

| Date | Committee | Time | Location | Links |
|------|--|---------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 7/26 | Planning Commission Meeting | 5:30 PM | Zoom and City Council Chambers | Agenda and Zoom Link |
| 7/26 | Public Art Commission | 6:30 PM | Zoom and City Manager's Conference Room | Agenda and Zoom Link |
| 7/28 | Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee | 2:30 PM | Zoom and City Manager's Conference Room | Agenda and Zoom Link |



Public Health and Safety

COVID-19 Updates:

Canada will be easing travel restrictions for fully vaccinated Americans on [August 9th, 2021](#).

Data show that 99% of new COVID-19 deaths and hospitalization in the U.S. are people who are unvaccinated. The best thing you can do to keep you and your loved ones healthy is to get a safe, effective, free vaccine – learn more:

<http://healthvermont.gov/myvaccine>



Environmental Stewardship

Volunteer with Montpelier Parks!

Do you have a hankering to get outside and do something positive to help the community? We have a volunteer project for you! We usually host at least 1 community volunteer day every week to do something different around our parks. It might be trail work, planting trees, pulling invasive plants, working at the FEAST Farm, or something else, but you'll get to do meaningful work with our great crew and other volunteers.

To sign up for our listserv email, contact: JHuettenmoser@Montpelier-vt.org.

Montpelier Parks & Outdoor Recreation Survey

Montpelier Alive and the City of Montpelier Community Services Department are seeking feedback from residents that will help guide the development of parks and outdoor recreation in Montpelier for the next decade. They have released an online survey as part of a project to enhance recreational access and equity and harness outdoor recreation to boost economic development in Montpelier. The survey is available online at www.montpelieralive.org/survey.

The survey is open to anyone, regardless of town of residence, and takes about ten minutes to complete. This survey is focused on how people use Montpelier's Parks and Outdoor Recreation Facilities. Anyone who completes this survey can enter to win one of 20 \$25 gift certificates to Montpelier businesses.

The survey is part of a collaboration between Montpelier Parks and Montpelier Alive to develop higher quality outdoor recreation facilities that both serve residents and attract visitors to town. The project is made possible by a grant from Ten Minute Walk and the Trust for Public Land.



Responsive and Responsible Government

Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District offering Free Equipment and Services to Landlords of Multi-unit Housing

If you're a landlord of multi-unit housing in one of CVSWMD's 19 member towns (*see list below), we have free equipment and services (limits apply) to help you manage recycling, food scraps and other solid waste management at your housing sites.

Assistance may include:

- Free Compost pails for tenants
- Free Recycling bins for tenants
- Free Compost bins and Green Cones for on-site composting (comes with peripherals and training)
- Onsite Compost consultation
- Signage for recycling, food scrap and trash stations
- Reimbursement for Food scrap hauling for the first two months for eligible sites
- Reimbursement for projects like building compost bins and tote enclosures

This is a USDA grant-funded program that is available through mid-September only. Landlords of qualifying multi-unit properties in CVSWMD member towns can learn more and [apply on our website.](#)



More Housing

Possible Projects

The housing initiative on Northfield Street received very positive feedback from neighbors. As a result, the developers are considering possible expansion of the project. The City continues to work on another potentially large housing project which could include TIF.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Encampment Policy Update

Conversation continues about the proposed encampment response policy. Which can be found on the city's website [here](#). City Council, Park's Commissioners, and the Homelessness Task Force will be continuing to offer opportunities for public engagement and feedback at their next meetings.

Community Services Department Updates

FEAST Farm Camp

August 9—13 | 9 am—1 pm | The Community Services Department invites kids ages 7-10 to join us in growing food for our neighbors. Together we will immerse ourselves in the daily cycles of farming for a one-week session. During the week, we will plant, harvest, and taste our way through the farm. We'll also explore the surrounding ecosystem, and discover the biodiversity that helps support the food we eat. To learn more about the FEAST Farm, click [here](#). To find Camp Registration Form, click [here](#).

Parkapalooza Summer Concert Series continues at Hubbard Park!

