

Montpelier Commission for Recovery and Resilience March 2024 Update

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Late in March, the Commission (MCRR) was informed by the United States Postal Service that it will restore retail and post office box services in downtown Montpelier. The USPS signed a lease for space in the City Center at 89 Main Street and is in the process of fitting it up with a goal of opening before the summer months. This news marks an important step in the community's recovery from the flooding of July 2023. It comes after months of advocacy by the MCRR in coordination with the congressional delegation and city leadership.

Also in late March, the MCRR concluded its hiring process with an agreement with Jon Copans who will become its Executive Director. Jon's experience in community engagement, leadership, knowledge of federal, state and local policy and programs, understanding of issues related to climate and resilience and deep commitment to Montpelier will soon be at work full time making Montpelier stronger.

Other work over the past month included:

- Contacting members of the Vermont House Appropriations Committee in support of funding requested by the cities Montpelier and Barre to elevate damaged homes. The funding was included in the House version of the FY2025 Budget and is now under consideration in the Senate.
- Continued work to advance the flood plain restoration project at 5 Home Farm Way along the Winooski.
- Meeting with subject area experts as part of process of developing an enhanced local emergency operations plan.

More information about the Commission, its activities or related resources can be found at www.montpelierstrong.org