

## CONSTRUCTION

2016 is shaping up to be another busy construction season. The Alchemist will be constructing a turning lane at Mountain Road at Cottage Club Road beginning later this month that is scheduled to be substantially complete by Memorial Day. The State is continuing their work on the Gables Bridge Project that is scheduled to be substantially complete by August.

In addition, the Town is undertaking construction of a number of projects this construction season. We try our best to maintain the flow of traffic, but there are times when it will be impacted. You can sign up for automatic notification of road or Recreation Path closures on our municipal web site at [www.townofstowevt.org](http://www.townofstowevt.org). We also ask motorists to make a concerted effort to drive at a safe speed in construction zones.

**West Branch River Management Project:** The Town has obtained a \$400,000 Ecosystem Restoration Program grant that will be matched by \$150,000 in local tax dollars to undertake Phase 2 of this project. The work will extend from Bridge #7 downstream for approximately 1,100 feet. It will involve relocating a section of the Recreation Path out of the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Zone, armoring the streambank and creating new flood plain to provide additional flood storage capacity. The Town has obtained the necessary permits and the project is out to bid. The project has commenced and it is anticipated this work will continue thru the construction season. The Recreation Path will be closed at the construction zone for a few weeks and is anticipated to re-open in the relocated alignment with a gravel surface by Memorial Day weekend. The adjacent river work will continue thru the summer and the relocated Recreation Path will be paved in the fall.

**Recreation Path Reconstruction:** Approximately 1800' of Recreation Path from Mountain Road to Bridge 6 behind Picasso's will be reconstructed. This project will also require closure of the Recreation Path at this location and the project is also planned to be substantially complete by Memorial Day.

**Temporary Sidewalk Repairs:** The existing concrete pavers will be removed and replaced with a temporary bituminous sidewalk on Depot Street and South Main Street. This work is planned to occur this May.

**Luce Hill Road Culvert Rehabilitation:** Installation of a concrete invert to rehabilitate a large diameter steel culvert. In general, most of the work is below ground and no road closure is anticipated, however, some traffic delays thru the construction zone will occur. This project is scheduled for construction this June.

**Sanborn Road Culvert:** A large culvert on Sanborn Road is planned to be replaced. This will also require a short term road closure and detour into Robinson Springs. This project is scheduled for construction in July.

**2016 Paving:** Randolph Road is planned for full depth reclamation and repaving and the lower portion of Luce Hill Road will be overlaid this summer. The Town is applying for a Class 2 Paving Grant from the State for the lower portion of Stowe Hollow Road. Other small paving projects are anticipated this spring.

**Quiet Path Bridge:** This project will connect the Quiet Path to the Mayo Events Fields and enable pedestrians to cross the stream without having to go onto the road. The project is out to bid and permitting and planned for construction this summer.

**Ski & Snowboard Museum and Bloody Brook Schoolhouse Painting:** Work to replace rotted clapboards and other rotted wood on the exterior of these two buildings will occur this spring. A painting contractor will paint them between July 1<sup>st</sup> and September 15<sup>th</sup> of this year.

## FUTURE PROJECT PLANNING

In addition to monitoring on-going construction work, Public Works and Planning are also working on the design and permitting for future years projects. Many of these projects are very complex to design and implement. Whenever you are in and around public waterways there are a number of environmental regulations to take into consideration. Also, trying to introduce new infrastructure into a pre-built environment can be *difficult at best*.

**Lower Village Sidewalk / River Road Intersection:** This is a \$1.4 million dollar project of which \$710,000 has been obtained through a Federal appropriation and the remainder will come from local tax dollars. The project will run sidewalk from along South Main Street from the River Road to Sylvan Park Road. The project will include the reconstruction of the River Road intersection, which will be reconfigured and the telephone pole will be removed from the middle of the intersection. We are presently in the final design, right-of-way and permitting phase of the project. The project is planned to be coordinated with the VTrans planned reconstruction of the Rt. 100, scheduled to begin in the spring of 2017.

**Village Center Sidewalks & Main Street Utility Relocation Preliminary Design:** The voters appropriated \$75,000 at the 2015 Annual Meeting to assess, prepare conceptual plans, and help prioritize their replacement. The preliminary design will assess what makes sense to coordinate sidewalk / curb replacement (e.g. drainage, paving). Initial survey work is complete and preliminary study is underway. The voters also appropriated \$50,000 to assess the feasibility and cost of eliminating overhead utility wires on Main Street from its intersection with Rt. 108 to Sunset Street. Public Works is working with Stowe Electric and other utilities to evaluate possible approaches and develop project cost estimates, so that the voters can consider construction funding. Due to time constraints from other projects with more immediate deadlines (e.g. Lower Village Sidewalk / River Road Intersection) and the complexity of this project, it is likely that it will be ready for voter consideration until the 2018 Annual Meeting or thereabout.

**Polo Field Shelter:** The voters approved the concept and location of a shelter at Annual Meeting. There is an existing appropriation to design and permit the shelter. The goal is to do so this year, so that the community can consider an additional appropriation to construct it in a future year.

**West Hill / Rt. 100 Intersection Improvements:** A consultant has been hired to work with the Lamoille County Regional Planning Commission, VTrans and the community on an intersection design feasibility study. The purpose of the study is to decide on a preferred alternative for improvements. This is the first step in the process for obtaining federal funding.

**Moscow Road / Rt. 100 Intersection Improvements:** A consultant has been hired to work with the Lamoille County Regional Planning Commission, VTrans and the community on an intersection design feasibility study. The purpose of the study is to decide on a preferred alternative for improvements. This is the first step in the process of obtaining federal funding.

