TOWN OF DANVILLE, VT NEWSLETTER

# WELCOME TO The Club!

Each quarter we'll bring you important news from around Danville!





# **TOWN SERVICES COMMITTEE PROGRESS**

Since Town Meeting Day, the Town Services Committee has been hard at work on the priorities you've shared with us. We've researched, gathered data, conducted studies, and invited subject matter experts to speak, particularly on pedestrian safety. Based on your feedback and survey responses, we heard you - safety matters.

We've recommended to the Selectboard an increase in patrolling on Danville's back and side roads, restoring coverage to the level from when Danville was known for its no-speeding reputation. We've also created a decision-making template to guide our process and are actively exploring additional pedestrian safety measures such as signage and traffic calming solutions.

Beyond safety, we're also researching wastewater systems and public services across town. Currently, we're reviewing all Town-owned and affiliated properties and services to make informed recommendations to the Board—whether to continue, consolidate, or discontinue specific services.

We welcome your involvement and encourage you to join us at our monthly meetings, held at **5:30pm** on the second Wednesday of each month at the Town Office. Come be part of the conversation - we look forward to seeing you there!

Residents can now bring bulky items to the **Recycle Center every Saturday** during open hours. Find pricing at danvillevt.gov \*No Household Garbage

The 2025 tax bills have been mailed. Taxes this year are due Friday, Nov 14, 2025 by 4pm.

## North Danville Baptist Church Annual Chicken Pie Supper

Saturday, September 27 5:30pm & 6:30pm Seatings or Order Take-Out By Sept 24th

## Danville Farmers' Market

3:00pm-6:00pm Last market is October 1st!

### Old North Church Lamplight Service

Sun, Sept 28th at 7:00pm Last one of the season!

# DOG PARK COMMUNITY WALK SCHEDULED FOR SAT, SEPT 13TH!

WHEN is it opening? WHERE is the Dog Park? HOW can I help? We've heard all these questions, no doubt to the great buzz created by our aww-so-cute logo!

By enlisting the help of some very awesome volunteers, we've done some branding, hosted some events, created a site plan that enabled us to develop a professional cost estimate, obtained local permitting, get an LVRT access from VTrans, support grant applications, and design an eye-catching sponsorship program for local businesses.



We are now at the "all-hands-on-deck" phase: Putting the money and in-kind labor together for a 2026 construction start. While we have and will continue to apply for grant funds, the grant funding landscape has changed, putting a greater emphasis on community support through business sponsorships and in-kind labor.

For those of you who are still unfamiliar with the Danville Dog Park, the site is located on townowned land, upslope of the Town's wastewater treatment plan. Access will be from the LVRT, just a short walk from the trail parking across the street from Marty's. As is recommended for all safe dog parks, there will be a double-gated entry that will lead to two separate enclosures. One enclosure will be for smaller (or more timid dogs). The main enclosure will have a pavilion and water line. A commercial grade fence will separate all visitors (human and canine) from the wastewater lagoons. Service equipment, like mowers, will access from the treatment plant side, so we'll need a small service path that will not wash or degrade in heavy rains.

Still can't visualize the park? **Come for a guided tour on Sat, Sep 13th at 10:00am.** Get your recycling done early, put on some comfortable walking shoes and meet us at the Route 2 LVRT access!

Although it sounds counter-intuitive, please leave your dog at home for this visit. There will be a time for that later. Questions? Contact alow@danvillevt.gov.

## PUBLIC DESIGN CHARRETTE FOR MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT

Monday, October 6th, Town Office: Meal at 5:00pm; Charrette from 5:30pm-7:00pm

Ready to design a parking lot that works for our community? The Town has recently hired DuBois & King to identify landscaping and stormwater solutions, permitting requirements, and develop a cost estimate and funding strategy for a shared use parking facility in the vacant lot adjacent to the Town Hall.

A ROBUST public engagement strategy is key to ensuring a successful design, so we are hosting a charrette, an intensive design process facilitated by landscape architects and engineers, that brings diverse stakeholders to create a vision. Who is a stakeholder? YOU are. Join us and be a part of the vision!

We are serving a light meal since it's at 5:00pm, so please help us plan a successful event by registering: bit.ly/RegistrationsDanvilleCharrette

## HILL STREET PARKING CONFIGURATION UPDATES

This fall, at the direction of the Selectboard, the Highway Department will be reconfiguring the parking spaces on the west side of Hill Street to become parallel parking. We realize that this will result in fewer parking spaces in the business block area, but the change is necessary due to the congestion and safety issues created by angled parking on both sides of the street. The board enlisted the aid of VHB, the firm that the town has hired to design plans for the Shared Pathway and Hill Street Sidewalk project, to suggest a parking configuration that meets current regulations for parking spaces on municipal roadways.

#### Why is changing the parking configuration necessary?

- Angled parking on both sides of the street often creates a one-way traffic flow on Hill Street and bottlenecks created with traffic light changes on Route 2.
- The travel lane is narrowed at times to a point where Emergency vehicles andtown equipment would be unable to pass through.
- Parking spaces are too close to the intersection with Route 2 to meet currentregulations.

#### What actions have been taken to mitigate the loss of parking spaces?

- The town has entered into an agreement with the Congregational Church to usetheir parking lot as Municipal Parking. The Highway Department will be installing signage to direct people to the parking area of the church. Additionally, the sidewalk along Hill Street will be kept clear during the winter to allow people to safely walk to businesses in the village center.
- The town has been awarded a Municipal Planning Grant to provide designs forconstruction of the parking lot adjacent to the Town Hall. In the interim, peoplemay park on the grassy area, which is plowed in the winter to allow parking.
- Multiple parking spaces are available around the Green, with sidewalks plowed in the winter to allow ease of walking to businesses along Hill Street. As the Hill Street sidewalk project progresses, we will continue to look for opportunities to expand parking in the village.

