

Route 9 Corridor Management Plan Partners Meeting

This meeting will start at 12:30pm

You should be able to hear some people talking.

If you are having any technical difficulties you cannot solve, please contact
Amy.Bell@vermont.gov 802-279-0783

Route 9 Corridor Management Plan Partners Meeting

September 2, 2020 at 12:30pm

Online only (due to Covid-19 restrictions)

Today's presentation and additional materials are available at

<https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/corridor-management/vtg-Bennington-Brattleboro>

Welcome and Agenda

- Introductions and roll call
- Background
- Goals of this meeting
- Overview of upcoming Route 9 Paving Project (Wilmington to Brattleboro)
- Q&A about Paving Project
- Overview of the Route 9 Corridor
- Comments and feedback about the Route 9 Corridor
- Next Steps

Meeting Housekeeping

During today's meeting

- Please keep yourself muted during the presentation and when others are speaking
- If you would like to share your video, please keep it turned off until after the presentation

Asking questions and making comments

- Most questions and comments will be held until designated places in the agenda
- You can submit questions and comments at any time using the chat box
- Oral questions and comments will be received after ones from the chat box
- If you can, please use the "raise hand" function to indicate you wish to speak

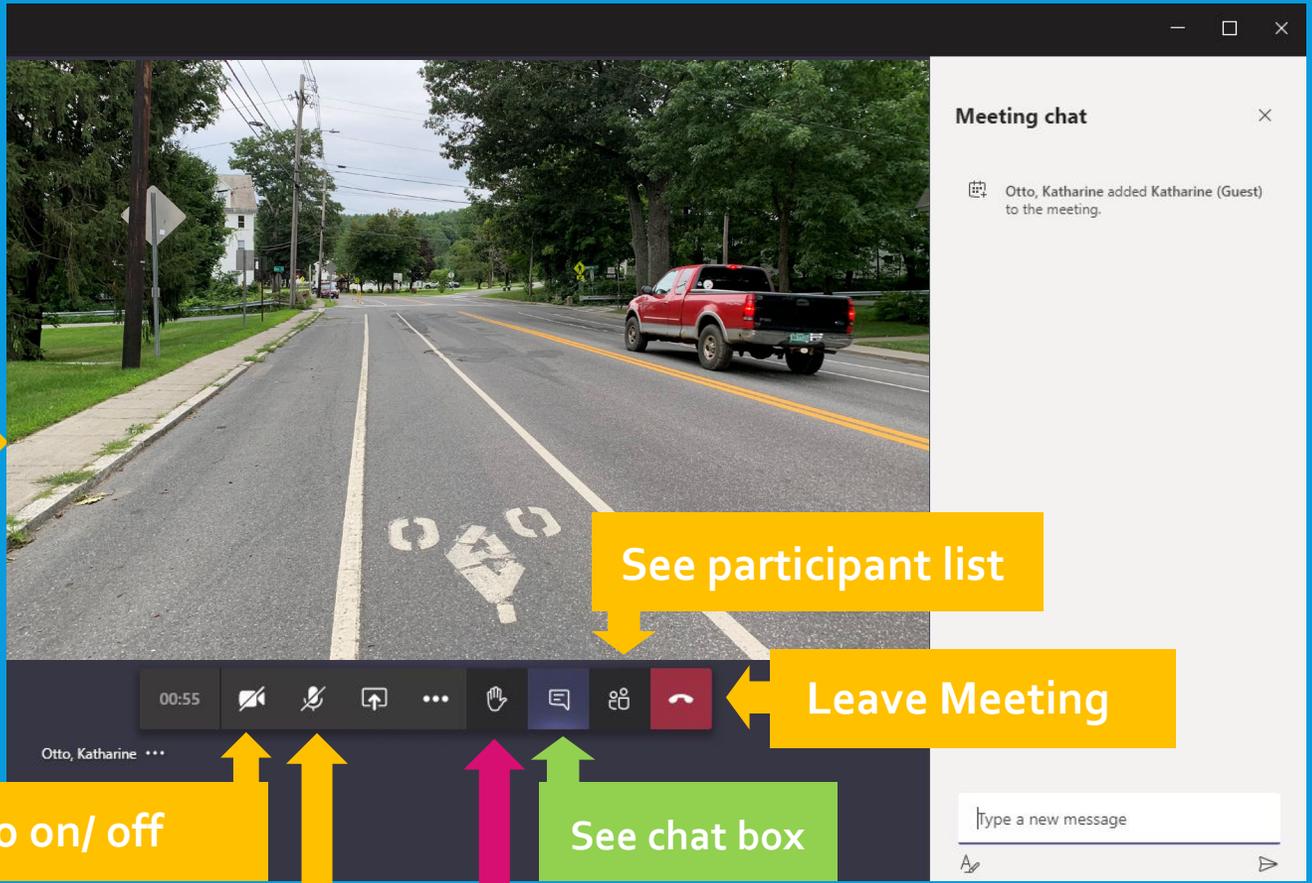
Today's meeting is being recorded

Technical difficulties

- If you are having audio issues, try connecting to the sound by phone rather than computer.
- If you have any technical issues, please contact Amy Bell – amy.bell@vermont.gov or 802-279-0783

Meeting Housekeeping

Presentation



See participant list

Leave Meeting

Video on/ off

Mute/ Unmute

See chat box

Raise hand

Submit comment or question

Quick Poll

We may use the “Raise hand” function periodically during the meeting to get a pulse on how people feel about the Corridor, or if they agree with what has been said.

The raise hand function is in the middle of the toolbar.

- Click it once to “raise” your hand.
- We will then count the responses.
- Then we will ask you to click it again to “lower” your hand.

What words do you associate with the Route 9 Corridor?

- Snow
- Steep grades
- Cycling
- Scenic
- Traffic
- Wildlife
- Trucks
- Flooding

