



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

MEDIA RELEASE

As previously announced last Thursday:

On Tuesday, May 26, from 1000 hrs to 1400 hrs, Vermont Emergency Management, the Vermont Foodbank, and the Vermont National Guard will be handing out meals to neighbors in need at a distribution site on Vermont Route 127 (aka the Burlington Beltline) southbound in Burlington.

The Beltline (VT 127) will be closed to through-traffic (i.e., anyone not coming to get food) in both directions from 0700 hrs to 1600 hrs. Commuters and other drivers are advised to plan ahead for alternative routes.

The Foodbank and National Guard will be assisted by staff from the Vermont Department of Public Safety's Emergency Management team, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), the City of Burlington, the Burlington Police Department, the Burlington Fire Department, and others.

Starting at 0930 hrs, drivers who are coming to get food will be allowed to enter VT 127 from the northern end, via Plattsburg Avenue in Burlington or from Heineberg Drive / Prim Road / VT 127 in Colchester. Vehicles will proceed—slowly and safely—south in the southbound lane, and will queue up to receive food at the distribution site. We ask drivers to **USE CAUTION** on the road. Previous events have attracted large numbers of vehicles and created long lines.

After staff from the National Guard and other partners put the food in drivers' vehicles, drivers will proceed south and exit the Beltline at Manhattan Drive.

Instructions for drivers:

- Enter from the northern end of VT 127
- Pull up in your car and open your trunk
- Members of the Vermont National Guard will load the appropriate amount of food
- Please be sure there is plenty of space available in your car for the boxes—food will be distributed in heavy amounts and bulky packaging

Information is preliminary and subject to change.

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- The National Guard requests that you please NOT bring your pet to ensure their safety while loading MREs into cars
- For the safety of the National Guard and other volunteers, please wear a cloth face covering when picking up food
- If you have been ill, if you have been advised to quarantine, or if you do not have vehicle transportation, please ask a friend or relative to pick up meals for you
- After food has been placed in your car, proceed slowly and safely south to exit at Manhattan Drive

Food is available on a first-come, first-served basis and will be available while supplies last. These events will continue to occur daily, however, throughout the months of May and June. If there are no events in your area and you are in need, please visit vtfoodbank.org/gethelp or dial 2-1-1 to find food resources near you.

Additional future events are expected to be held from 10:00 AM to 2:00PM on the following dates at the following locations:

- Wednesday, May 27 – Brattleboro Union High School, 131 Fairground Rd.
- Thursday, May 28 – Franklin County State Airport, 629 Airport Rd, Swanton (Highgate)
- Friday, May 29 – Caledonia County State Airport, 2107 Pudding Hill Rd, Lyndonville

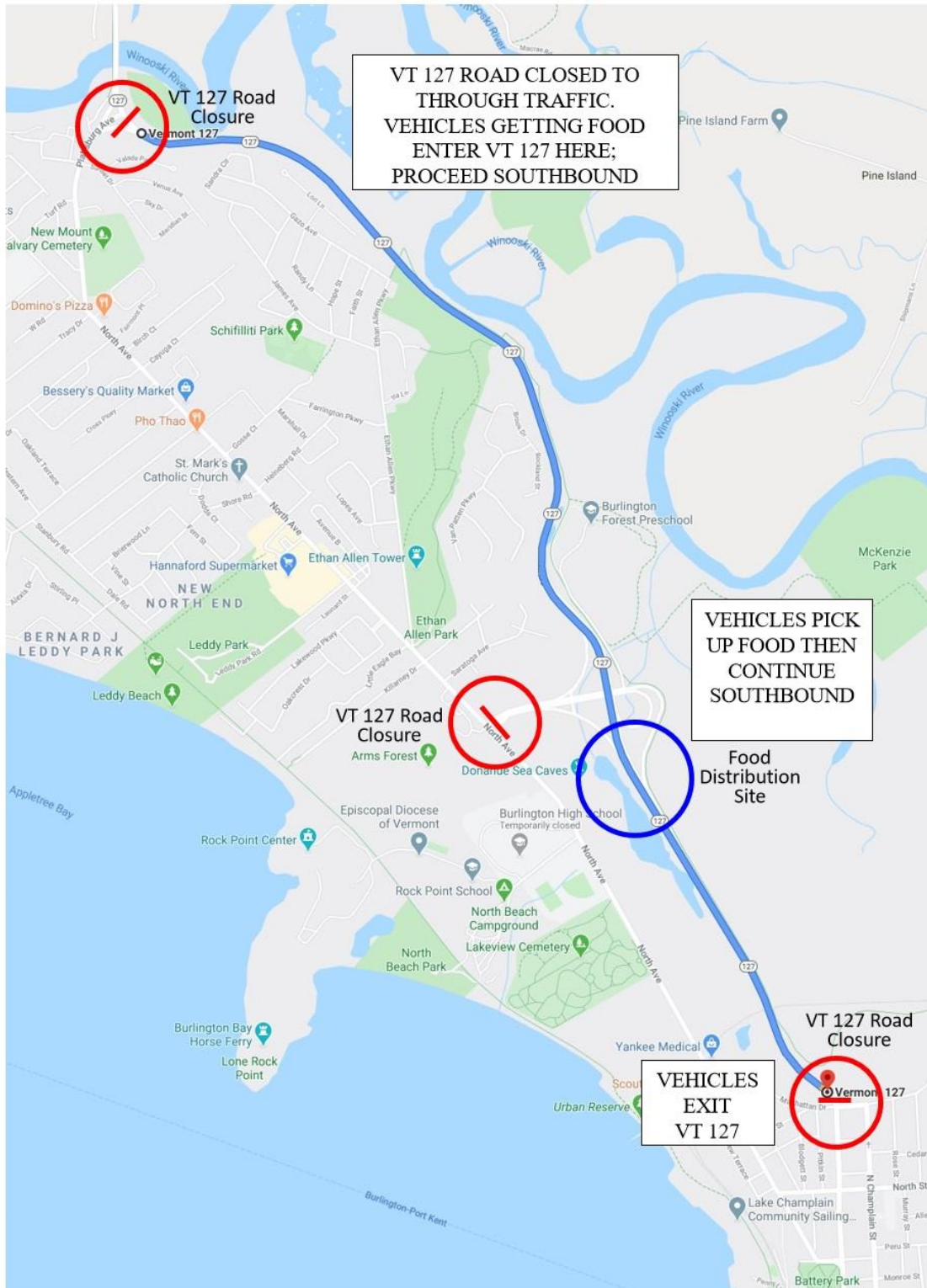
Please note these are subject to change. It is also anticipated that more events will be added. Please check the Vermont Foodbank's website for the most up-to-date schedule of events: www.vtfoodbank.org/gethelp

See the map of road closures and the location of the food distribution site on the following page.

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