

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
10/12	Planning Commission Meeting	5:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/12	Recreation Advisory Board	5:30 PM	Senior Center	Agenda Link
10/12	Historic Preservation	7:00 PM	Memorial Room and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
10/13	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link



Public Health and Safety

COVID-19 Response- Updated

New: Governor Scott issued a [statement](#) regarding the Biden Administration's plan to invest billions to expand rapid at-home COVID-19 tests, saying that "Increasing access to rapid at-home testing will be important as we continue moving forward and I applaud the President's focus on this important tool".

New: The State has updated their [weekly COVID-19 Data report](#). Vermont as a whole is just now seeing a decrease in cases in both vaccinated and fully vaccinated. However, reduction in cases is far greater in those who have been fully vaccinated. The case rate in the unvaccinated is still 4.3x greater than those who are vaccinated. Also, hospitalizations are also going down, but you are still 2.7x more likely to be admitted if you are unvaccinated.

The Vermont COVID-19 Data Summary for Cases between March 5th, 2020-September 22, 2021 is available for review [here](#).

The CDC continues to list Washington County has a [High Level of Community Transmission](#) and they recommend that everyone in Washington County should wear a mask in public, indoor settings.

You can now get a booster shot of Pfizer vaccine if you received your dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine six months ago or more and are:

- age 65 or older; or
- age 18 or older with certain medical conditions that put you at high risk of getting severely ill with COVID-19; or
- age 18 or older who are more likely to be exposed to or spread COVID because of where you work (including: First Responders, education staff, public transit, grocery store employees, and other);
 - Those who live or work in congregate settings will also be eligible. This includes long-term care facilities, homeless shelters, and correctional facilities
- age 18 or older and are Black, Indigenous or a person of color (BIPOC) or are age 18 or older and live with someone who is BIPOC.

More information available here: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/getting-covid-19-vaccine>

It is imperative you get your vaccinations to protect yourself and others!
Visit [healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine](https://www.healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine) to make an appointment.



Environmental Stewardship

Net Zero Action Plan Final Report

The Net Zero Action Plan was developed for the City of Montpelier in close collaboration with several City departments, the School District, and the Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee (MEAC). The purpose of the action plan is to lay out a realistic pathway to achieving the goal of net zero energy by the year 2030 without being overly prescriptive. This action plan provides helpful information that can be used to develop the necessary strategies to dramatically reduce and eventually eliminate fossil fuel use. The final report can be found [here](#).

STUMP DUMP:

Need to get rid of lawn debris, stumps, and branches? City of Montpelier Stump Dump is open!! Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Please call the City Garage at 802-223-9510 before going to dump to approve of your items!

Leaf Pickup:

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF MONTEPELIER. Commencing Monday, October 11th, 2021, and continuing until Friday, October 29, 2021, the City of Montpelier Public Works Department will be picking up bagged leaves left at the curbside. Bags should contain leaves only: No brush, garden debris or flower stalks will be accepted. Leaves raked into the street MUST be bagged for removal, and all bags must be securely tied. The

schedule is as follows:

- Mondays: Barre Street to East State Street areas.
- Tuesdays: East State Street to Main Street areas.
- Wednesdays: Towne Hill, North Street, Elm Street, Cliff Street, Court Street, Meadow areas.
- Thursdays: Terrace Street and Lower State Street area.
- Fridays: Berlin Hill, River Street, Colonial Drive, and National Life Drive areas.

If you have questions or require additional information, please call 223-9510 between 7:00 am and 3:30 pm, Monday through Thursday.



Responsive and Responsible Government

Capital Area Neighborhood Project Management RFP Issued New

The City of Montpelier is seeking Proposals from a vendor to provide a management structure and the staffing capacity to assist the City in community outreach on a neighborhood level through the Capital Area Neighborhood (CAN) program. The City's goal is to partner with a vendor who can assist in facilitating more robust community/City connection, and to act as another level of outreach and information sharing. The City has a loosely established network of neighborhood groups, called the "Capital Area Neighborhoods" that the City is aiming to reinforce and expand. The selected vendor will be responsible for maintaining and building these Capital Area Neighborhood networks, partnerships, and supportive infrastructure.

