

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Links
12/6	Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee	8:30 AM	City Manager's Conference Room and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
12/6	Development Review Board	7:00 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
12/7	Parks Commission	6:00 PM	City Manager's Conference Room and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link
12/8	City Council Meeting	6:30 PM	City Council Chambers and Zoom	Agenda and Zoom Link



Improve Public Health and Safety

COVID-19 Response- Updated

New: Due to the currently large number of COVID-19 cases, the State is asking Vermonters who test positive for COVID-19 to isolate at home away from other people and begin reaching out to close contacts immediately. The Health Department will prioritize contact tracing to people at higher risk. You may not receive a phone call from a contact tracer, but you still need to stay home and away from others, and follow these steps to stop further spread.

New: On November 22, 2021, the Vermont Legislature was called in for a special session to consider a single piece of legislation, S.1, an act relating to temporary municipal rules in response to COVID-19. Governor Scott signed [S.1](#) into law (Act 1) on November 23, 2021.

This authorizes towns, cities, and villages to establish masking/face covering requirements through rule. A local legislative body may initially adopt the face covering rule for up to 45 days and may renew it subsequently for 30-day periods through April 30, 2022. **The City Council will be discussing this at their upcoming December 8th Council Meeting.**

Updates: The State has released their updated [Covid-19 Modeling report for this week](#). The report continues to show that COVID-19 cases are continuing to **INCREASE** in our communities. There was

a significant dip in testing, and the state contributes that to travel over the holidays. A decreased amount of testing can lead to an inaccurate infection count- but we are still seeing a 23% increase in the positivity rate over the last 7 days.

Another statistic the State has shared is that those who are not fully vaccinated were **13.5x** more likely to require hospitalization in November compared to those who are fully vaccinated & boosted. Get your vaccinations as soon as you can!

COVID-19 Reminders:

- COVID-19 vaccination appointments are open for children ages 5 to 11! Appointments for school-based and state-run clinics can be made at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/vaccines-children> or by calling 855-722-7878.
- **Update:** Anyone can now get a booster shot of vaccine- visit [healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine](https://www.healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine) to make a vaccination appointment!
- The CDC continues to list Washington County has a High Level of Community Transmission and the CDC recommends that everyone in Washington County should wear a mask in public indoor settings.
- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued its emergency temporary standard (ETS) concerning vaccination and testing requirements. City Leadership is currently working on crafting a new policy that complies more explicitly with OSHA requirements, and will present a draft for Council consideration at their December 8th, 2021 Meeting.

Winter Shelter Reminder

Good Samaritan Haven has opened their Emergency Overflow Shelter at the Christ Church on Monday November 15th. The shelter opens at 8pm nightly.



Practice Good Environmental Stewardship

Downtown Street Lights:

Department of Public Works has a contractor working to make repairs to the downtown street lights. There are a variety of issues such as GFCI issues, wiring problems and bulbs that are out.



Responsible and Engaged Government

Budget update

The Budget is completed and will be presented next Wednesday December 8, 2021. It will include proposals for ARPA funding and bonds. It does not include potential use of Infrastructure Bill money as we just don't know enough about that yet. We hope to provide you with summary information in advance of the meeting.

Winter Alternate Side Parking

Winter has arrived! Alternate Side Parking is also in effect! The City of Montpelier will begin enforcement on November 22nd, 2021. As a reminder, the Thanksgiving holiday falls on the 25th of November, which is an ODD day. Please remind all your holiday guests to park accordingly.

