

Route 9 Corridor Management Plan Stakeholders Meeting

This meeting will start at 6:30pm

You should be able to hear some people talking.
Feel free to unmute yourself and check you can be heard!

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

Route 9 Corridor Management Plan Stakeholder Meeting

Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 6:30pm (Also for the 11/9 WRC and 12/8 BCRC TAC meetings)

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/vt9-Bennington-Brattleboro>

Welcome and Agenda

- Introductions and roll call
- Background
- Goals of this meeting
- 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
- Please keep your video 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

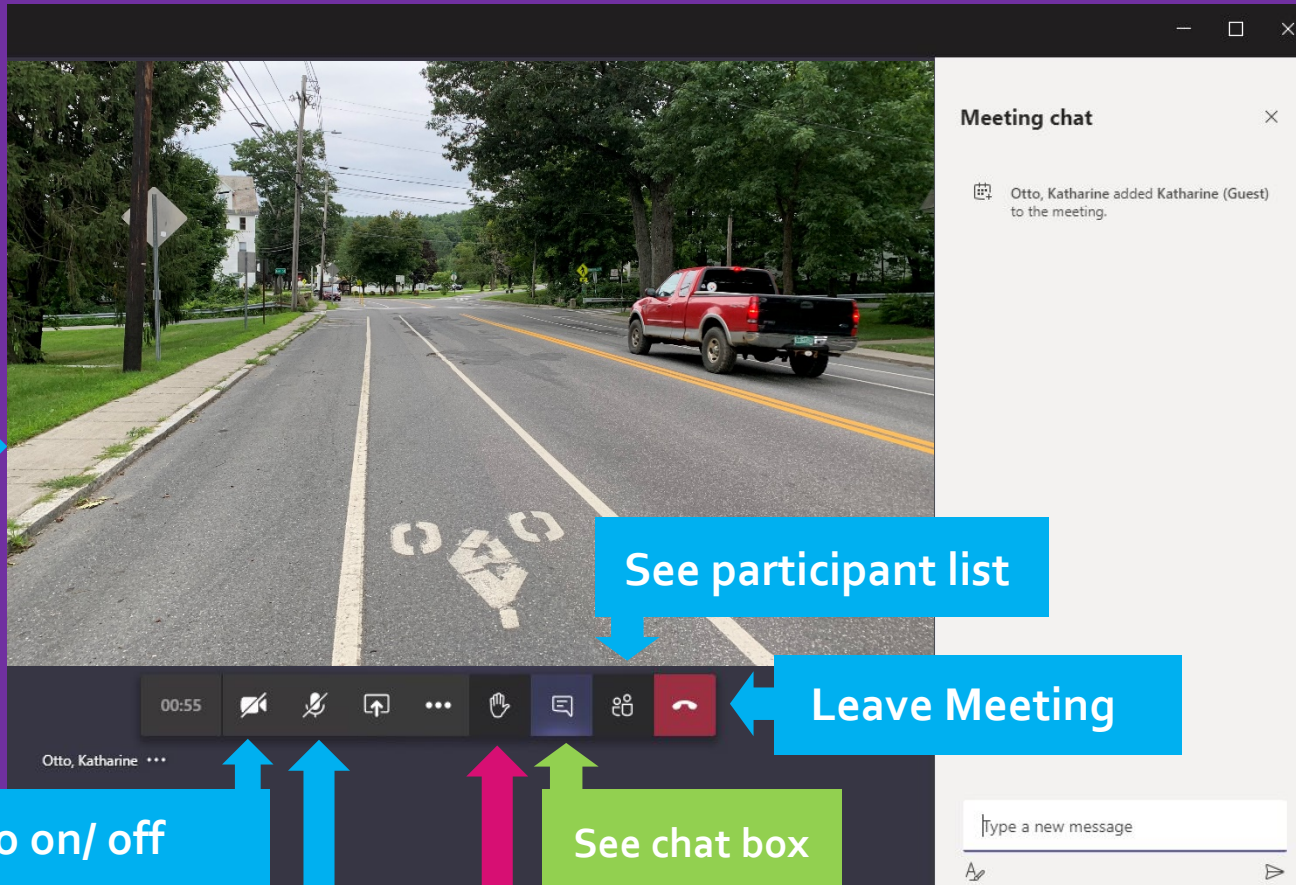
Today's meeting is being recorded

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 using the “Raise Hand” function

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!

