

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 4/5/2019

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Monday, April 8	Planning Commission, 5:30 PM, Memorial Room
Monday, April 8	Zoning Public Hearing, 5:30 PM, Council Chambers
Monday, April 8	Recreation Board, 5:30 PM, Barre Street Recreation Center
Tuesday, April 9	Parks Commission, 6:00 PM, Police Dept. Community Room
Tuesday, April 9	Historic Preservation, 6:30 PM, City Manager's Conference Room
Wednesday, April 10	City Council, 6:30 PM, City Council Chambers
Thursday, April 11	Conservation Commission, 7 PM, City Council Chambers

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

1 Taylor Street/Recreation Path

Construction on this project remains on schedule. Work on the upper roof should be completed this week. Electricians and plumbers are working in the building. Windows are going in on the housing section.

- Substantial Completion – Aug. 15, 2019
- Project Completion – Aug. 22, 2019

Public Parking Garage

Representatives of the Capitol Plaza, Christ Church, City and Appellant group plan to meet for a third time on April 11th. We have a status hearing before an Environmental Court judge on April 8. According to our attorney, this will be a "normal" or "regular" status conference related to the appeal of the parking garage subdivision and site plan approvals. The parties will likely discuss a schedule for the matter with the court, including the discovery process. All information has been submitted to the Act 250 District Commission, and we're awaiting word on whether another hearing is needed.

Ice Skating Rink

We have been asked when the skating rink will be removed from the State House lawn. FYI, we are planning to remove the rink on April 22. We are waiting for the ground to soften so we don't pull up frozen sod when we remove the braces. The rink has been well-used this season – a successful first-year with the new look.

Legal – unchanged

The City's petition to enter the proceedings concerning GMP's re-construction of the Marshfield Dam has been approved. We are now a party to the matter, for the purpose of monitoring the information in case there is anything relevant to the city.

Strategic Planning- unchanged

We have scheduled our strategic planning work with Julia Novak for April 15 and 16. City Councilors and Staff have received invitations via e-mail. More complete session agendas to come. Please RSVP to Jamie if you haven't yet.

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Public Works

DPW Street & Equipment Divisions: Spring clean-up is now underway. The crew has begun hand sweeping the downtown sidewalks. The sweepers are ready to go, with one deployed this week to begin removing curb side sand and debris removal. The crew is also using our new sidewalk plow with its front end loader attachment as well as a skid steer to scrape up debris and load into trucks for disposal week. Bike racks and a few benches are being installed but only in areas where we can still get through with a plow if another storm occurs. The rest of the benches and garbage cans will be installed after the 15th.

The Pike Industries hot mix asphalt plant in Williston opens this Monday, April 8th, and we plan to pave the Bailey Avenue bridge potholes that day. We will also expect to pave the Elm Street & East State Street water main repair trenches all of which is weather dependent.

The new excavator arrived on April 1st and we have had one round of operator training and mechanic training is scheduled for Thursday. The excavator was quickly called into action for a water main repair on East State Street where it's new features and capabilities were utilized and very beneficial. The sweepers have been readied for use. We have not mounted any brooms to sidewalk machines as they are still doing salting in the mornings. We are converting the new mini loader #13 back to its original configuration today to assist with spring cleanup. Some of the other small equipment has been prepped for use IE: roller, paint machine, tamps. Some minor equipment repairs were necessary following the last snow storm which was extremely wet overstressing some systems.

East State Street Water Main: Another leak developed this week near the City Center parking garage entrance. Due to multiple prior repairs in this area and considering the impact the work has on parking garage access, approximately 45' of new replacement pipe was installed across the frontage of the parking garage. Road restoration work will begin next week including hot mix paving.

One Taylor & Shared Use Path Project: For the transit center / housing project, the upper roof is complete and the mechanical systems are roughed in. The rough in for the plumbing and electrical systems will be completed next week. Stairwell landings will also be poured next week. Installation of electrical wiring and cables will begin next week along with plumbing components. Fire proofing will also continue next week. For the shared use path, the retaining wall on the westerly approach to the bridge is well underway and bridge abutments are now complete. Delivery of the new bridge is expected on May 1st.

Shared Use Path Project (Granite St – Gallison Hill Road): The work has stepped up considerably now that spring has arrived. Work on the path along Barre Street consists of retaining wall construction now that the pre-cast blocks in full production and deliveries are occurring regularly. The crew will begin working ten hour days beginning at 7:00 am. It's still pretty wet easterly of Old Country Club Road so they're avoiding that area for the time being.

