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Roundabout Project Marks Beginning of Extensive Road Improvements Around Waterbury

MONTPELIER, Vt.—July 2, 2014--The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) today announced construction of the US 2/VT 100 Roundabout in Waterbury that will begin on July 7th. The municipally-managed project will replace the existing T-intersection which was part of the original I-89 construction of Exit 10 in 1960. The Roundabout is one of the first steps in a carefully planned series of projects that will occur over the next 5 years, including work on I-89, Stowe Street, US 2 and VT 100. Every effort is being made to minimize disruptions and maintain traffic flow including deployment of a smart work zone and a dedicated traffic manager for the duration of the projects.

"I am excited that this important project has finally come to fruition and that it will be fully operational by the spring of 2015, before other critical transportation projects in the area proceed," said Bill Shepeluk, Municipal Manager for the Town and Village of Waterbury. The Roundabout should allow traffic to flow much more freely through an intersection that has had a failing rating for years and it will be a wonderful gateway to our community. "

"This Roundabout is a critical component of an overall improvement plan for Waterbury and the region," said Transportation Secretary Brian Searles. "While there is already a lot of work going on, this project really signifies the kickoff of a very busy couple of years that will culminate in the long-anticipated Main Street project. We hope residents and travelers alike will appreciate the long-term benefits of this important work."

The Roundabout is the first step in an effort to improve traffic flow along the Route 100 corridor that will also include reconfiguration of Interstate ramps and adaptive signal systems. The landscaped Roundabout will create a visual focal point and enhance the entry to the Town of Waterbury from I-89. In addition, the Roundabout project will integrate new sidewalks, improving safety for pedestrians and bicyclists and enhancing access to local businesses, the post office and the Town's recreation center located near the intersection. The project also includes relocation or replacement of utilities and reconstruction of a parking area near the post office.

During construction of the Roundabout, traffic will be managed through a phased construction approach that generally allows for two-way traffic to continue through the intersection. A temporary traffic signal will be installed to help facilitate traffic flow. The \$3.9 million contract was awarded to J.A. McDonald, Inc. of Lyndon, VT. The Town of Waterbury and VTrans have worked toward improving this intersection since 1995. The Roundabout is part of the Waterbury Area Transportation Projects, a group of infrastructure improvement projects in the Waterbury area that will be constructed over the next five years.

To keep the public informed about the project and construction activities, VTrans will be launching a dedicated Facebook and Twitter presence and an expanded website at <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/projects/wap>.