Public Health and Safety

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates
- 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](https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/testing/where-get-tested)
  - Upcoming Montpelier Testing Dates:
    - 05/20 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 134 State St. (parking lot)
    - 05/27 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](https://www.healthvermont.gov/suicide).
- 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](https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/testing/where-get-tested).
  - Text VT to 741741 to talk with someone at the [Crisis Text Line](https://www.crisistextline.com/).
  - Call the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](https://www.national SuicidePreventionLifeline.org) at 1-800-273-8255. For more info, visit [healthvermont.gov/suicide](https://www.healthvermont.gov/suicide).
  - Get connected to Alcohol and Drug Support Services at [VT Helplink](https://www.vthelplink.org/).
  - Get self-help tips and connect to mental health services at [COVID Support VT](https://www.covidsupportvt.org/).
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: Unemployment Insurance Updates

  There are now changes to the Unemployment Insurance program and how there will be incoming changes. During the pandemic, Vermont had suspended the requirement that folks receiving Unemployment had to be actively looking for work. Beginning May 9th, the State is reinstating the work-search requirement. This means after May 9th, folks receiving Unemployment will need to actively apply for or make inquiries about 3 different jobs a week. There will be limited COVID-qualifying exemptions to this requirement, more information can be found at https://labor.vermont.gov/

City Updates:

- The City’s reopening plan has been adopted by City Council, and the summary of the plan is that a majority of all City Facilities will be open to the public July 6th, 2021.
- We are reviewing city policies in light of today’s updates from the Governor. We expect to have a clear message on these by Monday.

Environmental Stewardship

Tree Walk in Hubbard Park with John Snell:
Saturday, May 15 at 3pm - meet at New Shelter in Hubbard Park
Have you wondered how to tell a maple from an ash or a beech from a butternut? Join Tree Board chair, John Snell, in a walk around Hubbard Park to learn about trees and simply appreciate their diversity. We'll also talk about the history of the forest and how responsible forest management can enhance the health of our environment. Free, no registration required, masks and social distancing required.

Volunteer with Montpelier Parks!
Do you have a hankering to get outside and do something positive to help the community? We have a volunteer project for you! We usually host at least 1 community volunteer day every week to do something different around our parks. It might be trail work, planting trees, pulling invasive plants, working at the FEAST Farm, or something else, but you'll get to do meaningful work with our great crew and other volunteers. To sign up for our listserv email JHuettenmoser@Montpelier-vt.org.

City of Montpelier awarded Federal Funds for Hubbard Park Expansion
The City of Montpelier was awarded $258,000 from the United States Forest Service’s (USFS) Community Forest Program as matching funds to expand Hubbard Park. The funds will be used as a 50% match to acquire additional acreage for Montpelier’s beloved park behind the State House. This additional land will conserve important natural resources such as wetlands and rare natural
communities, as well as provide permanent public access for outdoor recreation. This project is part of a larger effort to ensure more community members have access to the health and wellness benefits parks and trails provide, and to work towards making Montpelier a destination for outdoor recreation. The Montpelier Parks Commission, along with partners such as the Trust for Public land, are working toward a goal for all residents to be able to access greenspace within a 10-minut walk from home.

**Tree Work on Statehouse Trail to Hubbard Park:**
Work will begin in the next few weeks on removing some of the dead and hazardous trees—mostly Red Pine—along the Statehouse Trail that leads to the Hubbard Park tower. Buildings and General Services (BGS) is in charge of the project which will be completed by a contractor they are selecting. The Tree Board, Parks and Trees and the Vermont Forests and Recreation Agency have worked closely with BGS to develop the project over the past two years. We expect the work may take place over several weeks during which time access to the trail will be monitored and, as needed, controlled by flaggers. All cut material will remain on the forest floor. We will be making a more widely dispersed public announcement shortly when we have final details but I wanted the Council to know this is coming soon.

**Responsive and Responsible Government**

**FEDERAL FUNDING - Updated**
The US Treasury issued guidelines for ARPA fund use this week. Both VLCT and ICMA are holding information sessions next week to better explain the opportunities and restrictions. We will be reviewing our lists through the lens of these guidelines. The initial review indicates that the lost revenue and water/sewer/broadband categories are most relevant to our direct needs.

City staff is creating a summary of potential uses for the incoming $2.158M in federal funds. Reminder that we will receive $1.079M this year and another $1.079M next year. 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. This will exceed the $1.079M for this year. About $400K worth will need to go into the 2022 funding.
- Projects and equipment which were not funded in the FY22 budget due to projected revenue shortfalls. These would come from the 2022 funding after the $400k already deferred.

The remaining categories will be subject to funding eligibility.

- 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.

Today we submitted applications for earmarked funds to Senator Sanders for the following:

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

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING - Updated
We begin active negotiations with the Fire Union on Tuesday the 18th and with the DPW Union on Tuesday the 25th. We meet with both Police unions on the 18th to establish a bargaining schedule.

More Housing

Possible Projects
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. The other has recently sent a notice to neighbors about a housing initiative on Northfield Street.

Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Summer Farmer’s Market
The first of the Summer Farmers Market will be held this Saturday at 133 State Street from 9-1 with over 40 vendors. We were delighted with the support folks gave the winter market—in all kinds of weather—and look forward to that same support every week this summer season.

Real Estate 101 w/ Jeanne Felmly, Free and Online
Friday, May 21|1:00 pm | Free | Zoom video or phone
Join Jeanne Felmly, a licensed Real Estate Broker with Dome Real Estate Group, for her annual MSAC discussion about the basics of the real estate transaction. Many people are overwhelmed by how complicated the process can become, and this workshop is designed to educate the lay person starting with the common questions: What do I have to do to prepare my home for sale? How do Real Estate professionals qualify buyers? How do I evaluate offers? Other relevant topics will include forms and disclosures required by law, representation and how the real estate community works together, what to expect from a home inspection and the potential impact of the sale and much more. Jeanne is a longtime volunteer at MSAC’s FEAST Together, serving lunch and helping to tidy up the community room afterwards (except when closed for pandemic!). Thanks Jeanne! Free and open to the public; email Jeanne at jeanne@domerealestategroup.com for Zoom event log-in information.

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. 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 or email us at: feast@montpelier-vt.org.

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 here. Suggested donations are $7-$10. Please call to make your reservation: 262-6288 or email us at: feast@montpelier-vt.org.

3SquaresVT in a SNAP: A simpler way to get food assistance: Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, 1 in 3 Vermont residents has experienced hardships buying groceries. 3SquaresVT, Vermont’s name for the Federal program SNAP, provides monthly monetary benefits that help Vermont residents stretch their food budgets, ensuring everyone has enough nourishing food to eat. Households in which everyone is both 60 and over or receive disability benefits may be eligible for 3Squares in a SNAP, a simpler application process that can enroll you in both food assistance and fuel assistance. Your benefits last for a period of three years before you need to enroll again, and there is no annual review process. You also have the choice whether to receive benefits on a Vermont EBT card or as cash deposited directly into your bank account. To learn more about how you can benefit from 3SquaresVT, visit vermontfoodhelp.com.

Sustainable Infrastructure

Department of Public Works General Questions:
Who is in charge of DPW? Donna Barlow-Casey is the Public Works Director
Who is in charge of the Street Division? Dan Perry is the Supervisor of the Street Division
Who is in charge of the Water Division? Sid Cushing is the Supervisor of the Water/Sewer Division.
What is the mailing address to DPW? 39 Main Street Montpelier, VT 05602
What are the phone numbers for DPW’s Divisions?
- Office (802) 223-9508
- City Garage (802) 223-9510
- Waste Water Recovery Facility (WRRF) (802) 223-9511
- Berlin Water Treatment Plant (WTP) (802) 223-1401

Who do I call/contact if there is a DPW-related issue in my neighborhood and/or to provide feedback (example: pothole that needs to be filled, feedback about new winter parking initiative, or water main break)? During business hours Monday-Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, contact Jasmine Benson at 802-223-9508. If it is after hours, contact Montpelier Police Dispatch at 802-223-3445.

Does DPW have a road work/project schedule for 2021/2022? No, we do not have a schedule yet for projects. The following information is what DPW knows so far: (this is subject to change)

- Cummings Street Reconstruction & Main Street Water Line Replacement- DPW received the preliminary engineering design from the consultant. Staff is reviewing the design/permitting documents to submit to the State of Vermont for approval. Currently anticipating construction starting in June/July. Permit was submitted to the State of VT.
• **State Street Sewer and Drainage Project:** Staff has received the preliminary engineering design for this project. City staff is working with the engineering consultant to perform smoke testing this week and help finalize the design plans. Once this project has completed final design, we will be advertising for bids. The responsible employer ordinance will be incorporated within this project. Currently review design plans.

• **Crack Sealing:** Bids were opened for City crack sealing with Indus being the low bidder. This project is on the consent agenda for Council approval on 4/14. Start date is unknown at this time. Will start after July 1

• **Pavement Markings:** Bids were opened for City wide pavement markings with Fresh Coat being the low bidder. This work is anticipated to occur in May and be completed by mid-June. Began line striping last week.

• **Street Paving:** Bid documents have not yet been prepared. Streets will include Barre Street, Hubbard Street, and likely Pleasant view Street.

• **Hubbard Park Stormwater Project:** Working to complete the necessary permits. Project will be constructed once permits are received likely late fall.

• **Main Street Water line:** Permit was submitted to the State to replace the water line on Main Street from Liberty to Jay. Hopeful construction schedule will be between end of June and August 13th.

• **Granite Street Sidewalk Project:** Still waiting on review comments from the State. Project will be bid in the next few weeks with construction tentatively scheduled for late summer/ fall.

• **Grout Road Grant:** Applied for a grant to replace Grout Road Bridge. Waiting to hear back

• **Main Street Class II paving:** Applied for a grant to re-pave Main Street from the roundabout to Towne Hill waiting to hear back.

