

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
4/19	Police Review Committee	4:30 PM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
4/19	Public Art Commission	5:00 PM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
4/19	Design Review Committee	5:30 PM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
4/19	Capitol Fire Mutual Aid Dispatch Committee	6:00 PM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
4/20	Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee	7:00 PM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
4/20	Conservation Fund Advisory Board	6:00 PM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
4/23	Local Hazard Mitigation Committee	9:30 AM	Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link



Public Health and Safety

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates

This week, we got more details on the “Vermont Forward Plan” which serves as the State’s roadmap towards reopening. The plan, which will roll out in steps, can be found [here](#). The Vermont Forward Plan involves relaxing COVID-19 health and quarantine rules over time, starting on April 9, 2021, with the goal of no mandatory (only encouraged) health rules by July 4, 2021. All dates are subject to change, as they are dependent on reaching vaccine milestones. On certain dates, the various sector specific rules will be replaced with mandatory Universal Guidance.

As most municipal operations, such as City Council meetings, are in “Group B” for the Governor’s Vermont Forward Plan, the City is working on creating a re-opening plan to present to Council soon. Remember, even with these new opening processes in place, make sure that you are still wearing masks, staying distant, washing your hands, and avoiding crowded spaces to ensure there is no further infection or loss of life. This reopening plan does not work unless we work together to stop the spread of the virus!

Overall State Updates:

Today, the Governor has announced he has extended the VT State of Emergency for another month- it is now in place [through May 15th](#).

- Vaccine Updates

- **Folks age 16-18 will be able to register for the Pfizer vaccine starting tomorrow, April 17th at 10am.**

- Then all Vermonters ages 16+ can sign up starting Monday April 19th at 6am.

- **Vermont is canceling Johnson & Johnson vaccine clinics through Friday, April 23rd.** If you had an appointment cancelled through the state registration system, you should call us at **855-722-7878** to reschedule.
 - However, if you received the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine within the past month and are experiencing severe headache, abdominal or leg pain, or shortness of breath – contact your health care provider and seek treatment right away. These symptoms don't occur immediately after vaccination. [Get more details about why the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is being paused.](#)
 - COVID-19 vaccine registration is available through both the website and the phone number:
 - 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.
 - If you're home bound you can call 833-722-0860 M-F from 8:30-4:30 to make an appointment.
 - Vaccination updates can be found via the [COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#)
 - Please check the [Public Health Vermont website](#) for any questions about getting the COVID-19 vaccine
- Education Update
 - [Education Secretary French discussed in today's press conference that there are about 10-20 COVID-19 cases reports per day in Vermont K-12 schools. He reported that this is higher than the fall, and makes things difficult for schools as the state continues to urge them to open more fully in-person.](#)
 - [Education Secretary French also discussed that there will be Federal funding available to help families who are eligible to get free/reduced cost school meals. EBT cards will be distributed to offset cost of meals that children would have been getting at school. This benefit should be deploying around April 29th.](#)
 - [They will also have more guidance on graduations and other school-end events by the end of the month.](#)
 - Travel and Quarantine Guideline Updates
 - As part of Vermont's phased reopening plan, there is new travel guidance, effective April 9, 2021: except for international travel, travel no longer requires quarantine. [More information here.](#)
 - 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: [The April 13th presentation can be found here.](#)
 - The weekly summary report on cases can be found [here](#), which this week it discusses cases between March 5, 2020 – April 14, 2021
 - New Federal Financial Assistance Program for Families who have Lost a Family Member to COVID-19:

- Beginning April 12th, as part of the federal emergency relief package, financial assistance will be available for families who have lost a family member due to COVID-19.
 - Funeral expenses up to \$9,000 can be reimbursed. Those who have lost more than 1 family member may qualify for more than \$30,000 in reimbursement. Call the Federal emergency hotline to sign up: 844-684-6333
- Financial Assistance for Small Businesses
 - Vermont businesses continue to be encouraged to take advantage of the federal and sector-specific financial assistance programs currently available including:
 - [Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\)](#): The deadline has been extended until May 31st. The Vermont District Office of the SBA continues to offer [two weekly webinars](#) on First and Second Draw PPP loans and PPP loan forgiveness.
 - Vermont Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) funding: A second round of [sole proprietor grants](#), ranging from \$1,500 and \$10,000, are now open to qualifying sole proprietors on a first come, first served basis. Technical assistance resources are available at the [grant program website](#).

