



America's Small Town Capital

Mayor Anne Watson

William Fraser
City Manager

City Council Members:

**Dona Bate
Cary Brown
Conor Casey
Lauren Hierl
Jack McCullough
Jennifer Morton**

Cameron Niedermayer
Assistant City Manager

Mary Smith
Assistant to the City Manager

Senator Jeanette White
Chair Senate Committee on Government Operations

March 31, 2022

Dear Senator White,

I'm writing as the City of Montpelier Mayor in support of the Capital Region Communication System Proposal. I applaud the Governor's allocation of funds to support regional public safety dispatch centers. I am pleased the Capital Region, and Montpelier specifically, is ready to move forward with acquisition of equipment to replace fragile, outdated telecommunication equipment (over 30-years old) and to expand our existing regional dispatch network.

The Capital Region Communication System Proposal follows the recommendations of CVPSA's Televate Telecommunications Needs Assessment study completed in August 2021. On January 21, 2022 Montpelier City Council directed its city manager, Bill Fraser, to dedicate staff time to implementation of the recommendations of this study.

Montpelier City staff will be working with Televate, CVPSA's consultant, to develop a Telecommunications Equipment RFP. We'll be working in partnership with Barre City and Capital Fire Mutual Aid System, representing over 30 fire departments and serves over 74,000 Central Vermont residents.

The region's most urgent public safety need is to replace and update the current seriously flawed, obsolete public safety telecommunication equipment as soon as possible to avoid a communication breakdown that causes a crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Watson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Anne Watson
Mayor of Montpelier, VT