

Bridge #19-5



Bridge #19-7



Sunderland BM 20102 – Bridge #19-5
Sunderland NH CULV(122) – Bridge #19-7
Pre-Closure Public Informational Meeting
U.S. Route 7; Bridges #19-5 and #19-7

August 11, 2026

Public Meeting – Housekeeping Items

- This is a hybrid meeting with both in-person and online participants.
- The meeting is being recorded and will be available for public viewing after the event.
- Remote attendees will remain muted throughout the presentation and Q&A. Questions and comments may be submitted through the Zoom Chat or Q&A feature and will be addressed at the end of the presentation.
- During the Q&A session, we will alternate between questions and comments from online and in-person attendees. In-person participants should use the microphone so all attendees can hear.
- Closed captions are available in the Zoom toolbar.

Introductions

Gary Laroche, P.E.

AOT, Structures Project Manager

Timothy Higginson, P.E.

WSP, Highway Project Engineer

Elaine Ezerins

WSP, Public Information Consultant

Contractor

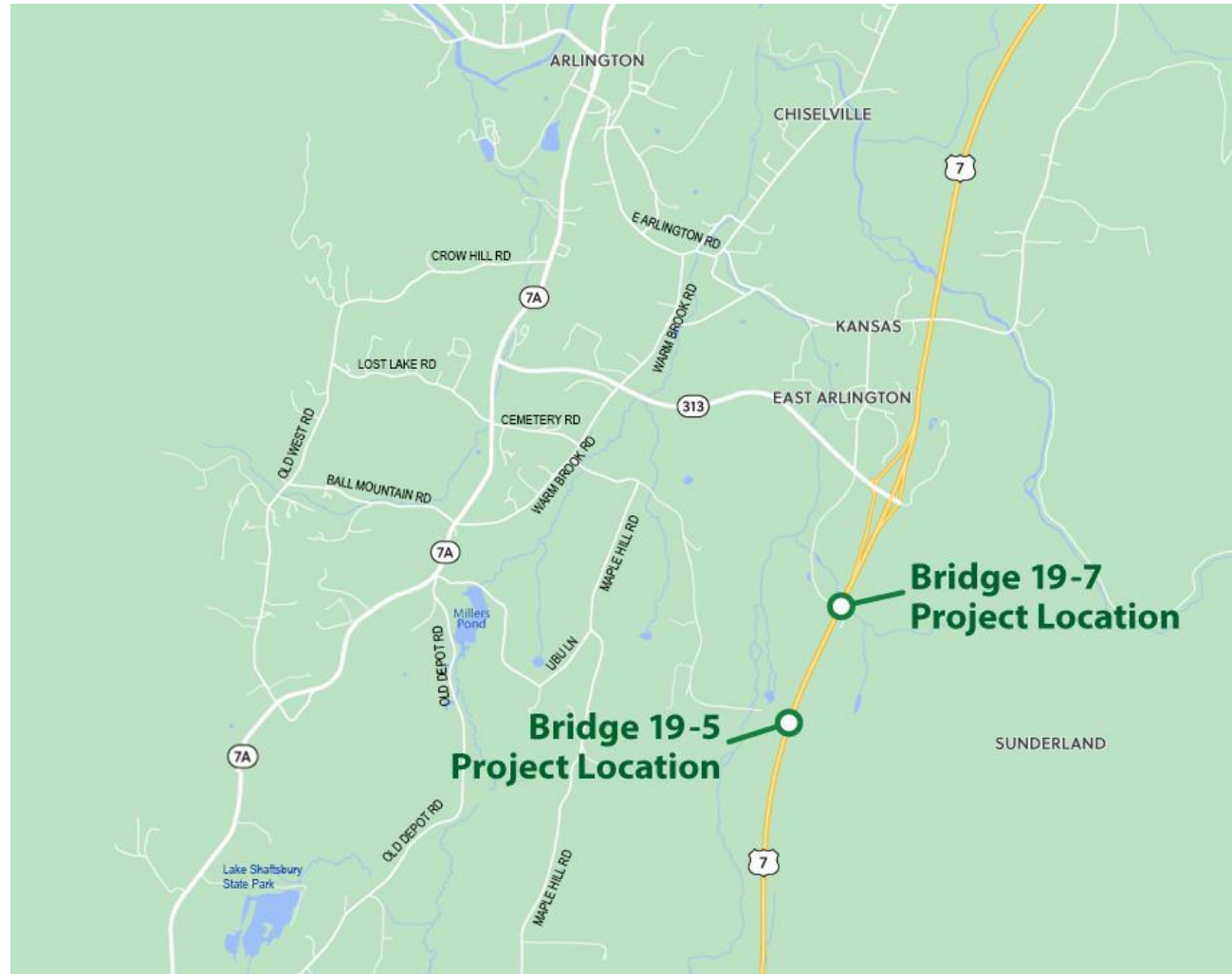
Belden Construction LLC

Agenda

- Project Location
- Project Introduction
- Maintenance of Traffic
- Detour Route during U.S. Route 7 Closure
- Emergency Services Coordination
- Construction Schedule
- Public Outreach during Construction
- Questions

Location Map

- SUNDERLAND NH
CULV(122), on U.S.
Route 7 Bridge #19-7
over unnamed brook,
approximately 0.5 miles
south of junction with
VT Route 313
- SUNDERLAND BM
20102, on U.S. 7 Bridge
#19-5 over unnamed
brook, approximately
1.1 miles south of
junction with VT 313





Existing Conditions

- Bridge Type – 162 long, 8-foot Span Corrugated Galvanized Metal Plate Pipe Arch
- Invert is in poor condition; heavy corrosion with large perforations. Does not meet Aquatic Organism Passage standard.
- Constructed in 1978

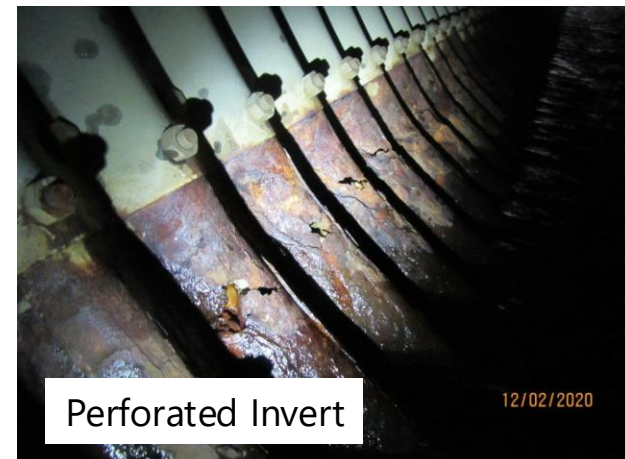




Inlet

Existing Conditions

- Bridge Type – 120 long, 7-foot Span Corrugated Galvanized Metal Plate Pipe Arch
- Invert is in fair condition; heavy rust scaling, pitting, and large perforations. Does not meet 14' stream equilibrium standard.
- Constructed in 1979

