

Appendix L – Public Meetings and Outreach

Local Concerns Meeting Turning Point Survey Results

Alternatives Presentation Meeting Turning Point Survey Results

Public Meeting Presentation, November 17, 2016

Local Concerns Meeting Turning Point Survey Results

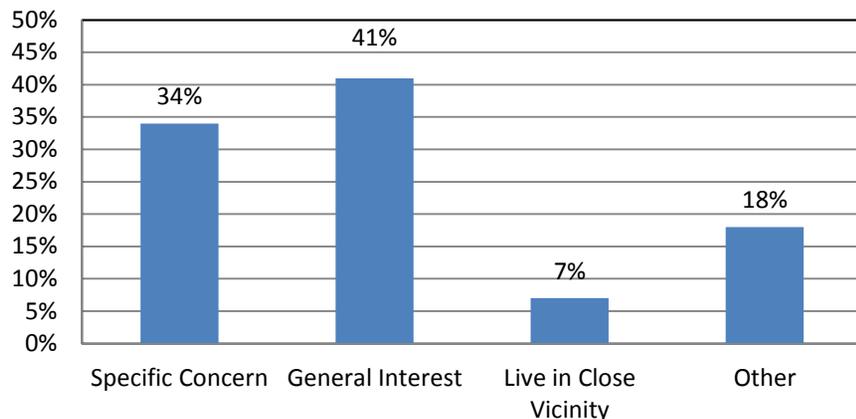


Middlebury Main Street and Merchants Row Bridge Replacements Middlebury WCRS(23)

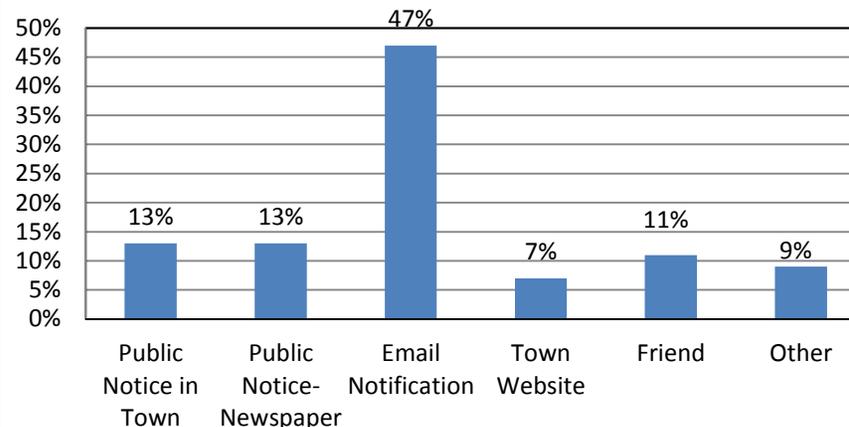
Local Concerns Meeting - Audience Survey
Town Hall Theater, Middlebury, VT

March 28, 2013
6:00 PM
Page 1 of 3

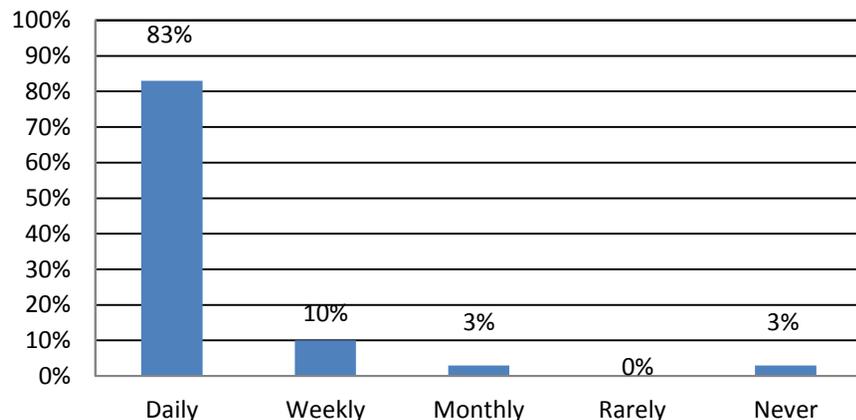
1. What is your reason for attending this meeting?



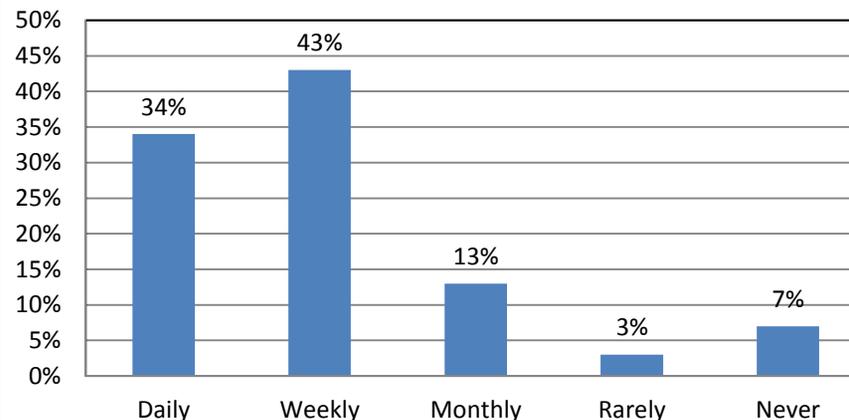
2. How did you hear about this meeting?



3. How often do you drive across the bridges?



4. How often do you walk/bike across the bridges?



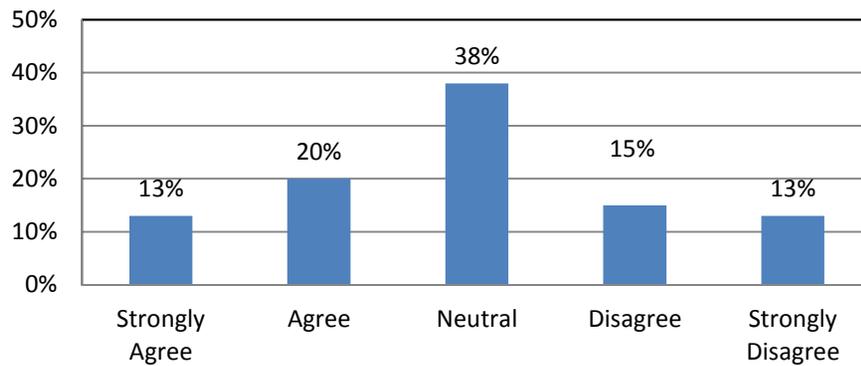


Middlebury Main Street and Merchants Row Bridge Replacements Middlebury WCRS(23)

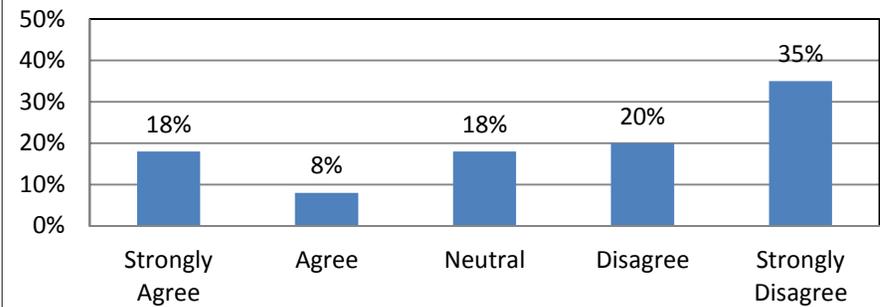
Local Concerns Meeting - Audience Survey
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Page 2 of 3

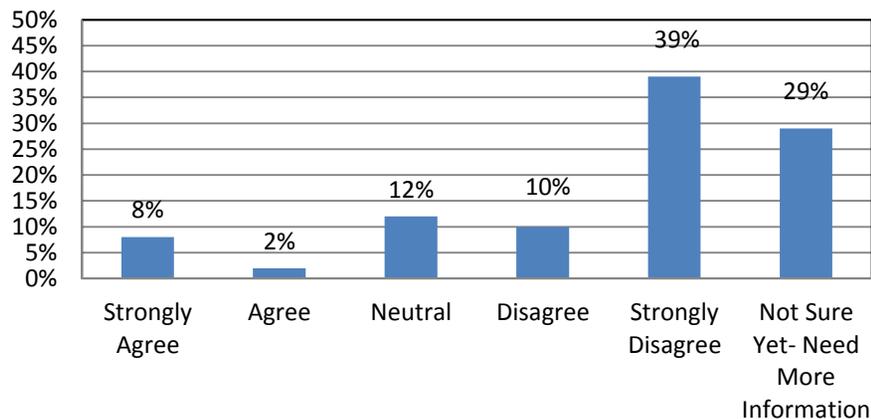
5. If one bridge was closed for construction, I would be inconvenienced.



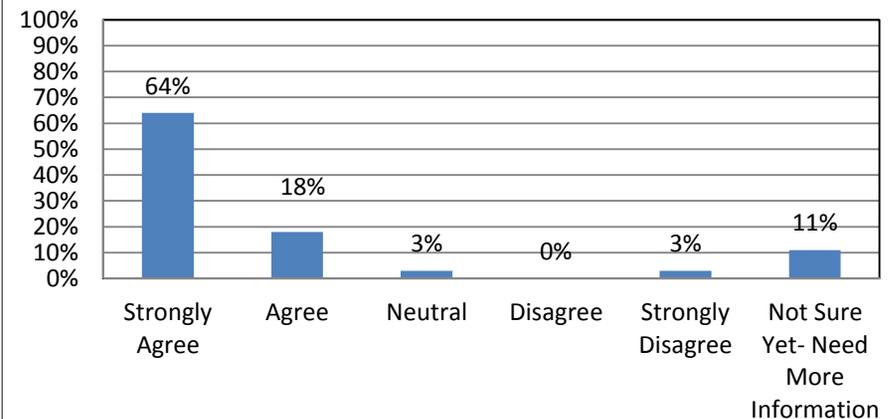
6. The railroad bridges and stone walls are an important contribution to the aesthetics of the downtown area.