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:
 - [04/22 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.](#) [134 State St. \(parking lot\)](#)
 - [04/29 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.](#) [134 State St. \(parking lot\)](#)

COVID-19 Reminders:

- 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](#).

City Updates:

- The Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC) is working on creating a concrete plan for reopening. Their goal is a slow, safe, and steady reopening process. More information will be shared when available.

As most municipal operations, such as City Council meetings, are in “Group B” for the Governor’s Vermont Forward Plan, the City is working on creating a re-opening plan to present to Council soon.



Environmental Stewardship

NO BURN ORDER

The fire department has issued a no outside burn order until further notice. With the recent dry conditions it is currently unsafe for any outdoor burning. We expect this order to be in place until at least late next week. Any questions or concerns please call Fire Chief Robert Gowans.

rgowans@montpelier-vt.org 802-371-9633.



Responsive and Responsible Government

FEDERAL FUNDING

Summer Matters Funding

In the pool opening conversation at the April 14th Council Meeting, the Summer Matters grant program was discussed as a funding opportunity for the pool. To make sure there is clarity on the amount of funding that the City’s summer programs can receive, note that the State is directing around \$1.5 million of the Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds to support programs that are not directly connected with a local school or school districts to increase program capacity in Summer 2021. The City will be participating in a seminar to learn more about this funding opportunity on April 20th.

More information can be found here: <https://www.vermontafterschool.org/summermatters/>

MORE FEDERAL FUNDING

City staff is creating a summary of potential uses for the incoming \$2.158M in federal funds. Items fall into certain categories:

- Projects and equipment which were deferred as a result of the FY20 and FY21 budget mitigation plans to address the sudden revenue losses.
- Projects and equipment which were not funding in the FY22 budget due to projected revenue shortfalls.
- Major projects in development which exceed the annual capital plan and would normally require bonding and/or multiple funding sources.
- Current projects facing budget constraints.
- New projects and economic initiatives which have been proposed in the last year or less.

We are focusing on the major projects group as having the most potential for the earmark application. Those are the furthest along in design and have the most immediate benefit, of course they tend to be the most expensive as well. Our top priority project internally is East State Street which includes a

new water line, new sewer line, the environmental benefits of a new storm water system and sewer overflow reduction. It will also result in a new rebuilt and repaved street and sidewalks. It's a \$7 Million project in all. Earmark funds could go a long way to move this along.

We will bring the full list to the council for your consideration at one of the April meetings with recommended priorities and comments on funding eligibility.

Additionally, direct applications for earmarked funds were made for the following:

1. East State St.: preliminary and final design
2. State St. Sewer & CSO Construction
3. WRRF Phase 2 Construction
4. Rec Center Renovations
5. Confluence Park
6. Public Access Restrooms
7. Cemetery Chapel Building Repairs



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.

The City Manager's office and Planning & Development Department continue to work regularly on two potential private housing projects in Montpelier. One may require use of TIF for infrastructure.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATES

Winter Trails Areas Not Open to Public Access:

Many of the winter trails we groom for skiing are on private property, and those areas are not open to the public outside of winter. We're asking people to please refrain from walking in these areas, especially the Sparrow Farm Field and other areas on either side of North St. We had a wonderful ski season this year, and our hopes to repeat it next year depend on maintaining positive relationships with landowners. Staying off these areas in the non-winter months is an important part of respecting their wishes. Luckily, winter will be here again before we know it!

April is National Volunteer Month!