The City of Montpelier's Community Services Department invites all to Parkapalooza, Hubbard Park's Free Summer Concert Series. This family-friendly, outdoor concert series is held at the Tuning Forks Stage in Hubbard Park and features live music from talented local and regional bands. The events are held **every Thursday from 5:30-7:30 pm for five more weeks**, with music beginning at 6pm. The musical lineup includes:

- ◆ 7/29: Sabouyouma
- ◆ 8/5: Nina Sklar and the Weather Birds
- ◆ 8/12: High Summer
- ◆ 8/19: Patti Casey and the Wicked Fine Players
- ◆ TO be rescheduled: Barika

Each event also features the Park's 100' long slip 'n slide (weather permitting), and plenty of space to roam and play outside in Hubbard Park. Parking is inside Hubbard Park, accessible via Winter St., Spring St., or Corse St. in Montpelier. Concert-goers are

encouraged to walk or carpool when possible. The events are offered free to the community, but donations will be accepted at various locations! This year's Parkapalooza is BYO everything, so bring whatever food and drink you need to keep yourself satisfied and consider these as "carry-in, carry-out" Park events.

Sponsorship is by the following local businesses: Presenting Sponsors:

Caledonia Spirits Distillery, Community National Bank, Hunger Mountain Co-op, Isham-Berwick Insurance, Vermont State Employees Credit Union. **Supporting Sponsors:** AroMed, Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce, Montpelier Construction, Noyle Johnson Group, Onion River Outdoors, Sarducci's Restaurant, Union Mutual Insurance and Vermont Compost.

Montpelier City Pool Passes and Swim Lessons are on sale now, and Pool is approaching its fourth week open!

1. The Recreation maintenance team and DPW have worked very hard to get the pool working and maintain this year after the pandemic closure!
2. Daily Pool pass prices, schedules, FAQs and closure announcements can be found on the [Pool webpage](#) or by reaching out to the Recreation Department at 802-225-8699 or email nmaurice@montpelier-vt.org.

Sampler of traditional Chinese arts and movement forms with Ellie Hayes for three weeks starting in mid-August – for all ages!

The following three class series are led by Ellie in-person at Montpelier Senior Activity Center, open to the general public, and each series cost just \$15 for MSAC members or \$40 for non-members, with financial aid is available. This is a great way to sample classes in consideration of taking longer series in Fall. Ellie is one of MSAC's highly-experienced teachers. [Click here for registration form](#) and options for many more classes, too.

Chinese Calligraphy with a twist! 3 Wednesdays, starting 8/18, 1:30-2:30pm, Ages 12+. An exploration of Chinese calligraphy. Using brush, ink and paper (\$15 materials fee) we will learn the basic strokes that make up Chinese characters, learn some simple characters, and learn about the evolution of Chinese calligraphy. As an alternative ("twist"), supplies will be provided for you to construct a special "brush" for trying sidewalk calligraphy (with water) in one session, as weather allows.

Qigong 3 Wednesdays, starts 8/18, 12:00-12:45pm, Ages 12+. Qigong exercises for health and vitality. Various forms we may be exploring: Swimming Dragon; Bone Marrow Cleansing, Nam Hoa Temple energy work; selected movements from Longevity Tree Qigong; Eight Brocades, and others.

Tai Chi Fundamentals 3 Mondays, starts 8/16, 4:00pm-4:45pm, Ages 50+. An exploration of Tai Chi principles of posture and movement, and foundational Tai Chi movements.

MSAC Advisory Council Meeting Wednesday, July 28 | 3:30-5:00pm | Zoom & In-person at MSAC Agenda items will include: Committee selection, orientation to MSAC in City / Community Services Department / budget, potential appointment of an 11th member, re-opening and summer program updates. To receive the Zoom link or phone number, contact msac@montpelier-vt.org or call 223-2518 well in advance of the meeting.

MSAC Trips return in August with a Cascades Walk and a Brunch Cruise!

We've currently got trips scheduled to walk the Cascades Trail on the North Branch Nature Center between Worcester and Elmore we well as a Brunch Cruise on the Northern Star in Lake Memphramagog near Newport. Click [here](#) to find details, flyers and registration forms.

MSAC's Annual Survey Deadline is July 30!

