

4/22, the Montpelier City Council continued suspension of all Task Force, Committee, and Advisory Board meetings that are not required by law, through June 30th.

Mon., June 22 nd	Planning Commission	5:30 PM	Click here to view the Agenda and Zoom Access
Wed., June 24 th	Regular City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	Click here to view the Agenda and Zoom Access
Mon., June 29 th	American Red Cross Blood Drive	9:00 AM	City Hall & Montpelier Fire Department



Public Health and Safety

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) CITY OF MONTPELIER RESPONSE UPDATE

This week, we hope that all our residents have a safe and happy Summer Solstice! We want to remind residents to continue practicing 6 ft. physical distancing, wearing masks when they go outside, and to choose activities that keep them away from others. Remember- if we all take appropriate mitigation steps, we can start to make strides moving our community forward safely!

We want to share updates on the City's actions to keep residents and employees safe and healthy:

State Updates:

- **June 15, 2020:** Governor Phil Scott today an [executive order](#) to update and extend the State of Emergency in Vermont to July 15.
 - Additional guidance provided included allowing Campgrounds and marinas to operate at 100% capacity, but they must continue to follow guidance on mandatory health and safety practices and the latest travel quarantine requirements.
- **June 17, 2020:** Governor Phil Scott announced several measures to gradually ease restrictions on Vermonters in long-term care facilities, hospitals and those over the age of 65.
 - In collaboration with the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) and the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL), Vermont will begin a phased reopening of Long-Term Care Facilities.
 - Beginning June 19, 2020, outdoor visitation can resume at long-term care residential facilities. Long-Term Care Residential facilities can allow for up to two (2) visitors per resident, per day.
 - The visits must be conducted outside only and adhere to guidance issued by DAIL around social distancing temperature checks, and record keeping of all visitors.
 - Vermonters over the age of 65 are no longer required to stay home, however, there is a continued need to take special precautions when going out

- Restarting Senior Centers- Senior Centers may also begin reopening, while following the technical assistance provided by the VDH and DAIL.
- **June 19, 2020:** Governor Phil Schott held a press conference where he discussed the following:
 - Recognizing Juneteenth as an important day of celebration, and discussed the need to address systemic racism.
 - ACCD Sector Reopening Updates:
 - Effective June 26, 2020: restaurants, arts, culture, and entertainment venues can go from 25% to 50% capacity- the cap for indoor establishments is at 75 people and outdoor operations at 150 people, or 50% of their total capacity — whichever is less
 - The guidance will be provided by ACCD
 - Winooski/Burlington Outbreak: Cases are now at 101 related to this outbreak, with 2 hospitalizations and no deaths.

General City Updates:

- Recreation Updates:
 - City summer [Capital Kids Day Camp](#) will be opening this Monday, June 22nd
- The City Phase I Reopening Plan was approved by City Council Wednesday June 10th. The plan, which is still subject to change in response to State guidance, can be found [here](#).
- Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC) Updates:
 - The Governor announced that [Senior Centers could begin the process of re-opening](#), and the state posted the attached guidance and below link, which senior centers, including MSAC, participated in creating.
 - Senior Centers must individually assess their readiness, develop their plan based on lengthy and comprehensive guidance received from the state, and safely implement this plan before they can re-open. MSAC are at step one of that process and are currently assessing our readiness and developing its plan.
 - Additionally, MSAC will still have some employees on furlough until August 3 due to City budget challenges and financial decisions made during the pandemic.
 - At this time, the earliest date we expect MSAC to re-open is August 10, but at this point in time, that is only an estimate.
 - We will keep you posted in the coming days and weeks as plans move forward.

City Council's Mask Ordinance:

- City Council adopted an [Emergency Order](#) requiring the wearing of masks inside public Montpelier business establishments that went into effect Thursday June 4th.
- The order requires any person, whether an employee, a customer, or a visitor who enters a public business establishment located in the City of Montpelier to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth while inside the establishment in the presence of others, with a limited number of exceptions.
- This Order shall remain in effect until the Montpelier City Council amends, rescinds, or suspends this Order or until the Governor declares an end to the COVID-19 State of Emergency in Vermont, whichever occurs first, which is currently July 15th, unless the Governor amends that order.

