

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 02/16/2018

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Monday, February 19	City Hall closed in observance of President's Day
Tuesday, February 20	Design Review Committee, 5:30 P.M., City Council Chambers
Tuesday, February 20	Parks Commission, 6:00 P.M., Montpelier Senior Activity Center
Tuesday, February 20	Development Review Board, 7:00 P.M., City Council Chambers
Tuesday, February 20	Energy Advisory Committee, 7:00 P.M., City Manager's Conference Room
Wednesday, February 21	Complete Streets Committee, 5:30 P.M., City Manager's Conference Room

ATTACHMENTS...

 Storm Water Master Plan: Status Update Memo

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

One Taylor Street/Mowatt Project

Remains on schedule. Demolition of the Association for the Blind Building and Montpelier Beverage, as well as the overall site plan for the Mowatt lot, was approved by the Design Review Committee on Monday night. It now requires approval of the Development Review Board at the next meeting on Tuesday the 20th.

Fire Fighters Union Negotiations

We have reached a tentative agreement. I will send you a summary. I'd like to have the formal council ratification vote on the February 28th consent agenda.

City Manager's Review

Forms were due on the 9th. The four responses were compiled and shared in advance of the February 14th meeting. We are now checking to see whether a meeting next week will be feasible. In the meantime, please submit your forms if you have not already.

Vermont League of Cities and Towns

I have been elected to the VLCT Board of Directors to fill a vacant seat. This is my third time serving on this board. It has always proved to be beneficial to the city in the past by getting direct and timely information about legislation, state wide municipal trends and league services. My first meeting will be on March 8th.

Legal

Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) appeal of the discharge permit renewal for the Montpelier Water Resource Recovery Facility (one of eight permits under appeal) as issued by the VT Agency of Natural Resources. Parties have exchanged discovery requests (interrogatories) and engaging in settlement discussions. City represented by Joseph McLean, Esq., Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, P.C.

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Finance

The third property tax installment due date is now behind us, thank you for your timely payments. The next important due date is March 15, 2018 for water and sewer bills. If you have received your bill and it includes a letter asking you to contact us to correct a meter issue or address a consumption concern, please contact us as soon as possible to resolve the issue before the due date.

Public Works

Ice jam mitigation measures began today, Friday, due to the pending warm weather and potential for ice jam flooding. We have approval from Department of Environmental Conservation to begin effluent bypass immediately, which is now operational. The Fire Department will conduct the permit-required daily inspections of the effluent discharge over the weekend and will continue to monitor ice & river level conditions. The long reach excavator remains on stand-by in the event it is needed to assist with ice flow control.

Community Services

Parent-Child Dance

The Parent-Child Dance was a big success, with more than 350 individuals in attendance. The event raises several thousand dollars to support recreation programs. We are grateful to our many volunteers, to Shaw's and FGB Theaters for donating snacks, and to our sponsors, Vermont Mutual Insurance Group, Capitol Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, and Union Mutual.

Q&A with Montpelier City Council Candidates

Tuesday, February 20, 12-2pm

The League of Women Voters of Vermont moderates this public forum. Candidates will each give short introductory statements and timed answers to written questions. All confirmed candidates for City Council and Mayor will be invited to participate. MSAC hosts this event as a public service with no implied endorsement of any candidate(s).

February Break Day Camp

Looking for a child-care option during the upcoming February school break? Montpelier Recreation offers a great day camp each day from 7:45am-4:45pm. The Day Camps provide youngsters with a well-balanced selection of activities and is staffed by a Director and qualified counselors. We are a licensed childcare program and can accept state subsidy for eligible children. On Thursday, we'll take a fun field trip to the Upper Valley Aquatics Center. Register by February 16. Visit www.montpelierrec.org/camps or call 225-8699 to learn more. You must register in person at 58 Barre Street in Montpelier.

Palestine and Israel in Film Mondays, February 12-March 19, 6:30-9pm

Local activists with the Vermonters for Justice in Palestine, Kathy Shapiro and Mark Hage screen six films dealing with Palestine and Israel. Hosting this series does not imply endorsement of any particular position on the part of MSAC or the City of Montpelier. For a full introduction to the series, visit www.montpelier-vt.org/msacfilms. For more information on specific films, call 223-2518.

Jazzyoke: Sing to Live Music! | Friday, February 23, 6:30-9:30pm | Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre Street

Back by popular demand! Come to listen, enjoy free refreshments, and optionally, take a turn at the mic, singing jazz standards backed by a live six-piece band with lyrics provided. Free of charge (tips for the band gratefully accepted). Be prepared for a great time, and bring your friends!

