

| Date | Committee | Time | Location | Links |
|------|-----------------------------|---------|----------|---------------------------------|
| 3/22 | Police Review Committee | 4:30 PM | Zoom | Agenda and Link |
| 3/22 | Planning Commission Meeting | 5:30 PM | Zoom | Agenda and Link |
| 3/22 | Public Art Commission | 5:00 PM | Zoom | Agenda and Link |
| 3/23 | Parks Commission | 7:00 PM | Zoom | Agenda and Link |
| 3/24 | City Council Meeting | 6:30 PM | Zoom | Agenda and Link |
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Public Health and Safety

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Weekly Report: As of March 19, 2021

As of today: 166,100 people in Vermont have been vaccinated, including 88,800 who have gotten both doses. However, as we turn this vaccination corner- it's been a full year since the first deaths in Vermont attributed to COVID-19 occurred, and 215 other Vermonters have died since then. We all need to continue to wear masks, stay distant, wash our hands, and avoid crowded spaces to ensure there is no further loss of life.

Overall State Updates:

- Update:
 - As of March 24th, bars and clubs will be able to open under the restaurant guidance, with capacity limits and distancing. Towns can take stricter action on bars and clubs if elected officials opt to do that.

- Vaccine Updates
 - Starting Thursday, March 25th, Vermonters age 60+ will become eligible to get the vaccine.
 - On March 29th, those age 50+. On April 5th, those aged 40+. On April 12th, those aged 30+. On April 19th, anyone 16+ can schedule their vaccine.

WHEN CAN VERMONTERS SIGN UP FOR A COVID-19 VACCINE?



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|---|-----------------------------|
| Long-term care residents and staff, health care, first responders | Registration open now |
| Ages 65+ | Registration open now |
| Ages 16+ with certain high-risk health conditions | Registration open now |
| K-12 teachers and staff, child care, public safety | Registration open now |
| Ages 60+ | Registration opens March 25 |
| Ages 50+ | Registration opens March 29 |
| Ages 40+ | Registration opens April 5 |
| Ages 30+ | Registration opens April 12 |
| Ages 16+ | Registration opens April 19 |

Appointment slots may not be available for 2-4 weeks from registration opening date.
Groups can be fully vaccinated within two months from registration opening.

Goal to have Vermonters fully vaccinated by July 2021

Updated 3.17.21

- COVID-19 vaccine registration is available through both the website and the phone number (links below):
 - Sign up for COVID-19 vaccine appointments at HealthVermont.gov/MyVaccine or by calling (855) 722-7878
 - Appointments are needed, no walk-ins will be accepted.
- There is a new call center for home-bound Vermonters to call to get an appointment for a vaccine via a home-visit. The number is: **833-722-0860**
- Vaccination updates can be found via the [COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#)
- Regional Health Update & VT Case Modeling Response Updates:
 - Case count and outbreak information can be found on the [VT Health Department dashboard](#).
 - Vermont Modeling Updates [most recent presentation can be found here](#).
 - The weekly summary report on cases can be found [here](#), which this week focuses on cases between March 5, 2020 – March 17, 2021
- Business/Economic Updates:
 - You can find the archived webinar from January 6th for Vermont's businesses regarding updates to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) [here](#).
- Reminder: Mental Health Support & Food Access
 - The State shared some resources to assist folks in seeking help for any mental distress, or in need of mental health care. Resources can be accessed through calling 2-1-1 or via the [State's website for COVID-19 support](#).