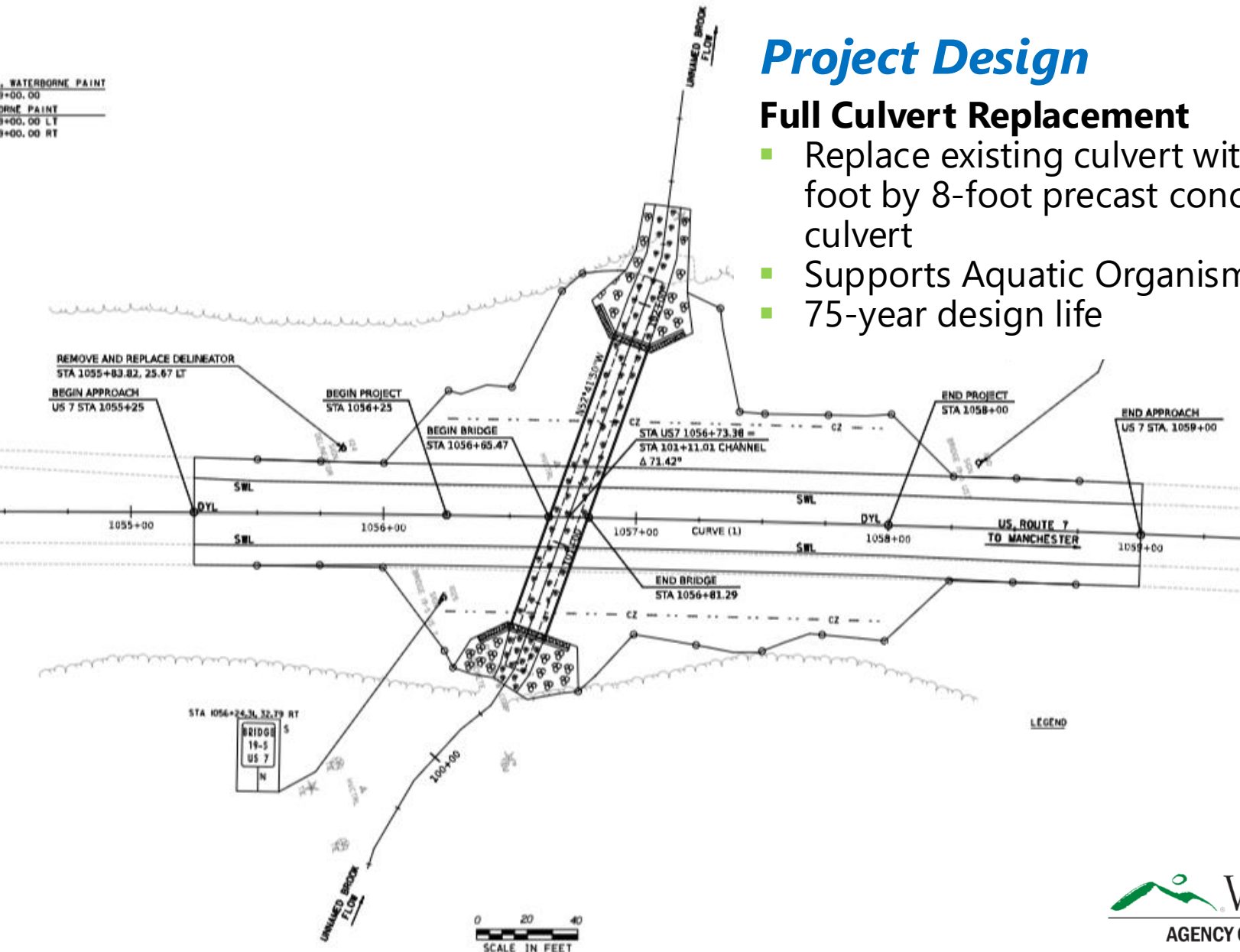


Perforated Invert

Project Design

Full Culvert Replacement

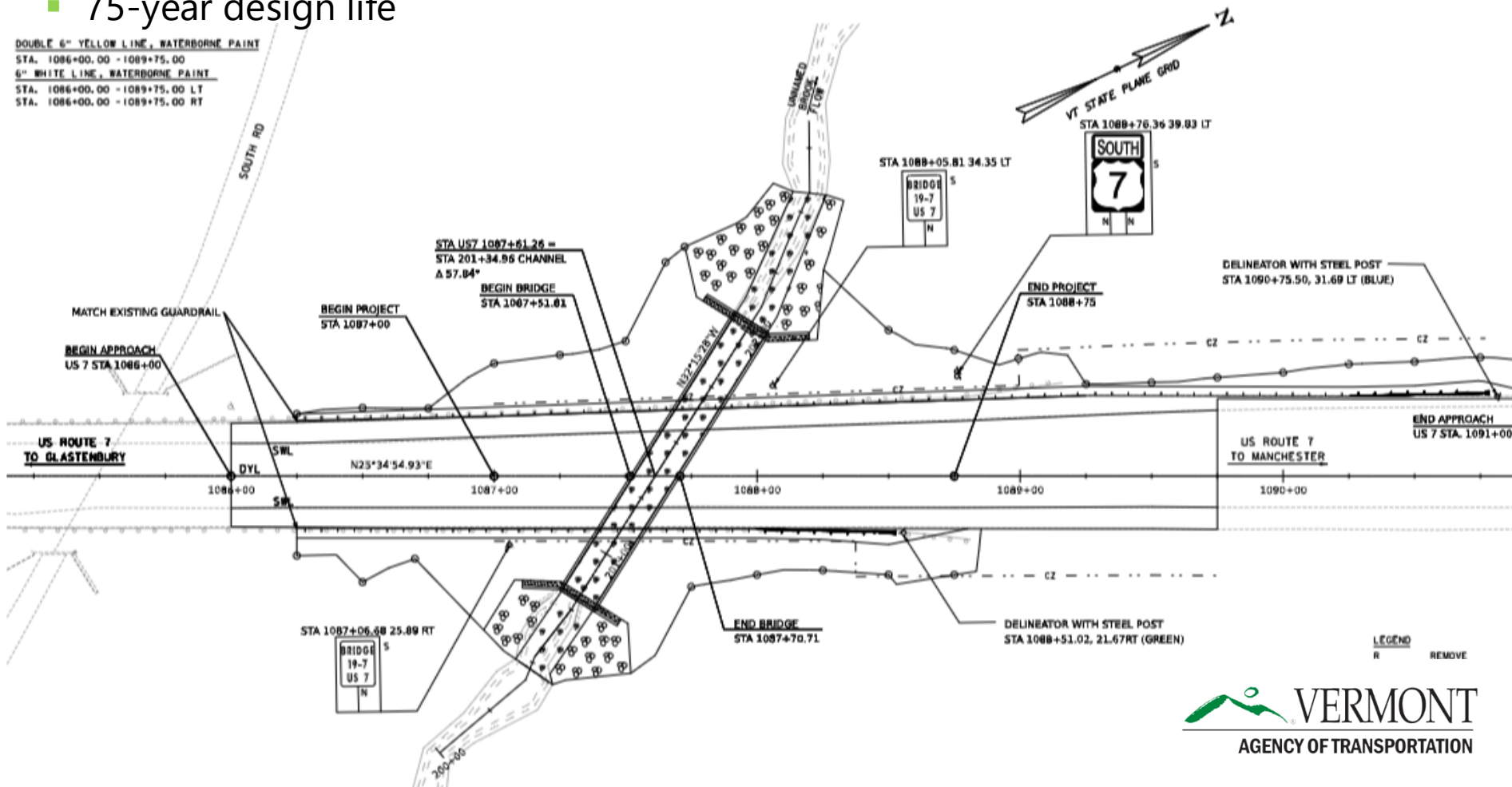
- Replace existing culvert with a 14-foot by 8-foot precast concrete box culvert
- Supports Aquatic Organism Passage
- 75-year design life



