location of the crossing between August 23<sup>rd</sup> and September 17<sup>th</sup> 2021.

- During this period, pedestrian traffic will be maintained on the newly constructed sidewalks or a local temporary pedestrian detour must be provided by the contractor.
- Please note that this extended closure period is a range for the allowable closure period. As construction progresses, information will be released as to the exact dates and length of the extended closure.

The contractor is required to provide a 21-day advance notice prior to each closure. Once the closure periods have been confirmed, the public will be notified.

- During these closures, the contractor is permitted to close the road and existing sidewalks to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic. A temporary pedestrian detour must be provided by the contractor to accommodate pedestrian traffic.



*(Access, Continued)*

**King Street:**

- Prior to September 27<sup>th</sup>, there will be no restrictions to access
- Beginning September 27<sup>th</sup>, an alternating one-way traffic pattern will be permitted
- After September 27<sup>th</sup>, the contractor is permitted to close King Street to vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic for two weekends.
- Overnight closures of King Street are permitted after September 27<sup>th</sup>. Overnight closures are permitted from 10:00 PM-5:00 AM the following day

Advanced notice of closures will be publicized as soon as dates are confirmed.

**Maple St:**

- There are no restrictions on roadway closures at the Maple Street crossing
- Closures will be kept to as short a duration as possible
- One-way alternating traffic will be used at times to complete the work at this intersection

***“Who should I contact if I have questions?”***

- Please contact Natalie Boyle, Public Information Consultant, with questions or concerns, to receive project updates and alerts, and to remain informed of the progress on the project and what to expect.
- Contact Information:

Natalie Boyle  
[nboyle@eivtech.com](mailto:nboyle@eivtech.com)  
(802) 855-3893

**See our Website for more information:**

<https://vtrans.vermont.gov/rail/amtrak-burlington>