Overview:

Starting in the Summer of 2022, 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: Completed 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: Continuing into Spring/Summer 2022 (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: Continuing into Spring 2022: 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: Winter 2021/Spring 2022

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

Phase 4b: Winter 2021/Spring 2022

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

“How will access be affected?”

- Expect temporary closures of the section of the bike path between College and Maple Streets 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:

- Pedestrian traffic will be maintained on the newly constructed sidewalks or a local temporary pedestrian detour throughout the Spring and into the Summer of 2022.

“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
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  (802) 855-3893

See our Website for more information:
https://vtrans.vermont.gov/rail/amtrak-burlington