

MRVPD CHARTER SUMMARY

The Mad River Valley Planning District (MRVPD) is a municipal corporation created in 1983 to provide the towns of Fayston, Waitsfield, and Warren with planning for the future of the Mad River Valley to improve the physical, social, economic, fiscal, environmental, cultural, and aesthetic well being of the member towns and its inhabitants.

Vermont rules require that the MRVPD adopt a charter before it can receive and distribute any local option tax revenue. Voters in all three towns are being asked for approval of this proposed charter which authorize a regional 1% Local Option Tax (LOT) on retail sales, alcoholic beverages, rooms and meals.

The full charter is available online at www.mrvpd.org. This summary presents its key features:

- The Charter shall be enacted via vote by the Towns of Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren on Town meeting day 2019 via Australian ballot. The ballot shall read as: Shall the voters adopt the Mad River Valley Planning District charter. A copy of the charter will be present in each voting booth.
- The Charter enables the MRVPD to have powers listed in Title 24, Section 4866 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated (union municipal authorities). Essentially the charter incorporates the operating and structure powers provide in the Articles of Agreement signed by the towns of Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren in March 1985. For reference these Articles of Agreement can be reviewed at <https://mrvpd.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Articles-of-Agreement.pdf>
- The Charter enables the MRVPD the power to impose a one percent retail sales tax, a one percent meals and alcoholic beverages tax, and a one percent rooms tax upon sales within the District which are subject to the State of Vermont tax on retail sales, meals, alcoholic beverages, and rooms, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 138., (LOT)
- The LOT funds shall be distributed through a process of grants promoting Destination Marketing, Community Projects that serve the Mad River Valley, Municipal projects that serve all three towns, MRV Recreation District, a grant fund to be used for MRV businesses and a reserve fund that mitigates the potential fluctuations of tax collections and also allows for funds to be available for unplanned needs presented by opportunity or emergencies.
- The funds collected via the LOT will be deposited to and managed by the Mad River Valley For Local Opportunities Commission, MRV FLO, which is a subcommittee of the MRVPD
- The MRV FLO as per the Charter is made up of:
 - ✓ Six FLO Commissioners – a commissioner elected by the voters of each town and a commissioner appointed by the select board of each town. These elected and appointed FLO Commissioners shall serve terms of three years which will be staggered.
 - ✓ A seventh Commissioner will be appointed by the MRVPD as Chair of the MRV FLO. The Chair can be an existing member of the MRVPD Steering Committee or a full time resident from one of the MRVPD towns.
- The MRV FLO will distribute funds according to the criteria set forth in Addendum A.



Community
Projects

Destination
Marketing

Recreation

Economic
Development

Admin

Reserve