

15:04:27 From Maggie Wilson to Everyone : Thank you for joining us this afternoon! Attendees will receive an email with the recording of today's event when it becomes available. The recording will also be uploaded and viewable at this page: <https://www.vtchamber.com/virtual-policy-series-bonus-content.html>

15:04:45 From Maggie Wilson to Everyone : Please share any questions you have here in the chat! Also, please select "All Panelists and Attendees" from the drop-down menu so that all can see your question.

15:23:46 From Ben Gordesky to All panelists : I already sent this in previously, but, to repeat. I am in the solar trade. The current administration's Public Utilities commission has continued to lower rates for solar net metering. This has led to the loss of jobs in our sector. And, they have already decided on another rate decrease in September. Solar can provide good paying jobs that keep younger Vermonters here. What are you planning to do to help.

15:31:39 From Janette Bombardier to All panelists : I think the state colleges have the programs --- the students don't seem to be aware of career paths and leveraging the opportunities.

15:31:49 From George Sales to All panelists : Hello--I am a small business owner in the NEK, and I echo the concern for finding skilled or even semi-skilled workers with adequate basic skills (arithmetic, interpersonal, communication skills). Given the labor crunch, we are having to do more with less. Is there any support for technology and infrastructure to allow us to do more with less?

15:31:58 From Curtis Ostler to All panelists : Comment on this workforce question: Vermont Tech offers one-year certificates, two-year associate degrees, and apprenticeships....

15:32:14 From Janette Bombardier to All panelists : WE need two year technical students first and foremost

15:36:45 From havah walther to All panelists : Does this broadband money go to subsidy or to infrastructure?

15:41:00 From Matthew Musgrave to All panelists : Not noticing here good job everyone

15:46:23 From Greg Connors to All panelists : Please be assured that GLOBALFOUNDRIES Fab 9 Leadership and Staff is an equal partner in that effort!

15:46:41 From Eric Cierniewski to Everyone : Even if manufacturers have done well during the past year, how can we prevent long term economic impacts especially UI costs?

15:46:53 From Renee Place to All panelists : Vermont Talent Pipeline has laid out what those certifications or programs are needed by employers-connecting to educators- for manufacturing, healthcare and construction

15:47:39 From Meg McGovern to All panelists : With the urgent need for housing, is there any thoughts of how to help housing developers, who continue to find permitting timelines that expand due to increased litigation that stall projects..., and now construction costs that have doubled? I'm aware of funds going to affordable housing agencies, purchasing motels, to help vulnerable groups, but wasn't sure if there was any funding to other groups?

15:47:43 From Janette Bombardier to All panelists : Any of the two year engineering programs at Vermont Tech as well as the CNC programs at any of the CTE centers. We don't have people that can operate or maintain high tech equipment. we have open unfilled jobs and this will stop our growth in Bellows Falls.

15:50:19 From Lori Smith to Everyone : Many employers say housing impacts recruitment. What future recommendations do you see as long-term changes needed to encourage more housing development beyond bond funding in the short term.

15:51:53 From Beth Parent to All panelists : Timely discussion: There will be a story on NECN/MyNBC5 about folks who left Boston/NYC during pandemic to come to Vermont to live. Jack Thurston spoke with a VGS employee about his desire to leave Boston and come to Vermont. It will air at 5:30pm on WPTZ for anyone interested.

15:52:51 From Matthew Musgrave to All panelists : Im seconding Lori, but I will add more "workforce" housing to buy. People don't want to move here then rent and with our average/median salaries cant afford \$500,000 homes. They seek a long term investment and our really short supply of housing has just gone up again due to COVID migration.

15:55:54 From Megan Humphrey to Everyone : Thank you all so much for taking the time to speak with us! I really appreciate it.

15:56:15 From Meg McGovern to All panelists : Yes, developers on Macys was incredible, but now there are 2 new law suits, that are from groups that don't want City Place constructed. We need to end endless litigation.

15:56:17 From Julia Marks to All panelists : Please include the Vermont Short-Term Rental Alliance (vtstra.org) in conversations about seasonal housing options/solutions