

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
3/20	Design Review Committee	5:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
3/20	Special Parks Commission Meeting	6:00 PM	City Manager's Conference Room	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
3/20	Development Review Board	7:00 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
3/21	Parks Commission	6:00 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
3/21	Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee	6:00 PM	Memorial Room and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
3/22	Restroom Committee Meeting	11:30 AM	City Manager's Conference Room and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>
3/22	Regular City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	<a href="#">Agenda and Zoom Link</a>

## Improve Public Health and Safety

### **COVID-19 Updates:**

**Surveillance Report:** The State is using the COVID-19 Surveillance Report as their key public facing COVID data document. Here is the most recent [Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report for March 15, 2023](#)

- New COVID-19 cases, last 7 days: 49.84 per 100k
  - Weekly case count: 311
- New hospital admissions of patients with COVID-19, last 7 days: 5.45 per 100K
  - 34 total new admissions with COVID-19
- Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by patients with COVID-19 (7-day average): 2.86% (increase from previous week)

For this seven-day reporting period, the rate of new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Vermonters is below 200.

The [CDC's COVID-19 County-level report also has Washington County Vermont](#) as a 'low' community spread level area.

### COVID-19 Reminders:

- It is now recommended that all children, ages 6 months through 5 years, get the COVID-19 Vaccination. Find vaccination clinics [here](#), or call your preferred pharmacy.
- **Keep up to date with CDC Recommendations!** You can find the CDC's updates regarding COVID-19 on their website [here](#). They have released an updated chart regarding their quarantine and isolation guidelines [here](#)

## Provide Responsible and Engaged Government

### Annual Report

The 2023 Annual report is now available on line at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/5634> Print copies are now available at City Hall, the Library and the Senior Center.

### Council Workshop or Retreat

We'll be reviewing the current strategic plan and priorities at the next meeting. If there is a desire for a council workshop or retreat to talk about those, or group norms, or any other similar topic, I'll note that due to the calendar there are three weeks between the March 22 and April 12 meetings notwithstanding the next item in this report. That could be a good time to hold such a session. This can be decided on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Pending Legal

The City currently has no active litigation.

## Create More Housing

### Country Club Road

The City Project Team completed the three public sessions this week. The team is compiling all the public feedback along with the technical data from the site. An initial presentation will be made to the City Council on March 22<sup>nd</sup> with a follow up discussion in April for Council decisions and direction

## Improve Community Prosperity

**\*\*The Community Services Department weekly newsletter can be found at the end of this report, beginning after strategic plan items. \*\***

### Homelessness Report Update

Parker Advisors Consultants Homelessness Report and recommendations will be presented to the City Council on March 22<sup>nd</sup>

## **Community Justice Center Updates**

The MCJC is currently recruiting volunteers for our Restorative Justice Youth Panel and we are planning for a training this summer to prepare teens and young adults to serve on referred panel cases. Referrals for probation panel cases have risen recently (the restorative process is part of their court sentence) and direct referrals (pre-charge) cases are a bit fewer than in the past months. That said, we still have over 30 cases in process at any given time. Outreach efforts to people affected by crime is steady and we have conducted one mediation for the Conflict Assistance Program.

The Transitional Housing Program case referrals are steady though we do not always have space for the prospective participants. One of our two apartments is being vacated soon and a new person will be housed mid-April. One of our past participants that accessed the transitional housing program now provides the cleaning services for our apartments and continues to thrive in the community.

A new session of MCJC's Parenting with Respect Class begins 3/20/23 and runs for 10 weeks. The program serves men who are required to participate in the class by the Department for Children and Families as a condition of their case plans. The class provides a restorative approach for the men in the class to examine their attitudes and actions as parents, to learn new skills and to find ways to best parent their children. The program is undergoing an accreditation process with the VT Council on Domestic Violence and after the final review, will be eligible for funding to support the program.

Two Volunteer Forums are scheduled for 4/18/23 and 4/20/23, for volunteers to expand their knowledge and skills as they serve restorative justice panels and to hear from Invited guests to increase their understanding of the contributing factors that lead to crime in the community. Invited guests are Chief Nordenson, Tom Dunn (P&P officer) and representatives from Recovery Vermont, Treatment Associates and the Homelessness Task Force.

