

Dear House Ag Committee Members,*

Please do whatever is in your power to ensure the Capital City Farmers Market returns to its promised 133 State Street location.

As we in Montpelier overcome recent existential-level disasters and challenges, the Capital City Farmers Market remains a bright spot, elevating morale, food access, community connections, and revenues for the city, various partners, and, of course, the producers who sell their wares.

Location is key to those outcomes. It seems a state-level solution is required to resolve this local issue. Or is it local? How does the world beyond our borders see Vermont when our capital has no post office and can't even prioritize the agricultural and homegrown, homemade specialties that make Vermont Vermont?

Isn't it time that Vermont, as Wisconsin does, elevate our state capital's farmers market to ensure it is honored as a state treasure representing Vermont to all who live and visit here? In Madison, Wisconsin, "The Saturday Dane County Farmers' Market is conveniently located on the tree-lined grounds surrounding the Wisconsin State Capitol building" (<https://dcfm.org/markets/saturday-on-the-square>).

We urge you to ensure Montpelier's farmers market continues to thrive and maximize its opportunity to be a local jewel that epitomizes our rural agricultural state. This is how people should be talking about Vermont's capital's farmers market.

*Please forward to Beth Quimby, whose email address has not yet posted to legislature.vermont.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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= ' ' = Sheryl Rapée-Adams (she/her) and Christopher E. Adams (he/him)

485 Elm Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

(802) 229-5400 - landline

(802) 353-7286 - cell

sheryl@rapee-adams.com