- If you or someone you know is in crisis or needs emotional support, help is available 24/7:
 - Call your [local mental health crisis line](#).
 - Text VT to 741741 to talk with someone at the [Crisis Text Line](#).
 - Call the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) at 1-800-273-8255. For more info, visit healthvermont.gov/suicide.
 - Get connected to Alcohol and Drug Support Services at [VT Helplink](#).
 - Get self-help tips and connect to mental health services at [COVID Support VT](#).
- If you need help accessing food, there are also many resources on the State and Local level. Please call 2-1-1 or access [WIC](#), [Hunger Free Vermont](#), [3SquaresVT](#), or other resources outlined via Hunger Free Vermont [COVID-19 response](#).
 - There are also local agencies hosting food access programs such as: the [Vermont Foodbank](#), [Everyone Eats](#), and the [Montpelier Food Pantry](#).
- Reminder: VTAlert
 - VTAlert is now offering COVID-19 updates. Folks can sign up at the [VTAlert website](#).
- Reminder: Gathering Guidelines
 - Governor Phil Scott announced updates to COVID-19 guidance for small, multi-household gatherings and table seating at restaurants. Effective March 12, 2021, the changes allow two unvaccinated households to gather at a time, and permit restaurants to seat multiple households together, but no more than six people can be seated at the same table. Masking, distancing, capacity limits, and other mitigation guidelines remain in place. [Read the full guidance updates here](#).
- Reminder: Travel and Quarantine Guidelines
 - Effective February 23rd, those who are fully vaccinated (meaning two weeks after their second dose), will not need to quarantine after traveling. This also means those who come to Vermont from other states will not need to quarantine if they can prove they have been fully vaccinated. More information can be found here: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel>
 - New Quarantine requirements have been outlined in [this updated chart](#).
- Reminder: Federal Stimulus Legislation Update
 - From the just-passed Federal COVID-19 relief legislation, most folks will be receiving \$1,400 for all individuals in a household, including dependents and children. The child tax credit will be increased to \$3,000 for kids over the age of 6 and \$3,600 for kids under the age of 6.
 - Unemployment benefits will be extended until September, with an additional \$300 weekly supplement to the normal Unemployment Benefits. There will also be a tax deduction for these benefits, up to a set amount, that people received in 2020.

COVID Testing Availability:

- **Testing dates/locations and preregistration found here or call 2-1-1 for registration assistance:** <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/testing/where-get-tested>
 - Upcoming Montpelier Testing Dates:
 - [03/25 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 134 State St. \(parking lot\)](#)



Environmental Stewardship

DON'T FLUSH THAT

The 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



Responsive and Responsible Government

Leadership Team Agenda:

The City's Leadership Team, which consists of Department Heads and some other key staff, conduct a monthly meeting to address issues or topics which are too complex to be handled in regular staff meetings. This past week the team selected the topics for this coming year, I thought you might be interested in knowing what the group has chosen.


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|------|--------|---|
| 2021 | April | 20-21 Strategic Plan Updates |
| | May | Outdoor Recreation as an Economic Destination |
| | June | Outdoor Activity |
| | July | 20-21 Strategic Plan Updates |
| | August | Leadership Philosophy |

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| | September | Equity Plan from Creative Discourse & Work |
| | October | 2022-2023 Strategic Planning |
| | November | Budget Congress |
| | December | COOP Plans/Hazardous Mitigation Planning |
| 2022 | January | Strategic Plan & Budget Updates |
| | February | Aging-friendly Communities |
| | March | Choosing Leadership Meeting Topics |


ICMA Northeast Regional Conference

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) annually holds a series of conferences in the organization’s 6 regions. These are being held virtually this year with the added benefit that registration entitles you to participate in all of the regional sessions. The Northeast conference was held yesterday and today. Both Assistant City Manager Cameron Niedermayer and I attended this week and have been checking in on the other regional offerings.

The keynote speaker was Harvard Business School professor Laura Huang talking about her new book “Edge”. The subject was stereotypes, biases, and changes we can make both personally and organizationally. Other sessions I attended included political neutrality (I was a speaker), building an inclusive culture in local government, safeguarding services and jobs through collaboration, and building a roadmap to zero greenhouse emissions.

 More Housing

City of Montpelier to proclaim the month of April 2021 to be Fair Housing Month in Montpelier, and the City Council urges all individuals, agencies, and institutions—public and private—to contribute to the observance by continuing our efforts to eliminate housing discrimination in our community and to increase housing opportunities for all.

 Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATES

FEAST Celebrates the Farm

FEAST Farm is a collaborative program of the City of Montpelier’s Community Services divisions: Parks, Recreation, and the Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC). FEAST Farm was launched early in 2020 and provides nutritious, local food to our aging population through the FEAST Senior meals program. Additionally, we endeavor to bring people of all ages to the farm in order to provide them with meaningful work and volunteer experiences and to educate them about sustainable agriculture. In its first year, FEAST Farm grew over 1,000 pounds of fresh produce specifically to

provide the FEAST Senior Meals kitchen with organic, local ingredients. Check out the new video showcasing the farm, produced by Sarah Lipton, presented by Jacqueline Huettenmoser: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1235/FEAST-Farm>.

MSAC's March for Meals Benefit Series is still happening: Three more events to come, plus our Curbside pick-up dinner March 25

March is National Meals on Wheels Awareness Month! To raise awareness and funds for our essential FEAST Senior Meals Program, which operates Meals on Wheels and Curbside Meals for Seniors, we have cooked up an enticing menu of TEN diverse, affordable, and pandemic-safe offerings - *9 online, 1 curbside dinner* - to be enjoyed from the comforts of your own home. **Three more online are still ahead!** We invite you to click here to [browse our event menu, learn more and register here](#) for health & wellness events, family-friendly performances and events about film and music appreciation with some of your favorite MSAC instructors and friends. Online events are by donation.

Spring Equinox Yoga & Meditation with Sarah Parker-Givens

Saturday, March 20, 2021, 9:00 –10:15 am | Zoom video or phone

We will welcome the first day of spring with gentle movement, breath work and meditation. No experience is necessary...open to all. Please have a comfortable chair, a yoga/exercise mat (or practice on a carpeted floor) and a blanket/towel. [Register here.](#)

"Old Woman & the Black Dog " Theatric Puppet Show with Q&A Janice Walrafen & Jason Mallery

Sunday, March 21, 2:30—3:00 pm | Zoom video or phone

This theatrical puppet show is a telling of an ancient Native American tale of the weaving of the world. It's full of surprises you and your family will enjoy. The show will be prerecorded, and Janice and Jason will be available for Q&A. [Register here.](#)

Next week: Mixed Level Pilates Class Shannon Hepburn | 3/29/21 | 12—1 pm Monday, March 29 | 12:00—1:00 pm. [Register here.](#)

FEAST Senior Meals

Meals on Wheels (formerly known as FEAST at Home) is available to Montpelier and Berlin residents over 60 who need it. Our fabulous volunteers deliver a bulk pack of locally prepared frozen meals once a week, and we work to offer pandemic-safe social engagement and nutrition education too. There is no charge for meals, but donations are gladly accepted; and yes, we recently benefitted from Bernie Sanders' mitten campaign! If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving our delicious & nutritious meals on wheels, just call us at the FEAST office: 262-6288.

Curbside Pickup meals (formerly known as FEAST To-Go) are offered to seniors 60+ from anywhere (not just Montpelier residents) twice weekly. Call to register and simply drive up to the side door of MSAC on Tuesdays and Fridays between 12-12:30pm to receive a delicious, hot takeout meal. If you are new to the program, you will be asked to fill out a short nutritional survey. You can see our monthly menu on our website. Donations are \$7-\$10. Please call to make your reservation: 262-6288.

FEAST To Go March Menu for Tuesdays/Fridays, [click here](#).

You're invited: Older Vermonters Caucus weekly meetings, Wednesdays at 12pm: Senior Centers will be the featured topic on March 24

The caucus is organized by Representatives Noyes and Wood of the House Human Services Committee. Each meeting hosts a guest presenter on a topic pertaining to older Vermonters and is an opportunity for caucus members to voice their opinions, ideas, and issues. **MSAC Director, Janna Clar, will be a guest next week**, speaking as one of two co-chairs of Vermont Association of Senior Centers and Meal Providers to discuss emerging developments and challenges of the state's vital centers and services. This is a platform that cares greatly about Vermonters and all are welcome. Public participation is very much encouraged! If you would like to engage with the caucus, you can watch our previous meetings on Youtube as well as catch them live each week at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfA1g7IQ0QfRSYGh6PPqkFg>. Comment your questions and we will do our best to raise them during the meeting! For more information please feel free to email brian.s.anderson@uvm.edu.