7. I support the idea of keeping two separate bridges.



8. I support the idea of a tunnel concept.



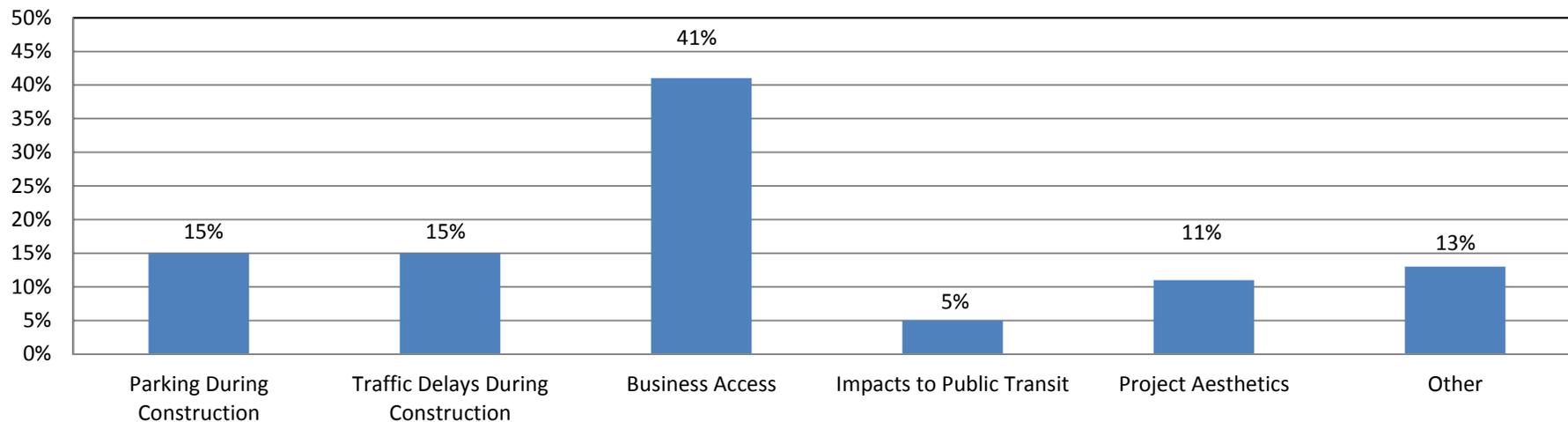


Middlebury Main Street and Merchants Row Bridge Replacements Middlebury WCRS(23)

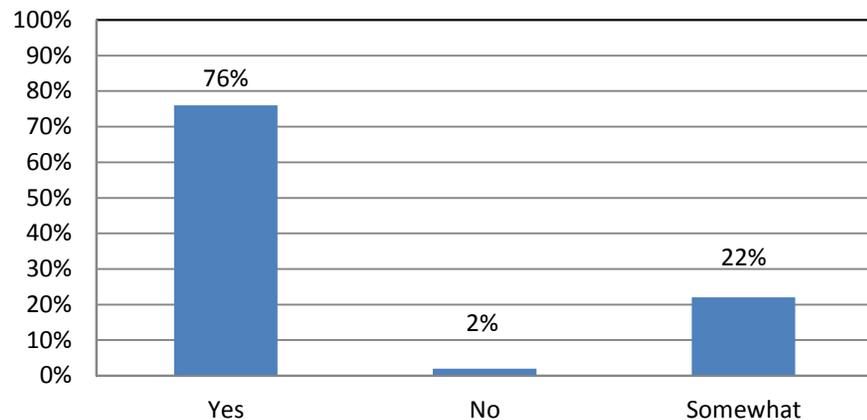
Local Concerns Meeting - Audience Survey
Town Hall Theater, Middlebury, VT

March 28, 2013
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Page 3 of 3

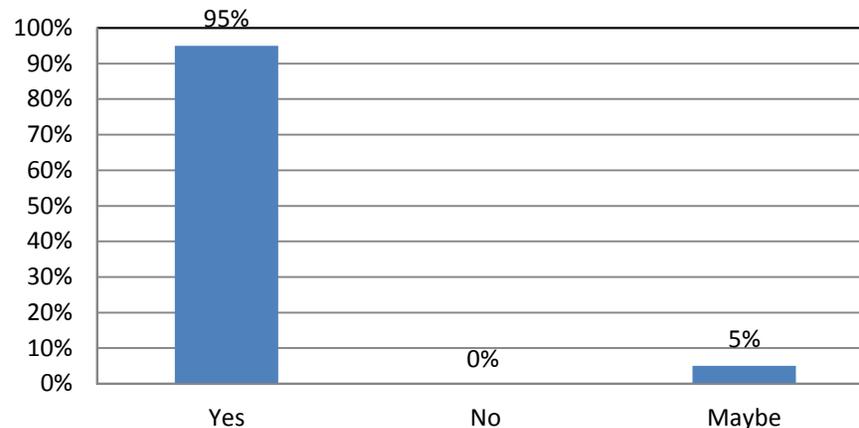
9. Which are you most concerned about?



10. Was this meeting helpful to you?



11. Do you plan on attending the Alternatives Presentation Meeting?



Alternatives Presentation Meeting Turning Point Survey Results



Middlebury Main Street and Merchants Row Bridge Project

Middlebury WCRS(23)

Alternatives Presentation Meeting - Audience Survey

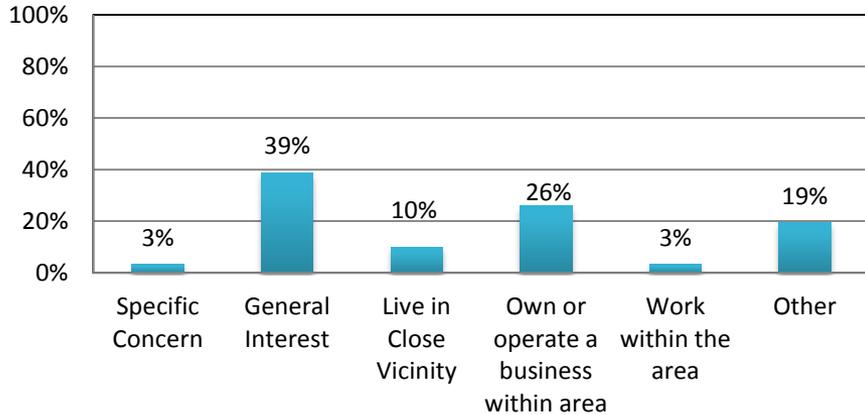
Twilight Hall Auditorium, Middlebury, VT

June 4, 2013

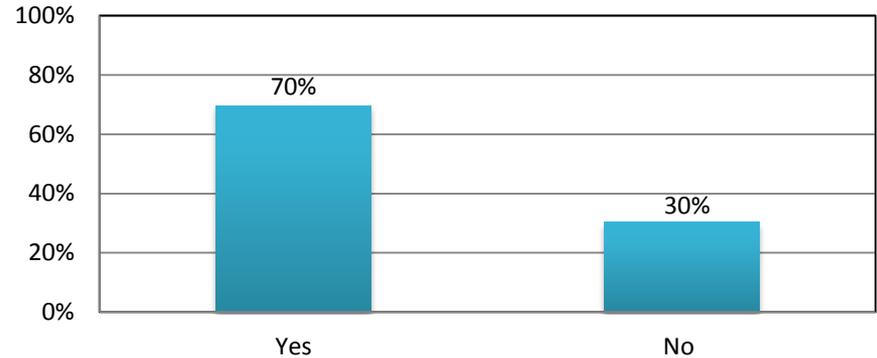
6:00 PM

Page 1 of 5

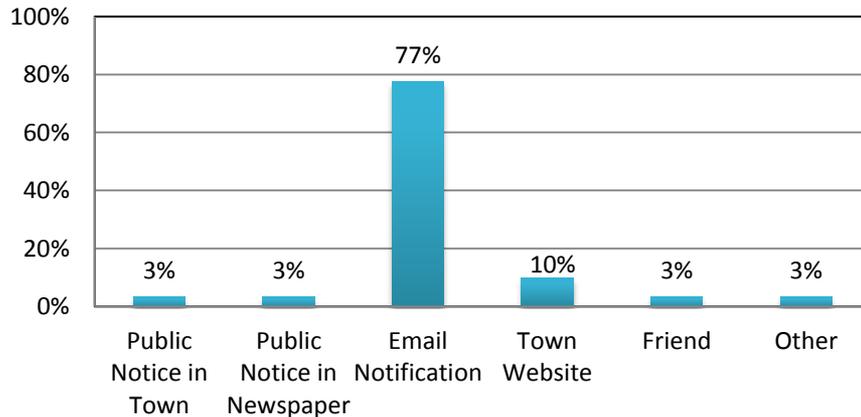
1. What is your primary reason for attending this meeting?



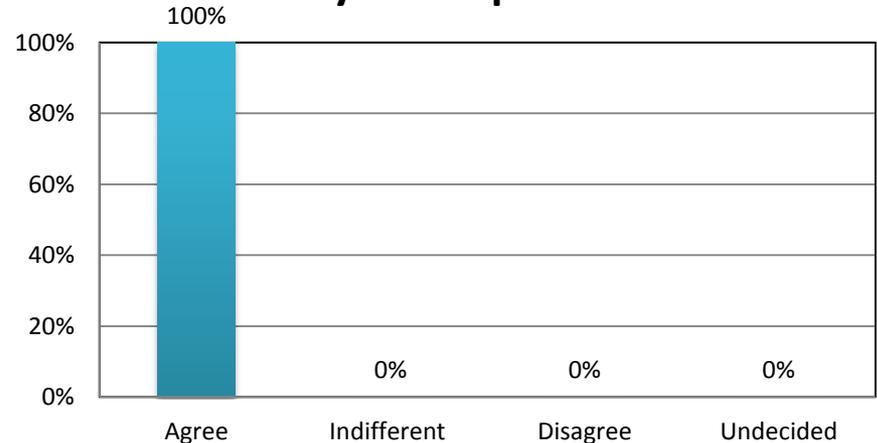
2. Did you attend the March 28, 2013 Local Concerns Public Meeting?



3. How did you hear about this meeting?



4. The aesthetics of Downtown Middlebury are important to me.

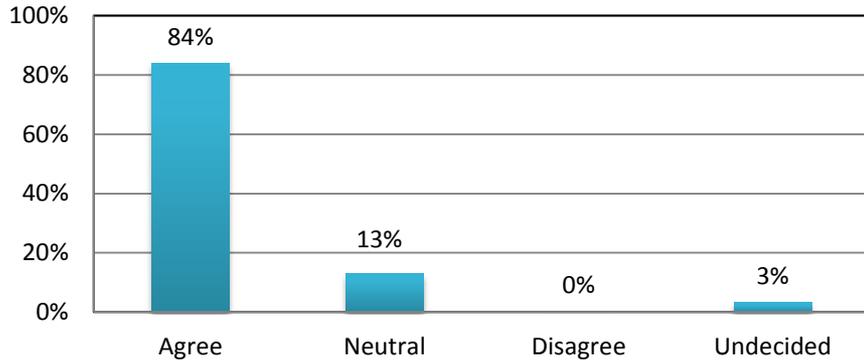




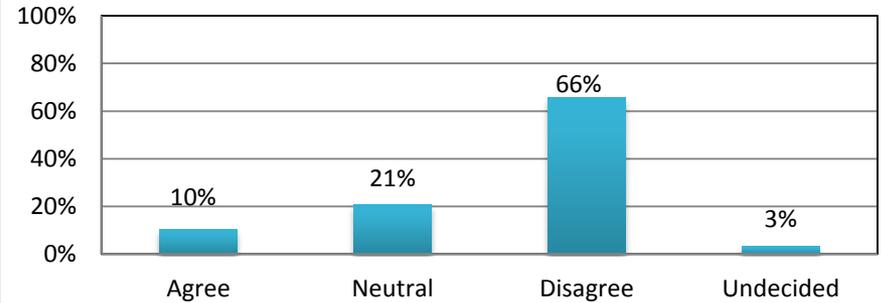
**Middlebury Main Street and Merchants Row Bridge Project
Middlebury WCRS(23)**

Alternatives Presentation Meeting - Audience Survey
Twilight Hall Auditorium, Middlebury, VT