City of Montpelier
Winter Parking Regulations

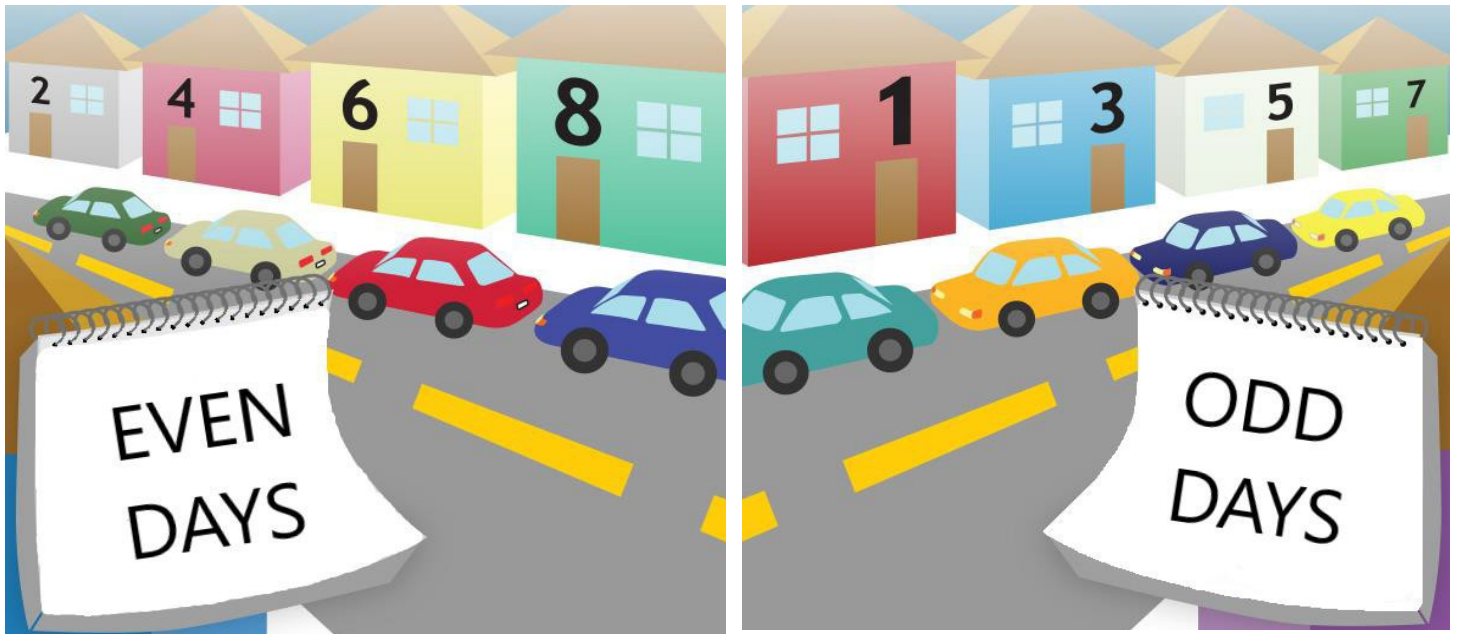
Alternate Side Parking November 15th – April 1st

Beginning on 11/22/21 vehicles parked in violation of Montpelier parking ordinance may be ticketed and towed.

Vehicles in violation of the ordinance may be issued a ticket of \$15 and a \$90 towing charge
(Rates subject to change)

For more information regarding the alternate side parking program visit the City's webpage
by using the link below:

<https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1192/Alternate-Side-Winter-Parking-Newly-Adop>



Questions? Send them to: Jasmine Benson - jbenson@montpelier-vt.org or call [802-223-9508](tel:802-223-9508)

Please follow DPW's Social Media pages for updates.

- For most of the streets the process will be daily Alternate Parking on one side of the street.
 - **12AM- 5PM:** All cars must be parked on the correct side of the street as indicated by whether building numbers are odd or even according to the calendar day. For an example, if it's January 2nd, you park on the "even" numbered side of the street and, if it's March 3rd, you park on the "odd" numbered side of the street.
 - **5PM-11:59PM:** (Transition Period) Move your vehicle to the other side of the street anytime during this transition period.
- For the downtown area, the process will be as follows:

- **1AM-6:59AM: NO PARKING** is allowed.
- **7AM-12:59AM:** Daytime parking is allowed as usual (regardless of the day)

The downtown area can best be described as the streets where parking meters are located. In addition, School Street and Loomis Street have been added due to the proximity to Union Elementary.

Pending Legal

Ferry, et al v. City of Montpelier. Filing of multiple parties seeking to invalidate the City's non-citizen voting charter amendment. The City is represented by Attorneys Michael Tarrant, Stephen Coteus, and Kimberly Devine. City's motion to dismiss was filed today.

Appeal of Zoning Permit. Neighbors have appealed DRB approval of a permit to move a barn structure. City is represented by Attorney David Rugh. We are monitoring the case but taking no position in the proceedings.

General Business Follow Up:

None this week.