Others? Please type a word or two into the chat box!

Introductions

VTrans staff presenting today

- Project lead - Katharine Otto - Planning Coordinator
- Joe Segale - Policy, Planning and Research Bureau Director
- Kevin Marshia – Budget and Programming
- Matt Bogaczyk – Pavement Design

Roll Call and Technical Support – Amy Bell

Background

What are we trying to achieve?



A safe, reliable and multimodal transportation system that grows the economy, is affordable to use and operate and serves vulnerable populations



Corridor Management Objectives

- Incorporate local needs in a focused and effective way
- Coordinate & Leverage Asset Management Investments
- Identify practical, short term projects
- Identify longer term needs
- Integrate into maintenance, projects and permitting
- Annual Status Meetings to monitor progress and changes



Goals

Project Goal

- Identify practical recommendations that are possible to implement in the short-term in combination with asset management investments such as paving and bridge projects
- Identify longer-term needs that may be addressed through other AOT and municipal programs.

Goal for Today's Meeting

- Share information already collected about the Corridor
- Share information for what is planned for the 2021-2022 Paving Project
- Gain additional knowledge about the corridor from Partners.

Why am I here? Three types of input

1. VTrans data and staff

2. **Partners** – other state agency, town, RPC or other similar entity which can help us to identify issues along the corridor, and may also be a *partner* is helping to address some of the issues

- ANR, VEM and others
- Southeast Vermont Transit and GMCN
- BCRC and WRC
- Towns on the corridor
- Green Mountain National Forest

3. **Stakeholders** – people who use the corridor

- Towns near the corridor who use it often
- Businesses near and along the corridor
- Residents near and along the corridor
- Advocacy groups near and along the corridor
- Members of the WRC and BCRC Transportation Advisory Committees (TACs)

Vermont Route 9 – Orientation and history

- Key east-west connector
- Officially named “Molly Stark Trail” in 1967
- Key communities – Bennington, Wilmington, Brattleboro

Major projects

- Major reconstruction between Searsburg and Wilmington in early 2000s
- Installation of chain up areas on western side

And now the upcoming paving project...