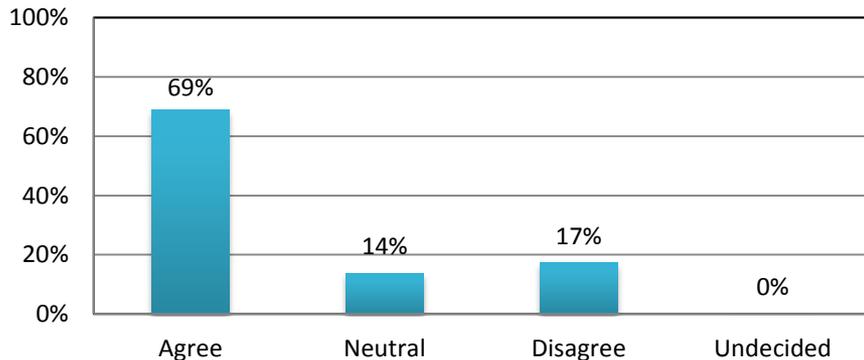
5. I feel Triangle Park is an important historic feature of Downtown Middlebury



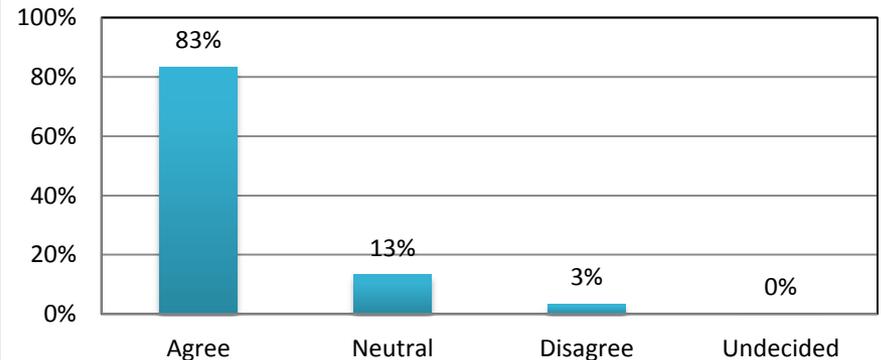
6. I feel the noise from passing trains between the bridges detracts from the historic nature of Downtown Middlebury.



7. I feel minimizing impacts to the Downtown area should be a primary concern of this project.

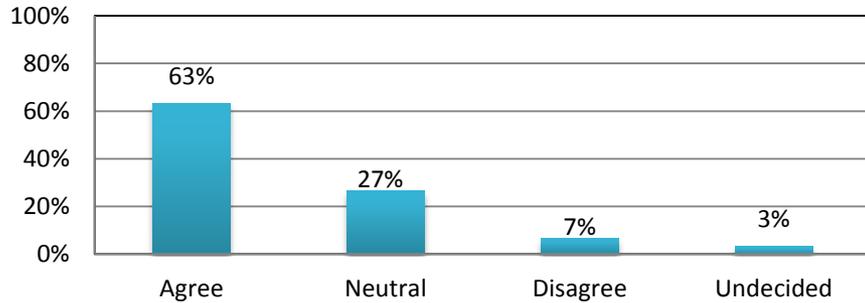


8. I feel unifying Triangle Park with the Town Green will increase the use of the space.

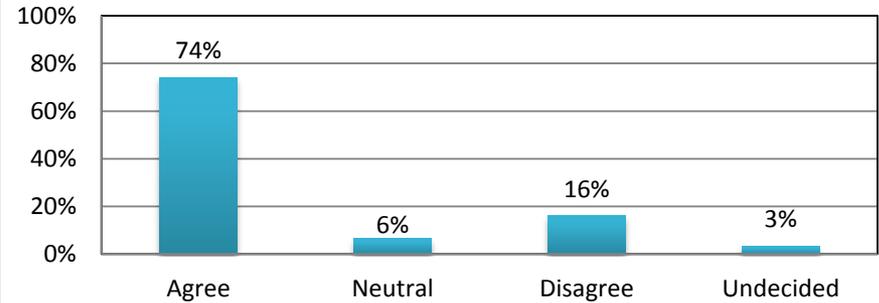




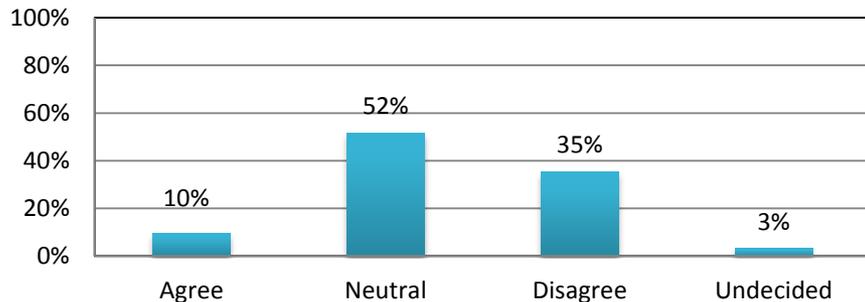
9. I feel connecting Triangle Park and the Town Green will improve the events that are held there, such as Festival on the Green.



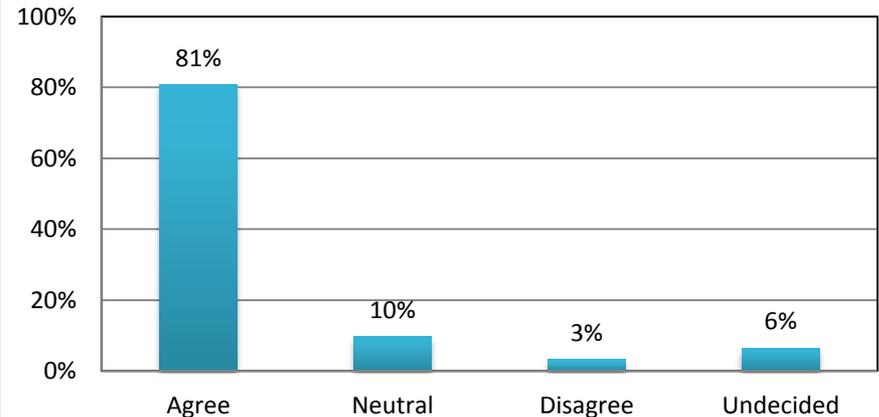
10. I feel the tunnel alternative will have a positive impact on the public spaces in historic Downtown Middlebury.



11. I feel the two bridges alternative will have a positive impact on the public spaces in historic Downtown Middlebury.

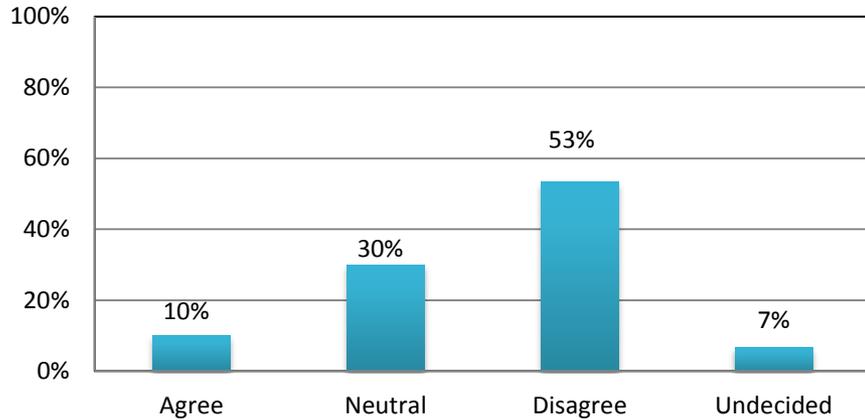


12. I support the tunnel alternative.

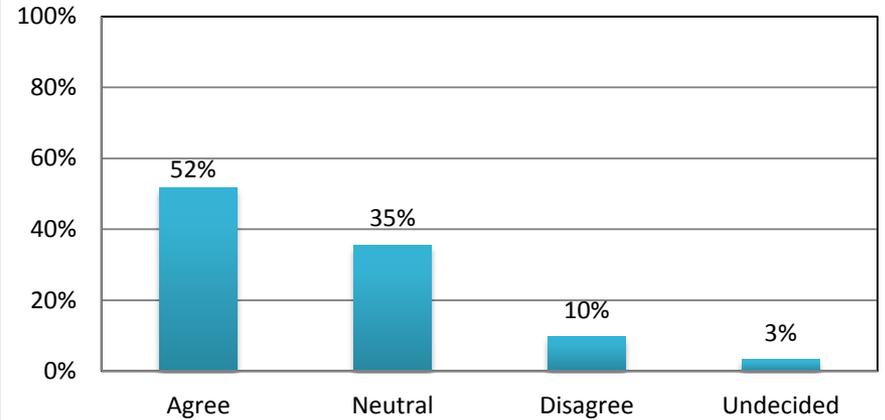




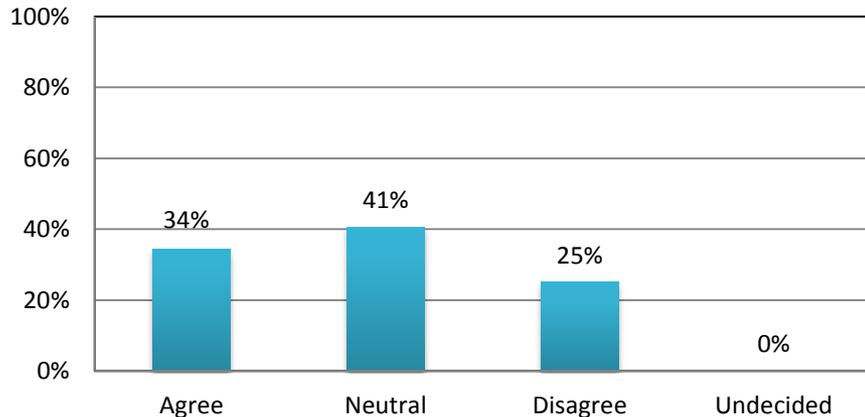
13. I support the two bridges alternative.



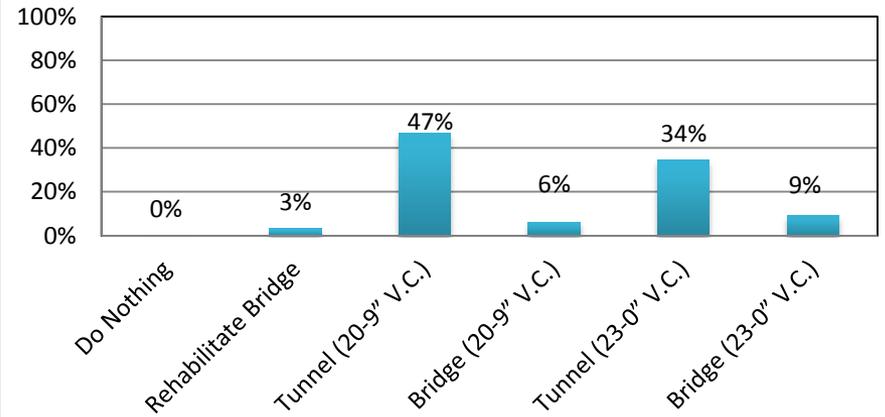
14. I support the 20' - 9" vertical clearance goal.