Responses are due by close of business November 3rd, 2021. [Link to the bid is available here.](#)

City-wide Reappraisal Gets Underway- Property Inspections to Begin Next Week New

This notice is to inform you that the City will be starting the process of a city-wide reappraisal of all real property soon. State law mandates that a reappraisal be conducted when the CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) falls below 85%. With property values continuing to rise, Montpelier's CLA fell to 84.44% in the State's 2020 Annual Equalization Study and will fall further in December 2021 when the 2021 Equalization Study is completed.

Anticipating this, the City issued an RFP in February 2020 and awarded a contract for the project in October 2020. The selected firm is New England Municipal Consultants of Lyndon Center, VT, the same firm that did the last city-wide reappraisal in 2010. The process will be completed for the 2023 Grand List.

The first step in this project requires representatives of New England Municipal Consultants (NEMC) to visit each property in the city to gather data. The inspection process will start in late 2021 and continue through the spring of 2023.

NEMC will mail notices to property owners in advance of conducting inspections.

Strategic Planning Process Continues: Updated

The Council has been sent individual polls to help them prioritize their preferred Initiatives that fall under these Goals and Strategies, and will finalize those at their October 13th Meeting. Council will also address the draft Vision, Mission, and Value statements at this meeting, hoping to adopt them.

DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

Montpelier is an engaged and growing city with a population that reflects cultural and economic diversity. The City balances being a hub for businesses, arts, outdoor recreation, and other cultural events with ensuring there are strong core municipal services, environmental protections, a variety of housing, and support services for all.

DRAFT MISSION STATEMENT

The City of Montpelier will be a leader in the State by providing excellent municipal services that align with community priorities through proactive communication and public engagement.

DRAFT VALUES STATEMENT

- The City of Montpelier is guided by the following core values:
- The dignity and worth of all people is recognized and respected
- The City government will be transparent and accountable.
- All City activities will be conducted in a highly ethical manner.
- Innovation is encouraged and rewarded.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the organization and community are essential.
- Climate Change is real and proper preparation must be made.
- The City will be financially responsible with public money.
- City employees are respected, treated fairly, and recognized for their commitment to the community.



Inclusive, Equitable and Engaged Community

Challenger Monument Relocation

If you're taking a walk down the bike path across from the High School, you might notice an unusual piece of stonework in front of the raised bed gardens and fruit trees. Stopping to inspect the situation, you'll discover a memorial to the Space Shuttle Challenger. This is a fitting relocation for the monument, as Christa McAuliffe, a teacher, was one of seven individuals on the Challenger mission. The stonework has spent the better part of its memorial lifespan at the base of National Life Drive and was recently moved to its new location as a permanent installation. The relocation was supported by National Life and Arts Management Services in conjunction with Montpelier's Public Works. A rededication ceremony is being planned to occur in the next few weeks.

MPD Advanced Interview Training Workshop

This week, the Montpelier Police Department has hosted an Advanced Interview Training workshop in Montpelier with officers, deputies and investigators from police agencies throughout the state. The training was provided by Mark Anderson of Anderson Investigative Services at <https://andersoninvestigative.com/>. Mark has a wealth of knowledge and experience coming from his years of service with multiple agencies including the U.S. Department of Justice, the DOJ Inspector General, and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

On behalf of MPD, we want to thank Mark and Cathy Anderson for better preparing us to provide unparalleled trauma-informed, professional law enforcement services to our community! We also want to thank the officers, investigators and deputies who attended the training and their respective agencies for the commitment to allowing them to be here. They were an outstanding group of people and we are glad to serve along side of them in service to Vermont!

Community Services Department- Updates/New

Community Services Department Shared Items / Collaborations

Volunteers needed for Senior Center, Parks, Recreation

Current volunteer needs include: people with carpentry, wall-patching and painting skills, Savoy DVD archive monitors, people willing to help with Fall outdoor chores, pumpkin-carving and park trail work, technology tutors, meals on wheels drivers and kitchen assistance.