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

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

Introductions

VTrans staff presenting today

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

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 brief overview of improvements included in the 2021-2022 Paving Project
- Gain additional knowledge about the corridor from Stakeholders

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...

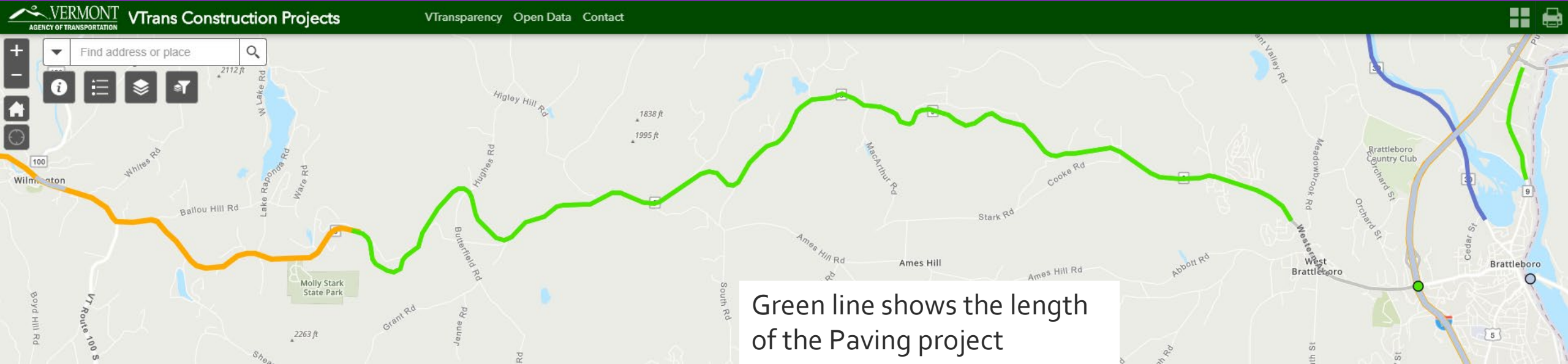
Study Area for Vermont Route 9 Corridor Management Plan in 2020



Paving Project

Paving project (Wilmington to Brattleboro)

- 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>



What is included in the project?



- Road being reclaimed (grind up the pavement and some of the subbase, then rebuild the pavement on top)
- Working on drainage for all but the last mile of the project in Brattleboro
- Shoulders being addressed where possible
- Road slant (banking) issue will be dealt with along most of the paving project

Notable improvements included

South Rd intersection (Marlboro)

- Left-turn lane being installed

Area near Marlboro Elementary School

- Truck climbing lane length evaluated
- Better signage
- Remove sight distance issues in state ROW
- Recommendations for sight distance improvements outside state ROW

Turners Corner near Hamilton Rd (Marlboro)

- Road slant (banking) issue addressed
- New signs installed
- Centerline rumble-strips will likely be installed
- Tree clearance and minor slope work where possible
- Partner opportunity – could Hamilton Road be one way or closed at the western end?

West Brattleboro (Sunset Lake Rd to Edward Heights Rd)

- Speed limit change (40 – 35mph) approved by VTrans Traffic Committee
- Bike lanes will be marked
- Crosswalk to be installed near Winding Hill Rd
- Evaluated crosswalk near Cumberland Farms/ Dunkin Donuts but not being installed
- Flashing beacon (RRFB) proposed near Edward Heights

Key themes along the Route 9 Corridor

Where can I find out what you already know?