Improve Community Prosperity

Community Services Department- Updates/New

Community Services Department Shared Items / Collaborations

Volunteers needed for Senior Center, Parks, and Recreation

Current volunteer needs include: Youth basketball coaches, people with carpentry, wall-patching and painting skills, Savoy DVD archive monitors, people willing to help with outdoor chores, park trail work, technology tutors, data entry, fundraising and communications projects, meals on wheels drivers, a dishwasher for a commercial kitchen, and other kitchen/cooking assistance.

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

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. To learn more or request space at Community Services Department facilities, [click here](#) 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

SeedMoney Challenge in support of FEAST Farm/Meals!

Montpelier's [FEAST Farm](#), supporting FEAST senior meals and other vulnerable populations in the community, is participating in the #SeedMoneyChallenge, a 30-day fundraising challenge, and we could really use your support! In addition to keeping the funds we raise from individuals like you, we have a chance to win a challenge grant of up to \$1,000 from SeedMoney based on how much we raise over the course of the 30-day period running from Nov 15 to Dec 15. To help, visit: donate.seedmoney.org/5832/montpelier-feast-farm.

Hubbard Park's Expansion Project and Fundraising Campaign

The campaign for the final stretch of fundraising continues (we're now within \$25K of our \$138K target), and an anonymous donor came forward to help create some incentives for the final weeks of the campaign. To learn more and pledge / donate toward our remaining goal [click here](#). **All donations are tax-deductible.** More information about the property can be found [here](#).

Want to Raise \$100 for the Hubbard Park 80-acre Expansion Project? DIY Walk/Run through the New Parcels!

We're partnering with [Onion River Outdoors](#) to set up a ~2.5 mile DIY run/walk route flagged between this weekend and mid-December! The route starts and ends at the New Shelter, where we'll have a banner on display. An anonymous donor is donating \$100 for everyone who walks the flagged route that goes through the new properties. Here's how you can participate:

1. Run or Walk the route (follow the signs!).
2. Snap a photo in front of our banner at the New Shelter.
3. Post it to Facebook or Instagram and tag Onion River Outdoors (or email to aellsworth@montpelier-vt.org)
4. Earn \$100 dollars for the [Project](#) from an anonymous donor!

We have almost \$25,000 left to raise by mid-December to finalize the purchases and forever benefit the Montpelier community. Click on the link to learn more about the [Hubbard Park 80-acre Expansion Project](#). On 12/16 or 12/17, (still TBD) Onion River Outdoors will also have a raffle to support the expansion, and 5% of sales will go to support the project. Buy a raffle ticket between now and that date for a chance to win prizes from Patagonia, Marmot and Darn Tough, plus a 16" kids bike from Batch!

Hubbard Park Expansion Project Benefit at Onion River Outdoors: 5% Day and Raffle

[Onion River Outdoors](#), at 20 Langdon Street, is doing a benefit for the [Hubbard Park 80-acre Expansion Project](#) in which **5% of all sales** on 12/16 or 12/17 (still TBD) will be donated toward the campaign's final stretch! **BONUS:** Owners Jen and Kip Roberts are also hosting a **RAFFLE**, too! Buy a raffle ticket between now and that date for a chance to win prizes from Patagonia, Marmot and Darn Tough, plus a 16" kids Batch bike! Check out all the awesome biking, skiing, outdoor activity gear, clothing and so much more at www.onionriver.com, and most importantly, shop for your holiday gift list and your own needs and wishes on the 5% day, to support the [Project](#)! **PLUS**, Onion River Outdoors is co-sponsoring a DIY Walk/Run Route on the new parcels at Hubbard Park starting the weekend of 12/4, and as a **BONUS**, each person who walks/runs the route and then posts or sends a selfie will trigger an **additional \$100 donation** from a generous, anonymous donor.

Montpelier Recreation Division items

Open Gym Restarts with Limited Evening Schedule

The Montpelier Recreation Gym at 55 Barre Street will re-open for open gym basketball at limited times: Wednesdays 7-9 pm and Fridays 7-10 pm, starting Friday, 12/3 and continuing through the first week in May (closed on holidays like 12/24 and 12/31). **Access** is for youth of all ages and adults, and youth below 7th grade must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. **Daily admission fees** for Montpelier residents are: K-8, \$1.50; 9-12, \$2.00; Adult, \$3.00; Family, \$6.00. Fees are double for non-residents. Fees can be paid to the gym supervisor at the door. **COVID guidelines:** Masks are required for all participants at all times regardless of vaccine status; anyone with COVID symptoms and/or positive exposure in the past week should stay home.