Indoor and Outdoor Space Rentals available with Senior Center, FEAST Kitchen, Parks and Recreation

Trying to resume pandemic-paused group meet-up or schedule a one-time special event or meeting? We have affordable indoor and outdoor spaces in many shapes and locations, some with audio-visual available. We also rent out our fully licensed commercial kitchen when not in use for FEAST senior meals production. To learn more or request space at Community Services Department facilities, visit <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/337/Facility-Rentals> or call 225-8699. Masking required indoors in all city facilities by all people at this time, regardless of vaccine status.

Montpelier Parks & Trees Division items

Learn more about the [Hubbard Park Expansion Project](#) and Fundraising Campaign: Two events online and in-person (Note date changes!)

We have the opportunity to add 80 acres to Hubbard Park this year, and the campaign for the final stretch of fundraising is off to a great start. Join Parks staff and Parks Commission members to hear details and ask questions about this exciting opportunity! To learn more and pledge / donate toward our remaining goal, [click here](#).

Those who RSVP'd are being notified.

- **Wednesday, October 20, 5:30 pm at Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre St.**(limited to 30 attendees). To RSVP, email jclar@montpelier-vt.org or call 802-262-6284.If we surpass the COVID capacity, we will schedule another event.
- **Thursday, October 21, 7:30 pm on Zoom Video/Phone** For Zoom link or number, contact jclar@montpelier-vt.org or call 802-262-6284.

Preparing for Winter Walk

Saturday, October 16, 10:00am (rain date, October 17) | Free | For all ages meet at the New Shelter in Hubbard Park, Montpelier for this easy to moderate walk. Join Naturalist Gail Johnson for a walk exploring how trees and animals get ready for winter. Finding leaves that have changed color, we'll learn why they change color, and how deciduous leaves transfer food they make to the bottom of the trunk before they fall. We'll find animals and relate them to the ways animals prepare for winter: either migration, physical change, storage of food, or locating and readying a winter home. Gail has beautiful photographs and physical props to illustrate the topic. Just show up and share!

Enchanted Forest at Hubbard Park

Friday, October 29 & Saturday, October 30

Our family-friendly, enchanting event featuring a candlelit walk, art, music and more, in partnership with All Together Now, is on! Check Facebook and the website here for updates and a link to online tickets, which are selling very fast – half gone in just two days! <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1188/Upcoming-Events>

Parks Crew seeks volunteers for Pumpkin Carving, Trail Work, Farm tasks

[Join us for volunteer work days](#) that vary according to need and event. We have tasks for folks of all ages and abilities, and an upcoming need is carving pumpkins for Enchanted Forest! Please check the different tabs and sign up for a time slot [HERE](#). No need to stay for the whole time, but it's helpful for us to know how many people will be joining. Feel free to email Jacqueline at jhuettenmoser@montpelier-vt.org with questions.

Montpelier Recreation Division items

Recreation Programs and Facility Access for Youth & Adults!

We've got Tae Kwon Do for Youth & Adults, Tennis clinics for ages 6-13 and access to many outdoor facilities for drop-in pickleball, tennis and more. The gym remains closed most of the time but is available for rental; masking required inside city facilities. See our website, call 225-8699 or stop by the office at 58 Barre Street (the senior center) to get more information.

Capital Kids Afterschool Childcare Program still has space for kids from all towns!

To learn more about our affordable, state-licensed program with subsidies and available

2:30-5:30pm throughout the school year, visit <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1186/After-School-Childcare>, call the office at 802-225-8699 or email nmaurice@montpelier-vt.org with questions.

Montpelier Senior Activity Center Division items

MSAC's October 2021 *Active Times* Newsletter

Click [here](#) to read the full 12 pages of great contents, including a Director's Dispatch from Sarah Lipton, a profile on volunteer Noah Sexton, a Q&A with Americorps member Maddie Sholar, lots of updates about FEAST Senior Meals Program and the FEAST Farm, many events coming this month and next, updates on Fall classes and more announcements and resources from MSAC, Parks & Rec, and our community partners.

Got smartphone or iPad Questions? Technology Tutor Available at MSAC!

