COVID19 Weekly Update

- Regional Health Update & VT Case Modeling Response Updates:
  - Case count and outbreak information can be found on the [VT Health Department dashboard](https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/).  
  - Vermont Modeling Updates: [The June 1<sup>st</sup> presentation can be found here.](https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/)
  - The weekly summary report on cases can be found [here](https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/) which this week it discusses cases between March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

**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](https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/testing/where-get-tested)
  - Montpelier Testing Days/Times:
    - [134 State St. (parking lot)/ Every Thursday 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.](https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/testing/where-get-tested)

**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 fully open to the public July 6th, 2021. Mask wearing is still be required inside City Facilities at this time.

COVID-19 Related Resources:

- Support for Businesses
  - Economic Recovery Bridge Program
    - The Economic Recovery Bridge Program provides $30 million in funding to businesses who can show a net loss on their 2020 federal tax returns. The program will give priority during the first 30 days to businesses that have yet to receive any state or federal financial support from COVID-19 recovery programs. The application portal will go live the week of June 7th.
  - Business Vaccine Clinics
    - If businesses are interested in creating pop-up clinics for their employees or customers or in having a vaccination booth at an upcoming event, please submit your information through the State’s Vaccine Clinic Registration form.

- Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program Reopened
  - The Vermont Housing Finance Agency is accepting applications again from Vermont homeowners who are behind on their mortgage payments due to the pandemic. This latest round of program funding provides grants for up to 12 months of past-due mortgage and property tax payments for eligible Vermont homeowners. For mortgage assistance, visit www vhfa org/map or call (888) 714-2260 to learn more and apply.

- 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 health vermont.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.

### Environmental Stewardship

**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, contact: JHuettenmoser@Montpelier-vt.org.

### Responsive and Responsible Government

**Collective Bargaining**
We are now in active negotiations with all four unions in the Police, Public Works, and Fire Departments.

### More Housing

**Possible Projects - Updated**
The housing initiative on Northfield Street received very positive feedback from neighbors. As a result, the developers are considering possible expansion of the project. The City continues to work on another potentially large housing project which could include TIF.
City Pool Updates: - Updated

The Montpelier City Pool will be operating slightly differently this year - but we plan to be open! The most important updates are:

1. Pool Hours are approximate and will be dependent on available and trained lifeguard staff and may change as needed
2. The Pool House, one of the rafts, and ¼ of the pool’s swimming area are reserved for the City’s Summer Camp program - to keep our Summer Camp youth separated to align with our licensure requirements for the program, and to keep vulnerable unvaccinated youth physically distanced from others
3. In deference to the Summer Camp program, and to keep unvaccinated youth safe, the City is requesting visitors wear masks when not actively swimming
4. Daily Pool pass prices have changed slightly - see the chart in the FAQ
5. Other information can be found in our Pool FAQ, or by reaching out to the Recreation Department at 802-225-8699

Montpelier Recreation is still hiring for Lifeguards, Pool Staff and Seasonal Maintenance!

- Click here for more information, and spread the word – great summer jobs and training available! If you have questions, please call the office at 225-8699.

Montpelier Senior Activity Center soft re-opening in June, additional programs in-person starting in July, and many programs continuing online and outdoors all summer

- MSAC and FEAST staff and volunteers are working hard on preparation for the next phase of our gradual and safe re-opening. State and City COVID guidelines will continue to be followed regarding masking, etc, and we are transitioning to self-screening for COVID symptoms and temperatures. Two dozen spring classes are happening on Zoom and outdoors currently, along with weekly FEAST meal service and bimonthly foot care clinics at MSAC. On June 14, MSAC starts registration (online, by mail and drop-off) for 34 weekly Summer class series (July-September) offered online, in-person at 58 Barre Street, and outdoors at a variety of locations including Hubbard Park, Green Mount Cemetery and others. In late June, MSAC will host selected returning drop-in groups and the Annual Membership Meeting indoors (and via Zoom video/phone), while other groups remain outdoors. During the week of July 5-9, Summer classes start, as will FEAST Curbside Picnic Inside-Outside options on Tuesdays and Fridays. We are looking at the possibility of a few senior van trips starting in August or September. To stay updated, subscribe for free to our weekly e-letter by emailing msac@montpelier-vt.org. Visit our website at www.montpelier-vt.org/msac or call 223-2518 for more information!
Zoom Trainings for Video and Phone, Open to All Ages, with Montpelier Senior Activity Center

