

**CITY OF MONTPELIER
CAPITAL CITY OF VERMONT**

City Manager's Weekly Report – 4/26/2019

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

Monday, April 29	Public Art Commission, 5:00 PM, T.W. Wood Gallery, 46 Barre St.
Wednesday, May 1	Complete Streets Group, 5:30 PM, City Manager's Conference Room
Thursday, May 2	Solid Waste Management Committee, 4:00 PM, City Council Chambers
Thursday, May 2	Tree Board, 5:30 PM, Memorial Room

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT...

1 Taylor Street/Recreation Path

Construction on this project remains on schedule. Work on the Mowatt Property (Montpelier Beverage) has begun. Vermont Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn will tour the site on Monday morning at 9:30 with City Manager Fraser and others. The pedestrian bridge is being assembled and dropped into place by a large crane on May 1. Because this will occur largely in the Heney Lot (the bridge is being installed at the base of the lot), that parking will be closed for the day and permitted parkers are being allowed to use other City lots.

Public Parking Garage

We were notified by the attorney for the appellants that the group has not accepted the city's most recent proposal for settlement. This means that we will be moving into active litigation. The parties were unable to agree on alternatives which potentially changed the size, design, location and financial underpinnings of the project approved by voters. While the specifics of the negotiations are confidential, zoning concerns were never mentioned during the three meetings. We will regularly update the ongoing costs of this litigation in the weekly report.

All information on the project has been submitted to the Act 250 District Commission, and we're awaiting word on whether another hearing is needed. The Commission rejected a motion to reconsider its previous denial of three Montpelier residents who were seeking party status in the Act 250 proceedings.

Strategic Planning

Draft reports have been received from the Novak Consulting Group. We will be bringing them to the Council for final approval – hopefully at the May 8th meeting.

Legal – unchanged

The City's petition to enter the proceedings concerning GMP's re-construction of the Marshfield Dam has been approved. We are now a party to the matter, for the purpose of monitoring the information in case there is anything relevant to the city.

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Planning & Community Development

We are happy to announce that the City was awarded \$100,000 for the Downtown Transportation Fund grant that will help with implementation of the wayfinding signage project. We were also notified this week that the City received approval for an accessibility Community Development Block Grant to benefit the Kellogg

Hubbard Library elevator project. That grant was for \$75,000. Great job by Kevin Casey on both of those applications!

The Department has also reviewed proposals for Downtown Master Plan project and has scheduled interviews for next week (May 1). The steering committee that is reviewing the applications hope to have a recommendation for the May 8th Council meeting.

Police Department & Community Justice Center

Interdepartmental collaboration happening this week! Montpelier Police Department Corporal Matt Knisley and the Montpelier Community Justice Center Director, Yvonne Byrd, both attended the Ending Violence Against Women International Conference this week. In between compelling training sessions, Matt and Yvonne debriefed and considered ways they could apply what they were learning back in Montpelier, both for prevention of and in response to crimes of sexual and intimate partner violence.



Community Justice Center

The Montpelier Community Justice Center wanted to share this outcome of one of its cases to illustrate the benefits of restorative justice:

In early November the Montpelier Police referred an individual to the Montpelier Community Justice Center for defacing a building with political graffiti. This allowed the individual to participate in our Restorative Justice Alternative Program, so they could make amends without going through the court process. This can be a more timely and rewarding outcome for people who have been victims of crime.

In this case, the individual met with a Restorative Justice Panel and with the caretaker of the building. The individual heard about how their actions affected the community as well as the building caretaker. The caretaker expressed his thanks for the process being handled the way it was, and the person who offended thanked the MCJC for helping them to learn about the offense and the impact on others. The person who offended paid for

the cleanup of the defaced building and cleaned graffiti from public spaces. They said “Thank you for allowing me to participate in this process. I have learned so much about myself and my offense. ...it helped me grow and learn from my mistakes” The caretaker reported “I am so impressed with this process and the people that pushed the process. I feel there just couldn't be a more effective way to end up with these results. ... I believe keeping the process as current as possible allowed for more impact towards the violator and shows more respect to the landowner or the affected party. It's very encouraging to see that all who attended and were at the table took ownership of the problem and were part of the solution.”

