

Bristol Town Administrator

From: Vermont Local Roads Program <VT-LOCALROADS@LISTSERV.VERMONTLOCALROADS.ORG> on behalf of AOT - Vermont Local Roads <AOT.VermontLocalRoads@VERMONT.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2022 8:16 AM
To: VT-LOCALROADS@LISTSERV.VERMONTLOCALROADS.ORG
Subject: Press Release - Agency of Transportation Announces Start Date for Long-Awaited Amtrak Service in Burlington, Vergennes, and Middlebury



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Agency of Transportation Announces Start Date for Long-Awaited Amtrak Service in Burlington, Vergennes, and Middlebury

Barre, Vt. – The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) today announced that the Amtrak Ethan Allen Express train will begin the highly-anticipated expanded passenger rail service to Burlington, Vergennes, and Middlebury on July 29, 2022. This service culminates the Agency’s extensive planning and infrastructure work to upgrade the tracks between Rutland and Burlington to accommodate higher speed passenger rail.

“Providing this new service along the western corridor wouldn’t have happened without the partnership between the Agency of Transportation, the General Assembly, Vermont’s Congressional delegation, and the U.S. Department of Transportation, and the willingness of communities along the way,” said Governor Phil Scott. “This new service will benefit Vermonters in countless ways, all while helping to grow our economy.”

“Our Agency’s talented and dedicated Rail leadership, engineers, and planners deserve immense credit for their steadfast dedication to bringing to Vermonters and visitors to the State this new transportation option for travel between New York City and Burlington,” said Vermont Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn. “Passenger rail travel offers beautiful scenery, relaxation, and spacious and comfortable seating, and trains are nearly three times more energy efficient than automobiles.”

With gas prices at record highs, passenger rail also offers a more affordable option, with fares from Burlington to New York City starting at \$75.

The newly extended Ethan Allen Express service southbound will depart Burlington daily at 10:10 a.m. and arrive at Penn Station in New York City at 5:45 p.m. The Ethan Allen Express northbound will depart Penn Station at 2:21 p.m. daily with arrival in Burlington at 9:55 p.m. AOT will be honoring this historic occasion and the partners who made it possible with a celebratory public event at Burlington’s Union Station on July 29 from 9 a.m. until the train departs at 10:10 a.m. The Agency will announce more details about the event soon,

as well as information about ticket sales, including 50% promotional fares on the Ethan Allen Express this summer.

AOT would like to thank the Vermont communities of Burlington, Ferrisburgh/Vergennes, and Middlebury that are hosting the new stations, as well as Rutland for serving as the Vermont anchor for the Ethan Allen line for many years. The Agency also acknowledges and thanks Vermont Rail System for its partnership and hard work.

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