Next sessions: Friday afternoons, October 8, 15, 29, 3:30-4:30

Local high school student, Russell Clar, is available for twenty-minute appointments at Montpelier Senior Activity Center to assist seniors with smartphone set-up, settings adjustments, email questions, Google Docs, photo-editing, or bring other questions/needs and he'll do his best to help! To reserve a slot or get your name on a future list, call the MSAC main office at 223-2518 or email msac@montpelier-vt.org.

VT Home Energy Profile Clinics

Friday, Oct. 8 OR Oct. 22 | 4:00-5:30pm | Free | in-person at 58 Barre Street | Pre-registration is required

Mayor Anne Watson and the Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee, together with Efficiency VT and the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership, bring you this free clinic from MSAC's Community Room. The clinic will be most effective if you bring your own laptop or other device.

The VT Home Energy Profile is a useful tool to help homeowners assess the energy efficiency of their own home. It's generated either by answering questions about the home or by entering utility bill information. In the end, there are some recommendations to homeowners about next steps they may take to make their home more efficient. This workshop will assist attendees in filling out survey questions to get a VT Home Energy Profile for their homes, making sure it makes sense and is done correctly. To learn more:

<https://www.netzeromontpelier.org/home-energy-information-ordinance>

To pre-register and receive electronic resources via email in advance, email msac@montpelier-vt.org or call 802-223-2518 by the Wednesday prior to each event (10/6, 10/20), indicating the date you will attend and your mailing address or email address for materials distribution before or after clinics.

MSAC Advisory Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 12 | 1-2:30pm | Zoom & In-person

Agenda and last month's minutes will be posted on our [AC webpage](#). To receive the Zoom link or phone number, contact msac@montpelier-vt.org or call 223-2518.

Fall Adult and Teen Classes with MSAC: Sign up now!

We've got 32 affordable, diverse, online, in-person and hybrid options in the Arts,

Humanities, so many forms of movement, and ten options of yoga. Visit our website at <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/751/Classes>, stop by MSAC at 58 Barre Street or call us at 223-2518 to learn more or get help to register! Lots of space left in these classes in particular!

Arts & Humanities: Drawing Basics, Digital Photography, Writing Tuesdays, Opera IV, Slow Jam Drop-in Group

Movement (Non-Yoga): Bone Builders, Movement for Parkinson's & Other Neuro-movement Challenges, Somatic Movement

Yoga: Chair Yoga, Yoga for Osteoporosis & Osteopenia, Moving into Stillness: Yoga & Meditation, Moderate Yoga Thursdays

FEAST Veggie Fiesta: You are Invited to Volunteer in the Kitchen!

Montpelier's FEAST Farm has grown above and beyond...and the Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC) is seeking volunteers to help us process the beautiful produce so we can use it this fall and winter to incorporate into our FEAST Senior Meals. Join us for 1.5+ hours, and enjoy kitchen camaraderie and a special Mediterranean lunch prepared for you by our lead kitchen volunteer, a chef from Tunisia! Volunteer Fiestas will take place in the beautiful MSAC Kitchen (58 Barre St, Montpelier) on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30 – 12:30pm. If you are interested, please RSVP with your available date(s) by clicking on our [signup sheet here](#). Alternately, email feast@montpelier-vt.org or call 262-6288 to learn about volunteering in other ways with FEAST now or later this Fall.

Slow Jam Drop-in Group for Music-making, with experienced musicians | at MSAC Community Room | Biweekly Thursdays, 2nd of six dates is 10/14 | 6:15- 8:15pm| Open to public | Age 14+ | Suggested donation: \$5 per session. MSAC will offer a "Slow Jam" on an every other Thursday basis. The purpose of the Slow Jam format is to get the players familiar with the jam protocols associated with traditional and Celtic music as well as build confidence to participate in other jams. The session will start with a short instruction followed by playing familiar tunes at a slower than normal tempo and focus on playing by ear once the key of the song is announced. All acoustic instruments are welcome (no amplification please). Local musicians experienced in the jamming will lead the group. All ages and levels of playing are welcome to participate. These sessions are meant for beginning and intermediate level players with some basic familiarity with their instruments and will not include in-depth instrument instruction. These sessions focus on fun and learning. There is a suggested donation of \$5 for each session that you attend to help support MSAC and the local musician leaders. No one is turned away for inability to contribute. Registration is encouraged but not necessary. <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/DocumentCenter/View/6634/Fall-2021-MSAC-Class-Reg-Form?bidId=>

Many additional Drop-in groups (online and in-person) welcome new community members! To view the options that include Outdoor Walks, Crafting, Writing, Italian, Bridge, Scrabble and more, [visit our events page and scroll down below the special events](#).