Project Design

Full Culvert Replacement

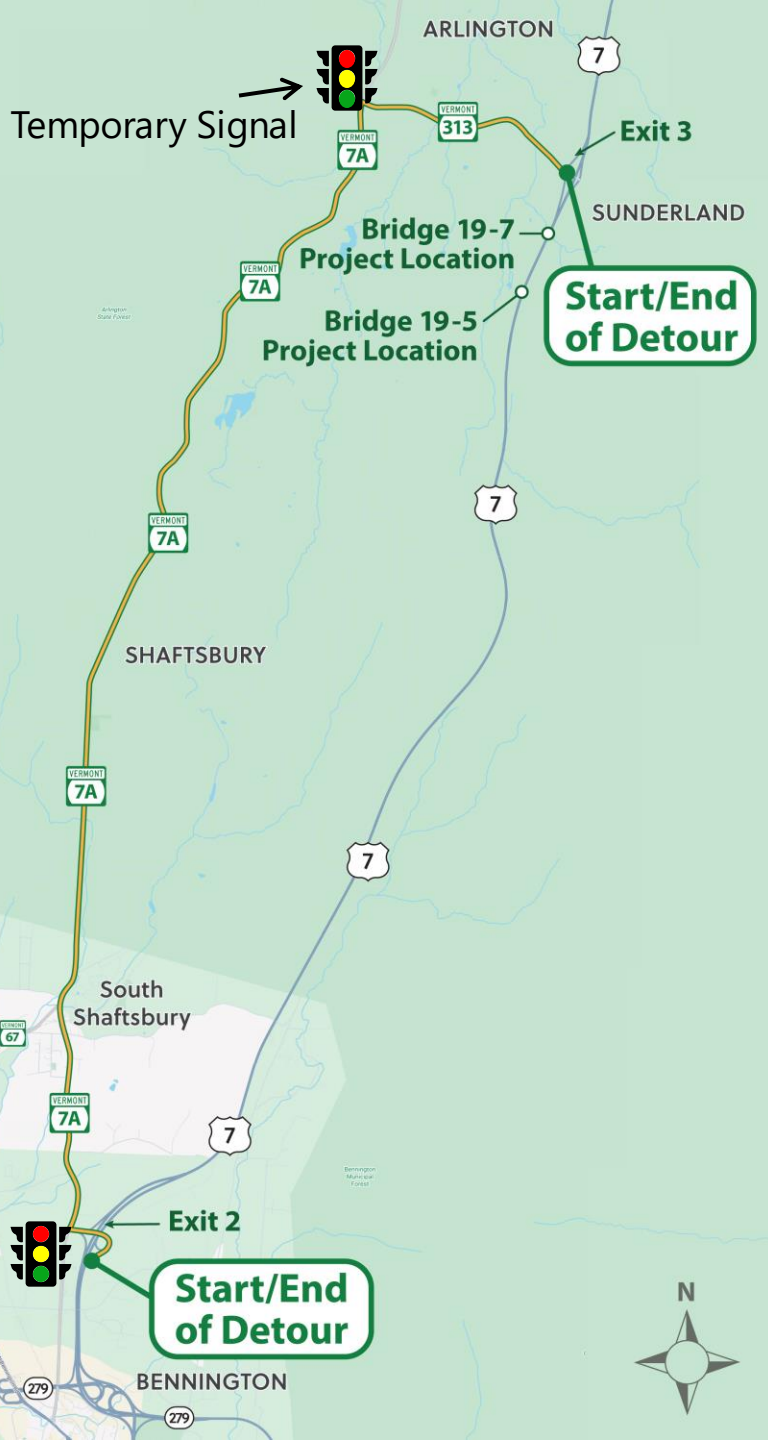
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Maintenance of Traffic