Study Area for Vermont Route 9 Corridor Management Plan in 2020

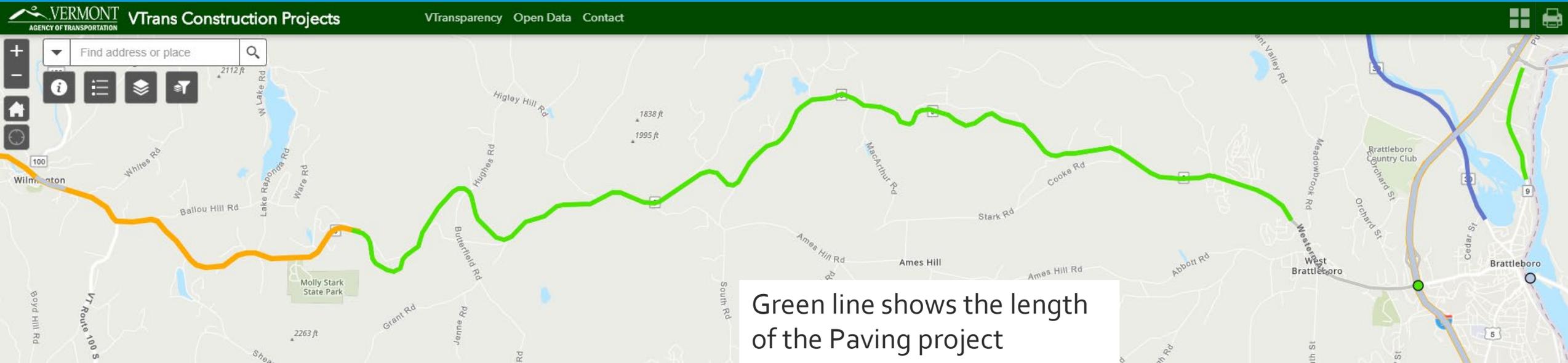


Route 9 Paving project

Matt Bogaczyk – Pavement Design

About the project

- Working on final details and designs
- Bid in Winter 2021
- Construction over 2 seasons:
 - Drainage and ancillary work in 2021
 - Reclaim paving in 2022
- For information on the project visit <https://resources.vtrans.vermont.gov/factsheet/default.aspx?pin=16V105>
- For interactive map and information about other construction projects visit <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/vtransparency>