Regional Aid Groups Update:

- The City is maintaining a list of situational updates and regional resources for those who may need them on the COVID-19 Response page on the website here: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1155/Coronavirus-Response>
- THRIVE has begun to scale-down the WNOC-RRCC. After Friday, May 15, the WNOC-RRCC structure will become dormant but will remain accessible if a future community emergencies.
 - However, the Community Call Center is still functioning:
 - **Community Call Center hours will be 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, open weekdays. You may call or text (802) 636-2025.**
- The Capital Area Neighborhoods (CAN) contact information:
 - MontpelierCAN@gmail.com and (802) 828-7375
- Open Meal Sites and their locations are being tracked and posted on the Montpelier Mutual Aid website: www.MontpelierMutualAid.org



Responsive and Responsible Government

POLICE CHIEF

Brian Peete began working as a City employee this past Monday. He is working on transition with Chief Facos and will assume his role as Chief on July 1st.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOLLOWUP

You will note that items from the strategic planning process have now been laid out in the projected council calendar through to next Town Meeting day. This includes clean up items from the prior year like the Personnel Plan, Tax Stabilization and resolution of the Mowatt/TKS property.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

FLAG POLICY

A draft Flag Policy is on the agenda for next week. Thanks to Council Member Richardson who did most of the work.

MONTPELIER SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER REPORT

Governor Scott has announced that senior centers may begin the process of re-starting, but Montpelier Senior Activity Center will remain closed for weeks

Governor Scott announced on June 17 that Vermont Senior Centers could begin the process of re-opening, and the state posted [this guidance](#), which some senior center staff from around the state, including MSAC, participated in creating. Despite our participation, we were taken by surprise that the announcement came this week!

Senior Centers must each assess their readiness, develop their plan based on lengthy and comprehensive guidance received from the state, and safely implement this plan before they can re-open. MSAC staff are in an early phase of that complicated process, and we will have some staff continuing on city employee furloughs until August 3 due to city budget losses during the pandemic. **At this time, the earliest date we expect MSAC to re-open inside is August 10, but that is only an estimate.** It is possible, but not definite, that some limited services or activities may resume prior to that date, inside and/or outside. It is also possible that our re-opening date will be later, particularly if a virus surge occurs in the coming weeks.

We will keep the public posted with many more details about our plans in the coming days and weeks as plans move forward, and we look forward to eventually seeing our members, volunteers, instructors, community partners and the public again in person, when we can safely gather. Thank you all for your patience and understanding as we work to keep our community safe!

THANK YOU TO THE FEAST FREE FROZEN MEAL TRANSPORT TEAM, LED BY JESSICA SANDERSON!

Special thanks to a vast collaboration of organizations and individuals who helped MSAC's FEAST program procure nearly a thousand (with more to come) free, frozen meals this week to help reduce our meal budget during Covid-19! Though the meals are different from our usual FEAST meals and not produced locally, they will save MSAC thousands of dollars in the end of FY20 and the start of FY21.

The meals were arranged and originally procured by Central Vermont Council on Aging and the VT Foodbank, stored for weeks at Capital Candy in Barre, transported by city employees of the Parks & Trees division to Montpelier High School's walk-in freezer by special arrangement with Montpelier High School's Food Service, and transported again—when space opened up-- to MSAC by FEAST volunteers Kris Clark and Mitch Osiecki. Good Taste Catering has generously agreed to donate their time in helping oversee distribution of the free, frozen meals to our FEAST program recipients in coming weeks, and FEAST Program Manager Jessica Sanderson deserves a gold medal for remotely overseeing this entire effort. Go, team!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – ESPECIALLY MONDAYS - HELP PARKS & MSAC TEAM GROW FOOD FOR FEAST SENIOR MEALS!