More detailed information is available on project website. See links for the Partners Meeting.



4 digit ID (3001, 3012, etc) can help you to cross reference between items in the StoryMap

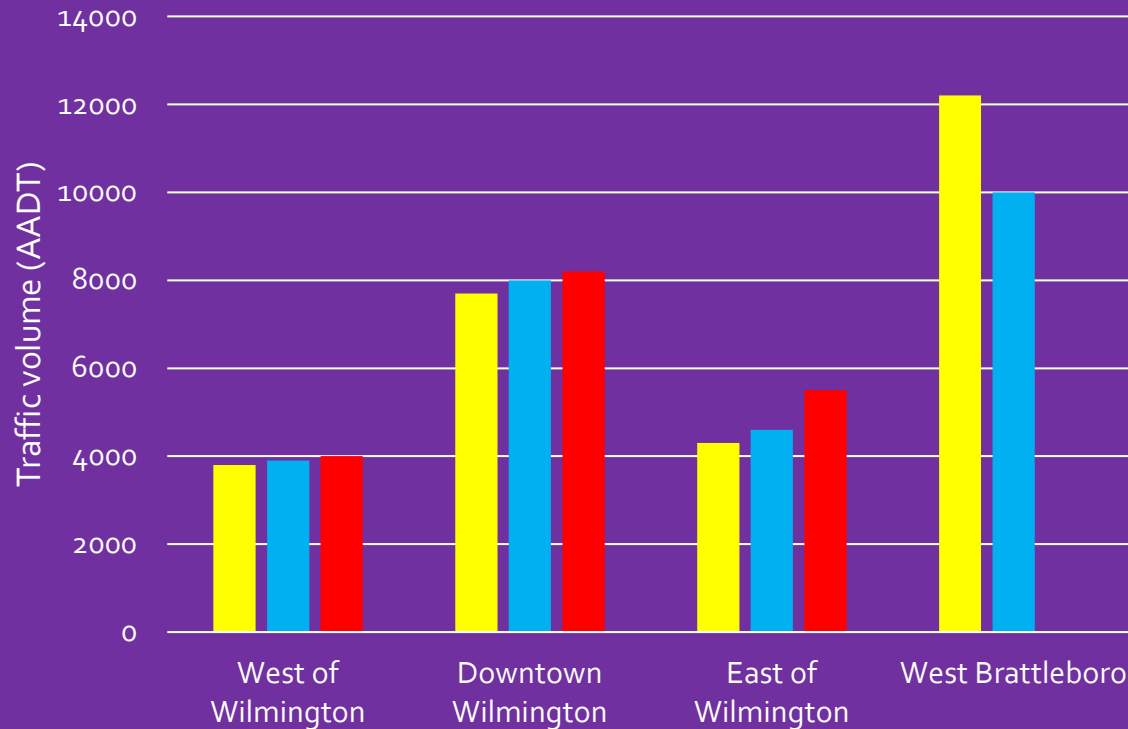


Local name - Let us know if we've missed one!