15. I support the 23' - 0" vertical clearance goal.

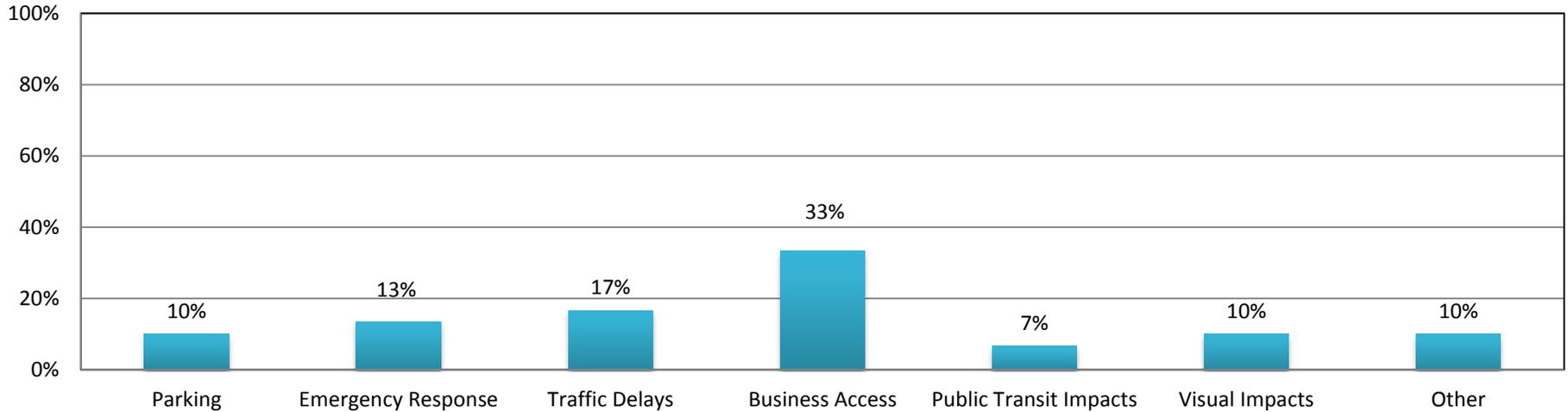


16. I support the following alternative:

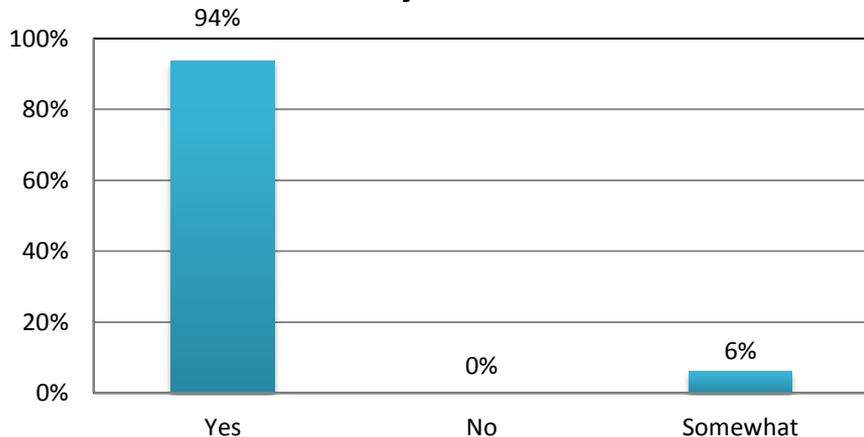




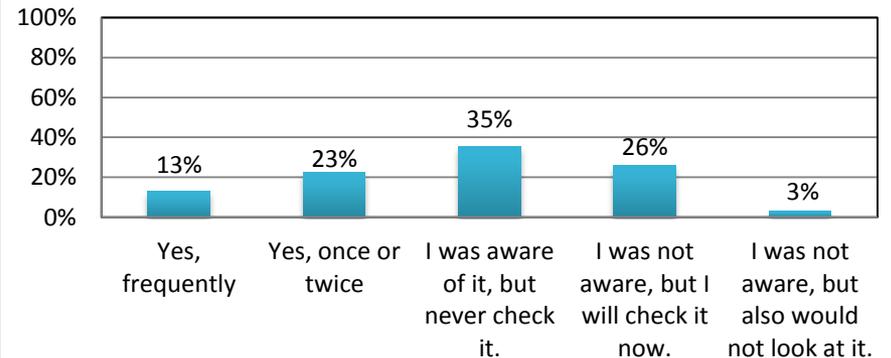
17. Which are you most concerned about during construction?



18. Was this meeting helpful to you?



19. Have you looked at MiddleburyBridges.org for project updates?



Public Meeting Presentation

November 17, 2016



Middlebury
Bridge & Rail Project

PRESENTED TO
Town of Middlebury, VT

PRESENTED BY
VTrans, VHB, Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc., and
Kubricky Construction



Meeting with you today

- **Brian Carpenter**, Middlebury Selectboard Chair
- **Jim Gish**, Middlebury Community Liaison
- **Wayne Symonds**, PE, Structures Program Manager, *VTrans*
- **Aaron Guyette**, PE, Design Project Manager, *VHB*
- **Mark Alexander**, Senior Construction Manager, *Kubricky Construction*
- **Jill Barrett**, Public Outreach Coordinator, *Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. (FHI)*



Community Project Goals

- Protect the safety of the community: people, property, environment
- Minimize the project impact on the vitality of the downtown community: businesses, residents, institutions
- Maintain traffic flow and pedestrian access to the greatest extent possible
- Develop and maintain a credible schedule
- Engage with the local community and facilitate clear communication with all stakeholders



Purpose and Need

- Replace bridges on Main Street and Merchants Row
- Reconstruct rail through the project area
- Address existing drainage concerns of the rail line



General map of project area



Bridge Replacement

- Main Street and Merchants Row bridges at the end service life
- Structurally deficient, but currently safe
- Complete replacement of both bridges is necessary
- VTrans quarterly bridge inspection
- If bridges become unsafe, temporary bridges will be installed in 7 days





Rail Reconstruction/Drainage Improvement

- Address poor rail alignment through the project
- Replace track and ties at the end of service life
- Provide drainage of the rail corridor
- Increase vertical clearance from approx. 18' to 21'
- Improve safety and reliability for rail operation
- Plan for future freight opportunities and passenger service





Vertical Clearance

- Measured from the top of the rail to low point on bridge
- Increase from existing 18'-0" clearance to 21' -0"
- Legislation in 2016 authorizes reduction from 23'-0" to 21'-0"
- VTrans, Vermont Railway, and Middlebury sign agreement for 21'-0"
- Supports future increase height for freight cars
- New bridges have 100 year life



Accelerated Bridge Construction (ABC)

- New project approach
- Short road closure and train detour
- 10-week road closure with detour vs. 2 years of conventional construction
- New bridge uses precast concrete pieces to rapidly replace the bridges
- Project designed to be built quickly



Accelerated Bridge Construction (ABC)

- VTrans has been successful in delivering ABC projects
- We understand 10 weeks is a lot for the Community
- Strive to communicate and provide valid schedules for stakeholders to plan
- Strive to provide mobility and pedestrian access during the closure



ABC—Middlebury Sand Hill Bridge (6 week closure)





Customer Survey Results

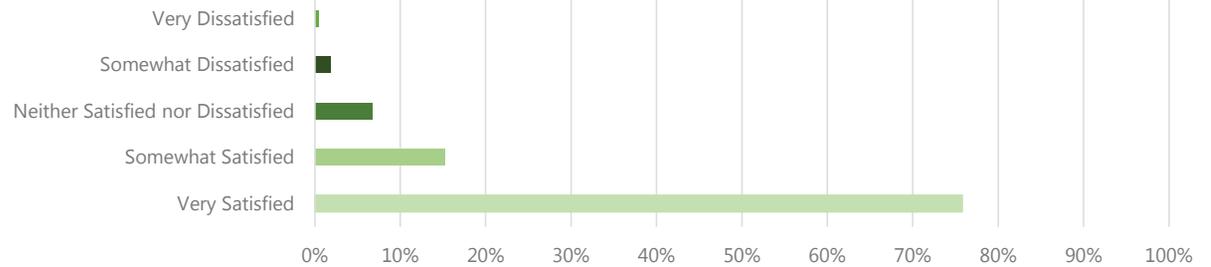
How satisfied were you with ABC?

397 Responses from 9 projects



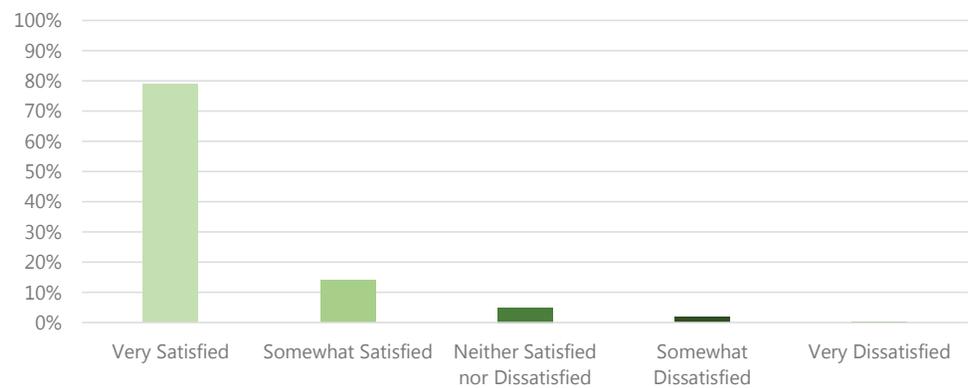
How satisfied are you with the information you received about the bridge project?

223 Responses from 9 projects



Overall, how satisfied were you with how VTrans delivered this project?

382 Responses from 9 projects



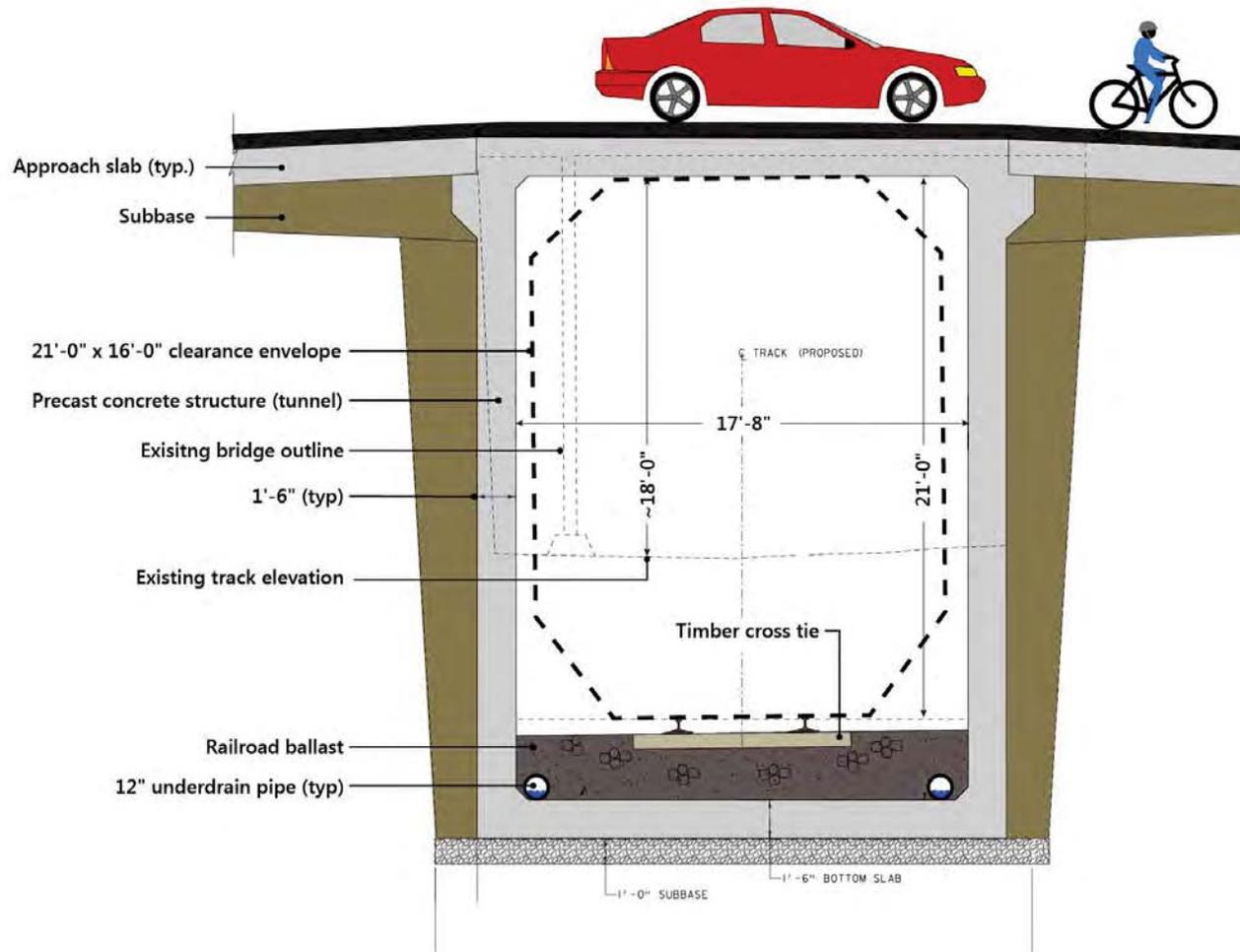
Big question:

