

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
Sept. 1 st	Montpelier Transportation Infrastructure Committee	6:00-7:30 PM	Zoom Meeting	Click HERE to view Agenda and Zoom Access
Sept. 2 nd	Social & Economic Justice Advisory Committee Meeting	8:30-10 AM	Zoom Meeting	Click HERE to view Agenda and Zoom Access
Sept. 2 nd	ADA Committee Meeting	10-11 AM	Memorial Room in City Hall	Click HERE to view Agenda
Sept. 2 nd	Homelessness Task Force Meeting	11:30 – 1 PM	Zoom Meeting	Click HERE to view Agenda and Zoom Access



Public Health and Safety

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) CITY OF MONTPELIER RESPONSE UPDATE

As August wraps up, there has been an 7.53% increase in new confirmed cases in the NE Region, which is the first time cases have increased in the Northeast in four (4) weeks. This highlights the importance of continued vigilance in the face of COVID-19. As a community, we need to stay committed to wearing masks, washing our hands, physically distancing, and taking other measures to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

As a reminder to residents: [The Governor has made it mandatory to wear a mask starting August 1st](#). The State requires that masks are worn in public spaces (indoors & outdoors) when social distancing is not possible. This order applies to everyone over the age of 2, with a few health exceptions.

State Updates:

- **August 4th, 2020:** The Governor announced expanded eligibility for Economic Recovery Grants for Vermont businesses that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - At this time, eligible businesses include those with at least one W-2 employee, who have experienced a 50% or greater drop in total revenue in any one-month period from March 1, 2020 through July 31, 2020, when compared with the same month in 2019.
 - More information can be found at the [ACCD Economic Recovery Grant](#) page.

- **August 7th, 2020:** Governor Scott and the Department for Children and Families announced the launch of the Operational Relief Grant Program, to help child care programs offset pandemic-related expenses and losses.
 - [The application](#) is open through August 26th and award notices are anticipated by September 11th. Eligible applicants include child care and after school programs, summer day camps, parent child centers and agencies that serve as fiscal agents for local Children’s Integrated Services.
- **August 14th, 2020:** Governor Phil Scott announced that the [COVID-19 State of Emergency has been extended to September 15, 2020.](#)
 - [Municipalities have been given additional discretion](#) to determine gathering size limits and liquor sales regulations for their towns that can be stricter than the State’s established limits.
- **August 18th, 2020:** Governor Phil Scott announced an increase to the maximum grant award for [Economic Recovery Grants](#) for Vermont businesses negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - The increase in the maximum grant award is available to businesses in the lodging, retail, hospitality, arts, travel and event affiliated sectors that have continued capacity constraints.
- **August 28th, 2020:** Governor Scott held a press conference where he covered the following updates:
 - [The cross-state travel map has been updated.](#)
 - New funding is available through “Child Care Stabilization Infant Toddler Grants”. These grants are meant to support early care and development programs serving low income working families and young children in Vermont, particularly those serving infants and toddlers. More information can be found at the [Department for Children and Families grants website.](#)

General City Updates:

- City Hall Reopening:
 - The City Hall building is open 8:00am-4:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Appointments are highly suggested, masks and physical distancing are required.
 - The porta-johns behind City Hall and the Senior Center will remain until we are able to open City Hall full-time.
 - The City has been given a supply of reusable cloth masks by the State, and they are on the table in the hallway of City Hall- free to the community during the hours City Hall is open.

City Council’s Mask Ordinance:

- UPDATES: City Council adopted an [Emergency Order](#) requiring the wearing of masks inside public Montpelier business establishments that went into effect Thursday June 4th, and is currently in place through September 15th. This ordinance is supported and superseded by the Governor’s State-wide Mask Mandate.

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>
- 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

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER HIRING PROCESS

We received 118 applications for this key position. This week, we've spoken to 10 candidates and are working to narrow down the applicant pool. Formal interviews are planned for next week with our top candidates. We hope to be making a final decision by the end of next week.

TEMPORARY PARKLET APPROVALS

City Council has enacted a temporary parklet ordinance for the purpose of providing additional business expansion opportunities during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

- [Temporary Parklet Application](#)
 - (All applications will be submitted to the City Manager's Office at cniedermayer@montpelier-vt.org)
- [Temporary Parklet Ordinance](#)

This temporary ordinance is in place through October 25, 2020.

Approved Temporary Parklets:

- The North Branch Café (currently opting not to use it)
- Three Penny Taproom
- Julio's Cantina



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

POLICING ISSUES

We will be working through the list of 11 requests in order to provide the Council and public with factual information in order to have an informed discussion. This will include the current legal status of the issues.

I can report that we will take immediate action on one of the requests. We completely agree that all legislative advocacy efforts by city staff should be transparent to the Council and public. I will be issuing a policy directive to all staff (not just Police) about this matter.

COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATES

Montpelier Senior Activity Center Updates:

- **Fall Class Registration now open!**

Registration for our Fall Classes is now open for class series beginning the week of September 21. Twenty-five classes will be offered online; while four classes (Drawing, Painting, Rug Hooking and Tai Chi) will be taking place onsite in adherence to COVID-19 protocols. For classes with size limits, a random lottery will take place to determine class participants after the first wave of registration ends of the 2nd, but many of the classes do not have a size limit. Due to the generosity and flexibility of our instructors, most of the classes this fall will be open to city employees of all ages – so if you're a city employee and curious about class offerings at MSAC, this is a great time to investigate. For a complete list of classes, times, prices, and instructions on how to register, please visit our online class page at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/751/Classes>.

- **FREE Bone Builders Intro Sessions Outdoors with Nancy Schulz**

Monday, September 9 | 10-11:30 am & Thursday, September 17 | 10-11:30am

If you're eager to join a Bone Builders class, here's an opportunity to consider. Nancy Schulz (one of MSAC's bone builder instructors) will be offering an in-person, outdoor introduction to her zoom Bone Builders class. Participants must attend at least one session, although attendance at both sessions is strongly encouraged. The in-person sessions are intended to give participants a clear understanding of proper form to avoid the possibility of injury. All participants must bring a folding chair as well as an ankle cuff and a set of 1 or 2 lb. hand weights. The ankle cuff and hand weights may be borrowed from MSAC if the participant doesn't have their own. Please note: Although the orientation sessions occur on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, Nancy's zoom class occurs on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 10:15 to 11:30. MSAC is also offering four other Bone Builders class series this Fall. Pre-registration for the intro sessions is required. Please email Nancy to pre-register: SaddleShoes2@gmail.com. Location will be provided at time of registration.

- **FEAST Together Distantly w/MSAC Staff**

2 Fridays, September 11 & 25 | 12:30 - 1:15 pm | via Zoom

Join MSAC Staff (Director, Janna Clar and new FEAST Manager, Sarah Lipton) and other MSAC members for a digital lunch. You'll be able to ask questions, get answers and spend some time with friends, old and new! Email Harry at msac@montpelier-vt.org or call 223-2518, preferably a day or more in advance to receive Zoom link. Help from Chet is available if you're new to Zoom; just ask!

- **FEAST Senior Meals To Go! Served outside Tuesdays and Fridays, 12:00-12:30**

Served in our beautifully landscaped courtyard in front of 58 Barre Street. Requires mask-wearing and six feet distancing in line. **Meals for age 60+**, by suggested donation of \$5 – 10 with completed Annual Nutritional Survey; **Under 60**, fee of \$7-10. Reservations appreciated, and/or request vegetarian by calling **262-6288** by the previous day. All meals include milk. Next week's menu below. Full August menu available on website.

- **Tuesday 9/1:** Chicken Parmesan, Pasta, Maple Glazed Rutabaga & Dessert
- **Friday, 9/4:** Coq-au-Vin Champenoise w/mushrooms, Baby Lima Beans, Fruit Slices & Dessert

Recreation Department Updates:

The final week of day camp finished up this past week and the Rec. Dept. is busy preparing for this Fall.

- **Youth Soccer to Return this Fall**
Montpelier Rec will be offering youth soccer this fall in accordance to COVID-19 protocols. Stay tuned for registration announcement and details in the coming weeks.
- **Montpelier After School Childcare**
Montpelier Rec finalizing their licensure in order to be able to offer afterschool childcare for the Montpelier community. Open childcare staff positions are currently listed on the Rec Center webpage: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment>

MONTPELIER POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Our Police Chief Brian Peete has compiled his “Initial Organizational Assessment and Strategic Plan for the Montpelier Vermont Police Department”. He conducted this organizational assessment of the Montpelier Police Department (MPD) to gauge its status and health through his experienced lens. The health assessment then provided for the development of a generalized strategic plan MPD plans to incorporate.

This assessment drew upon several data sources, including but not limited to: interviews with MPD personnel and external stakeholders, overview research, observations of departmental culture, recent targeted statistical reporting, conversations with respected peers in policing, and current department policies and procedures. [Please find the full document linked here.](#)

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>
- Click here for Live Stream Events: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/live-stream-events>



Sustainable Infrastructure

CITY HALL ROOF REPAIR

You may have noticed some roof work being done at City Hall. We are replacing the old asphalt-roofed portions of the roof with heavy gauge standing-seam galvanized steel. We are keeping the color slate gray to closely match the original roofing which was made of gray slate. Our old roof was in dire need of repair, and we are looking forward to this roof outlasting us all. The contractor is Rodd Roofing from St. Johnsbury, VT.

