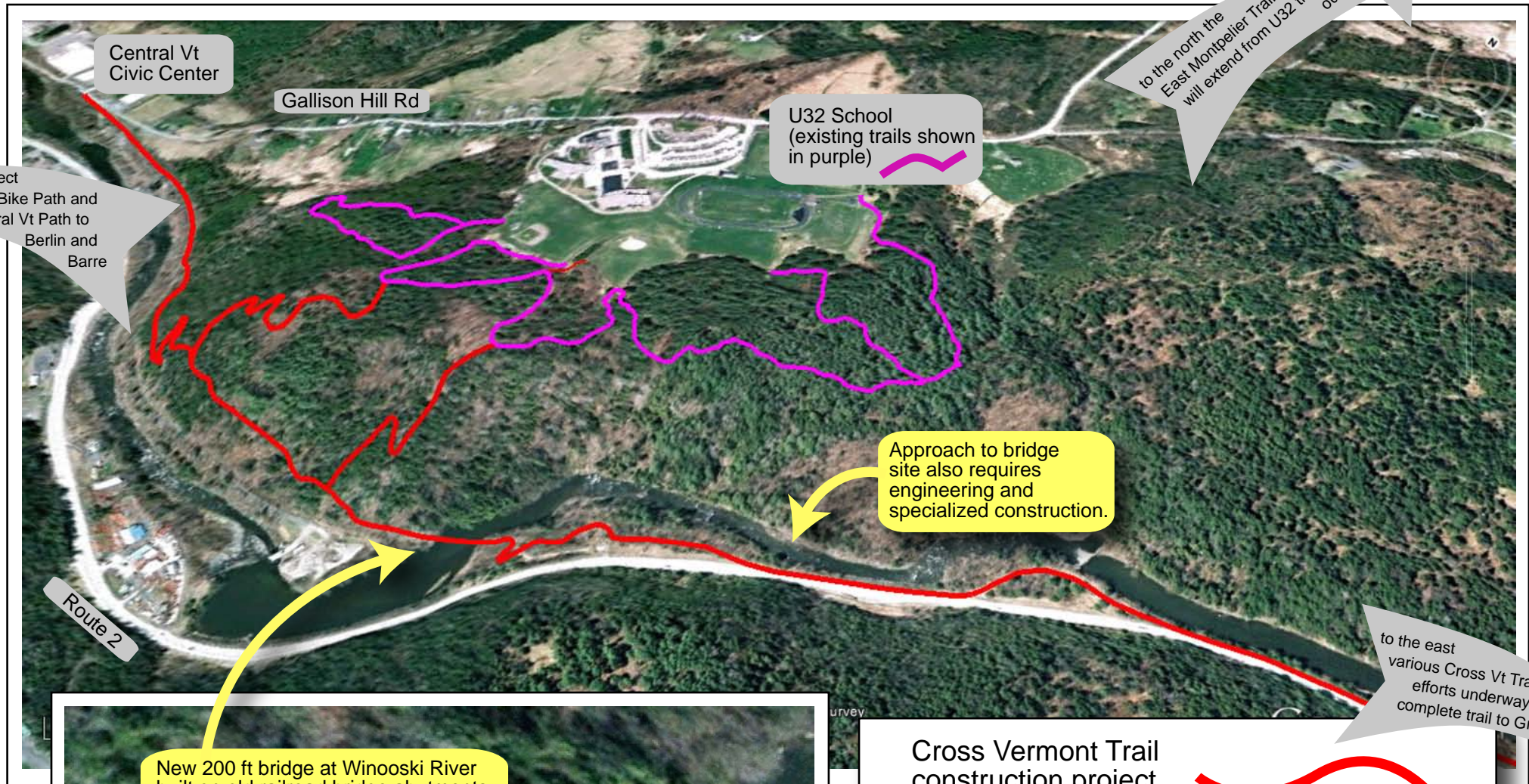


Cross Vt Trail keystone project lies at the center of a growing region wide trail network.