- U.S. Route 7 closed for 14 days between Exit 3 (Arlington) and Exit 2 (Bennington).
- 24/7 construction operations permitted during the closure period, including nights, weekends, and holidays.
- Traffic maintained via a signed off-site detour route along Vermont Route 7A and Vermont Route 313.
- Superload detours coordinated with Vermont and New York DMVs based on origin and destination.





Detour Route

- Detour route: VT 7A and VT 313
- Detour adds 3.3 miles of travel.
- Superload detour route: coordinated with VT and NY DMVs due to height limitation on VT 313.
- Traffic control measures during closure period:
 - Uniformed traffic officer at the VT 67 and VT 7A intersection during peak periods
 - Temporary traffic signals at
 - VT 7A and VT 313 intersection in Arlington,
 - VT 7A and U.S. 7 Ramps in Bennington (Exit 2)
 - Signage and message boards along detour route
 - 12-foot height restriction signage on VT 7A directing southbound vehicles to turn left onto U.S. 7 at Exit 2

Emergency Services Coordination

- Pre-Closure Coordination Meeting
 - Will be held two weeks prior to closure period
- Issue Traffic Alerts to Emergency Services Stakeholder Contact List
 - Fire Departments: Arlington, Bennington, North Bennington, Manchester, Shaftsbury, Pownal Valley
 - Law Enforcement: Bennington County Sheriff's Department, Bennington, Manchester, Vermont State Police Shaftsbury Barracks
 - Others: Arlington Rescue Department and Sunderland Emergency Management Director

Project Construction Schedule

- Standard Hours – Outside of Road Closure Period
 - 7 AM to 5 PM, Monday – Friday
- Closure Period Hours:
 - 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, including nights, weekends, and holidays.
 - Proposed Closure Period Dates: Saturday, September 19, 7 AM – Saturday, October 3, 7 AM
 - Full crews at both project areas
 - Work sites will be illuminated at night

Project Construction Schedule

- Pre-closure Work
 - Approx. August 3 – September 19
 - Culvert fabrication, site preparation, and detour signage and temporary signal installation
- U.S. Route 7 Closure Period (14 days)
 - Proposed Dates: **Saturday, September 19, 2026, from 7 AM – Saturday, October 3, 2026, until 7 AM**
 - Work Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
 - Culvert installation and roadway work, including final paving
- Post-closure Work
 - Approx. October 3 – 22
 - Landscaping and punch list work
- Project Complete
 - October 23, 2026 (Contract Completion Date)

Public Outreach

- Contact the Project Team
 - Elaine Ezerins
 - Public Information Consultant
 - Elaine.Ezerins@wsp.com
 - Phone: 603-782-2460
- Sign up for Email Project Updates
 - Weekly Construction Updates during active construction
 - Traffic Alerts before and after U.S. 7 Closure Period
- Project Factsheets
 - <https://resources.vtrans.vermont.gov/FactSheet/default.aspx?pin=20B155>
 - <https://resources.vtrans.vermont.gov/FactSheet/default.aspx?pin=23B027>



Thank you!

- Questions or Comments?
- Scan the QR Code to Sign Up for Email Project Updates