Final plans have been made to begin the relocation of the water main on Barre Street which necessary to remove a conflict with a planned retaining wall. The contractor will be working off the side of the street on the 9th and 10th to install the tap & valves and then begin laying pipe in the street on Thursday the 11th. To complete the relocation, the interconnection with the Barre Street water main is tentatively scheduled on the 22nd & 23rd when the water main will be shut down and the old main cut & capped. Final notifications to affected properties will be made no less than 24 hours in advance although the veterinary clinic is being provided the tentative schedule. DPW staff will be present during much of the water main work to provide support, assist with quality control inspection, operate valves and be available to respond to an emergency.

Traffic advisory notice: Multiple & concurrent work zones will be active on Barre Street over the next several weeks. Motorists are being advised to expect construction delays and to seek alternate routes if possible or allow additional time if passing through the work zone.

Work will also be taking place on Gallison Hill Road over the next couple of weeks and the contractor will be taking advantage of reduced traffic while the nearby school is on break. Work consists of the box cuts along the road shoulders to prepare for the road widening.

Caledonia Spirits Project: The contractor has advised that work is getting underway on the driveway which will be accepted as a public street upon completion. Note that this is concurrent construction with the above referenced bike path project. The contractor is also coordinating with Vermont Rail Systems to install the new rail crossing signal system. DPW staff is assisting the city attorney with the public street acceptance documents and has arranged for the required survey which will be presented to City Council for approval of the “Certificate of Completion & Opening”.

Water Resource Recovery Facility Upgrade: All permit applications have been submitted except for the request for an Act 250 administrative amendment to our land use permit. Light construction activity will begin in early April with full crews on site starting in early May. Plans are being made for public outreach as an informational effort and a ceremonial ground breaking in May with key stake holders and dignitaries to be invited.

Community Services

MSAC Rummage Sale

The 2019 MSAC Rummage sale has officially begun, and continues from 10 am – 2 pm on Saturday, April 6. Hundreds of items are for sale at unbeatable prices. Saturday will also include a bag sale from 12:00 – 2:00 pm, everything you can fit into a bag (provided by MSAC) for \$4.

Upcoming Racial Justice Series Event: Seeing and Disrupting Racism Workshop

The second of four events, this workshop, “Seeing and Disrupting Racism” was designed to illuminate the need for efforts to end racism to not fall solely upon those oppressed. This workshop will explore what racism is and why it is often difficult for white communities (and individuals) to see it. This workshop is \$25 per person, or \$15 for PJC members. Event takes place April 9 from 7-9 pm at 58 Barre Street, Montpelier.

PoemCity reading at Westview

Friday, April 12 | 1:30—3:30 pm Westview Meadows, 171 Westview Meadows Road Come shake your cabin fever with an elegant afternoon of poetry at Westview Meadows. Poets from the Montpelier Senior Activity Center and Westview Meadows will be reading their poetry.

Montpelier Recreation Egg Hunt is coming!

Join us in Hubbard Park on Saturday, April 20 for our FREE annual Egg Hunt. Every kid will leave with plenty of chocolate and an opportunity to find the prize eggs which are turned in for gift baskets. Arrive by 9:45 am (Winter Street entrance gates) because the hunt starts at 10:00 am sharp! For ages 12 and under (and their parents).

Touch a Truck 2019

Do you have a vehicle that might fascinate and delight young ones? Montpelier Recreation is beginning to plan Touch a Truck 2019, and are in search of some fun vehicles to display. Tractors, fire engines, ambulances, police cars, construction vehicles, pirate ships and everything in between welcome! Please contact Arne at amcmullen@montpelier-vt.org for more information.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS (TENTATIVE)...

Apr 10	Tax Stabilization Policy CM Ordinances ATCM Recreation Building ACM Main St./Barre St. Scoping Study	Apr 15-16	Strategic Planning
Apr 24	5 Home Farm Way – Nuisance CM FY18 energy usage update MEAC Tax Stabilization CM Green Up Day update Positive Pie Parklet Ordinances ATCM TIF Resolution Committee Appts.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Review Board • Energy Advisory Committee 	May 8	Ordinances ATCM
May 22	ADA Report DPW Parking Ban debrief DPW Ordinances ATCM	June 5	Ordinances ATCM



William Fraser
 City Manager