FEAST Senior Meals Program of MSAC:

Thank you, Capstone Community Kitchen Academy!

We are grateful to Chef Joey and her team at Capstone's Community Kitchen Academy for preparing our nutritious, delicious FEAST senior meals for the month of October! This partnership ensures that we have the space and time to gear up our own kitchen and onboard our new Kitchen Manager / Chef to reopen FEAST meal production at MSAC in November.

FEAST Curbside Pick-up Meals

All seniors are welcome to pick up a Curbside meal on Tuesdays and Fridays. Simply pickup your meal outside between 12 and 12:30. 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.

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.

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



Sustainable Infrastructure

District Heat: New

City staff held a meeting for District Heat users October 7th to discuss the recent reassessment of District Heat capacity charges. It was an engaged meeting, and staff will be following up with District Heat users with a written summary of the Q&A portion of the meeting. Staff is also committed to assisting users who need assistance implementing efficiencies to their District Heat systems or who need to set up payment plans or other financial assistance plans.

Barre Street & Hubbard Street Paving:

DPW is nearing completion of the sidewalk improvements on Barre Street and Hubbard Street within the month of October final paving is scheduled.

Cummings Street Water Main Replacement:

DPW crews have finished the main lines installation and pressure and bacteria tests have all passed. Next week, crews will connect services and begin removing temporary water main.

Hubbard Park Roads/Sequential Sediment Traps:

The city will begin working on improvements along Hubbard Park with the contractor Hebert Excavation. This project will help to improve the roadway, and better manage Stormwater along Hubbard Park. There will be limited access throughout the duration of construction, please be patient while we complete this storm water project. It is anticipated the project will take 2 to 3 weeks to complete.

Granite Street Sidewalk:

The contractor Dubois Construction is working on installing concrete sidewalks on Granite Street between Barre St and the bridge. It is anticipated the project will be completed by the end of the month.



Thoughtfully Planned Built Environment

Guertin Park Gazebo Relocation: Updated

The City's zoning permits for relocating the Guertin Park structure were approved September 14th, 2021. This puts us moving it on or after September 29th. Parks and DPW had new ideas for the location of the gazebo on the 12/16 Main St. lot to better sit with the newly installed public art at 16 Main St. Staff may ask the DRC to approve amendments to the site plan at their first October meeting, and will communicate with Council if that occurs.



Employment and Personnel Announcements

Personnel Update: New

The Assistant City Manager, Cameron Niedermayer, was elected to the steering committee of the ICMA Women Leading Government Vermont Chapter on October 6th. More information about Women Leading Government can be found [here](#).

Municipal Job Openings- Updates:

Visit the City website for more information: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/Jobs.aspx>

- **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. **We have two more open officer positions.**
- **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](#). **There is one vacant position.**



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,

William Fraser, City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (*TENTATIVE*)

10/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Committee Report • Homelessness Task Force • 1st quarter financials • FY23 Budget Process • Strategic Plan, Continued • Committee Vacancies • Planning Committee Appointments • Street Closures 	10/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint meeting with Barre City to receive CVPSA Televate report. In Barre and also remote.
10/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holiday Season meeting calendar • Legislative Agenda • DID presentation • Strategic Plan Completion • 12-16 Main Street Update? • ARPA Fund Use 	11/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rec Center Update?
11/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WRRF Dryer Update 	12/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present Budget
12/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Review 	12/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Review

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

PENDING ITEMS

Conduit Policy

Housing Task Force Report follow up

City Master Plan