MCJC will also be offering Racial Literacy sessions for staff and volunteers to increase our ability to provide more equity in our program delivery. These sessions will begin in May 2023.

## **Build and Maintain Sustainable Infrastructure**

**\*\*The Department of Public Works weekly newsletter can be found at the end of this report, beginning after strategic plan items. \*\***

### **Congressional Earmarks Update**

The new system of Congressional earmarks provides for direct applications to members of the Congressional delegation. We submitted application last week to Senator Sanders for approximately \$4.5 Million for district heat to expand customers, reduce price to existing customers, and eliminate more fossil fuel emission, We submitted an application to Senator Welch this week for \$3 Million for the first phase of the water pipe replacement plan. We are considering an application to Rep. Balint for housing, particularly the Country Club Road project but would like to have more definition to that project.

**Water Distribution System Preliminary Report:** The City's consultant Engineer, Dufresne Group Engineering has completed a 90% draft report of the water distribution system. This report reviews alternatives for pressure reduction in various locations around the system compared to the current practice of aging infrastructure replacement. The report also includes the cost estimates associated with the various alternatives. The conclusion of the report provides a recommended approach. This draft report has been submitted to the State of VT Water Supply Division and is subject to change based on the comments received. The report can be found [here](#).

## Employment and Personnel Announcements

### Municipal Job Openings

Visit the City website for more information: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Jobs.aspx>

**FT Water/Sewer Truck Driver Level 1:** The person filling this position will work with a water and sewer crew performing skilled work in the construction, maintenance and repair of water distribution, raw water distribution, wastewater collection and wastewater transmission systems.

**APPLY NOW! Root To Fork Coordinator:** This position serves under the Montpelier Parks & Trees Department through the VHCB AmeriCorps Program. Starting March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, become a part of combatting food insecurity in Central Vermont through supporting the FEAST initiative of the City of Montpelier. You will work under staff supervision to support three areas of the FEAST initiative: FEAST Meals Program, FEAST Farm Program, and FEAST Farm Stand Program. More information about this position can be found on either VHCB's website ([www.vhcb.org](http://www.vhcb.org)) or the City of Montpelier Parks & Trees Department's website ([www.montpelier-vt.org/parks](http://www.montpelier-vt.org/parks)).

## Reminders

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

Thank you,



William Fraser, City Manager

## Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

<b>3/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country Club Road Update</li> <li>• Review Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Homelessness Plan</li> <li>• SEJAC Declaration of Inclusion</li> <li>• Committee Assignments</li> <li>• Group Norms</li> <li>• Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	<b>4/12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country Club Road Decisions</li> <li>• Road Maintenance update</li> <li>• Fireworks?</li> <li>• Heaton Woods Loan</li> <li>• Arts Commission presentation</li> </ul>
<b>4/26</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outside Agencies Policy</li> <li>• ADA update</li> <li>• FEAST update</li> </ul>	<b>5/10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water &amp; Sewer Budgets</li> <li>• Water &amp; Sewer Rates</li> <li>• Water &amp; Sewer Infrastructure Plan (if state completes review)?</li> <li>• Stormwater Utility</li> </ul>
<b>5/24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer Schedule</li> <li>• Casella/Leachate?</li> </ul>	<b>6/14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Heat Budget</li> <li>• District Heat Rates</li> </ul>
<b>6/28</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<b>7/12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

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

# CURRENT PENDING STRATEGIC PLAN ITEMS

Topics from the FY22-23 City Council Strategic Plan for Future Council Agendas:

Month	Tentative Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• City Master Plan (Summer 2023)</li><li>• Homelessness Plan (March)</li><li>• Barriers to Housing (in City Plan)</li></ul> <p><i>Note: items in the recently approved plan update have not yet been scheduled</i></p>

# CURRENT PENDING PROJECTS THAT WILL NEED COUNCIL ATTENTION – not yet scheduled

- Public Restroom
- Future of Barre St. Rec Center
- 12-16 Main Street Sale
- East State Street Surface Design
- Reappraisal
- City Plan Hearings
- Confluence Park

## Community Services Department Report Week in Review: March 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>

- Senior Activity Center Office Hours:
  - Monday – Thursday | 8:30am – 3pm
  - Friday | Office Closed
- Recreation Department Office Hours:
  - Monday – Friday | 8:30am – 4pm
- Parks & Trees inquiries can be fielded at either office.