• **Wheel rut patching on Memorial Drive:** In-house work to be completed by DPW prior to July 1. Work will consist of patching the rut from Granite Street to Dunkin Donuts on the lane coming into town.

**Permits:**
Who do I talk to about building permits? Building permits are handled by Planning. You can contact Audra at 802-223-9506. Building permit information can also be found on the cities website at [https://www.montpelier-vt.org/779/Permits](https://www.montpelier-vt.org/779/Permits)

Who do I talk to about DPW permits? Jasmine Benson within DPW handles permits, she can be reached by phone at 802-223-9508 or email jbensen@montpelier-vt.org. DPW permits can be found on the cities website at [https://www.montpelier-vt.org/575/Public-Works-Permits](https://www.montpelier-vt.org/575/Public-Works-Permits). (This includes all permits)

**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!
12-16 Main Street Long Term Use
We have recently received a couple of inquiries about the area facing Main Street for possible private development. This raises the question of the future use of the property. Some of you may recall that a prior Council had expressed a preference for green or open space there but deferred a decision until after completion of the downtown Master Plan. That plan indicated that private development was well suited for that location. This item will be on a future agenda.

Parklets
You can find the parklet application on the city’s website [here](#).
Permits have been granted to Three Penny Taproom, Positive Pie, Julio’s, Oaks & Evelyn and J. Morgan’s.

Employment and Personnel Announcements

Municipal Job Openings:
- **Staff Accountant** The professional in this position will be responsible for accounts payable and receivable functions, construction project accounting, grant management as well as submission of state and federal fund reimbursement requests for more information click [here](#).
- **Emergency Services Dispatcher/Clerk**: This full-time career position involves the appropriate call handling of both emergency and non-emergency requests for police, fire, and emergency medical services, and determining the nature and urgency of those calls. For more information click [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
- 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
**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.

**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.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2021</th>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>November</td>
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- 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
- 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,
Upcoming Agenda Items *(TENTATIVE)* Schedule Reflects Revised Meeting Dates approved by the City Council on May 12th.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Agenda Items</th>
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| 5/26   | Local Hazardous Mitigation Plan approval  
MEAC Energy Use update  
Housing Task Force  
Federal Funds Update/Plan  
Mask Ordinance Update |
| 6/9    | Utility Rates  
Stormwater Utility  
Water/Sewer Master Plan  
District Heat Rates  
Stormwater Master Plan update |
| 6/16   | Fund Reserves  
Economic Development  
12-16 Main Street  
FY23 Budget Process?  
MEAC/VEIC Net Zero Plan update |
| 7/7    | Set Tax Rate  
Police Committee Report?  
VEIC Net Zero Report?  
4th Quarter Financials |
| 7/21   | Social Economic Justice Committee Report?  
4th Quarter Strategic Plan |
| 8/18   |                                                                                               |
| 8/25   |                                                                                               |
| 9/8    |                                                                                               |

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

**PENDING ITEMS**
CVPSA Report  
Park Land Purchase  
MAPA for zoning

**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.48</td>
<td>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</td>
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<tr>
<td>S.9</td>
<td>An act relating to extending certain workers’ compensation amendments related to COVID-19</td>
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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

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<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.152</td>
<td>Would establish an education property tax yield for homesteads and the non-homestead property tax rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.159</td>
<td>Would create a Better Places Program to support projects that create, activate, or</td>
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</table>
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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<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.100</td>
<td>An act relating to electric bicycles</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.123</td>
<td>Would create a vehicle miles traveled tax applicable plug-in electric Vehicles</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.144</td>
<td>An Act relating to requiring inspection of wastewater systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.94</td>
<td>An act relating to transportation initiatives to reduce carbon emissions</td>
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<tr>
<td>S.44</td>
<td>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</td>
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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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<th>Bill</th>
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<tr>
<td>H.134</td>
<td>An act relating to paid family and medical leave insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.139</td>
<td>Would include employer contributions to</td>
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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

S.55
An Act relating to paid vacation leave

H.93
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.1</td>
<td>An act relating to mental health insurance benefits</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. 109</td>
<td>An act relating to parking ticket enforcement</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.126</td>
<td>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</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.145</td>
<td>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</td>
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<tr>
<td>S.19</td>
<td>An act relating to a climate change response plan and regional planning commission involvement in identifying health care-related needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>S.30</td>
<td>An act relating to prohibiting possession of firearms at childcare facilities, hospitals, and certain public buildings</td>
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<tr>
<td>S.40</td>
<td>An act relating to the use of colored signal lamps on fire department and emergency medical service vehicles</td>
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</table>
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.

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.

### 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


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<tr>
<td><strong>H.82</strong></td>
<td>An act relating to allowing municipal and cooperative utilities to offer innovative rates and services</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>H.154</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td><strong>H.164</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>S.14</strong></td>
<td>An act relating to deed restrictions and housing density</td>
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<td><strong>S.15</strong></td>
<td>An act relating to correcting defective ballots</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>S.25</strong></td>
<td>An act relating to miscellaneous cannabis regulation procedures</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>S.50</strong></td>
<td>An act relating to ranked choice voting</td>
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**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 CJC provide.

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