Why not just replace the bridges with a 19'-0" RR clearance? Wouldn't that be easier and reduce the project impact on Middlebury?





New Bridge Design

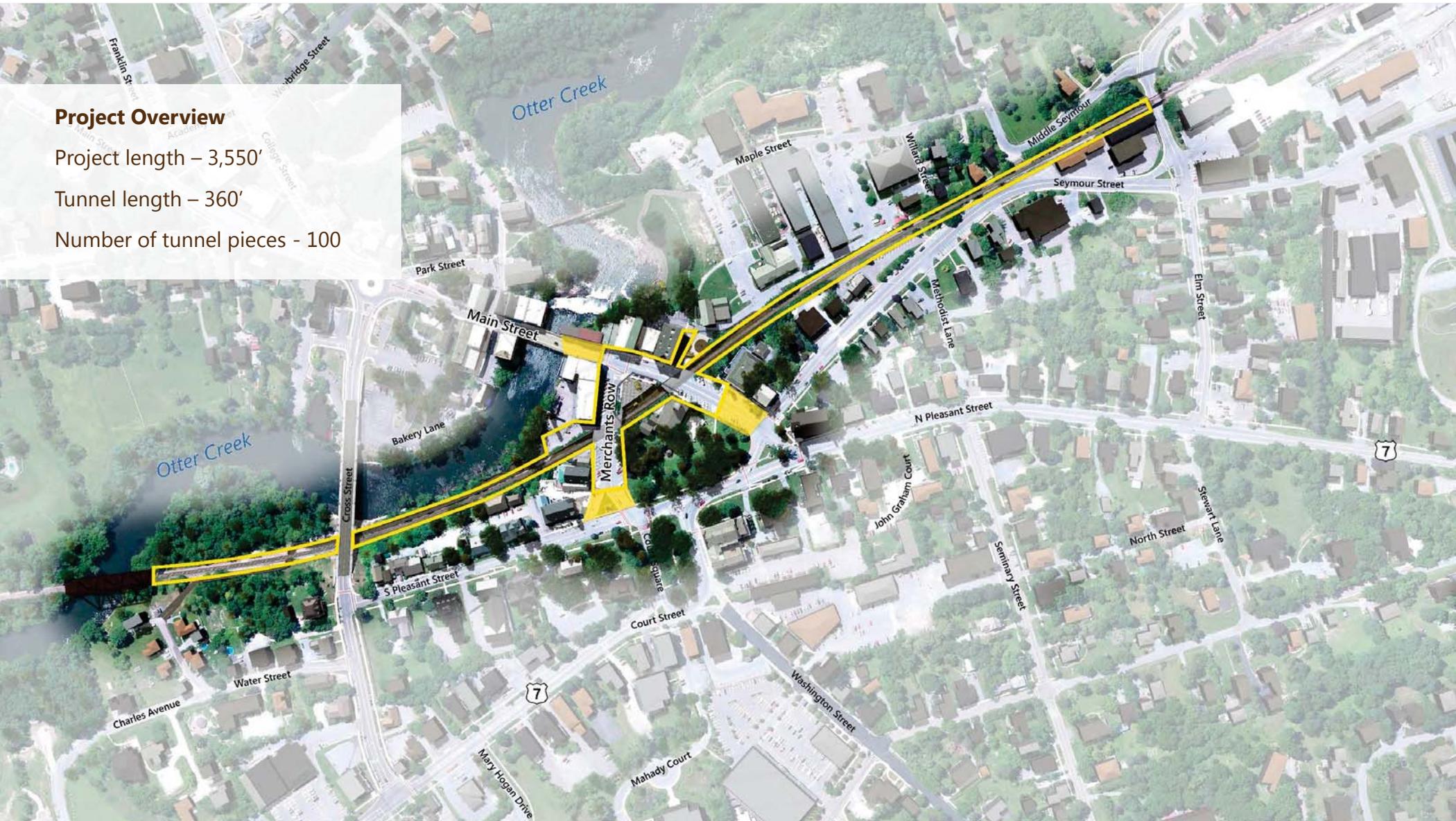


Project Overview

Project length – 3,550'

Tunnel length – 360'

Number of tunnel pieces - 100





Middlebury Bridge & Rail Project

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020



Middlebury Bridge & Rail Project

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2016 Construction Activity

- Tree cutting
 - Bat impact avoidance
 - Utilities



2016

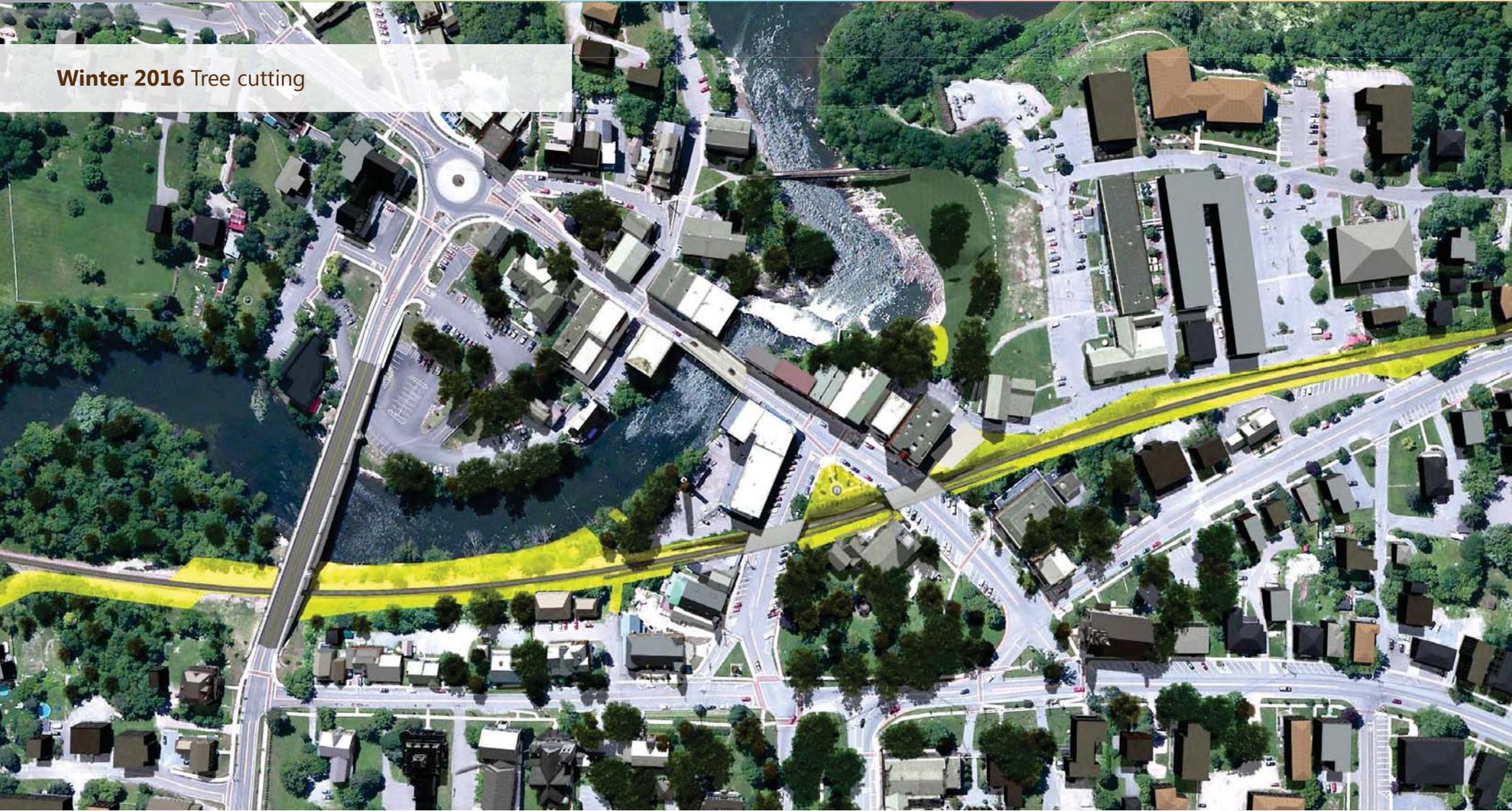
2017

2018

2019

2020

Winter 2016 Tree cutting





Middlebury Bridge & Rail Project

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2017 Construction Activity

- Temporary access road
- Drainage system
- Maintenance road and outfall
- Underground utility infrastructure

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

Summer 2017 Temporary access road



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2017 Drainage system installation

