

From: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 11:13 AM EST
To: Carrie Cobb <CCobb@vermontrealestate.com>; Kelly Devine () <director@bbavt.org>; kara@burlingtonvt.org <kara@burlingtonvt.org>; Doreen Kraft (dkraft@ci.burlington.vt.us) <dkraft@ci.burlington.vt.us>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Leah Chiofaro <leah@soulshinepoweryoga.com>
Subject: RE: Homeless people in building

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Good morning...lot going on I know and limited ability to fix –additionally – sadly we had \$2,000 of dresses stolen from Jess Boutique the same day.
Police were very engaged – actually caught the lady....crazy person..will see where it goes from here....we also same day got a call from Market 32
We will need to get security here as well....tons of needles in parking lot and one individual causing serious concern...working with our team and police...
Several of our tenants cutting back in space/ time....
- but also wanted to share some action I know we are all working on
-we have helped fund the New American Society council – with Sandrine and Ali working to address crime in new American community....will be meeting with them again later feb for update and possible more funding..know city has given the 20k as well..
-meeting with Bob Blic of Howard mental health – know city has gotten grant for over 600 k to add 4 people....working to see how we can compliment this process....critical since a lot of issues are not “police” issues...
Homeless/vagrants/opiod unbalanced people....causing havoc to shoppers....who many no longer come downtown...
Know Northfield is investing heavily in church street and will to fund efforts – we are too...just need the “best plan” to help fund....serious money...need to move quickly..
-talk of additional security for downtown...critical until we get police force back up to normal levels...

As always we stand ready to help but we need a overall plan – with many points....let us know how to help – I was born here and one of the largest real estate players here so very vested in outcomes..
Volumes are being hammered and many will not survive if we do not turn this around....many of our customers not coming back....
Know CVS told Jeff would be cheaper to close store since theft is higher than rent...they are working on security too....
We have exceeded the tipping point....pandemic/opoid crisis/ homeless/ crime....all intertwined....know city doing a lot....we obviously need to keep eye on this ball or we will lose it all..
Thank god city place moving forward and the nest opening this month....lot of good stuff – but now really have to go into overtime to beat bad stuff
Here to help just need to know where to focus...in meantime will continue to work with Howard mental health...../ new American council and working with police through Queen city foundation to support police..
Keep me updated
Challenging times
Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau
Pomerleau Real Estate
69 College Street
PO Box 6
Burlington, Vermont 05402
(802) 863-8210

www.vermontrealestate.com



From: Carrie Cobb <CCobb@vermontrealestate.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2023 4:20 PM
To: Kelly Devine () <director@bbavt.org>; kara@burlingtonvt.org; Doreen Kraft (dkraft@ci.burlington.vt.us) <dkraft@ci.burlington.vt.us>
Cc: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Leah Chiofaro <leah@soulshinepoweryoga.com>
Subject: FW: Homeless people in building

Good Afternoon,

I have been in discussions with Kelly about the calls that we are receiving from our tenants and customers who work or frequent areas within Burlington. I received this email along with a video from Leah (owner of Soulshine Power Yoga @ 98 Church St), showing her staff hold up and afraid in the studio after a class when 2 homeless folks were fighting on the landing inside the door at 98 Church.

I am taking daily calls about something taking place at our properties and employees fearing for their safety. Is there any value in compiling the number of crimes that are taking place (that the police are not calculating because they are not responding to calls) ourselves for use in discussions with the Mayor or the police department?

REC001

We feel very helpless here and would like not to feel that way and are here to help anyway we can.

Thanks for listening.

Best,
Carrie

Carrie Cobb
Pomerleau Real Estate
69 College Street
PO Box 6
Burlington, VT 05402
802.863.8210 (o)
802.863.8219 (f)
ccobb@vermontrealestate.com

From: Leah@soulshinepoweryoga.com <leah@soulshinepoweryoga.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2023 8:52 AM
To: Steve Ploesser <SPloesser@vermontrealestate.com>; Chris Siple <CSiple@vermontrealestate.com>; Carrie Cobb <CCobb@vermontrealestate.com>
Subject: Homeless people in building

*** This email originated outside your organization ***

Hi there... Last night after our 5:30- 6:30 class The folks in our studio were getting ready to leave and there were two homeless people on the landing inside the building screaming bloody murder at each other. so as you can see from the video, the folks who were in my studio were not comfortable leaving. I know this is not something that you can really help with but I just wanted to let you know about it. I am going to put a small battery powered camera (called blink) on landing and stairwell down to church street so that I can see what's going on without asking to look at your very expensive surveillance footage. I am also going to put up a sign that says that the space is being Monitored 24 hours a day. Hopefully that will help a little bit...