Hiring Summer Staff

We have summer pool and camp positions available. Applications can be picked up at the Montpelier Recreation Department (58 Barre Street) between 9am-4pm or on our website. For more information please contact our office at 225-8699 or visit www.montpelierrec.org/jobs. Montpelier Recreation is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Apply by March 31!

TOPICS FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS...

Feb. 28	Pump Track Parklet Ordinance, 2 nd Reading Mountaineers update and requests Annual City Meeting Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Information meeting • Warning Information meeting • Charter Information meeting 	Mar 6	Annual City Meeting Election
Mar. 14	Elect Officers Ethics Policy Rules of Procedure Goals process & schedule D2 Council Seat Calendar Orientation/Information	Mar. 28	Apartment inspections Army Corps update Project Development Plan
April 11	Water Resource Recovery Facility	April 25	



William Fraser
 City Manager

City of Montpelier
Department of Public Works
Memorandum

To: William J. Fraser, City Manager

From: Thomas McArdle, Director

Date: February 14, 2018

Subject: Storm Water Master Plan: Status Update of Active and Planned Projects
Clean Water Initiatives & Storm Water Resiliency

This memorandum provides an update of projects initiated as a result of guidance & recommendations contained within the Storm Water Master Plan (SWMP). Additionally, there are projects that were subsequently identified by staff which were deemed necessary to address chronic storm water conveyance deficiencies. Although constrained to some degree by staff resources and limited funds, we have taken an aggressive approach to storm water management with a combined objective of water quality mitigation and storm water resiliency.

To accomplish these objectives, a variety of grant opportunities have been pursued over the last few years. Currently, we are partnering with the Friends of the Winooski, a non-profit river basin advocacy organization, making use of their expertise in project development, grant writing, and administrative support as well as serving as a conduit to access the Lake Champlain Basin Program funds provided by the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWCCC). We also work cooperatively with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) with regard to the Municipal Roads General Permit which is now being phased in and we are preparing to apply for coverage when the permit is ready.

For clarification purposes, it should be noted the SWMP includes assessments and recommendations for several sites located entirely on private property. For our purposes, we must limit project selection to those which relate directly to public infrastructure interests although there are many circumstances where work must extend onto private properties in order to address a public infrastructure need as part of a connected watershed. For those private sites solely related to water quality or resilience, the SWMP recommends an educational and outreach effort. In this regard, once again, we are looking to the Friends for assistance. The Friends of the Winooski has extensive experience speaking with community members about storm water's effect on water quality and community resilience and has performed on-site storm water assessments of residential properties, provided homeowners with suggestions for storm water management and has provided resources to facilitate further action to reduce storm water runoff and associated problems.

We will also be coordinating with the Conservation Commission on this front. A meeting with the Commission is being scheduled in March. The Commission has initiated a dialogue with the VSECU about storm water management options because this property was identified as a problem area in the SWMP and they are interested in continuing this effort for other properties.

As stated in a recent note from Shawn White, Friend of the Winooski River to the Montpelier

Conservation Commission:

On our end, the Friends of the Winooski River has received several stormwater-related grants for work in Montpelier:

- *A detailed stormwater assessment of the Hubbard Park Road erosion and the frog pond. This will include 100% designs for mitigation practices.*
- *Stormwater mitigation design for the Chestnut Hill neighborhood*
- *Stormwater assessment and design at Montpelier High School (we hope to include the dirt parking lot, which is also being eyed by VSECU for overflow parking)*
- *Education and Outreach in Montpelier focused on stormwater/flooding resilience*

Approved & Active Grants:

Route 302 unnamed stream channel: 2017 Ecosystem Restoration Grant (ERP) “Managing Storm Water & Reducing Sediment Loads to the Stevens Branch River” – (\$42,000 grant / \$22,500 local match) An RFP was issued to select a consultant to undertake planning, feasibility & design for a 70 acre drainage area to manage sediment loads resulting from stream channel instability. The drainage area includes a portion of Stonewall Meadows and a section of Berlin Street properties. The consultant was recently chosen and assigned a work plan completion date of October, 2018. Upon completion, a grant application will be prepared to obtain funding for project implementation.

Crestview Drive Culvert: Better Roads Grant - Category D: replacement. This project will consist of replacing an aging culvert and addressing culvert outlet erosion. Not in SWMP but will benefit water quality.