Drainage outfall/
receiving shaft 1

Drive 1

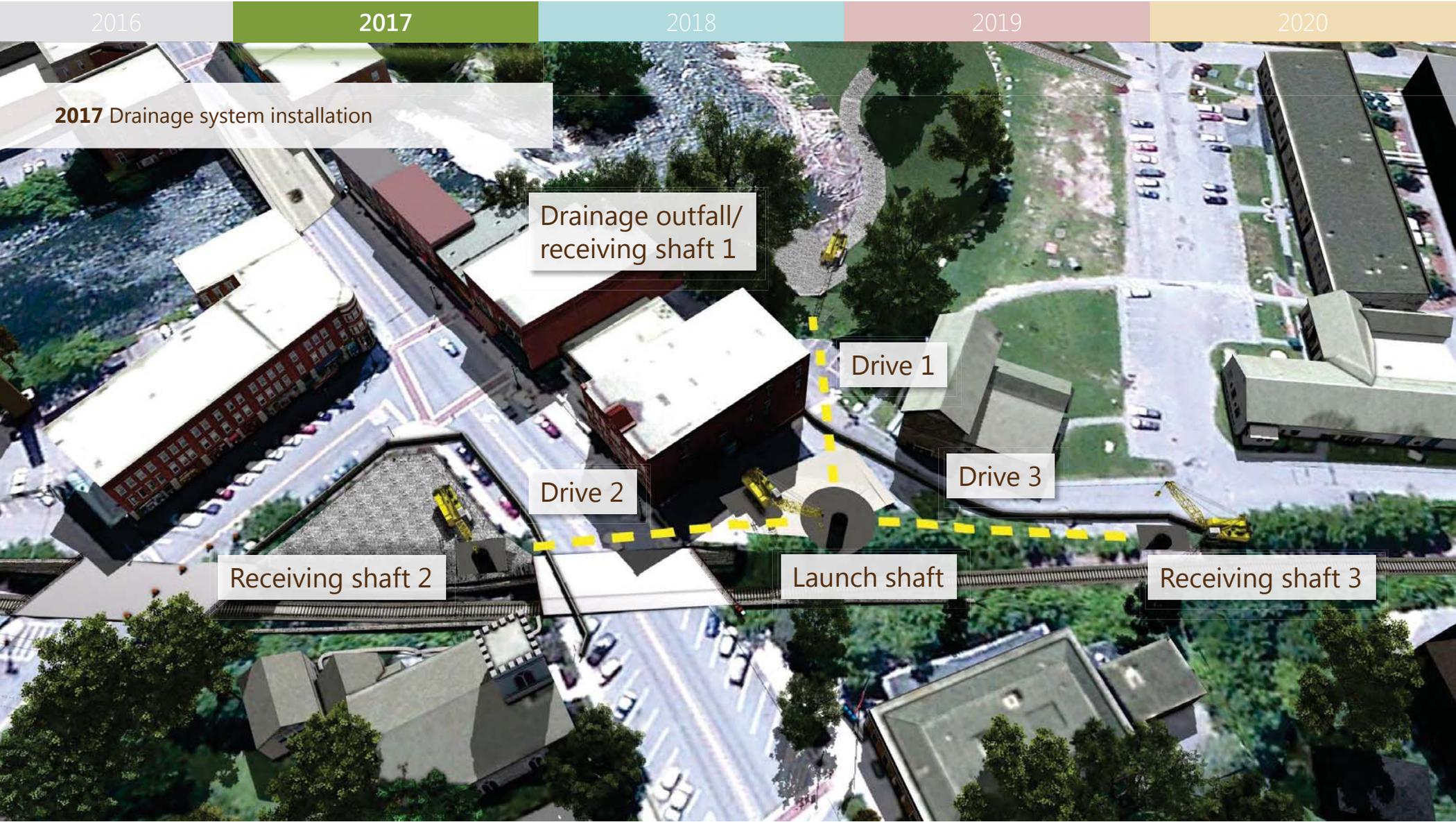
Drive 2

Drive 3

Receiving shaft 2

Launch shaft

Receiving shaft 3



2016

2017

2018

2019

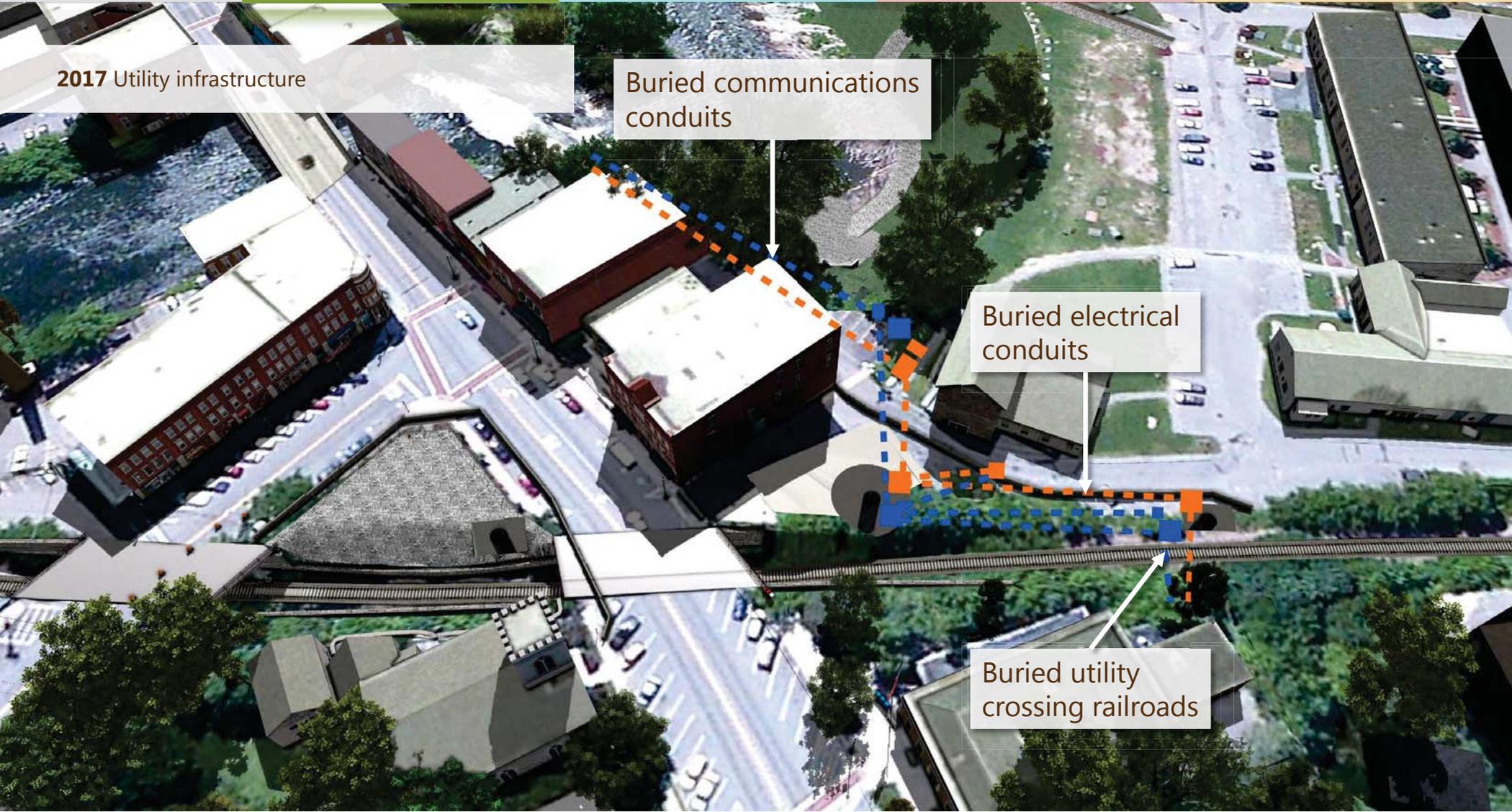
2020

2017 Utility infrastructure

Buried communications conduits

Buried electrical conduits

Buried utility crossing railroads



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2017 Maintenance access road/outfall

Park area undisturbed during construction



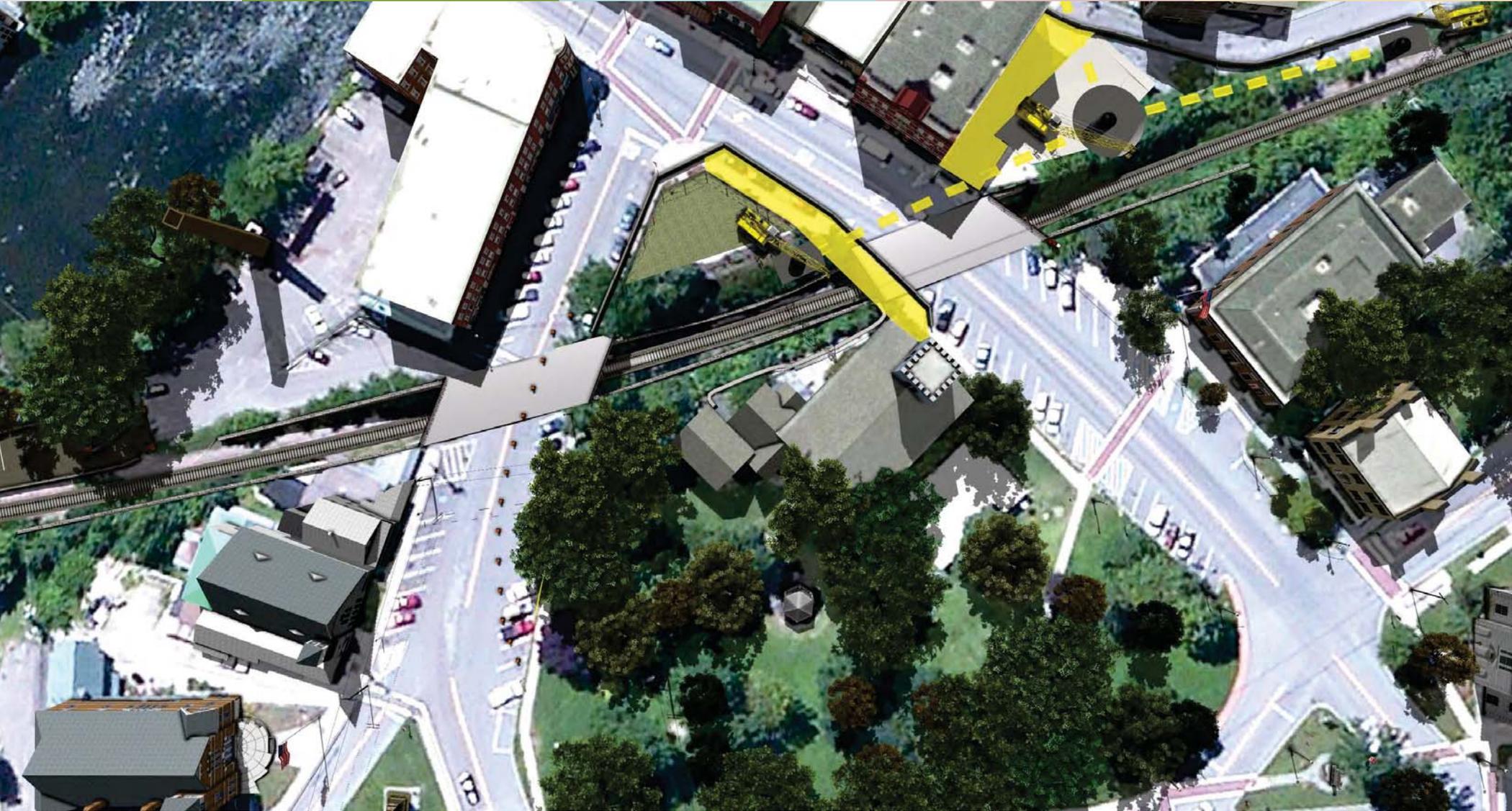
2016

2017

2018

2019

2020



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2017 Project Impacts

- Traffic, parking, and pedestrian impacts
 - Main Street and Triangle Park area
 - Printer's Alley
 - Short term lane closures
- Working hours
 - Anticipated weekday 7:00am–5:00pm
 - Isolated extended working hours



Middlebury Bridge & Rail Project

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2018 Construction Activity

- Utility construction
- Support of excavation installation along railroad
- Initial excavation along railroad

