

LT. GOVERNOR ZUCKERMAN NEWSLETTER

July 31, 2020

Grants for Extending Broadband to Vermonters

Access to reliable internet is more important than ever during the pandemic as Vermonters need to learn and work remotely. Thousands of Vermonters without 25/3 Mbps broadband service live just beyond the reach of current cable and other Internet Service Providers' networks. Help is now available.

Grants of up to \$3,000 are available to help consumers extend telecommunications lines to their homes. For details about how to qualify for the Line Extension Customer Assistance Program (LECAP), call 800-622-4496 or visit the [Line Extension Customer Assistance Program webpage](#).

The LECAP program is available to Vermonters who can demonstrate a COVID-19–related need, such as remote learning/telehealth/telework, lack of a minimum of 25/3 broadband internet service, and are “near net” for a cable video provider or other Internet Service Provider. Consumers must request the line extension from the appropriate service provider and apply for the line extension financial assistance program from the Department of Public Service. Approval will be based on need, cost-effectiveness, and site-appropriateness of the line extension.

SURVEY ON POLICE REFORM IN VERMONT

As we are all looking for opportunities to wisely update our policies on law enforcement in order to reduce biased policies and enforcement, on August 6, 12, and 16, the Vermont House Government Operations and House Judiciary Committees will be co-hosting virtual meetings to obtain input from community members on proposed changes to these laws. You are urged to participate.

The meetings will be held on August 6 at 1:00 p.m., August 12 at 6:00 p.m., and August 16 at 4:00 p.m. To register to give testimony at one of these hearings, please fill out the registration form [here](#).

Testimony should be limited to two minutes. Individuals will be able to access the meetings through their computers or phones. The meetings will be Live Streamed [here](#).

If you are unable to attend or do not wish to speak at one of the meetings and still want to provide input, please fill out the **Social Equity Caucus** [survey](#) by Friday August 21st.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, Aug. 6, 7 AM

Live on 'The Morning Drive with Kurt and Marcus,' WVMT 93.6 FM or 620 AM

Thursday, Aug. 6, 1 PM

Wed., Aug. 12, 6 PM

Sunday, Aug. 16, 4 PM

Law Enforcement in VT

Public Hearings

Hosted by Legislative

Committees on Judiciary,

Gov. Operations & Social

Equity Caucus

August 6, 2 PM

The New Reality of College

& Career Readiness in

2020 and Beyond Webinar

with CFES Brilliant

Pathways

Advice for how students

can prepare for a new and

unpredictable workforce in

the wake of the COVID-19

pandemic.

[Info and registration](#)

If you find this newsletter helpful, please feel free to forward it on and let people know they can sign up to receive future newsletters and updates at

www.lt.gov.vermont.gov

The Social Equity Caucus is a group of legislators and advocates working with a mission to improve outcomes for marginalized peoples and create a vehicle for Vermonters to access their representation, leadership and community.

The Vermont legislature is considering ideas on how police practices in our state should change, including policies on use of force, citizen oversight, use of body cameras, implicit bias, hiring and training of police officers, and other relevant issues.

With your input, our legislators will be able to build the most concrete and robust adjustments to our law enforcement policies. The Caucus wants to hear from Vermonters with your thoughts and suggestions on how to improve interactions between the police and communities, specifically with people of color and other marginalized groups. Please take advantage of this opportunity.

Sole Proprietor Grants Application Deadline Today!

The Sole Proprietor Stabilization Grant Program application window closes this Friday, July 31, 2020. Grants of \$5,000, \$7,500 or \$10,000 to qualifying sole proprietors will be awarded through a lottery draw. Full details can be found on the [program portal](#), including the program breakdown, eligibility requirements, application materials and timelines, as well as technical assistance and FAQs.

BIPOC Farmer Relief Grants Now Available

The Northeast BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) Farmer Relief Fund is now accepting applications from BIPOC individuals living in Vermont and the Northeast. The program is being run through the [Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group](#) (NeSAWG) and the application window is open until August 10th.

Our office continues to work with constituents, helping you navigate the unemployment system, the Department of Motor Vehicles, healthcare issues, and more. Please contact my office if you are in a situation where you need help.

We need to continue to be careful. We still must keep physical distance, wear masks, wash hands and watch out for the vulnerable. I hope you are enjoying summer!

Stay safe,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Zuberova". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered below the text "Stay safe,".