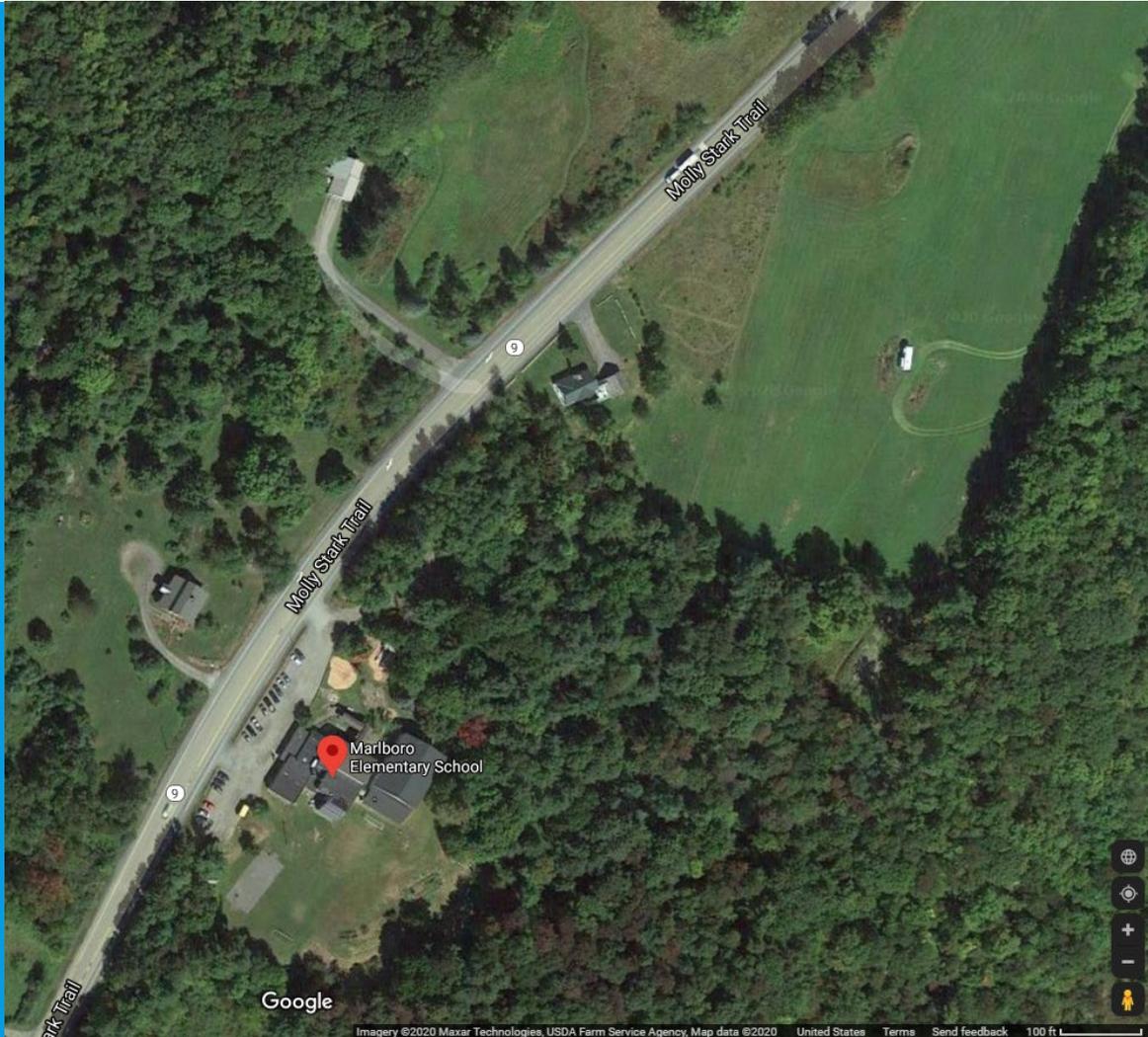


Intersection with South Road (Marlboro)



- Designing for left turn as requested by community
- Need to assess ROW impacts and minimize where possible
- Negotiating ROW outside existing area takes time and money which could significantly delay the project
 - If entire project can happen within the ROW, the left turn lane will go ahead
 - If project just impacts one property outside the ROW, the left turn lane will likely go ahead
 - If not, the left turn will not be included in this project