This is an excellent example of the outcome we hope for with all referrals, both post- and pre-adjudication—that the person who offended learns first-hand about the harm and makes amends and the person/s affected feel that they have benefitted from the process.

Public Works

Street & water / sewer divisions:

The following is a list of work done this week:

- Paved base coat at Elm/Spring intersection
- Poured new concrete sidewalk at water leak location on Memorial Drive
- All equipment is now in non-winter mode.
- Worked on cleaning out bunker at wastewater plant organizing materials at DPWG and dump
- Sweeping streets with both units and the trackless with the broom doing road edges/bike lanes.
- Swept sidewalks
- Sign and meter repairs
- Sewer service repair on Berlin Street
- Fixed broken water main repair on Sibley
- Assist with bike path water line relocation cut and cap
- Supplied water at former Kurlee site for construction
- Sewer plug on Langdon Street
- Exploratory work on Clarendon for reconstruction project
- Checked CSOs and stations

Next week:

- Pave top coat on Elm
- Patch Spring Street from Elm to Summer
- Permanent water main trench repairs
- Complete cleaning out bunker
- Begin work on failing catch basins
- Begin cleaning storm and sanitary sewer lines
- Sod repair and permanent mailbox repairs
- Continue sweeping to get all main road shoulders clean.

One Taylor & Shared Use Path Project: Window installation and weatherproofing will continue next week. The staircases in the building are also currently being constructed. Replacement of the existing storm main is now complete and the old fuel tanks have been removed so construction of the roadway and shared use path on the Main Street side will begin next week.

The delivery and installation date for the pedestrian bridge which will span the North Branch is May 1st. Most of the parking in the 60 State Parking Lot will be prohibited while this is taking place. The bridge will be transported in three sections using oversized vehicles. Some traffic impacts are expected along State Street and Route 2 from the interstate to the site while this is occurring. The delivery of the bridge is being scheduled

around peak hour traffic times and flaggers will be used to minimize the impacts.

Shared Use Path Project (Granite St – Gallison Hill Road):

The contractor wrapped up work on the water main relocation project along Barre Street including the planned shutdown to switch over to the new main. Retaining wall work continues as does the road widening along Gallison Hill Road. Erosion prevention and sediment control measures are being implemented or improved by the contractor following a site inspection by the DEC environmental analyst for the stormwater program who concluded the project was not in full compliance with the permit.

Traffic advisory notice continues: Multiple & concurrent work zones will be active on Barre Street & Gallison Hill Road over the next several weeks. Motorists are being advised to expect construction delays and to seek alternate routes if possible or allow additional time if passing through the work zone.

Community Services

Parks

The parks and trees department had over 1,000 trees arrive to be planted as part of a couple of grants that we got this year. We also helped the Tree Board store another 200+ trees. These trees will be planted around the City and parks in the next 2 to 3 weeks. A school group came as well as an eco-AmeriCorps group to start the process of planting trees.

Upcoming Art Show –Think Spring: The Kites of Jim Thompson | MSAC Community Room | 5/21-29

MSAC member Paul Irons has generously shared his 9-kite collection for the month of May. Jim's large, colorful kites feature a beautiful cast of creatures hand painted in a style all his own and will be a welcome, springy site amidst all this rainy weather.

Korean Gourmet Meetup | Friday, May 3 | 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Korean cuisine has evolved through centuries of social and political change. Originating from ancient agricultural and nomadic traditions in Korea and southern Manchuria, Korean cuisine has evolved through a complex interaction of the natural environment and different cultural trends. Come share your Korean cooking and join the fun with the Montpelier Gourmet Cooking Meetup! All skill levels welcome! Cutlery and dishes are provided. Stove and microwave available for reheating. (This is potluck, so no cooking on site.) No alcohol, please. \$5.00 suggested (\$2.00 minimum) donation. THANKS!" For more info please message Rod through www.meetup.com/MontpelierGourmet-Cooking-Meetup/, call him at 802-236-0893, or email him at rod@infinitelasertag.com.