Interested in Estate Planning, 20th-21st Century Opera? How about Tai Chi, Qigong or Drawing Nature as new topics for your lifelong learning? Food as Medicine? Yoga? Bone Builders? Current events? (and more adult class series with fabulous instructors!)

Spring Class Registration for Adults of all ages (and some for teens) Continues – Affordable and Online, April-June!

Spring class materials -- Registration Forms and Program Guides -- are on MSAC's [Classes page](#) now, and hard copies are available in our side door vestibule. Registration for April start classes is underway for residents of all towns, and we have **31 classes** in ARTS, HUMANITIES and MOVEMENT to offer, with most open to younger people, too. Payment is required to hold a space and late fees apply after 4/9/21. Financial Aid is available to all MSAC members! Register by dropping off a completed form to the lock-box at the side entrance of 58 Barre Street, mailing it to us, or online (user-id / password required) at: <https://web1.vermontsystems.com/wbwsc/vtmontpelierwt.wsc/>.

MSAC and Supporting Town Funding Results, Benefits, Gratitude!

Thank you to all who helped make MSAC's supporting town funding possible in six towns: Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, Moretown and Worcester. Yes votes on our funding request articles ranged from 70-88% and will result in a total of \$39,500 in funding to support senior activity center operations for older adults in our region between July 2021 and June 2022, just \$500 less than in the current fiscal year. The highest appropriation, at \$15,000, will be from Berlin, where MSAC's FEAST Senior Meal Program delivers Meals on Wheels to dozens of residents each year. Residents of the six supporting towns receive the benefits of lower annual dues if joining MSAC as members, more access to financial aid, and more access to high-demand programs compared with residents of other towns. In the last membership year, MSAC served at least 335 unduplicated people from the six towns, which accounts for nearly a quarter of all people served.

Social Equity & Justice Advisory Committee

The Committee is working with consulting firm Creative Discourses, Inc. to develop information about the community. Creative Discourses is holding a series of meetings with city staff to learn more about the work environment, unintentional biases, etc.

Montpelier Community Justice Center

The Montpelier Community Justice Center provides Restorative Justice services for Montpelier residents including Restorative Justice Panels, Reentry services, Circles of Support and Accountability and Victim Outreach. Additionally, the Conflict Assistance Program provides

mediation and consultation for Montpelier residents in need of help resolving disputes. Volunteer opportunities exist in all of our programs and with the Community Advisory Board where members help guide our work. For more information contact us at mcjc@montpelier-vt.org or call 802.522.5566.



Legislative Updates

Legislative Testimony

The City is sometimes asked to provide testimony on certain bills or topics for the legislature. The most recent testimony information can be found below:

*For more detail on what pending bills the City is monitoring, please see the attached Legislative Agenda and Tracking Document at the end of this report