For all things from Community Services, go to: [www.montpelier-vt.org/cs](http://www.montpelier-vt.org/cs)

### Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC) News

Download our March Newsletter and Spring Program Guide:

<https://www.montpelier-vt.org/304/Newsletter>



- **Join the March!** The March for Meals Gala is almost here, and we need 100 people to donate \$100 to build our grassroots network – help us nourish Montpelier from Root to Fork. **Donate:** [bit.ly/MFM23Donate](http://bit.ly/MFM23Donate).

- **About the Gala: Saturday, March 18 at 5pm** Come in from the cold, cure your cabin fever, and enjoy a FEAST party with our annual March for Meals Gala on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center. Support food security and help us raise funds for our Meals on Wheels program in 2023. There will be delicious treats, a silent auction, and guest performers. To learn more, go to: [bit.ly/MFM2023](http://bit.ly/MFM2023).

- **Last Week to Register for Spring Classes:** Check out some new courses like Argentine Tango and Learn Mah-Jongg, as well as returning favorites like Reelin' & Rockin' and Staged Workshop and Performance. Sign up on our website: [www.montpelier-vt.org/MSAC](http://www.montpelier-vt.org/MSAC) or visit our office for a registration form.
- **Thank you to all who contributed and attended the Nourishing Your Mind, Body, and Soul Yoga Class!**
- **Thank you to everyone who ate with us at our St. Patrick's Day congregate lunch this past Thursday. Our next congregate lunch will be April 6<sup>th</sup>, and we'll be hosting our lunches weekly instead of biweekly! Please RSVP by calling or emailing:** FEAST Manager Eli Mutino at 802-262-6288 or email: [emutino@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:emutino@montpelier-vt.org).
  - Subscribe to our e-newsletter to learn about upcoming menu items: [www.montpelier-vt.org/304/newsletter](http://www.montpelier-vt.org/304/newsletter).
  - Learn more about FEAST by viewing our updated webpage: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/FEAST>, or on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FEASTSeniorMeals/>
- **The Many Variations of Medicare with Council on Aging Specialist Christine Melicharek [OLLI]** We unfortunately had to cancel this lecture due to Christine being stuck on snow-covered roads. But not to

fear, Christine will be joining us for the Fall 2023 OLLI Series, so folks can get ready to register for that by August. Learn more about CVCOA here: <https://www.cvcoa.org/>.

- Next week, we will conclude the spring OLLI lectures at MSAC with conversation on why there so many reasons to love trees with Montpelier Tree Board Chair John Snell. **Note:** the Spring 2023 OLLI series continues with Rick Winston's film screenings at the Savoy Theatre for the following three weeks after John Snell's presentation.
- You must register for all OLLI events in advance by going to the OLLI website: [learn.uvm.edu/olli/centralvt](http://learn.uvm.edu/olli/centralvt). You can also register over the phone by calling **802-656-5817**.  
*Programs are canceled when Montpelier schools close due to weather. Fees are \$8/program or \$40/70 for singles/couples for all 11 programs.*
- **Dumbbell Sale at MSAC:** MSAC is hosting a fundraising sale on its gently used dumbbells from the Activity Room. We're asking **\$15/pair or best offer**. Visit our front office at 58 Barre Street for more information and to see the dumbbells. Cash, check, or credit card are accepted.
- **MSAC Advisory Council Meeting:** Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> 2-3:30pm
  - Hear updates about Membership planning, grants MSAC has recently submitted to (Congressionally Directed Spending, AARP Community Challenge, Foot Clinic Grants), and all other things MSAC-related.
- **MSAC Rummage Sale | Drop Off Dates: March 27<sup>th</sup> & March 28<sup>th</sup> 9am-4pm | Sale Dates: March 31<sup>st</sup> 10am-5pm & April 1<sup>st</sup> 10am-2pm** The MSAC Rummage Sale has returned after a long pandemic pause. Join us starting on Friday, March 31st for two days of rummaging through gently used treasures supplied by you, our lovely community. We will be accepting donations for the event beginning the Monday on the week of the event, March 27th. Please drop off your items to our front office.
  - Acceptable items for the sale include: clothing, shoes, accessories, toys, housewares, linens, books, arts, jewelry, and antiques in good condition. What is not accepted are: upholstered items, electronics, large furniture, and VHS or cassette tapes.
  - **Reminder:** Saturday, April 1st is our bag sale, which means everything you can fit into a reusable bag (MSAC will have a limited supply to give out) will be **\$4!** Also, we're still looking for volunteers to help out throughout the week of the sale. If you have a pick-up truck for transportation of unsold items, we would especially like to talk to you. Call our office with questions: [802-223-2518](tel:802-223-2518).
- **Seeking Some Fun?** Join our wide variety of drop-in groups, most open to all ages. Hankingering for music? Poetry? Drumming? Dancing? Community service? Games? Coffee & Conversation? Book discussions? Meals? Drag Bingo? We've got it all!



