

4/22, the Montpelier City Council continued suspension of all Task Force, Committee, and Advisory Board meetings that are not required by law, through June 30th.

Wed., May 27 th	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	Click here to access the Zoom Meeting
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Public Health and Safety

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) CITY OF MONTPELIER RESPONSE UPDATE

Going into the long Memorial Day weekend, the City urges residents to remember that the Coronavirus is still a very present health threat. As the State continues its phased reopening plan, the City would like to remind residents to continue practicing 6 ft. physical distancing, to wear masks when you go outside, and to choose activities that keep you away from others.

As always- City of Montpelier remains committed and focused supporting our residents, larger region, and employees. We want to share updates on the City's actions to keep residents and employees safe and healthy:

State Updates:

- **May 15th, 2020:** Governor Scott issued [Addendum 14](#) to Executive Order 01-20, Be Smart, Stay Safe. This Amendment extends the State of Emergency for Vermont and all previous addenda through midnight on June 15, 2020. The Addendum loosens restrictions on where Vermonters can travel, to include for in-state stays at available lodging, campground and marina facilities. The Addendum also allows the limited resumption of lodging operations, parks for recreational vehicles and campgrounds, and marinas. On-line reservations may resume as of 5/15 for stays beginning on May 22nd. Lodging may be provided for the following purposes:
 - Housing vulnerable populations (emergency shelter for homeless individuals) as arranged through the state;
 - Providing accommodations for health care workers, other workers deemed necessary to support public health, public safety or critical infrastructure and workers entering the state for authorized work;
 - Use of lodging properties as quarantine facilities as arranged by the state; and
 - Lodging for Vermont residents and others who certify self-quarantine for a minimum of 14 days prior to lodging overnight in Vermont.
 - Addendum 14 allows the legislative body of each municipality to enact more strict local requirements regarding mask use than what is set forth in Addendum 14.

- **May 18th, 2020:** Key Updates: The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation announced that while there is a plan to open and operate state parks this summer, the VT State Parks will not be able to offer camping at least through June 25, 2020 and will be canceling all reservations prior to that date. Refunds will be issued automatically in the form of a gift certificate. Residents and non-residents coming to Vermont will

need to quarantine at home for 14 days prior to visiting a Vermont State Park.

- **May 20th, 2020:** Key Updates: Governor Scott proposed a \$400 million economic relief and recovery package, using funds from the \$1.25 billion the State received from the Federal CARES Act. The two-phase proposal will start with \$310 million for immediate relief to the most impacted sectors and businesses. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the Governor will now work with the legislature towards passage of this relief package. The Phase 1 relief package will involve four areas of action. They include:
 - Financial assistance: Emergency Action Grants for food and accommodation services, retail, and agriculture, Vermont Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Grant program, and small business focused Vermont Restart loans and grants. (\$250MM)
 - Housing assistance: Rental Housing Stabilization Fund for property owners and a Re-Housing Recovery Fund to address homeless need. (\$50MM)
 - Technical assistance: Restart Vermont Recovery Guides, and Employee Assistance Program to support the mental health and wellbeing of business owners and their families. (\$5MM)
 - Marketing support: Promotional marketing campaign to promote Vermont to Vermonters and deliver a toolkit of creative assets to be used by local communities, and regional marketing and consumer stimulus grants to encourage local spending, with implementation strategies to be proposed by local entities. (\$5MM)

- **May 22nd, 2020:** The Governor issued [Addendum 15](#) to Executive Order 01-20, which has additional guidance for Outdoor restaurants, bars and other establishments that offer food and drink. The Governor also held a press conference that highlighted the following updates:
 - ACCD put out guidance regarding opening restaurants for outdoor dining- the Governor is allowing this guidance to go into place today, May 22nd via Addendum 15 and the [ACCD Memo](#)
 - ACCD will be putting out guidance to allow barbershops and salons to open starting May 29th – with limits and safety measures to protect employees and customers
 - There will be additional openings in health services in the coming weeks
 - Churches, and other formal places of worship, will be allowed to open to 25% capacity starting May 23rd 2020
 - The State has cancelled all “traditional fairs and festivals for this season” as they are unable to abide by health and safety guidelines, via Addendum 15.

General City Updates:

- In response to the Governor’s Addendum 12, the City is beginning to build out its Phased Approach to reopening. The City is working on its Phase I reopening plan, which will be shared for approval by Council at the May 27th Regular Council Meeting.

- Recreation Facilities Update:
 - **The City Pool will be closed for the 2020 summer season.** Recreation staff will aim to use this time to work on updates and repairs, as financially feasible, to the pool and pool house.