| <u>City Staff Providing Testimony</u> | <u>Bill or Testimony Topic</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Notes</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Chief Peete, MPD | H. 133 | In summarizing the Bill, it has already been passed in previous sessions for police to take firearms for emergency relief from abuse orders from a judge. The addition to the law looks to only clarify the language that judges can order a defendant to relinquish weapons if it is found to be necessary. | Written feedback given. -PDs will enforce the laws as they are already on the books -Concerns I have for storing and maintaining the weapons (space and money) |
| Chief Peete, MPD | H. 183 Section 4 | It will be Section 4: Data Collection efforts for sexual violence cases throughout the state. | |
| Chief Peete, MPD | US Legislature regarding Crisis reponse in law enforcement | there is proposed legislation to implement community resources to respond to mental health crisis calls with police as a secondary. The legislation is through: U.S. Congresswoman Cheri Bustos (IL) U.S. Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (NV) | It is not confirmed if he'll be chosen to testify, but his name has been forwarded up. |
| Chief Peete, MPD | Senate Institutions in regards to MOU Capital Grounds Policing | | |
| Mike Miller, Planning | Request for Legislative Support | Looking for support from VPA members who are making recommendations regarding affordable and efficient housing for Vermonters at or below median household income | Consitent with our strategic plan with more housing, thoughfully planned built enviromnent and environmental stewardship. |
| Jana Clar, MSAC | Request for testimony and support | Support for Vermont Association of Area Agencies on Aging (V4A) legislative priorities | Priorities: - Older Vermonters - Nutrition and Meals - Homeand community –based provider increases/workforce development |


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| | | | - Long-term care policies |
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Sustainable Infrastructure

PARKING GARAGE/HOTEL PROJECT

This project remains in litigation. Motions have been filed about the Hotel Act 250 appeal. Discovery will proceed soon. Trial is expected for the fall. The project budget is being updated. Council will be briefed on the budget, design, and litigation on April 14th.



Thoughtfully Planned Built Environment

Parklets

The City Council has enacted the temporary parklet ordinance which was in place last summer and expired on October 25, 2020. This will allow restaurants and merchants to take advantage of the same relaxed standards this summer as it appears that COVID restrictions will continue. The second, and final reading took place at the March 10, 2021 City Council Meeting. The new ordinance will be effective from April 1, 2021 through November 2, 2021. The application process will begin shortly. You can find the parklet application on the city’s website [here](#).

Montpelier Development Corporation

The City Manager has been in discussions with the Montpelier Development Corporation about the future direction of the organization and city funding. More information is expected by the March 24th meeting.



Personnel

Municipal Jobs Opens:

- Afterschool Age Childcare Director. More information can be [here](#).
- Staff Accountant. More information can be [here](#).
- Vista Member for Montpelier Senior Activity Center. More information can be [here](#).
- Emergency Services Dispatcher/Clerk. More information can be [here](#).
- Water/Sewer Mechanic Truck Driver, Level 1. More information can be [here](#).
- Vista Member for Montpelier Recreation Department. More information can be [here](#).

Years of Service Recognition

It is the City Manager’s pleasure to recognize the following employees who have served the City of Montpelier and are celebrating milestone years of service during February and March of this year.

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| Kristine Hepburn | Montpelier Police Department | 10 years of service |
| Michael Philbrick | Montpelier Police Department | 10 years of service |
| Benjamin Michaud | Montpelier Police Department | 10 years of service |
| Danielle Frattini | Montpelier Police Department | 5 years of service |
| Justin Redmond | Montpelier Fire Department | 10 years of service |
| Patricia Hoffman | Community Justice Center | 5 years of service |



Reminders

Montpelier, Vermont, Partners with ParkMobile to Offer Contactless Parking Payments

Residents and visitors can now easily pay for parking from their mobile device through ParkMobile! ParkMobile is the #1 parking app in the U.S., and has a new partnership going live with our City, enabling residents and visitors to pay for parking on their mobile device. The ParkMobile app is now available at more than 600 on and off-street spaces throughout the city.

ParkMobile is available for both iPhone and Android devices. To pay for parking with the ParkMobile app, a user enters the zone number posted on the stickers and signs around the meters. The user then selects the amount of time needed and touches the "Start Parking" button to begin the session. The user can then extend the time of the parking session right from the app without having to go back to the meter. We are excited to add this to our parking options!

Other payment options, such as coins and credit cards, will still be accepted.

Alternate Side Parking:

Getting the Message Out! Public Works has been posting messages on social media and on our web page informing residents of key changes, and directing readers to go the City website to look up specifics for where they typically park, whether that be during the daytime, evenings or both. These winter parking regulations remain in place through April 1st. Please feel free to email any questions or comments to Jasmine Benson @ jbenson@montpelier-vt.org.