Remembering Our Veterans FEAST Luncheon

The 3rd annual Remembering Our Veterans luncheon will be Friday, May 24th. This well attended event falls on the Friday before Memorial Day and honors veterans and their guests with a ceremony remembering family and friends who served in the military. Guests are treated to a delicious BBQ chicken dinner with strawberry shortcake for dessert which is served by volunteers from local company CadCut. The ceremony includes an Honor Guard and Chaplain Invocation, video presentation, poetry, and music. As with all FEAST luncheons, this event is open to the public. However, seating is limited and **reservations are required by Friday, May 17th**. The program starts promptly at 11:30, seating begins at 11:00 am.

Vermont Corporate Cup - Helping Hands Needed!

The 2019 Corporate Cup 5k Race is Thursday, May 16, 2019 in Montpelier. We need help at the registration, t-shirt, and baggage tents, start and finish lines, walking judges, posting race results, and post-race pack-up! Get a FREE t-shirt! To volunteer go to our website: www.vccsar.org and click on the volunteer tab. Questions? Email volunteer@vccsar.org.

4-H State Day Seeking Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help support State Day at the Barre Auditorium on Saturday, May 11th. State Day is a day where youth from all over the state of Vermont come to do projects in public speaking, demonstrations, stage presentations, and tabletop exhibits. Volunteer judges are given a rubric, assigned to a category, and asked to judge participants in their category according to this rubric. There is typically a minimum of two judges per category. Depending on the category, judges typically arrive between 8:30 and 9:30am for orientation but can leave after they are done evaluating the projects, unless they would like to stay for awards which happen around 1:00pm. Volunteers are being sought as judges for the following areas:

- Table Tops – Static tri-fold exhibits on a topic of the youth’s choice
- Communications – Individual and Group Demonstrations, Illustrated Talk, and Public Speaking
- Action Exhibits – A presentation conducted with 4-8 youth where a step by step process is explained to the audience

If you are interested in serving as a judge, please contact Allison Smith at Allison.smith.2@uvm.edu or by calling her at 802-651-8343 x509.

Girls on the Run

Girls on the Run is seeking a substitute coach for the end of May. Due to professional and medical leave, we are seeking an individual who is passionate about running and developing self - esteem in young girls in this community. This person would be needed to help lead a lesson and run with a group of girls on three Wednesdays in May (15th; 22nd; 29th) from 4-5:30pm at the Montpelier Recreation Center. If you’re interested in coaching, or would like to learn more information, please contact Becky at rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org.

FEAST Drivers

The FEAST Senior Meals program is seeking volunteer FEAST at Home delivery drivers for the summer months. FEAST at Home drivers typically volunteer between 10:30 am and 12:30pm on a weekday of their choice. During this time, they deliver roughly ten meals to families around Montpelier or Berlin. FEAST at Home drivers are friendly, courteous, and respectful of our FEAST meals recipients. We ask that all FEAST drivers have a valid driver’s license; a working car that has passed inspection; and the ability to do a small and respectful ‘wellness check’ with each meal recipient. If you’re interested in applying for this role, please contact Becky at rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS (TENTATIVE)...

May 8	Ch. 1 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 2 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Tax Stabilization CM Apts: Complete Streets ATCM Energy Report MEAC/Finance Adopt Strategic Plan CM Summer Meeting Schedule - CM	May 22	ADA Report DPW Parking Ban debrief DPW Ch. 2 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 3 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM Five Home Farm Way - CM
June 12	Ch. 3 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 4 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM	June 26	Ch. 4 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 5 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM
July 10	Ch. 5 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 6 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM	July 24	Ch. 6 Ordinance Amendments, 2 nd PH ATCM Ch. 7 Ordinance Amendments, 1 st PH ATCM



William Fraser
City Manager