2016

2017

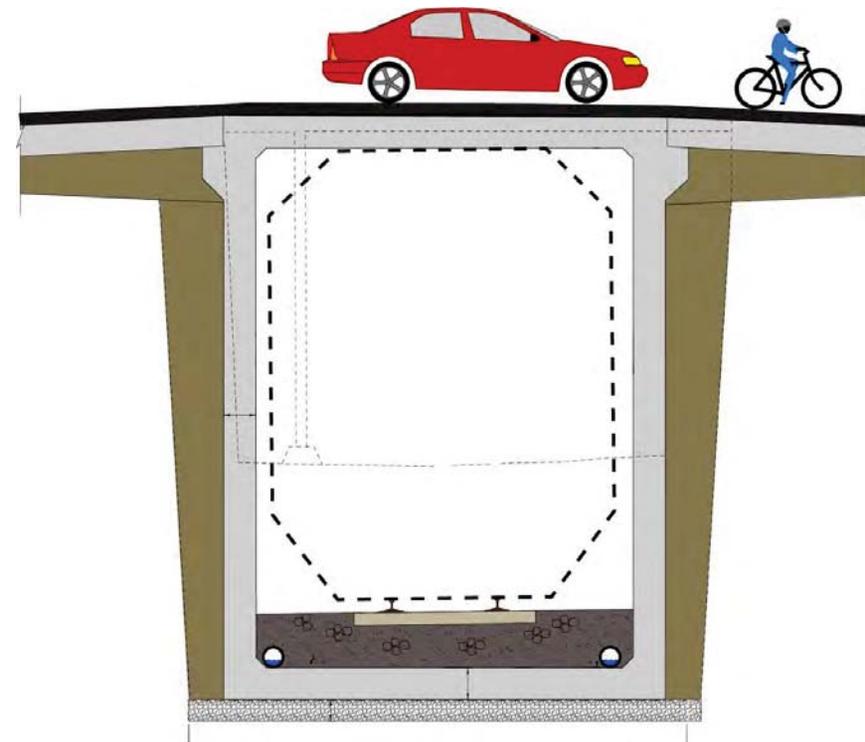
2018

2019

2020

Support of Excavation (SOE)

- What is Support of Excavation?
 - Temporary structure to support roads, buildings, and slopes
- Why is it needed?
 - To minimize impacts to existing infrastructure
 - Preparation for accelerated construction in 2019
- What are the extents?
 - Along the railroad corridor



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2018 Support of Excavation extents

Total length of SOE – 3,000'



2016

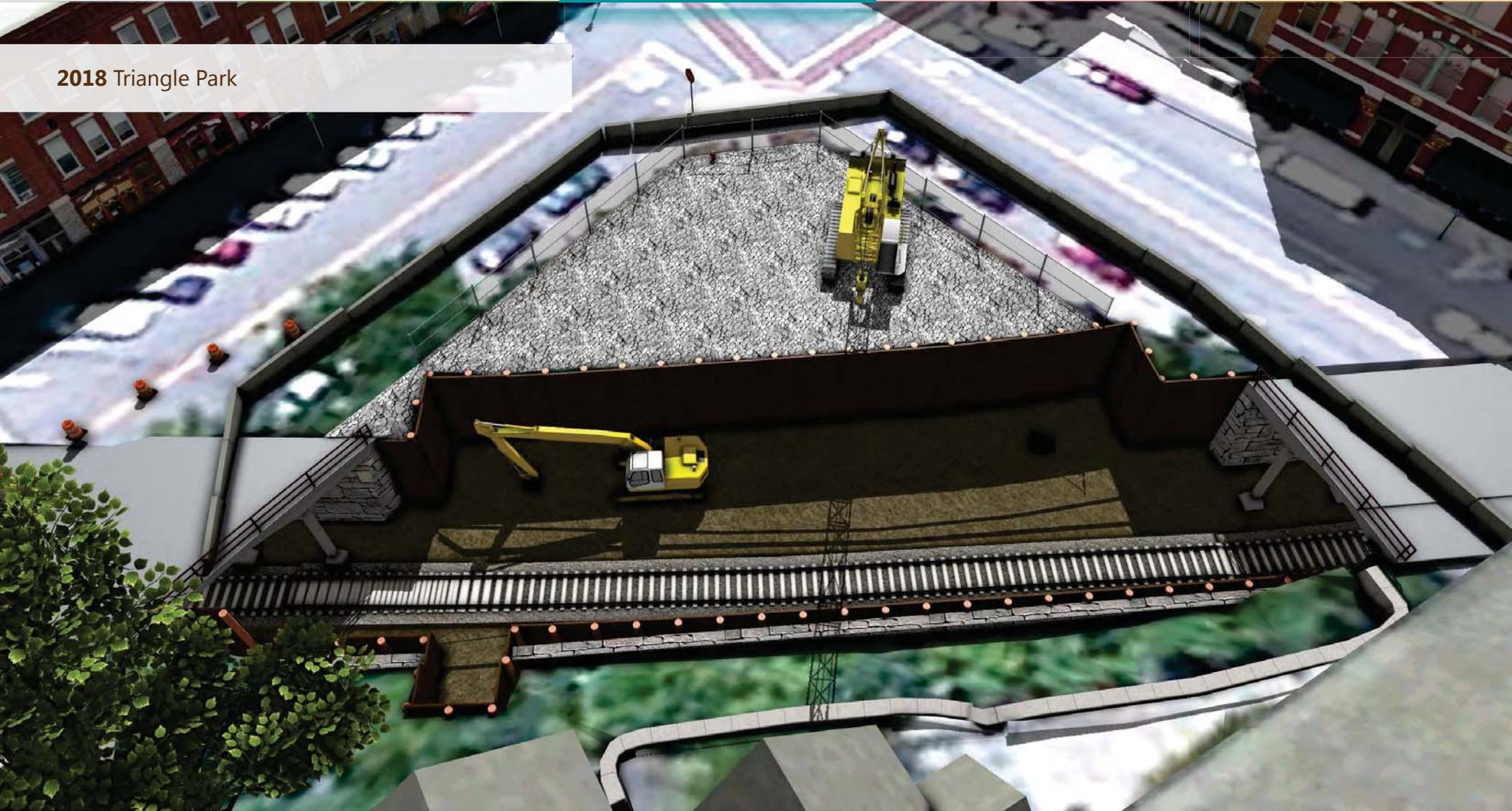
2017

2018

2019

2020

2018 Triangle Park



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2018 Traffic and pedestrian impacts



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2018 Project Impacts

- Traffic, parking, and pedestrian impacts
 - Main Street and Merchants Row/Triangle Park area
 - Printer's Alley
 - Short term lane closures
- Working hours
 - Anticipated weekday 7:00am–5:00pm
 - Isolated extended working hours



Middlebury Bridge & Rail Project

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Construction Activity

- **Pre-closure** (April and May)
- **Closure** (June, July, August)
 - Main Street and Merchants Row closures
 - Railroad detour
- **Post-closure** (September, October, November, December)

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Closure Activity (10 Weeks)

- Track removal/existing bridge demolition
- Earth and rock excavation
- Precast tunnel placement
- Return traffic to Main Street and Merchants Row

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Closure

- Main Street and Merchants Row closed
- Bridge demolition
- Track removed



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Closure

- Earth excavation



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Closure

- U-walls set
- Earth excavation
- Rock excavation



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Closure

- Precast tunnel placement
- Railroad approach excavation



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Closure

- Tunnel backfill
- Continued excavation and tunnel construction at Main Street
- Final U-walls



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Closure

- Tunnel complete
- Main Street and Merchants Row open to vehicle and pedestrian use
- Continued railroad approach work