Climbing lanes near Marlboro Elementary



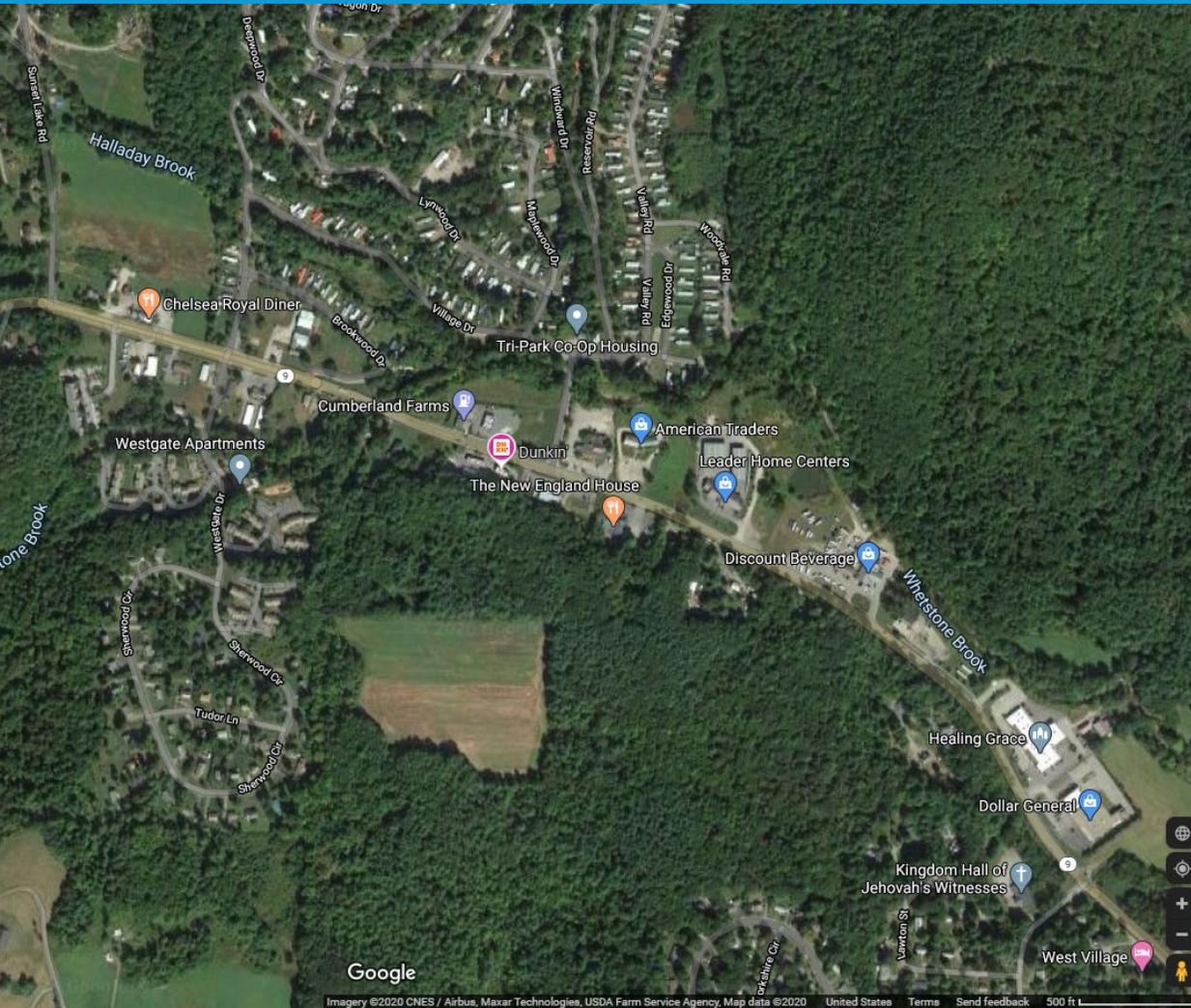
- More challenging situation than appears at face value
- Consultant is assessing the truck climbing lane. It is already short and likely cannot be shortened.
- Other more likely solutions being explored
 - Better signage (including school, turning, etc)
 - Remove sight distance issues in state ROW (mainly trees)
 - Provide recommendations about other places where sight distances could be improved which the Town could pursue with property owners

Turners Corner near Hamilton Rd (Marlboro)



- The road slant (banking) issue will be dealt with along most of the paving project, including here
- New and up-to-date signs will be installed, including intersection warning
- Centerline rumblestrips will likely be installed but still checking criteria on where
- Tree clearance where possible to increase sight distance at the inside corner
- Exploring whether some slope can be pulled back to increase sight distance
- Partner opportunity – could Hamilton Road be one way or closed at the western end?

West Brattleboro



- Speed limit change is going through the VTrans Traffic Committee. Project will install whatever is decided by the committee
- Bike lanes will be marked from Sunset Lake Road to Class 1 Town Highway (Edward Heights Rd)
 - Green pavement markings for intersections and major driveways
 - Bicycle stencils in the bike lanes
- Crosswalks are being evaluated
 - Likely near Winding Gate Rd
 - Exploring near Dunkin Donuts/ Cumberland Farms