Boy Burlington is getting bad... i've now had two employees over the last two months tell me that they do not feel comfortable coming to work because they are coming either really early in the morning or after dark. I sure hope something changes sometime soon.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions.

Best,
Leah Chiofaro
SoulShine Power Yoga
Burlington & Essex Jct, Vermont

please excuse typos, voice dictation in use

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 12:01 PM EST
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

Yes, I will reach out to Sodexo and ResLife and ask them to remind their vendors to not use South Prospect Street to access campus. Barbara is correct that we have made that a practice and over the years, I do try to send periodic reminders. I don't know about companies purposefully changing their GPS systems to send trucks down South Prospect Street, that would be an odd thing to do, but I will check on it. I think it's more likely, as we have heard over the years, that Google Maps sends vehicles that way and I'm unaware of a way that can be changed on Google's side. I will have the United Foods' driver's comments followed up on.

That being said, I do want to clarify Barbara's statement about an Act 250 requirement that large trucks not use South Prospect Street. The Act 250 requirement is in relation to construction traffic for the Tarrant Center project only (which we have yet to start construction on). I have included snapshots from the permit conditions and the Findings of Fact below. As I said above (and is stated in the Findings of Fact), we do work with our vendors to minimize truck traffic on South Prospect, but it is not a permit violation if a truck does use that route, as Barbara seems to be implying in her email.

Thanks,
Lisa

From the Findings of Fact:
gate.

38. Ms. Hedrick has requested that UVM agree to not use South Prospect Street, south of Maple Street, for any truck, large delivery vehicle or on-campus shuttle traffic, arguing that these vehicles present a safety risk to pedestrians and that large heavy vehicles do not belong on a city street that is not a city-designated truck route. Exhibits #065, 066 and 102-107. The Commission acknowledges Ms. Hedrick's concern; however, the on-campus shuttle traffic which regularly proceeds along South Prospect Street is beyond the scope of the current Project and the Commission cannot further review this aspect of Ms. Hedrick's concerns at this time. Traffic entering UVM via Davis Drive from South Prospect Street is allowable under the *UVM South Campus Master Plan* (RSG, 2003). However, the Applicant has stated that it discourages construction and delivery vehicles from using South Prospect Street as a point of access to campus. Exhibit #096. The evidence indicates that the shuttle busses used to ferry spectators to and from PFG complex to the overflow parking lots in accordance with the *UVM Special Events Circulation Procedures*. (Exhibit #095), will not use South Prospect Street.

39. During Special Events the access road to the east of the PFG complex will be designated

From the permit conditions:

where one or more emergency or high-level security personnel shall supervise access to and closure of the gate.

30. Construction traffic for the Project shall enter only via Spear Street and shall exit only via University Heights Road, except tractor trailers and single heavy use vehicles may exit to Spear Street via PFG Road. Tractor trailers may only exit during non-peak hours. Exhibit #099.

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 10:41 AM
To: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

Thank you so much, Jeff. Greatly appreciated!

Karen

From: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Date: Monday, January 30, 2023 at 10:36 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Lisa Kingsbury (<lkingsbu@uvm.edu>) <lkingsbu@uvm.edu>, Joe Speidel <jspeidel@uvm.edu>

REC003

Subject: RE: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

I've sent this over to the sign crew to take a look.

My crew just puts the signs up and then enforces them. If there's a "design" issue with this sign, Tech Services (the engineers) would handle that.

I'll keep you posted.

Thx,
Jeff

Jeffrey A. Padgett
Division Director for Parking & Traffic
Burlington Department of Public Works

jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov

www.burlingtonvt.gov/parking

www.parkburlington.com

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 10:32 AM
To: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Lisa Kingsbury (lkingsbu@uvm.edu) <lkingsbu@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <jspeidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: FW: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

Hi Jeff,

I hope you had a good weekend. I am hoping you might be able to re-install a No Truck Traffic sign at South Prospect and Maple. I don't know what happened to the first sign but if you can get a replacement, that would be great.

For Lisa and Joe, I hope each of your weekends was a good one. Please do what you can to have your vendors use the approved and agreed route for truck deliveries. If you can please confirm that vendors have been made aware of the need to adjust GPS for drivers so they take the U Heights route, that would be most helpful.

My best,
Karen

PS I highlighted the key parts of Barbara's email below.

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: Barbara Headrick [REDACTED] >
Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 11:21 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Karen,
Please, can you talk to Jeff Padgett, who manages the DPW Traffic division, to convince him to re-install the "No Thru Truck" sign on South Prospect (just south of its intersection with Maple Street) ?