## Drop In Groups

*\$5 suggested donation appreciated for drop-in groups to help keep our space beautiful.*

**Coffee & Conversations** | Mondays | 9:30-10:30 am | on-going | MSAC Community Room  
**Artists Group In-Person at MSAC** | Mondays 10am-12 pm | MSAC Art Room  
**Beginner-Friendly English Country Dance** | 4 Mondays (Starts 2/27) 7-9 pm | MSAC Community Room  
**Tuesday Walks** | Tuesdays | 9:30 am | on-going | meetup locations vary week to week  
**Readers' Choice** | Tuesdays | 12:45 - 1:45 pm | MSAC Activity Room  
**Italian Group** | Tuesdays | 1:15 - 2:30 pm | MSAC Resource Room  
**Scrabble** | Tuesdays & Fridays 1-3pm | MSAC Art Room  
**Trash Tramps Outdoors** | Tuesdays | 2:00 pm | meets at 1:50 pm inside MSAC  
**Winter Poetry Group** | every other Wednesday | 10:30 am-12 pm | MSAC Resource Room  
**Crafters Group In-Person at MSAC** | Wednesdays | 12-2:30 pm | MSAC Art Room  
**Bridge** | Thursdays | 12:30-3:15 pm  
**Community Jam with Experienced Musicians** | Biweekly 1st & 3rd Thursdays | 6:15-8pm | MSAC Community Room  
**Ukulele Players** | Biweekly 2nd & 4th Thursdays | 3:30-5pm | MSAC Community Room  
**Long Life Qi Gong** | Fridays | 11:45 am - 12:15 pm | MSAC Activity Room  
**The Rhythm Method** | Fridays | 2:30 - 3:30 pm | MSAC Activity Room  
**Mah Jongg** | Fridays 1:00-3:30 pm

## Montpelier Recreation News

- **Day Camp Registration is now open!** Capital Kids is back for summer 2023, and we cannot wait for our campers to have fun after a long school year. To register, please visit our website: [www.montpelier-vt.org/rec](http://www.montpelier-vt.org/rec), or visit our office at 55 Barre Street during regular business hours for forms and more information.
- **Annual Easter Egg Hunt returns on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.** More details coming soon!
- **Program Registration** – You can deliver registration forms either:
  - In person at the Recreation Center
  - By mailing forms and payment to 58 Barre Street, or
  - Using [our online registration platform](#)

Extra registration forms and a locked drop box are in the side vestibule of 58 Barre Street (the Senior Activity Center) for after-hours use.

- **2022-23 Pickleball Open Gym**
  - The Montpelier Recreation Center offers two indoor courts. There is a 12-player maximum per session. Open gym is for adults (18+). Please bring your own paddles. The Recreation Department will supply balls to play on open gym days. All levels are welcome. See below for days and times.
  - Find us on [playerlineup.com](http://playerlineup.com). Search: "Montpelier Rec Center PB"
  - Open Gym Schedule (based on skill level)
    - **Beginner:** Mondays → 1:30 – 3:00 pm | Wednesdays → 9 – 10:30 am
    - **Beginner/Intermediate:** Thursdays → 1:30 – 3 pm

