Colchester Bridge Deck Replacement
Colchester, VT

When it became clear that Bridges 76N&S over Bay Road and Bridges 77N&S over Mallets Creek on Interstate 89 in Colchester needed to have their concrete decks replaced, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) engaged the Project Team to develop an approach and schedule that minimized impacts to the environment and the traveling public. Because the bridges are on one of the busiest stretches of I-89 in Chittenden County, the Project Team opted to remove and replace the bridge decks using precast concrete and accelerated bridge construction (ABC) techniques to allow the contractor to replace the deck of each bridge during a 59-hour period from 7PM Friday to 6AM Monday.

Meeting and Exceeding the Client/Owner’s Needs

After weighing several approaches, VTrans, with input from the Project Team, procured a Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC). This project delivery method meant the Construction Manager was engaged during final design, creating opportunities for the CM to provide constructability input in real time as design progressed. This collaborative approach enabled the Project Team to finish ahead of schedule and within budget. Construction had been scheduled for Spring 2020, but due to a change in construction funding, construction occurred in the Summer 2019. The Team completed the design on an accelerated schedule, completing contract plans in December 2018. The client was pleased with the accelerated design, the CM/GC process, and the use of ABC, and the contractor completed the bridge deck replacements over the 59-hour bridge closure period, reducing impacts to commuters.