**Town of Middlebury, Vermont, Encampment Policy Summary**

**\* Purpose** – to have a safe, effective response to encampments and balance the rights of unhoused persons and public safety and health

**\* Guiding Principles** – Collaboration, Cultural Competence, Empowerment, Respect and Dignity, Safety, and Trauma-Informed Care

**\* Engagement and Support** – to include access to resources, assessment of needs, outreach programming, personalized services coordination, trauma informed care – regularity of outreach and services that may be provided including placement on shelter wait lists and on-site offerings of food, water, personal and medical supplies, etc.

**\* Conflict Resolution Strategies** – to mediate, when possible, conflicts between unhoused people and other community members, de-escalation techniques

**\* Ongoing Coordination Efforts** - including quarterly meetings of town officials, service providers, business owners, and others, to discuss known encampments and evaluate progress; annual assessment and quality assurance

**\* Encampments and Compliance** –

\* determination regarding whether or not an encampment is in compliance with restrictions on town-owned parcels or meets other criteria that causes it to pose a risk;

\* intervention – trauma informed protocols and support in notification, relocation, and ongoing case management when an encampment must be removed

\* enforcement – when persons in an encampment do not relocate within thirty days, a process of written notice with coordination of law enforcement including state’s attorney and restorative justice opportunities

**Appendix A –** restrictions on town owned lands

**Appendix B –** MOU between town and services agencies