

## **Public Notice**

From: Paul White, Chair of the Regional Dispatch Working Group

Re: Notice of Open Meeting Law and ADA Violation

Date: November 3, 2022

On October 28, 2022, the Regional Dispatch Working Group Chair, Paul White and Public Safety Commissioner Jennifer Morrison received an email from a citizen about the availability of closed captioning for remotely held Working Group meetings. As more fully addressed below, after consultation with legal counsel, Chair White has determined the Working Group did not violate Vermont's Open Meeting law, and no cure is required. Chair White has considered this notice and chosen to take additional steps to ensure greater access.

In determining that no violation of Vermont's Opening Meeting law occurred, the Working Group's current procedures were reviewed. First, Working Group meetings are held virtually using Teams. The Teams platform allows participants to activate closed captioning, and closed captioning is available to all Teams meeting participants. Second, the Working Group video records its meetings. These video recordings are posted on Public Safety's website. Additionally, the Working Group produces and posts a written transcript of the recorded meetings. The availability of closed captioning for all Teams participants, coupled with posting of video recordings and written transcripts, meets the Open Meeting law requirements.

Although Chair White found no violation of the Open Meeting law, Chair White has implemented additional measures to ensure accessibility by posting a notice about the availability of closed captioning on Teams and by providing instructions for activating closed captioning.