And MSAC runs on volunteers. From those serving on the Advisory Council to those delivering FEAST Meals on Wheels to our homebound neighbors, without the generosity of these individuals giving their time, energy and expertise, MSAC wouldn't be able to do a fraction of what it does. Especially this past year, when required to pivot to new, pandemic-safe procedures in a short period of time, hundreds of folks have stepped up, and we really can't express our gratitude enough to all of them!

According to The Independent Sector, in 2020 volunteers were valued at a rate of \$27.20 per hour. In the past year, MSAC had roughly 220 volunteers—from those who volunteer once to those who volunteer regularly. For each volunteer who serves an hour per week, the value is over \$1,400, and many volunteer multiple hours per week. For our estimated 10,000 hours of volunteerism per year, that's well over \$272,000 worth of time donated in a single year!

In no particular order, a non-comprehensive list of the folks who volunteered this past year include:

Advisory Council members	March for Meals presenters
Fundraising Committee members	Drop-in group facilitators
Program Committee members	Class instructors
Finance Committee members	Wellness callers
Annual Survey creators	Mailing/newsletter volunteers
FEAST Meals on Wheels drivers	Document proof-readers/editors
Kitchen and dishwashing help	Technology assistants/tutors
FEAST Curbside Pick-up Meal distributors	Outdoor chore volunteers

MSAC will be creating a comprehensive list of all the individuals who volunteered this past year in the coming weeks. Stay tuned!

MSAC Members Poetry Reading (PoemCity event!)

Wednesday, April 21 | 3:00—4:15 pm | online | Free

Six exceptional poets of MSAC will be reading on Zoom. Please join us for a reading and conversation. The work of the poets covers issues from politics to gardening with humor and grace. To sign up and get the Zoom link or phone number to call, contact msac@montpeliervt.org or call 223-2518. Free and open to all!

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, April 22 | 10 am—2:30 pm | at MSAC, 58 Barre Street

Your blood donation is essential to maintaining our community's health. Currently, the Red Cross is following FDA blood donation eligibility guidance for those who have received a COVID-19 vaccination. If you have received a vaccination (or part of a vaccination), you will need to know the name of the manufacturer to determine your eligibility. To learn more about donating blood in the time of COVID and the COVID vaccine, visit: www.redcrossblood.org.

Cooking with Willing Hands

Thursday, April 29 | 11:00 am | online

Join FEAST and the Southern VT organization Willing Hands for an online cooking demo this month. This is part of the series of nutrition education events brought to you by the Central Vermont Council on Aging. Email vista@willinghands.org for more information.

FEAST Curbside TO-GO: Tuesdays & Fridays, 12-12:30 pm, served at 58 Barre St.

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](#).

FEAST at Home (Meals on Wheels) 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.



Sustainable Infrastructure

WRRF gets National Recognition:

Our *Water Resource Recovery Facility Aging Infrastructure / Organics to Energy* project was awarded Public Works project of the year for small cities through the American Public Works Association. This is a nationally competitive program and a great recognition for the City of Montpelier. Congratulations to the DPW and ESG teams!

Streets Division:

This week in the streets division crews spent time sweeping City sidewalks and streets, cleaning dirt and debris from the road shoulders, painting stop bars, performing catch basin cleaning, and installing downtown benches and other amenities. Next week all of the same work will continue, along with putting out the "Yield to pedestrian" signs in the crosswalks and pavement patching now that the asphalt plant will be open.

Water/Sewer Division:

This week in the water/sewer division crews spent time flushing hydrants, cleaning sewer manholes and catch basins, and helping the engineering division with the State Street Sewer and Stormwater survey work. Next week they will finish making the water connection to Murray Hill and work on lawn restoration after the water connection work is complete. Crews will be helping the streets division pave in the water leak holes.

Hydrant Flushing:

Next week the water/sewer division will pause flushing City fire hydrants until Murray Hill is complete and all of the water leaks have been taken care of. In the event that you experience dirty water, leave a cold water faucet running until the line clears. Work is anticipated to take 2-3 weeks to complete.

