

## COVID-19 Update: Thursday, 5.21.20

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- [View our comprehensive COVID-19 page](#)
- Continue to follow the [Vermont Department of Health](#) or dial 211

### Winooski City Council Extends Emergency Ordinance

On Monday, May 18, 2020, Winooski City Council approved [a resolution](#) that extended and amended the ordinance ([Chapter 30 - Emergency Ordinances](#)) originally adopted April 20 to ease the financial burden for residents and businesses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Taxpayers and utility payers who cannot pay their property tax and utility payments will not be charged interest or penalties on these payments for 30 days. Visit <https://www.winooski.vt.gov/covid-19> for full details.

### Governor Phil Scott Proposes \$400 Million Vermont Economic Recovery Package

On May 20, Governor Phil Scott announced his proposal for a \$400 million [economic relief and recovery package](#), using funds from the \$1.25 billion the state received from the Federal CARES Act. The two-phase proposal will start with \$310 million for immediate relief to the most impacted sectors and businesses to be followed by \$90 million for long-term recovery efforts. **The Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the Governor will now work with the legislature towards passage of this historic relief package.** The Phase 1 relief package will involve four areas of distinct action to support businesses and Vermonters as they resume their operations. They include:

- **Financial assistance:** Emergency Action Grants for food and accommodation services, retail, and agriculture, Vermont Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Grant program, and small business focused Vermont Restart loans and grants. (\$250 million)
- **Housing assistance:** Rental Housing Stabilization Fund for property owners and a Re-Housing Recovery Fund to address homeless need. (\$50 million)
- **Technical assistance:** Restart Vermont Recovery Guides created through a network of business and community assistance providers, and Employee Assistance Program to support the mental health and wellbeing of business owners and their families. (\$5 million)
- **Marketing support:** Promotional marketing campaign to promote Vermont to Vermonters and deliver a toolkit of creative assets to be used by local communities, and regional marketing and consumer stimulus grants to encourage local spending, with implementation strategies to be proposed by local entities. (\$5 million)

The Agency Commerce will be holding a series of webinars in the days ahead to further talk about the plan.

- [View the Governor's full press release](#)
- [Download the full details of the proposed plan](#)
- [Visit ACCD's COVID-19 Resource Center](#)



### Winooski Business Updates

- Outdoor Dining – ACCD issued guidance enabling restaurants to offer limited outdoor service starting May 22nd. The guidance allows dining to occur in accordance with mandatory health and safety practices outlined in the [Work Safe guidelines](#). The City is working with Downtown Winooski on local guidance on how to potentially use public space to facilitate business openings.
- Signage from the Agency of Commerce & Community Development - Here is the link for signage developed by ACCD - it's customizable and printable. There is also a calculator to determine occupancy limits: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/business/restart/signage>
- Restart Vermont Resources - ACCD continues to be a well vetted source of information for Vermont businesses. Please check out this guide: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/business/restart>
- COVID-19 Roadmap for Business Webinar from SBDC - This is a robust free resource being used by businesses and communities across Vermont. Lots of information that could help many of you with best practices and navigating all the new challenges. Webinar recording here: <https://anrvt.webex.com/recording/service/sites/anrvt/recording/play/85aff2f05fcd49d3bd5033aa7c616bd2>
- VBSR Webinar Series for Vermont businesses and organizations - Check out the topics of the upcoming webinars - there are several that might be helpful! <https://vbsr.org/news-item/vbsr-offers-webinar-series-on-coronavirus-response-resources-for-businesses/>