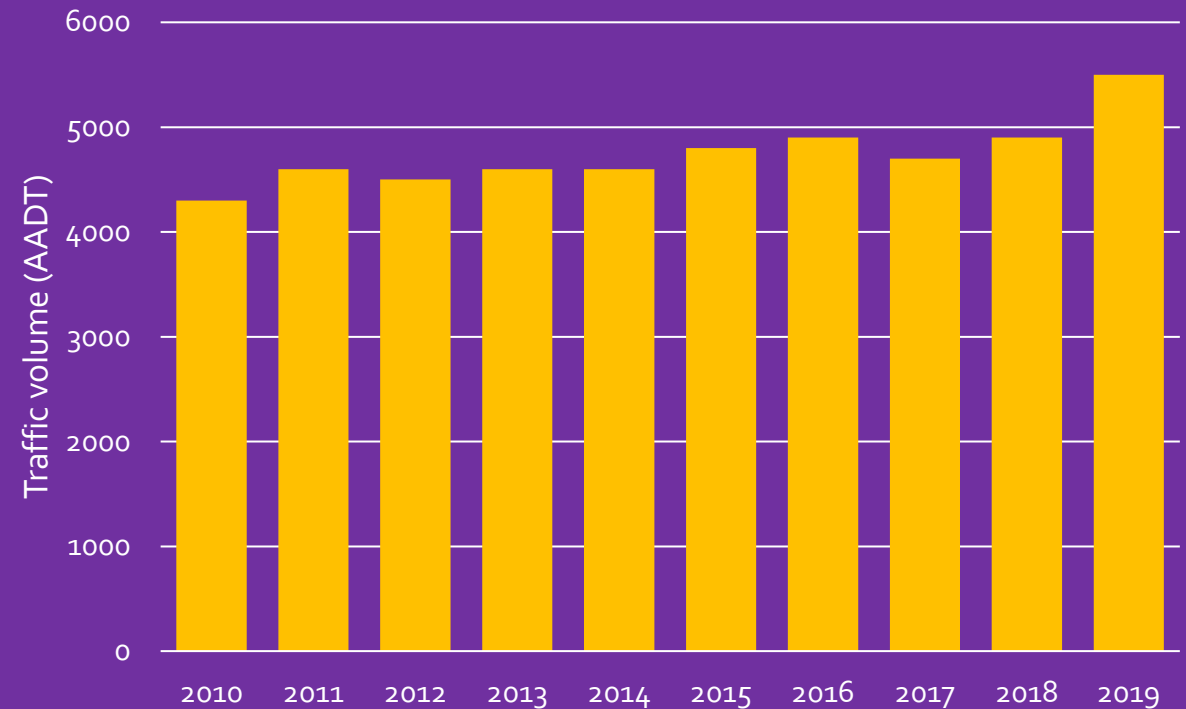
Traffic

Traffic volumes along the corridor

■ 2010 or 2011 ■ 2013 or 2014 ■ 2019



Traffic volumes over time (Route 9 in Marlboro, just east of Town Hill Rd)