If you're an area older adult age 50+, your input matters to us and will help us plan the next year's services, programs and priorities! Please take ten minutes or less to fill out the Annual Survey, preferably online: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1095/Annual-Survey>,

or by paper copy picked up at MSAC's 58 Barre Street side door or requested by USPS or email. All completed online or paper surveys must reach MSAC by July 30, 2021.

MSAC is Hiring: Apply now for a September start Americorps position: Aging in Place Coordinator (deadline July 31).

The position improves quality of life for area older adults by (1) participating in development for the newly established MSAC at Home program, based on the "Village" models successful in other communities around the state and country (2) assisting MSAC's thriving FEAST Senior Meals Program, and (3) assisting seniors in accessing technology through development of MSAC's new tech-device lending library. You can find all the details and application instructions at: <http://bit.ly/36FBTzm>. Please spread the word about this great position offering professional development, a stipend, rental subsidy, and the chance to serve the community in vital ways! Application deadline is July 31.

FEAST Senior Meals Program of MSAC:

Eat Inside with Us!

All are welcome to pick up a Curbside meal on Tuesdays and Fridays to eat inside with us. Not only do we have the opportunity to eat inside together again, but there are wonderful volunteers supporting us, including the youth serving at the FEAST Farm through the Montpelier Youth Conservation Corps, as well as favorite volunteers from times past: Jeanne Felmly, Cathy White, Tina Muncy, Laura Morse, Finbar and more! Simply pickup your meal outside or inside between 12 and 12:30, and come sit down with us. Volunteers will be on hand to offer you water and collect your silverware. Enjoy your meal AND each other's company again! If you are new to the program, you will be asked to fill out a short nutritional survey. You can see our monthly menu on our website [here](#). Suggested donations are \$5-\$10, and the fee is \$7-10 if you're under age 60. Please call to make your reservation: 262-6288 or email us at: feast@montpelier-vt.org. Reservations are not required to get meals.

Friday FEAST Show-and-Tell

On Fridays at Curbside Picnics, you are invited to bring something to show, or

bring a story to tell. Thanks to Karen Evans for bringing her outstanding chocolate-coconut-peanut-butter-cow-pie last week!

Volunteer for FEAST

As we ramp back up to serving meals inside and delivering daily hot meals, we are going to need a lot more help again. If you or someone you know is interested in helping us bring nutritious, delicious meals to seniors who need them, please let us know by calling or emailing us: 802-262-6288, feast@montpelier-vt.org. We are seeking the following:

- Meals on Wheels Drivers
- FEAST Curbside Picnic Volunteers
- FEAST Special Events Volunteers
- FEAST Farm Support

Meals on Wheels is available to Montpelier and Berlin residents over 60 who need it. Our fabulous volunteers deliver a bulk pack of locally prepared frozen meals once a week, and we work to offer pandemic-safe social engagement and nutrition education too. There is no charge for meals, but donations are gladly accepted. If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving our delicious and nutritious meals on wheels, just call us at the FEAST office: 262-6288 or email us at: feast@montpelier-vt.org.



Sustainable Infrastructure

City Ends Parking Garage and Hotel Litigation FINAL UPDATE: At their meeting of July 21, 2021, the Montpelier City Council voted unanimously to end all litigation relating to appeals for a proposed Hotel and Parking Garage project in the city's downtown. The action was taken after an executive session update. The City is taking this action in conjunction with the owners of the Capitol Plaza hotel. The decision was made due to changing financial circumstances caused by appeals filed by local residents who opposed the project. "We are disappointed that a small group of individuals chose to disrupt vital downtown economic development projects and overturn the results of a local election." said City Manager William Fraser. "We are confident that the projects met all legal requirements and would have received approval." Although the City and Capitol Plaza have prevailed on virtually all substantive legal arguments, delays resulting from the appeal have made the projects' financial viability uncertain. City officials have chosen not to spend additional taxpayer money fighting for approval under the current scenario. The City has spent approximately \$1 Million dollars on this project which would have been paid from garage revenues and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) revenues. Instead, these funds will be paid by general property taxpayers. Neither the City nor the Hotel have ruled out revisiting the projects at some point in the future. The City government and the Capitol Plaza owners thank the city votes for their support of the project.