The board realizes that the parking configuration change will be an adjustment to routine, but is not insurmountable. We thank you for your cooperation.

## DANVILLE SHARED PATHWAY & HILL STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT

The design work for this exciting infrastructure project is underway and Conceptual Plans have been presented at the August coordination team meeting. The following status updates from VHB were discussed at the coordination meeting:

- Survey and base mapping have been completed.
- Environmental review is underway. Wetland boundaries have been confirmed with the Department of Environmental Conservation.
- VHB is working on documents to be submitted for the National Environmental Policy Act, (NEPA), review.
  VHB has reviewed Operational Stormwater requirements and has determined that a permit will not be required.
  VHB has provided an overview of current Conceptual Plans, highlighting areas needing further definition from the town and public for the development of Preliminary Plans. Two specific areas requiring thought are the intersection of the LVRT with the path along Peacham Road and parking configuration along Hill Street.

### Save the date of Thurs, Sept 25th to give your input to this project!

A Public Outreach and Informational Meeting has been scheduled for 6:30pm that evening. You will be able to review the Conceptual Plans and meet the design team from VHB and the Municipal Project Manager from DuBois and King. We hope to see you there and hear your thoughts about this exciting project.



# DANVILLE TRAIN STATION LVRT TRAILHEAD OPEN HOUSE SEPT 18

The Town of Danville and the Train Station Committee is hosting an open house of the newly renovated station on Thurs, Sept 18th, 2025, from 4-6 pm at the train station at 347 Peacham Road in Danville. Tours, speakers, and food for purchase mark this celebratory event.

The Train Station as a trail head will have parking, ADA bathrooms, water refill station, and informational kiosks.

The passenger side of the Train Station will house exhibit space maintained by the Danville Historical Society. The freight side will have bike rentals, food, and eventually a gear shop. With all these amenities, the Danville Train Station will be a "must stop" for LVRT users.

The project to reimagine the historic train station began almost seven years ago as part of a larger master plan in the town. The Train Station is owned by the Town of Danville. "The Danville Selectboard members are excited for the opening of the newly refurbished train station." Said Janice Ouillette, Chair of the Danville Selectboard. "The road from reimagining the historic depot to completion has been long and not without a few bumps. It would not have been possible without the dedicated volunteers who have logged countless hours to make the project a reality."

Michael Hogue, Train Station Coordinator agrees, "the completed renovation is the result of a lot of hard work by a handful of dedicated people. The open house is a chance to thank the many donors, grantors, contractors, and volunteers for their work, and invite the community in to celebrate the official opening."

# 2025 DANVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS

Autumn on the Green - Sun, Oct 5th, 10am-4pm

## Movie Nights on the Green:

Sat, September 20th, 7:00pm - Coco Sat, October 18th, 4pm Fun Night, 6pm Hocus Pocus

**Scarecrow Contest** - Coming to the green this October! Multiple categories - Adults, Kids, & School.

Thank you to all that attended the fair this year, we had great weather and an amazing turnout!

danvillevtchamber.org



## TOWN PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATES

The two primary responsibilities of the Planning Commission are revising and updating the Town Plan and Zoning Bylaws. The Danville Planning Commission completed a recent revision of both documents in 2024.

After this work in 2024, the Planning Commission has shifted focus to creating several handouts to help those taking on projects or renovations to their homes and property understand if a permit is needed and who to contact. Another proposed handout will summarize the zoning regulations for Danville's districts to assist planning. Both documents will be presented and considered for the 2026 zoning bylaw update

Act 181 was enacted into Vermont Law in 2024. Among other actions, this Act established the Land Use Review Board (LURB) and mandated that the Regional Planning Commissions create future land use maps for all Vermont towns using statewide uniform and defined land use categories. The Planning Commission is currently reviewing and amending, to the extent that we are able, the proposed future land use maap offered by our Regional Planning Commission, Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA).

Understanding of this new law is under development. There are questions as to how this may be used in the future and where there may be inappropriately labeled land use due to limited data sets. The Danville Planning Commission has offered opportunity for public comment and feedback. Currently these new categories do not conflict with or alter Danville's existing Town Plan, districts or zoning bylaws which are the result of both past and present deliberation. These maps are intended to help the Land Use Review Board assess and consider further aspects of Act 181.

The Planning Commission is also in the process of updating our flood plain zoning in order to be in compliance with the recently updated FEMA standards. This will help ensure that those residing in Danville can access comprehensive flood insurance coverage via the National Flood Insurance Program. A minor zoning bylaw update is on the horizon for the end of this year to include these amendments.

Next year, we will consider updates to the river corridors to develop appropriate regulations. Some of our additional, ongoing and upcoming projects include reassessing road classifications in Danville and discussions on several aspects of the existing Town Plan, including Danville's economy.

We welcome two new Planning Commission members, Dawn Brittain and Greg Prior. Many thanks for their time and service and that of all of our Commissioners.

The Planning Commission welcomes attendance, public comment and feed back at any time. Please let us know how we can assist you or help answer any questions related to the Town Plan and zoning bylaws. It is an honor to serve Danville and we strive to support the town of Danville and all those living and visiting here.



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