Social Worker Available to Residents

The Montpelier Police Department, the Barre City Police Department and Washington County Mental Health have partnered in providing an onsite social worker to help residents in crisis or needing an extra hand during the pandemic. Susan Lemere has been a friendly and effective presence in town for the last several month, but COVID has slowed our outreach efforts down. If you would like to speak to Susan please contact her through email at susan.lemere@wcmhs.org or contact MPD and we can assist with connecting you to Susan.

City Hall Outdoor Wi-Fi Hotspot

The City of Montpelier, through the Department of Public Service (PSD) Wi-Fi Hot Spot Program has installed a public Wi-Fi outside the City Hall Building (39 Main Street Montpelier). This PSD sponsored project is in response to the widespread closure of facilities due to the COVID-19 outbreak, which has significantly limited folks’ ability to access free and reliable internet. The need for access to a reliable internet connections for healthcare, education, and government services has grown exponentially while existing public access points have become suddenly unavailable due to social distancing requirements. Vermont PSD has assisted the City in addressing this emergency gap in available public Wi-Fi by contracting for the rapid installation of a commercial-grade outdoor Wireless Access Point. They have installed 190 hotspots throughout the State as part of this program. Montpelier is pleased to have been included. The City Hall Wi-Fi site is accessible at all hours from a parked vehicle on the road or in-person in the courtyard in front of City Hall and the parking lot to the immediate right of the building. As a COVID-19 safety precaution, the City discourages users from congregating outside. The Wi-Fi name is “**Montpelier Hotspot**” and you should be able to connect without a password. You can track all the State Vermont Public Wi-Fi sites here: [Wi-Fi Hotspot Map](#)

ORCA MEDIA

ORCA Media supports the City of Montpelier by live streaming videos to local TV and on YouTube. Recently, Comcast changed the government channel to 1085.

- Click here to access City Council Meetings: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/montpelier-city-council>
- Click here for Live Stream Events: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/live-stream-events>

Thank you,



William Fraser, City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

| | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------|---|
| <p>3/24</p> | <p>Congressman Welch re: federal funding Home Energy Labeling Ordinance 1st reading Strategic Planning Process Homelessness Task Force Presentation Committee Assignments</p> | <p>4/14</p> | <p>3rd quarter financials Hotel/Garage Project update Home Energy Labeling Ordinance 2nd reading E-911 Road Naming 1st Reading Update on Summer pool use</p> |
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| | Park Land purchase – Executive Session | | |
| 4/28 | 3 rd quarter Strategic Plan update E-911 Road Naming 2 nd reading Strategic Planning Update Work Winter Operations Review “Build Back” List ? Summer Meeting Schedule | 5/12 | FY23 Budget Process |
| 5/26 | | 6/9 | Utility Rates Stormwater Utility Water/Sewer Master Plan |
| 6/23 | Tax Rate Fund Reserves | 7/14 | Police Committee Report? |

PENDING ITEMS

CVPSA Report

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA GUIDING PRINCIPLES

On the whole, the City of Montpelier requests that policymakers:

- Support legislation that grants cities and towns greater flexibility.
- Support legislation that provides funding to cities and towns.
- Oppose legislation that removes authority from cities and towns.
- Oppose legislation that creates unfunded mandates or directly or indirectly shifts costs to cities and towns.

2021 CITY OF MONTPELIER LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

In order to help fulfill its commitments to its residents, the City of Montpelier calls on the legislative delegation to support the following policies:

COVID-19 RESPONSE

- Advocate for the safe return to work of State employees in local office buildings
- Advocate and support direct municipal funding that protects Cities and Towns from financial disaster during the COVID crisis
- Allow a delay in reappraisal requirements or a return to the 80% threshold