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Road closures



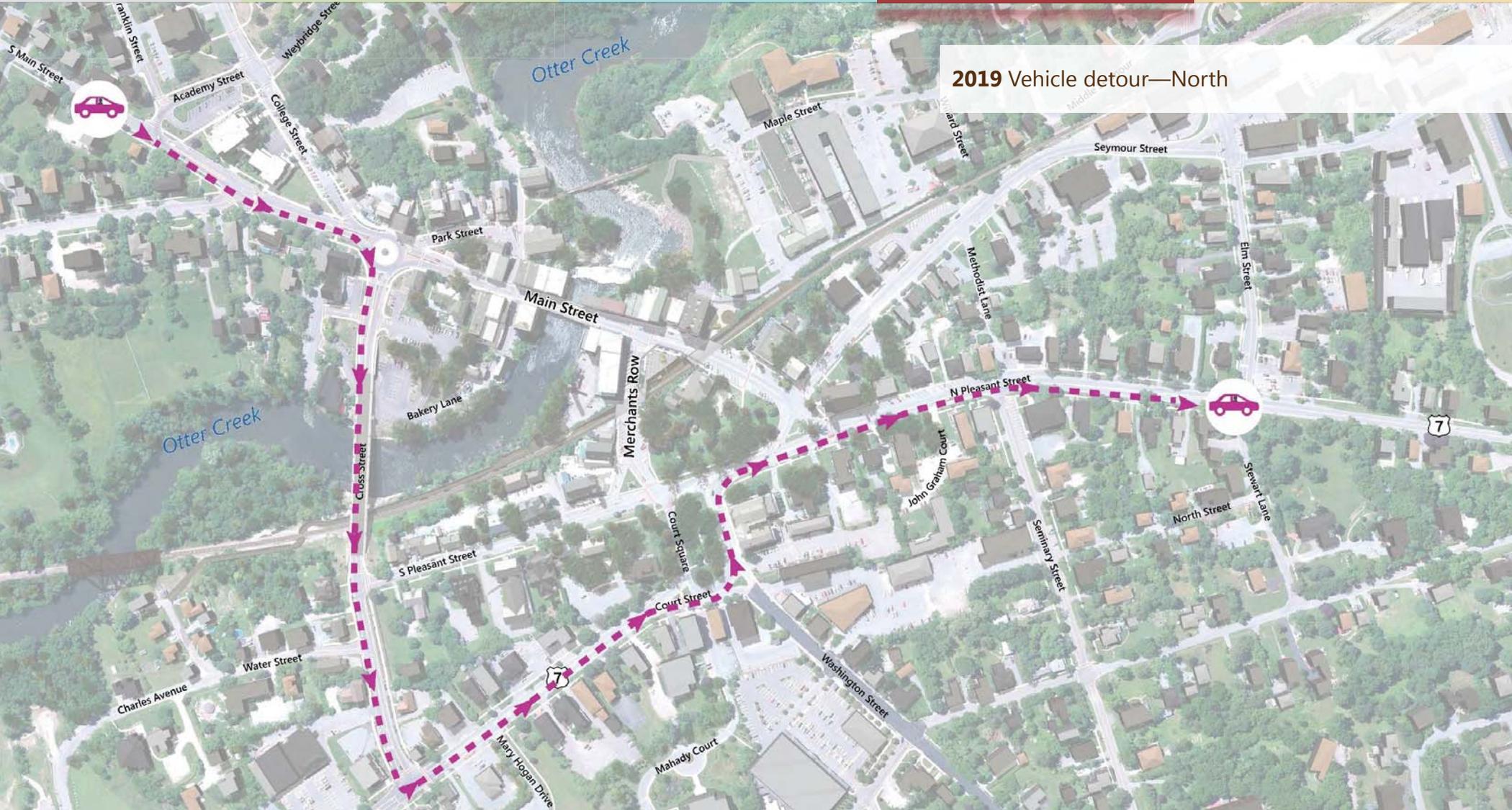
2016

2017

2018

2019

2020



2019 Vehicle detour—North

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020



2019 Vehicle detour—South

2016

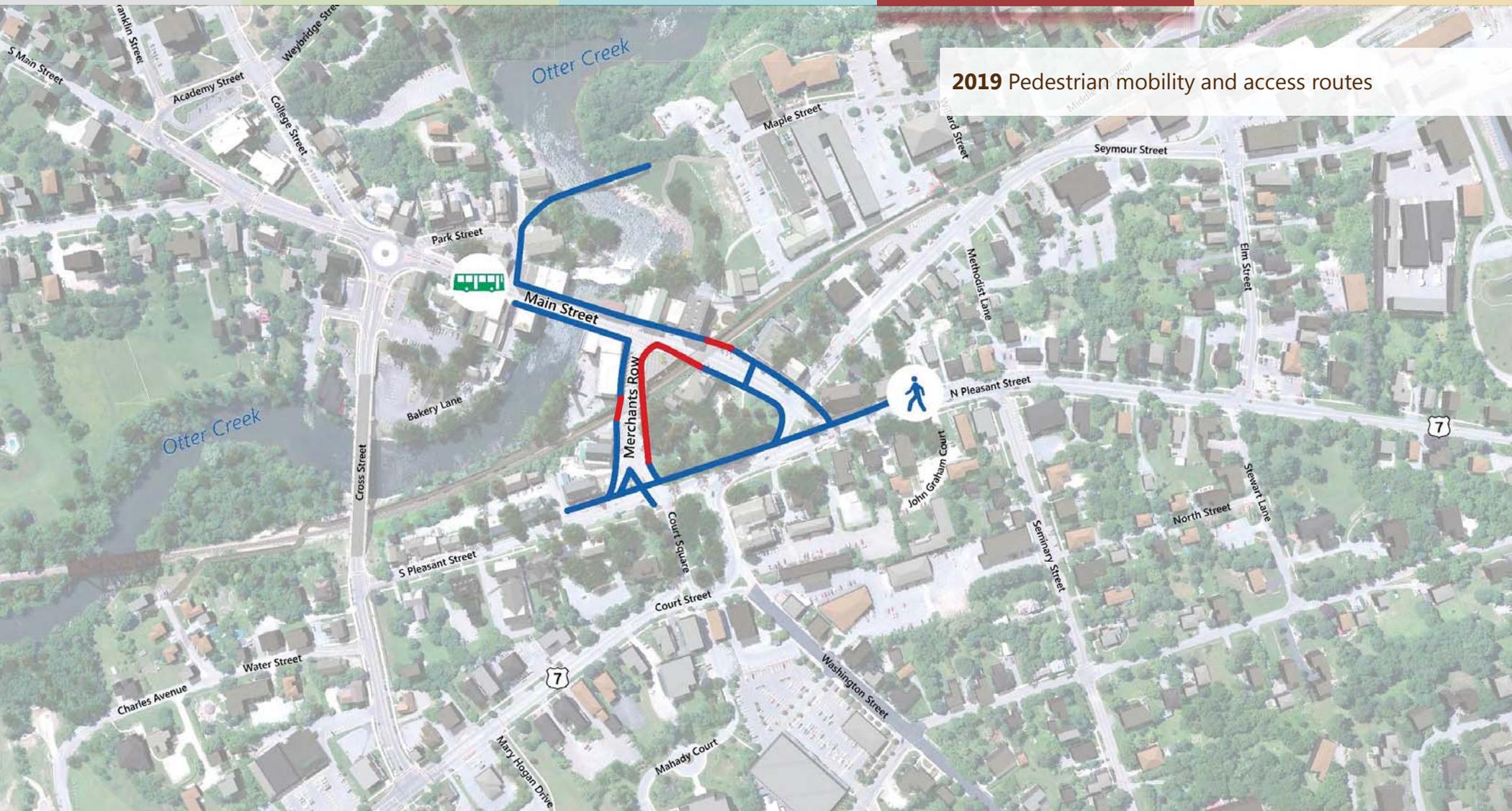
2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Pedestrian mobility and access routes



2016

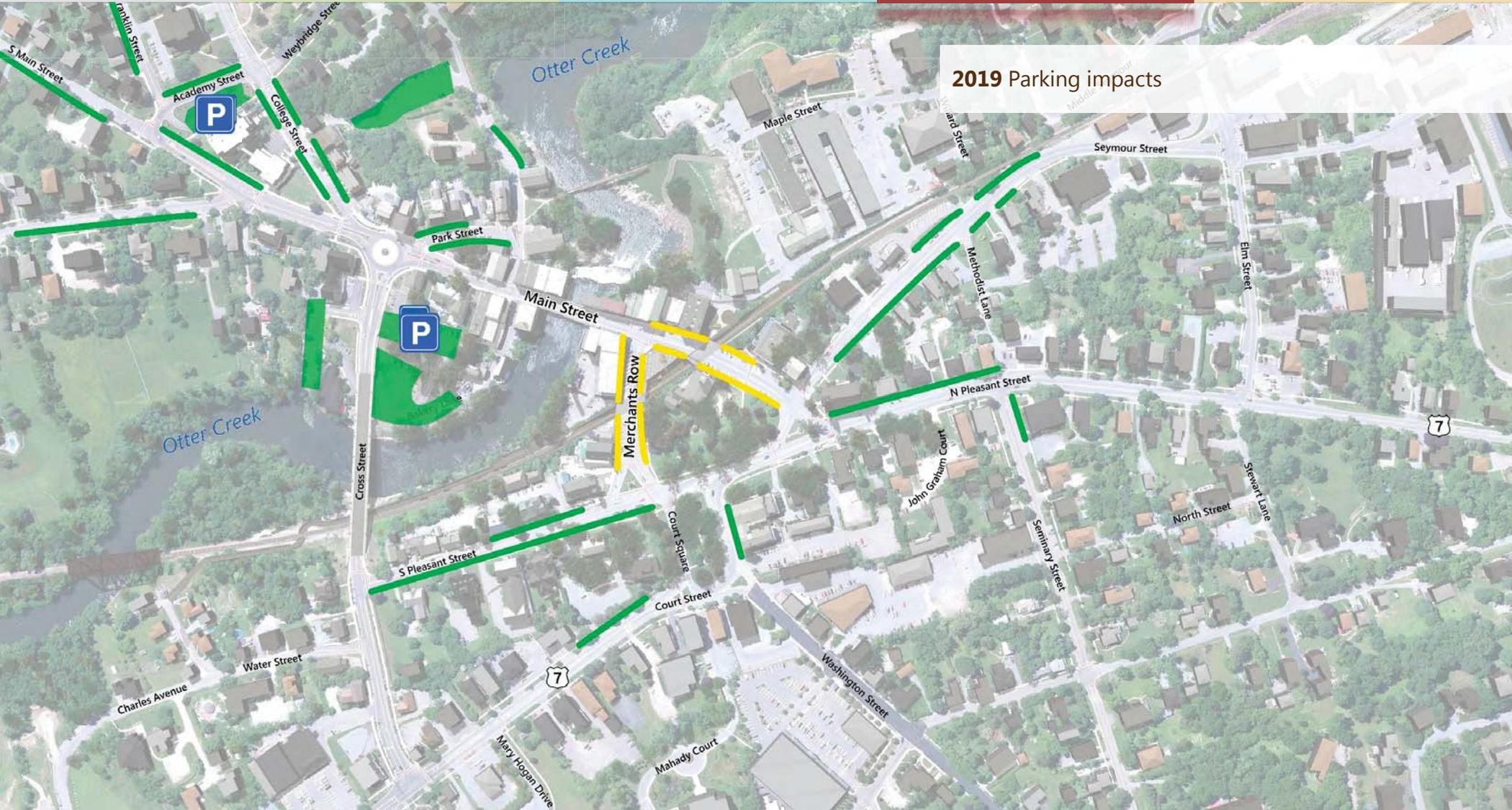
2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Parking impacts



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Closure Project Impacts (10 weeks)

- Traffic, parking, and pedestrian impacts
 - Main Street and Merchants Row closed at bridge crossings
 - Printer's Alley closed
- Working hours
 - 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Post-Closure Activity

- U-wall installation
- Curbs and sidewalks
- Bridge railing
- Grading

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Post-closure, tunnel complete and roads open



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2019 Post-Closure Project Impacts

- Traffic, parking, and pedestrian impacts
 - Phased lane and sidewalk closures
- Working hours
 - Extended 20-hour work windows for track work
 - Daily 7:00am–5:00pm roadway work



Middlebury Bridge & Rail Project

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2020 Construction Activity

- Final railroad track construction
- Final paving, line striping, and signs
- Crosswalks
- Landscaping and parks

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2020 Project completion
Printer's Alley reconstruction
Improved vehicular and pedestrian access



2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2020 Project Impacts

- Traffic, parking, and pedestrian impacts
 - Phased lane and sidewalk closures
- Working hours
 - Anticipated 7:00am–5:00pm

Big question:

Given the structurally deficient condition of the bridges, why are you waiting until 2019 to actually replace them?



Big question:

Ten weeks is a long time to close Main Street and Merchants Row. Is there anything that you can do to shorten the duration? What are the considerations for businesses?





Recap of Community Project Goals

- Protect the safety of the community: people, property, environment
 - Quarterly bridge safety inspections
 - Construction fencing and barricades
 - Due diligence with contaminants, structural integrity of buildings, and traffic control



Recap of Community Project Goals

- Maintain traffic flow and pedestrian access to the greatest extent possible
 - Minor traffic and pedestrian impacts during 2017, 2018, and 2020 allowing to plan for major impacts
 - Major traffic and pedestrian impacts for 10 weeks in 2019



Recap of Community Project Goals

- Minimize the project impact on the vitality of the downtown community: businesses, residents, institutions
 - Accelerated construction to reduce impacts to 10 weeks in 2019
 - Clearly defined vehicular and pedestrian detours
 - Downtown pedestrian shuttle bus



Recap of Community Project Goals

- Develop and maintain a credible project schedule
 - Reset design and construction critical path schedules
 - Track potential schedule risks
 - Transparent communication regarding schedule and status of risks



Recap of Community Project Goals

- Engage with the local community and facilitate clear communication with all stakeholders
 - Community engagement through public meetings
 - Public facing website and social media updates
 - Individual project stakeholder meetings
 - Transparent communication and updates



Our Approach to Public Outreach

- Open and continuous communication
 - Project phone number (802) 272-1248
 - E-alerts/project updates
 - Meetings—large and small
 - Project website

- Identify opportunities to collaborate
 - Scheduling
 - Site tours/education programs



vtrans.vermont.gov/projects/middlebury

STATE OF VERMONT

Agency of Transportation

- About the Project
- Schedule
- Documents Library
- FAQs
- Contact Us



Middlebury Bridge & Rail Project

Project Status Update

November:

Public Meeting: November 17th at Town Hall Theater, Middlebury

December:

Tree clearing along rail line scheduled.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

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 by the summer of 2020. The two bridges are about 300 feet apart, with one located on Main Street/VT 30 and the other on Merchants Row.



