

## Ward 2/3 NPA Minutes

### Roundabout Workshop

Wards 4/7 and 2/3 are sponsoring the event. If you live in one of these wards, you can contact the steering committees for a possible free ticket

There are now morning and evening sessions available

There is a long-term goal of 28 miles of street available to all modes of transportation

### Steering Committee Vote

Ryan McLaren and Fauna Shaw were voted onto the steering committee

Currently 5 for Ward 3 and 1 for Ward 2

### Statehouse Update

Representatives Jill Krowinski (Housing Committee) and Jean O'Sullivan (Transportation Committee)

Friday, March 20th, is Vermont Driver Restoration Day

#### State Budget

Sugar Tax = 2 cents per ounce on sugar-sweetened beverages,

- This is a tax on the provider not the consumer however the provider may choose to delegate a portion of the tax to the consumer.
- Some smaller stores, especially near the border, worry the tax will lead people to buy drinks over state lines. This is unlikely as it will cost them more in gas than it is worth.
- Applies to beverages less than 50% juice. Does not apply to maple sweetened beverages.
- The tax cannot be applied to people who use SNAP benefits when purchasing the item.
- Sugar is the next tobacco

Cap on deductions = will only affect people who use the long form and receive more than 2 ½ time the standard deduction.

#### Water Quality Bill

There are large phosphorous deposits at the bottom of lake Champlain

This bill will both road and water quality. Roads will be repaired and improve to limit the amount of waste transported to the lake when it rains and floods the streets

A lot of the phosphorus build-up is due to soil erosion and cow pies in rivers and streams. Farmers need to put up fences so cows cannot reach the rivers and use drip irrigation to reserve the soil. Farmers are reluctant but it is necessary.

### School District Update

Every Ward passed the school budget!

First Tuesday in April, reorganizing new school board at Contois Auditorium. Public is welcome

There are now only 12 school board members instead of 14. 8 returning, 4 new. Only one of which has served for more than one term.

New superintendent starts July 1st with a three year contract

New committee chairs, interim superintendent, and the new superintendent, will meet before July to make the transition as smooth as possible.

#### New

- Monthly financial reports to be reviewed by the school board

- Systematic Change
- Ongoing evaluation of the superintendent so that there will not be any surprises and to hold him accountable
- Step in the direction of performance based salary for superintendent and perhaps other employees down the line