Most of paving project

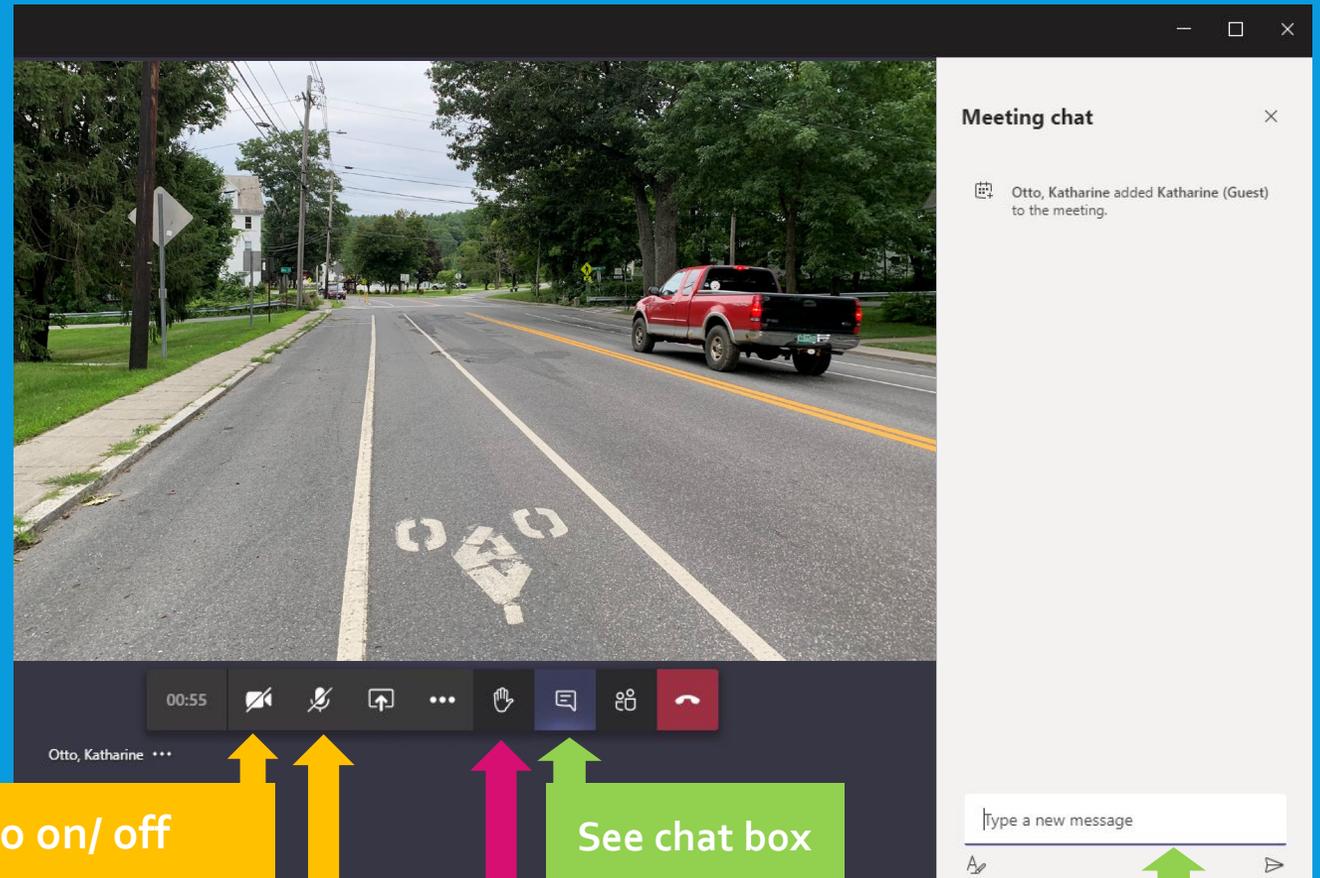


- Working on drainage for all but the last mile of the project in Brattleboro
 - Includes underdrain installation where possible
 - Culverts being installed by the District and as part of the project where possible
- Shoulders being addressed where possible
 - Hoping for 4ft minimum throughout, except one small area
 - Most of the shoulder will be 5ft or more
- Road slant (banking) issue will be dealt with along most of the paving project

Questions about the Paving Project (10 minutes)

- You can submit questions and comments at any time using the chat box
- Oral questions and comments will be received after ones from the chat box
- If you can, please use the “raise hand” function to indicate you wish to speak
- If you speak, please give your name and affiliation before proceeding.

For any additional questions about the paving project after today’s meeting, please reach out to Matt Bogaczyk (Matthew.Bogaczyk@vermont.gov)



Video on/ off

Mute/ Unmute

See chat box

Raise hand

Submit comment or question

Go to StoryMap

The remainder of the presentation will come from a StoryMap published online

A link to this StoryMap can be found at

<https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/corridor-management/vt9-Bennington-Brattleboro>