

GOOD JOB DONE

By Todd Eaton, VLR Circuit Rider

Oh, there's nothing like a job well done. Here at Vermont Local Roads we want to celebrate with you and showcase your "Good Job Done" projects.

In this addition of GOOD JOB DONE, we want to recognize the efforts put forth by R J Joly and his team in Bennington. Their work to complete the River Road Project in FY16 saved Bennington over \$300,000!

River Road had a history of showing signs of destabilization dating back to a mill and fill project in 2008. The new mat began to present with significant longitudinal cracking within the first year! The paving contractor was called back and agreed to apply a double chip seal that carried the Bennington crew through until the 2012/2013 winter season.



Figure 1. West, 1 Year After Completion

It was at this time the real trouble began. A section of the road, approximately 375' in length, had failed and was sloughing off into the Walloomsac River's flood plain. It was then a Civil Engineer was brought in to assess the situation and design a fix. The road was excavated to a depth of 5' and new drainage, subbase, and a new pavement surface was constructed.

Now normally this would end the story and we'd join the Bennington guys at the tavern for a frosty, first round on Stu, but this is not where the story ends...

Four weeks after construction was complete significant cracking was observed in the new surface. The road continued to fail and at a much faster rate. Within a couple months an entire lane had failed and was heading down the slope toward the Walloomsac.

After another Civil Engineer was contracted, along with Geotechnical studies, these further studies inspired the design of the Geogrid road stabilization project.



Figure 2. East, 1 Year After Completion

With a new plan in hand R J and the guys went to work excavating 5,500 CY of material, installed 950' of drainage, 2,700' of wire forms, 32,400 square feet of geogrid fabric, and 13,500 square feet of filter fabric. The excavation reached depths of 20' below finish grade!

In the end R J and his team save Bennington taxpayers a bundle! The engineer's estimate for the project was \$450,000, R J and the boy's got 'r done for \$134,281! Nice work fellas! If you come across R J or one of the Bennington crew members, be sure to tell them, GOOD JOB DONE!



Figure 3. East, 1 Year After Completion