Pavement Patching of Water Leaks:

Over the past few weeks several holes in the pavement have resulted from water leaks. The asphalt plant will be opening on 4/19/2021. Since the plant will now be open, crews will be working on addressing all of the pavement patching needs that are outstanding.

STUMP DUMP:

Need to get rid of lawn debris, stumps and branches? City of Montpelier Stump Dump is open!! Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please call the City Garage at 802-223-9510 before going to dump to approve of your items!



Thoughtfully Planned Built Environment

Parklets

You can find the parklet application on the city's website [here](#).

Permits have been granted to Three Penny Taproom, Positive Pie, and J. Morgans. Two more applications are pending and should have action by tomorrow.



Employment and Personnel Announcements

January and February 2021 continued the success of the City's "Above & Beyond" Employee Recognition Award program. To explain the program briefly, the Above & Beyond program awards a \$50 bonus to an individual City employee that has demonstrated exceptional dedication in upholding the City's values while exhibiting exemplary behavior and going 'above and beyond' in their position. Our City Staff continue to do amazing jobs in the face of the overwhelming challenges that the Coronavirus pandemic has presented. The adversity and financial challenges that the City is facing has spurred many employees to go "above and beyond" the call of duty. As always, we are grateful to have such a skilled, dedicated, and exemplary workforce.

We are finishing going through the small backlog of nominations, and are presenting both January and February 2021 recipients: Geoff Wilson & Paul Grant.

Geoff Wilson

Geoff Wilson, our Water Treatment Plant Chief Operator in our DPW Department, has been working for the City for coming up to 25 years. His nominator discussed how Geoff leads by example, and that he takes huge pride in his job. He always keeps resident safety at the forefront of his mind, which is why he's been nominated for the A&B Award. His nominator highlighted that in the face of COVID-19, he went above and beyond in setting up a new split shift system for the Water Plant to ensure operator continuity and safety. Geoff was thanked for being such a great example for his team, and for putting care for people first in all he does.

Paul Grant

Paul Grant, a truck driver for our DPW Streets Division, and was nominated twice! Both nominations highlighted Paul's dedication to plowing the sidewalks through this difficult winter with a smile on his face. His nominators also discussed how Paul is often asked to go above and beyond his job description by working across divisions without complaint- mentioning that he has recently needed to help out overnight with our Water/Sewer divisions to address water leaks.

Geoff and Paul's commitment and dedication to the City and the residents of Montpelier is commendable. Thank you to Geoff and Paul, this month and always!

Municipal Job Openings:

- Afterschool Age Childcare Director. 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](#).



Reminders

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

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.

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](#)

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.

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
	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

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*)

4/28	3 rd quarter Strategic Plan update E-911 Road Naming 2 nd reading Strategic Planning Update Work Summer Meeting Schedule Home Energy Labeling Ordinance 2 nd reading Pool Opening Options Winter Operations Review? COVID 19 reopening plan? Federal Funds Plan?	5/12	FY23 Budget Process Economic Development?
5/26	Local Hazardous Mitigation Plan approval	6/9	Utility Rates Stormwater Utility Water/Sewer Master Plan District Heat Rates
6/23	Tax Rate Fund Reserves	7/14	Police Committee Report?
7/28	Social Economic Justice Committee Report?		

? = Date is tentative, may shift to a later date

PENDING ITEMS

CVPSA Report

2021 CITY OF MONTPELIER LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

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.

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

<p><u>H.48</u></p>	<p>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 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</p>
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<u>S.9</u>	An act relating to extending certain workers' compensation amendments related to COVID-19
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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

<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

<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 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
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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

<u>H.134</u>	An act relating to paid family and medical leave insurance
<u>H.139</u>	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
<u>S.55</u>	An Act relating to paid vacation leave
<u>H.93</u>	An act relating to establishing a homeless bill of rights and prohibiting discrimination against people without homes

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

<u>H.1</u>	An act relating to mental health insurance benefits
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<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->

<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 CJs provide.

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