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| <u>H.48</u> | The General Assembly finds that the continued spread of COVID-19 in the State of Vermont has the potential to jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of Vermonters voting in their 2021 annual municipal meetings. These meetings include annual town meetings, which are |
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| | required by general law to be held on the first Tuesday of March; annual school district meetings, which are generally required to be held between the months of February and June; and other municipal annual meetings with meeting dates controlled by charter |
| <u>S.9</u> | An act relating to extending certain workers' compensation amendments related to COVID-19 |

COMMUNITY PROSPERITY

- Support the general statutory authority to adopt local option taxes
- Support programs and initiatives that spur locally driven, right-sized economic growth, especially programs like TIF, that provide infrastructure improvements to support that growth

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| <u>H.152</u> | Would establish an education property tax yield for homesteads and the non-homestead property tax rate |
| <u>H.159</u> | Would create a Better Places Program to support projects that create, activate, or revitalize communities and public spaces. |

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

- Continue funding Microtransit opportunities
- Advocate for global warming solutions and for any opportunities that support ecological protection, the reduction of PFAS, net zero goals, and conservation of our natural resources
- Support expanding the Net Metering limit for municipalities or Montpelier specifically

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| <u>H.100</u> | An act relating to electric bicycles |
| <u>H.123</u> | Would create a vehicle miles traveled tax applicable plug-in electric Vehicles |
| <u>H.144</u> | An Act relating to requiring inspection of wastewater systems |
| <u>H.94</u> | An act relating to transportation initiatives to reduce carbon emissions |
| <u>S.44</u> | Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create a Vermont Green New Deal to invest in actions that curb climate change. The Vermont Climate Council would implement and oversee the |

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| | <p>Vermont Green New Deal to fund energy conservation programs, prioritizing weatherization, renewable energy, regenerative agriculture, and the use of electric vehicles. This bill would also create a new income tax surcharge on high incomes that would be deposited into a Vermont Green New Deal Fund to be administered by the State Treasurer</p> |
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INCLUSIVE, EQUITABLE, & WELCOMING CITY

- Advocate for any opportunity for additional Human Services funding for supporting those experiencing homelessness
- Support funding for public restrooms to serve all people using State and City facilities

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| <p><u>H.134</u></p> | <p>An act relating to paid family and medical leave insurance</p> |
| <p><u>H.139</u></p> | <p>Would include employer contributions to health insurance in the amount of wages used to determine an injured worker’s weekly benefit and to prohibit an employer from terminating an employee because the employee is absent from work while the employee is receiving temporary total disability benefits</p> |
| <p><u>S.55</u></p> | <p>An Act relating to paid vacation leave</p> |
| <p><u>H.93</u></p> | <p>An act relating to establishing a homeless bill of rights and prohibiting discrimination against people without homes</p> |

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

- Continue funding for a Social Worker to support Barre City and Montpelier’s Police Departments
- Focus on moving towards a regional public safety model and look critically at public safety cellular provider coverage

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| <u>H.1</u> | An act relating to mental health insurance benefits |
| <u>H. 109</u> | An act relating to parking ticket enforcement |
| <u>H.126</u> | Would establish a pedestrian safety pilot program, allow municipalities to seasonally install pedestrian crossing signs in crosswalks, allow municipalities to lower certain speed limits on state highways, and express the intent that the Traffic Committee should not increase the speed limit on a state highway in response to a municipality's request that it be lowered |
| <u>H.145</u> | Would amend the standards for law enforcement use of force to make clarifying changes and prevent the use of hindsight in evaluating law enforcement conduct and narrow the definition of prohibited restraints |
| <u>S.19</u> | An act relating to a climate change response plan and regional planning commission involvement in identifying health care-related needs |
| <u>S.30</u> | An act relating to prohibiting possession of firearms at childcare facilities, hospitals, and certain public buildings |
| <u>S.40</u> | An act relating to the use of colored signal lamps on fire department and emergency medical service vehicles |
| <u>EO-01-21</u> | <p>This Executive Order creates the Agency of Public Safety, effective April 15, 2021. The executive order cites the Department of Public Safety's ten-point strategy, which includes accelerating the organization of state law enforcement operations, modernizing data collection, expanding crisis response, enhancing the development of model policies and community oversight models, and addressing issues in training and dispatch. The new agency, headed by a secretary and deputy secretary, would include a Department of Fire Safety and Emergency Management, a Department of Law Enforcement, and a Division of Support Services. The Criminal Justice Council, Motor Vehicle Enforcement Division, and the Vermont Enhanced 911 Board would be added to the agency in July.</p> <p>VLCT fully supports EO-01-21, an order that will affect local governments and law enforcement agencies. Last November, the VLCT Board of Directors voted unanimously to support the proposal to move the Vermont Police Academy to the Department of Public Safety.</p> |