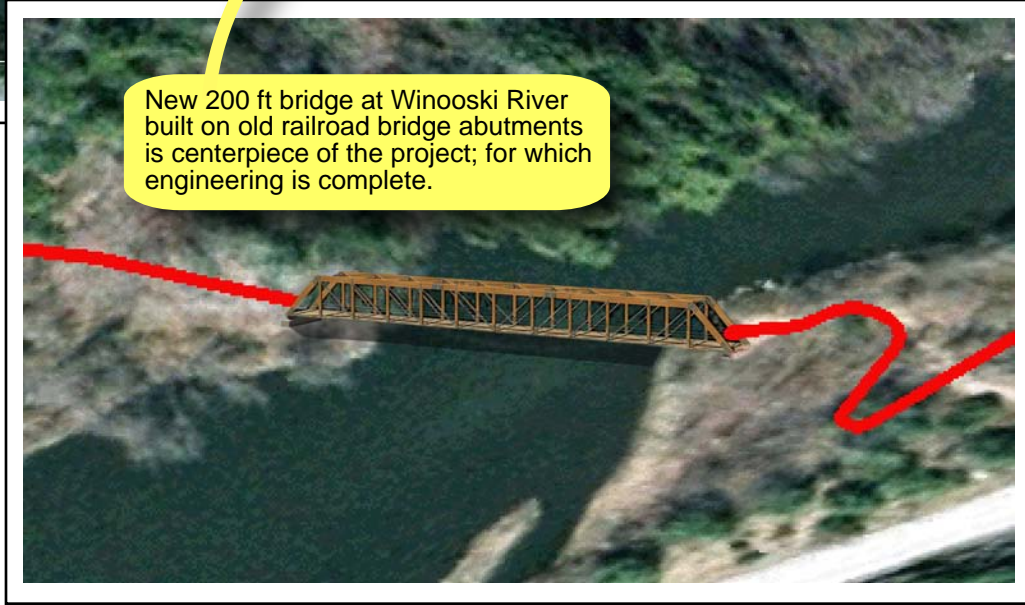


to the west, we connect with the Montpelier Bike Path and Central Vt Path to Berlin and Barre

to the north the East Montpelier Trail will extend from U32 through out the town

Approach to bridge site also requires engineering and specialized construction.

to the east various Cross Vt Trail efforts underway for complete trail to Groton + beyond



New 200 ft bridge at Winooski River built on old railroad bridge abutments is centerpiece of the project; for which engineering is complete.

Cross Vermont Trail construction project (shown in red).

In addition to bridge over Winooski and approach to bridge along Rte 2, project includes over two miles of new trail meeting universal accessibility guidelines.

A keystone project joining the planned Central Vt Path to the west, East Montpelier Loop Trail to the north, and Cross Vermont Trail to the east.

Creating safe, and scenic, alternative to what is currently the most problematic on-road section along Cross Vermont Trail state wide route.

Cross Vermont Trail – The Challenge

Imagine: a multi-use, four-season off-road trail across the width of Vermont following the Winooski River & Wells River valleys, a 90 mile greenway for cyclists, skiers and walkers connecting communities, their schools, and the natural areas between. This vision has steadily moved toward reality through the quiet work of the Cross Vermont Trail Association.

The Cross Vermont Trail Association, formed in 1999, is an incorporated, private non-profit organization that is member-based and volunteer-driven. With part-time staff and donated office space, we are large enough to get things done, but small enough so that most of our funding goes directly into building new trails. We form partnerships with community organizations across the state to develop and expand local trails. Already 30 miles of Cross Vermont Trail are signed and open to the public. These 30 miles are complemented by our 60 miles of “on-road” route signs that identify the best roads people can use to link together existing trail sections. Meanwhile, we continue to work towards the ultimate goal of connecting all local trails into a continuous, statewide, off-road network.

How have we been building this trail? We use common sense, hand tools, and volunteers. We work with willing landowners to plan the best route for new sections of off-road trail. And over the years we have raised thousands of dollars of grant funds to secure easements, buy construction materials, and pay staff and youth crews. In time, we believe nearly all of the statewide route will be completed in this moderately scaled, incremental way. However, we currently face a challenge to complete a keystone piece of the trail by making an investment on a much larger scale.

Our Challenge:

- Build a 200-foot bridge, crossing the Winooski River at the center of the state, literally the keystone piece of the statewide trail.
- This is a bottleneck that we can't go around, but have to build through.
- We have agreements with landowners on either side of the river that will allow us to move the trail off 2.75 miles of US Route 2. Without a bridge, these agreements cannot be acted on.
- A 200 foot bridge spanning the river, and then another 600 feet of trestle bridge threading the needle between the river and Rte 2, cannot be built in our normal way. Extensive engineering and heavy construction contractors are needed. This will cost \$1.6 million. We have already raised over one and a half million dollars and have less than \$100,000 to go.
- Route 2 here is a high speed road, unsafe for bicyclists and pedestrians. Help us get the trail off Route 2 and onto a path in the woods along the beautiful and scenic Winooski River.

OUR VISION: a multi-use, four season, off-road trail across Vermont from Lake Champlain to the Connecticut River.

- **Family friendly** recreation for people of all ages and abilities.
- **Safe travel** to school and work.
- **Convenient location** for daily exercise and healthy outdoor activity.
- **A permanent greenway** for easy local access to the natural world.

If ever there was a time to support the Cross Vermont Trail, it is now. We are working to build a legacy that will be a permanent addition to the Vermont landscape, creating a trail that will provide accessible opportunities for outdoor exercise, safe routes to work and school, and opportunities to enjoy Vermont's natural landscapes. Consider your involvement with the Cross Vermont Trail Association as an investment in your community's green infrastructure, well being, and physical health.