- **Intermediate:** Mondays → 9 – 10:30 am | Wednesdays → 1:30 – 3 pm | Thursdays → 1:30 – 3 pm
  - **Intermediate/Advanced:** Fridays → 9 – 10:30 am
  - **Advanced:** Tuesdays → 9 – 11 am
- Open Gym Fees:
  - **Walk-Ins:** Montpelier Residents: \$4; Non-Montpelier Residents: \$6
  - **Punch Cards (22 visits, pickleball only):** Montpelier Residents: \$45; Non-Montpelier Residents: \$60
- **2023 Spring Noontime Basketball**
  - **Are you ready to shoot some hoops?** 2023 Spring Noontime Basketball takes place in the Recreation Department gym at 55 Barre Street on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 11:45am – 1:15pm, continues through April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
  - Open Gym Fees:
    - Walk-Ins: Montpelier Residents: \$4; Non-Montpelier Residents: \$6
    - Punch Cards (22 visits, basketball only): Montpelier Residents: \$45; Non-Montpelier Residents: \$60
    - Season passes will now be pro-rated covering the sessions through the end of April: \$45 for residents and \$65 for non-residents
- **2023 Open Gym at the Recreation Center**
  - Join us at the Rec Gym this fall and winter for open gym hours! Hours are posted on our website at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/915/Rec-Center>. The Recreation Department gym is located at 55 Barre Street
  - **Open Gym:**
    - K-8 Resident \$1.50 / Non Resident \$3
    - 9-12 Resident \$2 / Non Resident \$4
    - Adult Resident \$3 / Non Resident \$6
    - Family Resident \$6 / Non Resident \$12
- **Capital Kids Afterschool Program (Winter Semester)**
  - The Capital Kids Afterschool Program is now beginning to register for the Winter semester continues through March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Learn more: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1186/After-School-Childcare>
- **Tae Kwon Do – Winter 2023**
  - Instructor Matthew Girouard welcomes beginners to join his Tae Kwon Do classes. This is a class for people who want to learn the art of Tae Kwon Do and is an instructional class. Tae Kwon Do will be offered twice a week for ten weeks.
  - There are two classes available: 2526-A is for students aged 6-8 years old, and 2526-B is for students 9 years and older. Both classes meet on Mondays and Thursdays. 2526-A meets from 5-6 pm while 2526-B meets from 6-7 pm. Class size ranges from 10-20 students.

## Montpelier Parks

- **Montpelier Youth Conservation Corps (MYCC) is looking for Summer 2023 workers!** Are you a local youth entering grades 10+? Are you interested in conservation work and helping your community? Learn more and apply on our website: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1233/MYCC>.
  - Members of the Montpelier Youth Conservation Corps (MYCC) have the opportunity to work hard and have fun as part of a small conservation focused team. This summer, MYCC will be working to protect our natural surroundings while enhancing recreational opportunities in Montpelier.
  - **Job Details:** This is a paid 30 hours/week position which runs Tuesday-Friday from 8:30am - 4:00pm. The program is available to High School aged students in Central VT. MYCC members may work on a number of projects centered on creating a more connected, sustainable Montpelier. Whether building bridges in the North Branch Park, harvesting crops at the FEAST Farm, or creating new trails in the Hubbard Park Expansion, every project is meaningful and community-based.
  - This summer we'll have two 3-week long sessions. New members can sign up for 1 session, and returning members can sign up for up to 2 sessions. During each session, crews of 5-7 corps members will rotate work on Parks, Trails, and Farm. MYCC is a great program for youth who want to do physically satisfying, community-based, paid conservation work. Reach out to Leila Faulstich-Hon at [lfaulstich@montpelier-vt.org](mailto:lfaulstich@montpelier-vt.org) with any questions.
    - Session 1: June 26 - July 14
    - Session 2: June 17 - August 4
- **APPLY NOW! Root To Fork Coordinator:** This position serves with the Montpelier Parks & Trees Department through the VHCB AmeriCorps Program. Starting March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, become a part of combatting food insecurity in Central Vermont through supporting the FEAST initiative of the City of Montpelier. You will work under staff supervision to support three areas of the FEAST initiative: FEAST Meals Program, FEAST Farm Program, and FEAST Farm Stand Program.
  - To apply, go to VHCB's website [www.vhcb.org](http://www.vhcb.org) and search for the Root to Fork Coordinator position; or visit <https://bit.ly/ParksRootToForkCoordinator>.
  - You can also go to the City of Montpelier Parks & Trees Department's website: [www.montpelier-vt.org/parks](http://www.montpelier-vt.org/parks).
- **Final versions of the Draft Management Plans are live!** [The Montpelier Parks Commission has published the final version of the draft management plans for Hubbard and North Branch River parks. To view the plans, go to: bit.ly/MPParksPlan22](#)