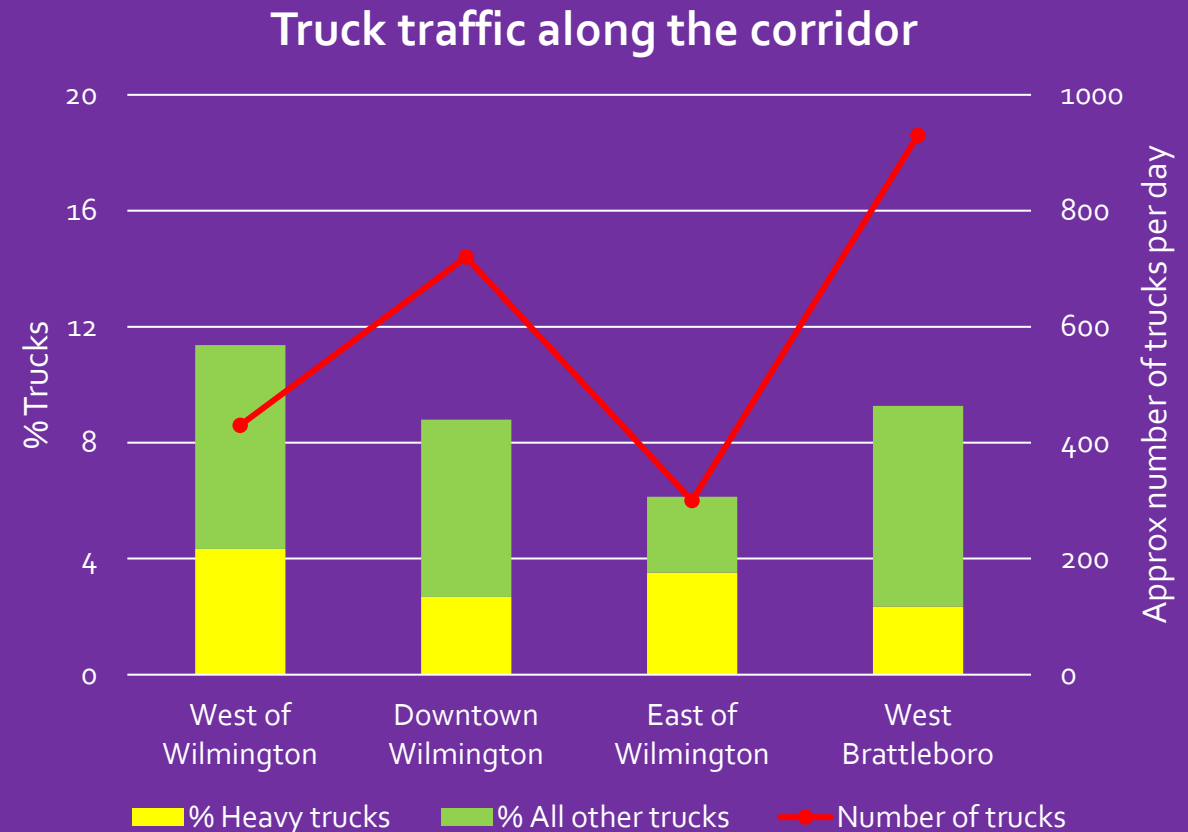


"AADT" – Annual Average Daily Traffic – i.e. On a typical day, XXX vehicles are expected to travel on the road

Traffic

Winter traffic* has considerable variations with highs on Fridays

- Average daily traffic – 4,100
- Highest traffic - Fridays - 5,100
- Friday of President's Day weekend - 5,800
- Lowest traffic - Tuesdays - 3,600



* January and February

"AADT" – Annual Average Daily Traffic – i.e. On a typical day, XXX vehicles are expected to travel on the road

Congestion

Places of notable concern

- Route 100 North intersection in Wilmington (3003)
- Route 100 South intersection in Wilmington (3005)
- Augur Hole Road and other local roads used as detours (3016)



● Route 100 North intersection ●● Route 100 South intersection ●●● Local road detours ●●●

Safety

Places of notable concern

- Hogback Mountain (3007)
- Woodford Rock Cut/ Ledges (3001)*
- Turners Corner in Marlboro (3009)
- South Road intersection in Marlboro (3010)*
- Section near Marlboro Elementary (3011)*
- Bridge 54 in W. Brattleboro (3012)

** denotes location where a project is due to address some of the concerns within the next few years*



Photo by Jeff Nugent, WRC



Natural Resources

- Stormwater improvement needed near Dunkin Donuts in W. Brattleboro (3017)
- Wildlife improvement needed for large culvert in Searsburg (3020)* and other locations
- Resiliency improvement needed at Marlboro/ Brattleboro townline (3039)*
- Bridge 51 near Westgate Drive in W. Brattleboro (3014)

** denotes location where a project is due to address some of the concerns within the next few years*

Next steps

What comes next?

Visit website and explore the corridor

- Interactive maps
- More info about what's already been identified

Provide input using the Public Comment Tool or by email

- Comments due by Friday, December 18th

Winter 2021 - VTrans consider issues and potential ways to address issues

Spring 2021 - VTrans share the draft Corridor Management Plan with Partners and Stakeholders

Provide feedback

Comments due by Friday, December 18, 2020

- Use Public Comment Tool to submit comments if possible.
 - Will be demonstrated in a few moments
- Otherwise, please submit to Katharine – Katharine.otto@vermont.gov or 802-917-3451

Go to StoryMap

A link to this StoryMap can be found at

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