RESPONSIVE & RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

- Support decision-making at the local level that recognizes the capacity of local officials and voters to govern themselves on issues of local import, including streamlined adoption and full implementation of municipal charters
- Approve any pending and future recommended charter changes
- Support legislation allowing removal of "red line" deed restrictions
- Support legislation consistent with the City's Adopted Strategic Plan
<https://www.montpelier-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/7156/2020-2021-Strategic-Plan-Brochure-with-full-Work-Plans?bidId=>

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| <u>H.82</u> | An act relating to allowing municipal and cooperative utilities to offer innovative rates and services |
| <u>H.154</u> | Would deem a municipal office vacant whenever a municipal officer fails to take a required oath of office within one week of election or appointment. |
| <u>H.164</u> | Would require a town to vote to allow the operation of any type of licensed cannabis establishment prior to such an establishment operating within the town. |
| <u>S.14</u> | An act relating to deed restrictions and housing density |
| <u>S.15</u> | An act relating to correcting defective ballots |
| <u>S.25</u> | An act relating to miscellaneous cannabis regulation procedures |
| <u>S.50</u> | An act relating to ranked choice voting |

STAFF LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Police Department:

- Monitor the implementation of S. 124 and S. 119 to ensure any mandates are implemented in ways that do not adversely affect MPD policies. MPD policies based on National, evidence-based best practices, and 21st Century Policing recommendations.
- Monitor amendments made to H.133 An act relating to emergency relief from abuse orders and relinquishment of 11 firearms
- Work with the Vermont Police Association and Vermont Chiefs of Police to represent the Montpelier Police Department interests. These interests include advocating for policies that reflect community partnerships, accountability and transparency, officer safety and wellness. It also includes expressing concern for policies and procedures that may compromise officer safety.

Montpelier Senior Activity Center:

- Support legislation promoting investment in technology and broadband equity and access for all Vermonters, especially Older Vermonters, during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, with the goal of encouraging Telehealth and Social Connection.
- Support legislation consistent with priorities and principles of the Older Vermonters Act: Act 156 (passed in 2020)
- Support legislation that provides direct and robust funding to senior centers and senior

meal sites as they fulfill important state and federal priorities and goals for increasing socialization, reducing isolation, providing evidence-based exercise and Fall Prevention programs, and more.

- Support legislation that allocates part of VT's federal Older Americans Act funding (especially Title 3B funds) directly to senior centers and community organizations who provide services such as wellness programs, exercise classes, tax clinics, foot care clinics and more.
- Support legislation for Long Term Care Medicaid Waiver coverage for meals on wheels funding
- Support legislation advancing affordable housing for older adults and people with disabilities
- Support legislation protecting and promoting renters' rights
- Attend the Older Vermonters Caucus when scheduled again
- Enhance communication with advocates representing organizations that support older adults, including VT Association for Senior Centers and Meal Providers, Community of VT Elders, and VT Association of Area Agencies on Aging

Planning & Development:

- Track Act 250 exemptions for designated areas and tracking any proposed housing bills.

Community Justice Center:

- The Justice Reinvestment II (S.338, Act 148) may result in increased referrals without increased funding.
- Update statutory language so it reflects the reality of the programs and services CJsCs provide.

Clerk: Continue to participate in the process of developing and supporting a broad election procedures bill (no bill number yet available)