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

Winter session started recently. New families can start anytime; no requirement to attend all year. To learn more about our affordable, state-licensed program with subsidies and available 2:30-5:30pm throughout the school year and on many non-school days, 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

Volunteer Training Events 12/9 - 12/10: Join us at Montpelier Senior Activity Center to learn about opportunities!

Thursday, December 9 at 6:00-7:00pm OR Friday, December 10 at 1:00-2:00pm | In-person at MSAC Community Room | Pre-register by 12/6 | Anyone currently involved or interested in volunteering in the FEAST kitchen, as a Meals on Wheels driver, or MSAC at Home volunteer is invited to gather for an orientation about volunteer opportunities, responsibilities, safety and communications. Join MSAC Director Sarah Lipton, FEAST Program Manager Kim Myers and Aging in Place coordinator Maddie Sholar for this interactive gathering, and enjoy some cookies from our new chef! RSVP by calling 802-262- 6288 or emailing msac-amerikorps@montpelier-vt.org by Monday, 12/6.

Seeking Small Gifts for Holiday Cheer – Brighten the Day of the FEAST Meals on Wheels Recipients!

Help our FEAST team bring extra cheer to Meals on Wheels recipients this season by donating small items to include in holiday gift boxes that Westview Meadows has offered to wrap up for us. We're looking for donations of things like: small craft items, warm winter hats/scarves, small puzzles, pens/pencils, small gift cards, boxes of tea, decks of cards, small bottles of lotion/sanitizer, soaps, or whatever else strikes your fancy. We'll be putting together about 60 boxes this year, so a wide variety of options will be most welcome! Bring to MSAC by **Tuesday, December 14th** so we have time to get the boxes put together. Thanks for bringing cheer to your community!

Winter Adult/Teen Classes Registration starts Monday, December 6

MSAC has three dozen weekly classes in store for area adults (and teens!) this winter, online, in-person and hybrid. Some of the highlights include: Return of Film Appreciation to Savoy Theater with Rick Winston (World Cinema 2019-2021--What We've Missed), Hand Building with Clary led by Janice Walrafen, White Tiger Qi gong with Ellie Hayes and Advanced Beginner Guitar returning with Tom Wales. There are 36 more options in Arts, Humanities and Movement, plus a dozen drop-in groups. Materials will be available on November 24. Registration starts December 6, and more details will be included in the MSAC December newsletter. Classes start the week of January 10. Visit MSAC's [Classes webpage](#), stop by MSAC or call 223-2518 to learn more or get help to register!

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

Next sessions: Friday afternoons, 12/10, 12/17 3:30-4:30

A local high school student, Russell Clar, is available for twenty-minute appointments at MSAC to assist 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.

FEAST Senior Meals Program of MSAC:

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 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: Kitchen volunteers, Dishwashers and Meals on Wheels drivers

MSAC at Home: Supports for Aging in Place

MSAC At Home Can Help

As fall and winter come upon us, we are pleased to announce that we are accepting MSAC At Home requests! These requests can include resident-based outdoor or indoor chore assistance, opportunities for socialization, walking buddies, or technology assistance. In this short fall season, we have already provided assistance with several indoor and outdoor chores. The fall and winter seasons make for a long chore list. If you or someone you know needs a hand, contact us (below)!

Volunteer with MSAC At Home

We're recruiting volunteers for MSAC at Home. As a volunteer, you determine how much or little you can help and with what elements of the program. We now have three service elements: socialization and connection, indoor assistance, and outdoor assistance. Montpelier is a vibrant community, and volunteering with MSAC At Home offers the opportunity to meet incredible people while providing support for vital services.

The MSAC At Home program is seeking people to help with providing technology assistance to older adults. We believe that a vital component to aging in place is access to technology, the opportunity to learn how to use it, and ongoing support for tech-related questions. To develop this essential part of the MSAC At Home program, we are looking for people who are comfortable with technology and interested in teaching their skills to others. If you're an enthusiastic tech user interested in coaching new technology users, contact Maddie. **For making requests or volunteering, contact the Aging in Place Coordinator Maddie Sholar** at msac-amicorps@montpelier-vt.org or 802-262-6287.