Regional Aid Groups Update:

- The City is maintaining a list of situational updates and regional resources for those who may need them on the COVID-19 Response page on the website here: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1155/Coronavirus-Response>

Please remember to reach out to your neighbors or folks who may need assistance during this time. This situation is one we can get through only if we work together, remain patient with ourselves and our neighbors, and take time to help out when we can.



Responsive and Responsible Government

POLICE CHIEF PROCESS

We have identified a final candidate. Background checks and reference calls are being done now before a final offer is made. I will brief the Council next week. We are still on track for a public announcement by around June 1st.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

MONTPELIER SENIOR ACTIVITY

MSAC public education events now online!

We are pleased that some of our community partners have created online versions of events that would have been offered in our facility this spring, and more are in the works for in the future. These are free and open to the public, with registration through the partners and instructions in the descriptions.

Recycle Right! From Blue Bin to Beyond: A CVSWMD Webinar

Wednesday, May 27, 10:00-11:30am

Ever get confused by what goes in and what stays out of your recycling bin? Why is there a recycle symbol on Styrofoam when it can't get recycled in Vermont? We'll review recycling basics, why it's important to have a contamination free bin, how to avoid "wish cycling." We'll also talk about extra recycling options that are easy, and free. Register with Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/recycle-right-from-blue-bin-to-beyond-tickets-103865207632>.



Sustainable Infrastructure

DPW STREET & WATER/SEWER DIVISIONS

The City of Montpelier's Street & Water and Sewer Division collaborated on work throughout the week. Our Water/Sewer Division had a major water leak on Barre Street at Barr Hill Brewery. With the assistance of our Street Division and a contractor, this issue was completely put to rest on Thursday, with only landscaping left to be done. Our Street Division, with help from our city mechanics also continued to sweep streets and sidewalks.

Our crew also completed the following:

- Cold Patched areas around the city
- Placed chloride on Gould Hill, Bliss Road and Murray Road
- Graded Gould Hill at a problem runoff area
- Picked up several wildlife animals along the side of the road that had been hit by cars
- Emptied and cleaned the last winter operations truck (#3)
- Put out flags throughout the downtown
- Set up the paint trailer and truck for downtown pavement markings
- Continued to practice safe distancing and disinfecting daily.

Next week our Street Division will be working a short week due to the Memorial Holiday. We will complete placement of hot mix asphalt on the Granite Street Bridge and winter water leak areas, begin painting stop bars and crosswalks, sweep some streets and start marking for long line painting. Our Water/Sewer Division spent most of this week completing a major water leak on Barre Street, and, also turned water services off and on at residents requests and addressed a sewer issue on Clarendon Avenue. Next week our Water/Sewer Division will fix two small water leaks, one located on Highland Avenue and the second on Terrace Street. Our crew will also continue to create dig safe markings, address sink holes, read meters and place hot mix asphalt in areas remaining from winter water leak repairs.

WRRF

Digester #1 cleaning started this week. Additionally, the new fixed digester cover is being fabricated on site. Electrical work and conveyor installation continued in the dewatering room. Next week work will continue on digester cleaning and on the new cover fabrication.

DON'T FLUSH THAT

Due to the public health crisis, not only is our city seeing a shortage on toilet paper, but many communities are as well. Department of Public Works would like to remind everyone what should NOT be flushed. Flushing items listed below could cause sewer blockages, in which could cause plugged and overflowing toilets, poorly draining sinks and showers, raw sewage backing up through floor drains, manholes overflowing onto the ground or into nearby surface waters, health hazards and nuisance odors, increases in the City's maintenance costs and costly maintenance and repair bills for YOU.

- Paper towels
- Baby wipes
- Moist towelettes
- Cosmetics and cosmetic wipes
- Cloth or paper napkins
- Shop towels
- Condoms
- Tampons and pads
- Diapers
- Cat litter
- Cigarette butts
- Dental floss
- Latex gloves
- Hypodermic needles
- Facial tissues
- Fats, oils or grease
- Clothing or rags
- Medications (pills or liquid)
- Bandages
- Cotton balls
- Food scrapes
- Swiffer pads
- Plastic of any kind



William Fraser
City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (TENTATIVE)

5/27	COVID-19 Ordinance Chapter-13 5 Home Farm Way Ordinances for 2020 Businesses MA-MDC Commission CVSWD Update Re-opening Plan	6/10	Mowatt/TKS COVID-19 Ordinances FY21 Budget Personnel Plan Tax Stabilization
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