Chestnut Hill Storm Water Mitigation Study & Design: Lake Champlain Basin Program: This grant application was a collaborative effort with the Friends of the Winooski and awarded in the City’s name. The Friends are taking the lead on the grant management with DPW staff providing technical support and RFP development. The RFP will be released in February to obtain the services of a consultant to undertake planning, feasibility & design to manage sediment loads resulting from stream channel instability – affected drainage area is a tributary of the Blanchard Brook crossing under Towne Hill Road.

Storm Water Outfall Work: Erosion issues identified through an inventory conducted by the CVRPC assisted by DPW engineering interns (related to Municipal Roads General Permit requirement). DPW is exploring a labor arrangement offered by the Vermont

Youth Conservation Commission to repair outfalls that were identified through a Better Roads Grant received in 2017.

Northfield Street Dry Swales: DPW received a Better Roads grant to construct storm water dry swales on Northfield Street. Project has been incorporated into the Northfield Street reconstruction project. Although it was identified in the SWMP, the treatment is required under a storm water permit because of new impervious development.

Hubbard Park Storm Water Final Design: The Friends of the Winooski assisted DPW & the Parks Department (Community Services) with an application for Ecosystem Restoration Grant funding through the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's Clean Water Initiative Program (CWIP) on behalf of the Friends of the Winooski River. The grant was awarded to the Friends on behalf of the City. A consultant will be selected to perform the design of systems and controls to address road related erosion impacting the park stream and pond which is tributary to the North Branch. Parks staff & VYCC will likely perform most of the work assisted by DPW.

Taylor Street reconstruction: ERP & Downtown Transportation Fund Grant for the development of storm water quality mitigation to be constructed with the street project. The project will consist of constructing raingardens as well as installing underground storm water detention structures and pervious asphalt in order to treat and store storm water runoff from Taylor Street. Managing run off from streets is a general recommendation found in the SWMP.

One Taylor Street Multi-Modal Facility: ERP Grant to construct green infrastructure associated with the One Taylor Street development. Raingardens have been designed and incorporated into the site plans so that runoff from the new impervious areas can be treated. This initiative was recognized in the SWMP.

Grant Applications Pending (Roadway and Structures):

- College Street Storm Water Dry Swales: DPW applied for a Better Roads grant (Category C) to install storm water swales on College Street. Grant application included purchasing a hydro seeder. If awarded, the project would be designed and then developed in conjunction with the FY19 College Street paving project. (see front cover of SWMP)
- Northfield Street Stream Bank Stabilization: DPW applied for a Better Roads grant (Category B) for culvert inlet / outlet stabilization to address an eroding stream bank on Northfield Street near Freedom Drive. The concern was recently brought to staff's attention by VT DEC and the Friends of the Winooski. If approved, the project will be incorporated in the Northfield Street Reconstruction project. The problem was not identified in the SWMP.

Completed Projects or Grants

- Montpelier Storm Water Master Plan
- Better Roads Grant - Category A- awarded to City with RPC assistance for SWMP project advancement and grant eligibility preparation.
- Bailey Ave parking area (curb cut drainage control)
- 438 Towne Hill Rd – new catch basin and collection alterations completed with paving project which will help reduce storm water impacts on Grandview Terrace

Other

- Street Sweeping Phosphorus Reduction Study – Chittenden County RPC & DEC Watershed Management Division (participant incl cash & in-kind contribution)
- Encouraged Heaton Woods to re-direct their roof drains to an alternative discharge point because of severe erosion of the hillside above Harrison Avenue. Ownership was receptive and the project engineer included the design in the recently completed parking lot renovations. This issue was not identified in the SWMP while other recommended SWMP modifications are pending.
- Stump Dump: Bridge stored in an area inundated by a beaver pond has been removed. Erosion control plan and ditching improvements to be completed 2018.
- Projects under consideration for future grant funding opportunities:
 - North St – high priority for future grant application. Analysis of potential increase in holding capacity for Murray Hill storm water retention basin to help mitigate stream channel unraveling.
 - Towne St / Main St – potential combination storm water management & CSO mitigation project
 - Grandview Terrace – rain garden storm water management recommendation
- Roof Top Study: DPW received a grant award from the Lake Champlain Basin Program to identify potential disconnections of private roof tops to the City's sewer system. Disconnection of roof tops from the sewer system will improve storm water quality because there will be a reduction in the volume of discharge during an overflow event.