How to connect with MSAC at Home and Maddie

To learn more or make a request for any of the above, contact MSAC's Aging in Place Coordinator Maddie Sholar at 802-262-6287 or email msac-amicorps@montpelier-vt.org. Look for more info on [our website](#). **Volunteer Training Events**, Dec. 9 & 10, inquire if interested!



Employment and Personnel Announcements

Staff Presentations and Recognitions New

- Our Cemetery Director, Patrick Healy, will be presenting next Monday to the [NE Cemetery Association](#) about natural burials. Congratulations Patrick, your knowledge is a benefit to Montpelier and our community at-large!

Municipal Job Openings

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

- **Community Services Positions:**

- Afterschool Childcare Program Director (part-time)
- Afterschool Childcare Program Staff (part-time)
- For full details and instructions for applying, visit the City [job postings page](#).

- **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. 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>
- Or stream via ORCA's YouTube channel during meetings here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/orcamedia>

City-wide Reappraisal Property Inspections Have Begun!

We have begun the process of a city-wide reappraisal of all real property. Representatives from the New England Municipal Consultants will 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.

Stump Dump:

Need to get rid of lawn debris, stumps, and branches? The City 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!

Trash Receptacles:

As a resident of Montpelier, are you wondering about the best area to place a trash receptacle for trash pickup? Please, always, place trash receptacles for pick up at the corner of the driveway, behind the sidewalk. If you do not have a sidewalk on your street, please place receptacles on the corner of the drive, in the street closest to the curb. (Not obstructing traffic). Please do not place receptacles within the sidewalk.

Questions? Please contact Jasmine Benson with DPW at 802-223-9508.

Thank you,



William Fraser, City Manager

Upcoming Agenda Items (**TENTATIVE**)

12/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present Budget • WRRF Dryer Update • COVID/OSHA Policy • Mask Mandate • Legislative Agenda • Hubbard Park Expansion • Berlin Pond land acquisition (exec) 	12/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Workshop ONLY
12/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Review • Invite Legislative Delegation • Audit Report 	1/5/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Workshop ONLY
1/12/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First PH on Budget • First PH on Warning • First PH on Bonds 	1/20 Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd PH/Budget Adoption • 2nd PH on Warning/Adoption • Consideration of Petitions • Bond Necessity Resolutions • Mask Mandate extension
2/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CJC Introduction • Police Committee Follow Up • City Manager Review and Contract 	2/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd PH on Bonds

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

CURRENT PENDING ITEMS

Conduit Policy
Housing Task Force Report follow up
Zoning revisions – likely in March
City Master Plan
12-16 Main St. site planning

From Strategic Plan for future agendas:

Economic Development – Strategic Plan, TIF, Tax Stabilization
Workforce Development program
City Committee recruitment/stipends (also with budget)
 ✓ Coordination with CAN –11/17
Equity Action Plan recommendations
Planning Department exercises
 ✓ PFAS Alternatives – 11/17
Stormwater Utility
Homelessness Plan
 ✓ Police Review Committee recommendations - started on 11/10, 2/9
Mutual Aid Issues with Middlesex and Berlin
Update Barriers to Housing Study

From Strategic Plan for Budget Discussion:

Confluence Park Funding
Dam Removal Study
Early Childcare Feasibility Study
Economic Development Funding
Website improvement/Communications platforms
Fund ADA transition plan items
Fully Staff city departments
Housing Trust Fund
Housing and Services Hub
Net Zero Plan recommendations
Implementing Green Print
Construct Public Restrooms
Recreation Building
Fund Capital Plan
Maintain 70 PCI on streets
Expand Peer Support and Social Worker capacity
Implement CIT program
Implement Police Review recommendations
Implement Televate communications infrastructure plan

From Strategic Plan for Staff Action:

Rec & Parks as Economic Driver
Expand hours of childcare program
Work with developers for more housing
Support Christ Church housing project
2022 VHCB grant application for housing and services hub
Complete projects included in budget

Expand CJC support to MPD
Protect Berlin Pond Watershed