
Construction Update

Middlebury Bridge & Rail Project

Construction Update - Week of July 20, 2020

DATE: Friday, July 17, 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 undertaking a project to replace two nearly 100 year old rail bridges in the center of Middlebury with a tunnel. The two bridges are about 300 feet apart, with one located on Main Street/VT 30 and the other on Merchants Row.

A BIG WEEK IN DOWNTOWN MIDDLEBURY

Right on schedule, the 10-week closure of Main Street and the downtown rail corridor began this past Monday. Traffic seems to be moving smoothly.

Community volunteers from Neighbors Together, Rotary Club of Middlebury, and other groups (pictured) installed pedestrian wayfinding signage along with sidewalk stencils and blue paint. Thanks to all the volunteers contributing to this project!



CONSTRUCTION NEXT WEEK

- Kubricky will begin building the downtown tunnel. They will truck in large concrete u-walls from Fifield Farm.
- Early in the week, they will cordon off all parking on South Main Street from the Mahaney Arts Center to the roundabout to accommodate staging of the u-walls. Those parking spots will be temporarily unavailable.

TRAFFIC IMPACTS:

- **Main Street is closed until the third week of September.** The closure goes from the south end at Bakery Lane and Mill Street to the north end at North Pleasant Street.
- Merchants Row is closed entirely.

- Printer's Alley is closed to pedestrians.
- Due to a traffic bottleneck caused primarily by motorists turning left from South Pleasant Street to Cross Street, the Middlebury Selectboard approved a plan to temporarily eliminate that left-hand turn during the 10-week closure. Please observe the no-left-turn sign during the closure.
- Shuttlebury is a free pedestrian shuttle operating in downtown Middlebury during the closure. View the route and service details at [this link](#).

PLANNED PROJECT COMPLETION: 2021



Goodbye, Temporary Main Street Bridge

Curious onlookers watched as the Kubricky crew lifted the temporary bridge with the 300-ton crane from Main Street to Merchants Row. It was then disassembled and trucked to the VTrans Middlesex yard. The Main Street footbridge was also removed, and will be repurposed for another project in Bristol.

[Project Website](#)

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