

WINOOSKI DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT

WINOOSKI, VT

THE CHALLENGE

Blast 25,000 cubic yards of rock at the Winooski Downtown Redevelopment project, situated in the center of busy downtown Winooski.

THE SOLUTION

PC Construction developed an extensive blasting plan and coordinated the associated ongoing work with city officials to ensure the safety of all residents, traffic, and nearby businesses.

DESCRIPTION

One of PC Construction's primary roles was the development and coordination of the master schedule for the entire redevelopment. This included daily coordination with the Federal Government, the State of Vermont, the City of Winooski, and their respective engineers and hired consultants. PC Construction routinely coordinated and managed daily street closings, utility company shut downs, and alternate daily parking arrangements for over 400 vehicles. In addition, commercial tenants within the adjacent Winooski Mill were able to continue their operations for the duration of the project.

At the onset of the work PC Construction had to blast and remove approximately 25,000 cubic yards of rock from the 4.5-acre site in order to proceed with construction. The site was surrounded by both occupied commercial and residential buildings and heavily used street infrastructure. Two large blast shots were set off each



day for the next two months, requiring detailed coordination to ensure safety and security. An extensive blasting plan was developed by the PC Construction team and then executed for each occurrence. Prior to each blast, all roads through the city were temporarily closed to traffic until the all-clear signal was issued. This one element of the project was rehearsed for weeks prior to actual blasting. PC Construction arranged for the appropriate utility companies and police, fire, and emergency personnel to be on hand for each blast. The plan also addressed traffic flow, secured access to parking and construction areas, and a lockdown of the Winooski Mill. Now completed and operating are the 122,000 square foot, four-story Vermont Student Assistance Corporation office building, the 140,000 square foot, six- and seven-story student housing building with ground floor retail space, and the 283,000 square foot, 7-story, 924-space parking structure.



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