Would you like to help provide local older adults with fresh, local food? This summer, the Parks Department and MSAC are teaming up to grow fresh food for Montpelier Senior Activity Center's FEAST senior meals program (including Meals on Wheels). We are in need of volunteer help with weeding, planting, watering, harvesting, and more. We are looking for volunteers to sign-up to help for 2-hour shifts on Mondays (and sometimes other days). No special skills or abilities are necessary! Please bring drinking water, a mask, and work gloves. [Sign-up here](#) or email Jacqueline Huettenmoser at eco-ameriacorps@montpelier-vt.org for more information. This is the link to the sign-up sheet https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1xQZqxvV_o_4jV_yDa6t_DzfHysHG_HGAA1RDNjHJWc/edit#gid=0

FOR ANYONE SEEKING OTHER VOLUNTEER OPTIONS

In our Community Services Department (Parks, Recreation, Senior Center) or with Montpelier Mutual Aid, contact Chet Cienkowski at ccienkowski@montpelier-vt.org.

MSAC PROMOTING PUBLIC EDUCATION EVENTS NOW ONLINE!

We are pleased that some of our community partners have created online versions of events that may have been offered in our facility had we not closed for the pandemic, and more are in the works for in the future. These are free and open to the public, with registration through the partners and instructions in the descriptions.

Free Online Medicare & You Workshops (Remote on Zoom: Call-in or video)

Tuesday, June 23, 1:00-3:00 pm

Turning 65 and have questions about applying for Medicare? Confused about the options available within Medicare plans? In this workshop, we will walk you through the ins and outs of Medicare plans and options, including Parts A, B, and D prescription coverage, supplemental plans, Advantage plans, and more. Central Vermont Council on Aging provides information, counseling, and assistance to all Medicare eligible persons under the auspices of the State Health Insurance & Assistance Program. CVCOA is your local non-profit Medicare expert with nothing to sell. Our presenters are State Health Insurance Program Coordinators with knowledge of the most recent changes to Medicare. This workshop is interactive, lively and fun, so please join us! Pre-registration is required. To pre-register, call 479-0531 or email medicareworkshops@cvcoa.org. If you can't attend but have questions, or to learn about more 2020 workshops in Central Vermont, visit www.cvcoa.org or call CVCOA at 479-0531.



Sustainable Infrastructure

DON'T FLUSH THAT

Due to the public health crisis, not only is our city seeing a shortage on toilet paper, but many communities are as well. 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



William Fraser
City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (TENTATIVE)

6/24	COVID-19 5 Home Farm Way Budget Employee A&B Award – May 2020 CAN Network – Thank You to Volunteers Flag/Symbol Policy American Legion Presentation Langdon Street Proposal	7/8	COVID-19 Stormwater Master Plan Tax Stabilization Plan Mowatt/TKS Personnel Plan Set Tax rate
7/22	No meeting	8/12	Equity Action Plan implementation Design Review
8/26	Community Policing	9/9	Net Zero 2030 Plan
9/23	New Budget Process	10/14	Strategic Plan Progress Update Review 1 st quarter Budget status
10/28	Legislative Priorities 2021	11/11	(Veteran’s Day– may need to change date) Childcare Option Study
11/25	(Thanksgiving Eve – may need to change date)	12/9	Implement Housing Initiatives Budget
12/23	(near Christmas, may need to change date) Budget	1/13/21	Budget Public Hearing Strategic Plan Progress Update Review 2 nd quarter budget status
1/27/21	Budget Public Hearing Warning Public Hearing	2/10/21	City Manager review
2/24/21		3/2/21	Annual Meeting Election

REPORTS DUE:

Universal Recycling Law – Periodic updates

MDC/MA Partnerships – Periodic updates

Protect, Maintain and Improve Built Infrastructure – Update in October

Supporting the Community in Rebound from COVID 19 – Regular updates