Trash and Recyclable Containers around Town

With the onset of summer and the re-opening, Public Works will be increasing our emptying of trash and recyclable containers. **Our contractor will continue Tuesday pickup and also add a Friday pickup beginning July 1 that will continue into early fall.** As may be needed, we will consider placing additional containers in areas with heavy traffic once we see the effects of the return to a “more normal” summer. Between now and July 1 Public Works will continue to monitor the level of trash being placed in the containers and remove excess waste/recycling until our contractor begins their aforementioned summer schedule. Please note that Public Works will not be emptying the entire contents of any container. For a variety of reasons this is not practical. But, as we’ve been doing throughout, we’ll manually make room, via removal, of sufficient trash or recycling to avoid spillovers and allow for continued pedestrian use.

Public Restrooms

With COVID-19 restrictions slowly being removed, more restrooms will become available to the public. This includes City Hall and the Police Station.

Staff will be advertising for members of a Public Restroom Study committee as per the Council action on Wednesday. Committee will include 2 Council Members, 2 Homelessness Task Force members, 2 members of the public, and 1 representative from Montpelier Alive. Assistant City Manager Cameron Niedermayer will be the staff for this committee.



Thoughtfully Planned Built Environment

Guertin Park, 12-16 Main Street Long Term Use [Update](#)

Problems continue with the structure in its current location. As you know, we’ve unsuccessfully pursued grants to move the structure to the 12-16 Main St area along with other improvements. We believe we can relocate the structure – without the other improvements – using city staff and equipment.

I have received another inquiry about this property, this time as a potential parking option for a new business opportunity in downtown.



Employment and Personnel Announcements

Municipal Job Openings:

- **Police Department- Patrol Officers:** The Patrol Officer is responsible for the efficient performance of required duties in conformance with the laws and the Department's rules, regulations and policies. Duties shall consist of, but are not necessarily limited to, a number of general police responsibilities necessarily necessary to the stability and safety of the community. For applications and more information, click [here](#) or email recruiting@montpelier-vt.org.
- **Staff Accountant:** The professional in this position will be responsible for accounts payable and receivable functions, construction project accounting, grant management as well as submission of state and federal fund reimbursement requests for more information click [here](#).
- **Emergency Services Dispatcher/Clerk:** This full-time career position involves the appropriate call handling of both emergency and non-emergency requests for police, fire, and emergency medical services, and determining the nature and urgency of those calls. For more information click [here](#).
- **Seasonal Park/Recreation Maintenance Staff.** Mowing, driving tractors, maintaining sports fields, keeping parks and facilities clean. This is a busy, hands-on physical job that requires some heavy lifting and being on your feet for long periods of time. Visit <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment> for more information about the positions available and how to apply. Or call 225-8699, 9am-4pm to inquire.
- **PAID lifeguard, seasonal maintenance and other positions** are available – preferred deadline for applications is ASAP to help us prepare for our early July opening. Learn more at the Rec website employment page: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/869/Employment>



Reminders

Social Worker Available to Residents

The Montpelier Police Department, the Barre City Police Department and Washington County Mental Health have partnered in providing an onsite social worker to help residents in crisis or needing an extra hand during the pandemic. Susan Lemere has been a friendly and effective presence in town for the last several month, but COVID has slowed our outreach efforts down. If you would like to speak to Susan please contact her through email at: susan.lemere@wcmhs.org or contact MPD and we can assist with connecting you to Susan.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Fraser". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

William Fraser, City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

| | | | |
|-------|---|------|---|
| 8/18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VEIC Net Zero Report – • District Heat Rates • Social Economic Justice Committee Report? • Traffic Calming (MTIC) Local Hazardous Mitigation Plan? | 8/25 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater Utility discussion • Stormwater Master Plan • Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Update • Police Committee Report • 4th Quarter Strategic Plan Update • Rec Center Update • |
| 9/8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning Session | 9/22 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative Agenda • Adopt Strategic Plan • FY23 Budget Process • Economic Development? • 12-16 Main Street Update? • |
| 10/13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st quarter financials | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • |

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

PENDING ITEMS

CVPSA Report

Park Land Purchase

MAPA for Zoning – joint meeting with Planning Commission and DRB

Conduit Policy

Housing Task Force Report follow up

WRRF Dryer Update

City Master Plan