DATE: Friday, May 15, 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.

CONSTRUCTION DURING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK:
As part of Governor Scott’s "Work Smart, Stay Safe" order, all construction crews are currently subject to safety restrictions and precautions.

TRAFFIC IMPACT:
With construction activity getting back into gear there will be some disruption to travelers next week:

- Merchants Row will be CLOSED to thru traffic during the day on Friday (May 15) and Monday (May 18). The road will be reopened each evening. The sidewalk in front of the Battell Block and the walkway over the Merchants Row Bridge will remain open while the roadway is closed. Sabai Sabai Restaurant will be open for curbside pickup at lunch and dinner even with Merchants Row closed. Those picking up their meal by car may drive around the barrier at the intersection with Main Street and park right in front of Edgewater Gallery where your order will be brought to you.

- Main Street (Route 30) will be reduced to ONE-LANE travel in downtown for the next two weeks. Flaggers will direct one-lane alternating traffic through the work zone.

EXPANDED WORK HOURS:
Construction crews will work 12-hour shifts and Saturdays.

PROJECTED PROJECT COMPLETION: 2021

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To learn more about VTrans Construction Projects, visit our projects website.