Construction Update GEORGIA – December 22, 2016

Hello,

For the last two months, the Vermont Agency of Transportation's contractor, J. A. McDonald, Inc., has been doing preliminary work to replace a culvert about 40 feet under I-89, one mile south of exit 18 in the Town of Georgia. With the aid of a crawler crane, the contractor has installed a "portal" or coffer dam in the median area to facilitate tunneling under the highway. By the end of January, portals on the outside edge of the northbound and southbound lanes will be installed. Once completed, the job will shut down for the winter, resuming as soon as weather permits, most likely in late March/early April.

Photos below show the work being done well below the surface of the highway and not visible to motorists.

Coming up next week... On **Tuesday, December 27, between the hours of 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM** there will be one rolling road block on the southbound lanes of Interstate 89 in between exits 19, 18 and 17 to enable machinery, a crawler crane, for a culvert replacement project to cross lanes. There may be up to a 10-minute delay at Exit 18 for vehicles entering the Southbound ramp at US Route 7.

The Northbound lanes of I-89 will not be affected. Southbound motorists should allow extra travel time to allow for slower travel when the one rolling road block occurs.

Crane preparing to lift steel framework for a cofferdam (known in the tunneling world as a Portal) located in the median between northbound and southbound I-89 travel lanes.

Median cofferdam sheets exposed. The area within the steel sheets will provide a contained area for tunneling operations starting in the spring of 2017.

The center of the Portal (cofferdam) is lowered to allow access for the prep work and installation of framing.

Crane used to install the steel sheeting and framework. When this portal is complete, the crane will be moved to the northern end of the project to install the second of three portals.

Best regards,

Jill

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