- **Video and Phone Basics, Zoom 101**: Tuesday, June 8 | 10:00—11:30 am
- **Phone Basics, Zoom 102**: Thursday, June 17 | 2:00—3:00 pm

Have you heard about Zoom but want to try it out, learn more and practice? Join MSAC’s AmeriCorps member Andrew Gribbin to receive patient assistance. If group times aren’t convenient, he can help one on one. Contact Andrew at 262-6287 or email msac-americorps@montpelier-vt.org to sign up.

FEAST Recipe Corner: **Baked Cauliflower Tots**

- FEAST is happy to be celebrating the beginning of summer, health and nutritious veggies, so we wanted to offer you this simple, delicious recipe created by the VT Foodbank’s VT Fresh Network. All ingredients can be locally sourced. Enjoy the recipe and make enough to share with a friend (by safely delivering, of course!). Try these baked cauliflower tots for a fun twist on this nutrient rich veggie. This is a kid AND senior approved side dish or snack! Try dipping in ketchup or a savory Greek yogurt dip. This recipe makes 4-6 servings. If you have a favorite recipe you would like to feature, send it to us at FEAST@montpelier-vt.org.

Full Plates VT: Get a Box of Food!

- The Vermont Foodbank is excited to announce the launch of Full Plates VT. Full Plates VT will distribute food boxes, made up of produce and other fresh and shelf-stable items, at drive through style distributions throughout all fourteen counties in Vermont. The program is currently scheduled to run from June – September, 2021. New dates will continue to be added to the registration website so please continue to check-back for new distributions. View dates and register to pick up a box for you or a neighbor here.

FEAST Senior Meals Program of MSAC

- **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.
Multi-Use Path Closed

- The Multi-Use Bike Path, from the North Branch Bridge to Main Street is being repaved. This will require the path to be closed in this area from Wednesday (6/2) through Friday (6/4). Paving of the path will result in a 10’ wide surface as oppose to the 5’ wide surface that currently exists. The paving of the access road and parking lot located at #10 Main Street will take place next week. This will require the parking lot at #10 Main Street to be closed from Thursday (6/3) through Friday (6/4).

Thoughtfully Planned Built Environment

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. The City has applied for 2 grants at this time to renovate the space into a parklet until long-term plans are formalized. Grant updates will be shared as they are received.

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](#).
• **Seasonal Park/Recreation Maintenance Staff.** Mowing, driving tractors, maintaining sports fields, keeping parks and facilities clean. This is a busy, hands-on physical job that requires some heavy lifting and being on your feet for long periods of time. Visit [https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment](https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment) for more information about the positions available and how to apply. Or call 225-8699, 9am-4pm to inquire.

• **PAID lifeguard, seasonal maintenance and other positions** are available – preferred deadline for applications is ASAP to help us prepare for our early July opening. Learn more at the Rec website employment page: [https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment](https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment)

### Reminders

**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.

**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](https://www.orcamedia.net/series/montpelier-city-council)
- Click here for Live Stream Events: [https://www.orcamedia.net/series/live-stream-events](https://www.orcamedia.net/series/live-stream-events)

Thank you,

William Fraser, City Manager
## Upcoming Agenda Items (TENTATIVE)

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<td>Water/Sewer Rates</td>
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<td>Water/Sewer Master Plan</td>
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<td>Public Bathroom Discussion</td>
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<td>12-16 Main Street?</td>
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<td>Special call in meeting to set tax rate</td>
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<td>4th Quarter Strategic Plan Update</td>
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<td>Social Economic Justice Committee Report?</td>
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<td>4th Quarter Strategic Plan Police Committee Report?</td>
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? = Date is tentative, may shift to a different date

### PENDING ITEMS
- CVPSA Report
- Park Land Purchase
- MAPA for Zoning