DPW STREET & WATER/SEWER DIVISIONS UPDATES:

The City of Montpelier’s Department of Public Works Street Division continued shoulder work in the Deerfield/Greenfield area. Our team also completed ditching and culvert work along Finch Road. Crosswalk

and road mark painting in the school and college areas is currently being worked on due to schools being in session in September. Crosswalk signs will also be placed throughout the school zone areas to make traffic aware of pedestrians. Normal tasks continue such as street sweeping and sign repairs.

Next week our team will work on road side mowing, continue street sweeping finish up crosswalks, stop bars and painting arrows.

The City's Water/Sewer division completed the following:

- Continued cleaning the brick arch with the Vactor truck
- Water meter readings and repairs
- Pump station maintenance and daily checks
- Dig safes
- Investigated resident concerns
- Exploratory dig for district heat pipes between City Hall and the Fire Station

Next week our crew will continue with Vactor cleaning sewer lines, camera inspect sewer lines, clean more storm line catch basins, work on sleeve for district heat lines, normal pump station checks, dig safes and water meter readings and repairs

Clarendon Ave:

Hebert Excavation continues installing water service on Bailey Avenue, this will continue throughout next week, which will include abandonment of an old water service at the intersection of Bailey Avenue & Terrace Street. Once the water service installations are complete, Hebert will begin reconstruction Clarendon Avenue and Redstone Avenue.

Trash Receptacles:

Public Works continues to observe and adapt to the current level of need for pedestrian litter containment. We're seeing considerably more corrugated ending up in containers as a result of restaurant takeout. Corrugated boxes take up a lot of space! Unfortunately they're also "contaminated" by food residuals, and so cannot be recycled. In addition, there continues to be dumping of personal materials – mail, personal items, bags filled with household garbage, mailing boxes – in the mix. We've solved some of the issues by moving containers to locations that are more visible to others which changes the amount and type of materials being disposed. In the next week, we'll add a few waste containers in specific locations - near restaurants - in order to diminish the current overflow from take-out that typically occurs between collections. And, when we find discarded personal/business items that identifies the owner, we'll write to them – an effort that typically results in a change of behavior.

Taylor Street Weekly Update:

All of the underground stormwater aspects of this project have been completed. This includes:

- Replacement of the brick stormwater line
- Installation of all drywells (see attached), manholes, and catch basins
- Installation of all carrier pipes and underdrains

On Monday the future water and sewer services for the building located in the State parking lot will be installed. The services will be connected to the City's water and sewer mains and terminated outside of the City right of way. In the future Buildings & General Services will be able to pick them up and bring them to the existing building. The State has acquired all of approvals and permits necessary to service the structure with water and sewer. The excavation for this will impact the exit to One Taylor Street. GMT has planned to make the necessary adjustments to their services, this includes using the Peoples United stop on State Street for the day. The entrance to One Taylor will also be used as an exit so access for visitors and

residents of the housing units will not be impacted.

Once the water and sewer services have been installed all deep excavation work for the project will be complete and the process of excavating and rebuilding the road subbase will begin. This work will start at State Street and continue south. We expected this to begin on Wednesday and continue through the following week.

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. ***The Department of Public Works would like to remind everyone about what should NOT be flushed.*** Flushing the items listed below could cause sewer blockages, which could cause plugged and overflowing toilets, poorly draining sinks and showers, raw sewage backing up through floor drains and/or manholes overflowing onto the ground or into nearby surface waters, health hazards and nuisance odors, and this could result in increases in the City's maintenance costs and costly repair bills for involved residents.

The following items should NOT be flushed!

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- 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 scraps
- Swiffer pads
- Plastic of any kind

Thank you,

City Manager



William Fraser

Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

9/9	Net Zero 2030 Plan Public Restrooms Discussion COVID-19 Update Personnel Plan Approval Mowatt Property Funding Discussion In-Person Council Meetings Discussion	9/23	Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee New Budget Process COVID-19 Update PFAS Update Special Election Warning (if needed)
10/14	Strategic Plan Progress Update Review 1 st quarter Budget status	10/28	Legislative Priorities 2021
11/11	Veteran's Day (<i>may need to change date</i>) Childcare Option Study	11/25	Thanksgiving Eve (<i>may need to change date</i>) Preliminary Budget Discussion
12/9	Implement Housing Initiatives Strat Plan Discussion Budget	12/23	(<i>near Christmas, may need to change date</i>) Budget
1/13/21	Budget Public Hearing Strategic Plan Progress Update Review 2 nd quarter budget status	1/28/21 Thursday	Budget Public Hearing Warning Public Hearing Approve Warning Review/Approve Petitions
2/10/21	City Manager Review	2/24/21	TBD
3/2/21	Annual Meeting Election	3/10/21	Organizational Meeting

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