I'm hoping to avoid having to prepare a longer email to provide all the history, photos, evidence and rationale to the TEUC committee. When I testified to the Act 250 Commission regarding my concerns about the risk of UVM sending trucks down South Prospect to reach the expanded PFG complex and the loading docks that are on the southside of that building, the Environmental Court said that UVM trucks and its vendors' trucks should not use South Prospect Street to enter the south campus. UVM told the 250 Commission that they had stopped using South Prospect for its truck deliveries since you, I, Goodkind, White, and Kingsbury met on this topic in 2012, and UVM told the Act 250 Commission that UVM would not start using South Prospect again for its truck deliveries. This finding and requirement is the Act 250 decision for the PFG complex expansion.

REC004

Instead of entering campus at Davis Road, all of UVM's trucks entering the south campus, even the 48 foot long semi-trucks, should be using the campus entrance that is on the north side of Gutterson Garage. From there, the trucks drive on the north side of the round-about past Patrick Gym to reach the 3-way stop sign at UVM's University Heights Road. From this intersection, the trucks can turn right to reach the loading docks at the Living Learning Center or turn left to reach loading docks at the PFG Complex or at the rear of Simpson Hall.

This route, including the internal campus turn at the intersection of PFG Road and University Heights Road, is not too difficult for UVM vendors and semi-trucks. The semi-trucks have been using this route for at least 10 years ever since we had our 2012 meeting in the City Hall Planning Department's office on this exact same topic with S. Goodkind, D. White, L. Kingsbury, and the two of us)

It would be incredibly helpful to our neighborhood to see the "No Thru Truck" sign re-installed right away, and then have DPW update the ordinance (CDO Appendix C) to reflect this please.

It will also help the city (reduce road deterioration, improve safety, reduce pollution) because UVM's many vendor trucks are exiting I89 at Exit 14, driving west along Main Street (this means driving through the intersection at the top of the hill near the Davis Center that UVM says is dangerous to student pedestrians) and turning off of Main Street at the South Prospect Street (another intersection that is too busy and can be improved by not having semi-trucks in the left turn lane), and then driving the full length of South Prospect Street from Main Street to Davis Road. Then the trucks turn north once they are inside campus. On University Heights Road, (inside the south campus), some trucks drive nearly all the way back to Main Street again to reach the Living Learning Center's loading docks. I talked to a semi-truck driver who did this On 1/19/2023. He said that his employer, United Foods, has their GPS's programmed to direct the drivers to use South Prospect and Davis Road to enter campus. UVM needs to inform their vendors to change the GPS directions in their trucks to use Spear Street and enter near the Gutterson Garage. In other words, UVM vendor's trucks are driving in a big circle, endangering people on Main Street and on South Prospect, when they should be using the clover leaf at Spear Street and entering campus near Gutterson Garage.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 12:23 PM EST
To: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Lisa Kingsbury (lkingsbu@uvm.edu) <lkingsbu@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <jspeidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

Jeff,

Can I request it? Can you please get this on the February 15 PWC agenda?

Karen

From: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 12:19 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Lisa Kingsbury (lkingsbu@uvm.edu) <lkingsbu@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <jspeidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

This sign seems to have a history! It was there in 2010 timeframe and then gone after that.

It doesn't exist in Ordinance .. so we can't put it up until someone requests it and its approved by the PWC.

The Tech Services folks are still digging in, but for now that's the status.

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeffrey A. Padgett
Division Director for Parking & Traffic
Burlington Department of Public Works

jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov

www.burlingtonvt.gov/parking

www.parkburlington.com

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 10:41 AM
To: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Lisa Kingsbury (lkingsbu@uvm.edu) <lkingsbu@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <jspeidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

Thank you so much, Jeff. Greatly appreciated!

Karen

From: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Date: Monday, January 30, 2023 at 10:36 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Lisa Kingsbury (lkingsbu@uvm.edu) <lkingsbu@uvm.edu>, Joe Speidel <jspeidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

I've sent this over to the sign crew to take a look.

My crew just puts the signs up and then enforces them. If there's a "design" issue with this sign, Tech Services (the engineers) would handle that.

I'll keep you posted.

Thx,
Jeff

Jeffrey A. Padgett
Division Director for Parking & Traffic
Burlington Department of Public Works

jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov

www.burlingtonvt.gov/parking

REC006

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 10:32 AM
To: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Lisa Kingsbury (<lkingsbu@uvm.edu>) <lkingsbu@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <jspeidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: FW: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

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My best,
Karen

PS I highlighted the key parts of Barbara's email below.

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



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From: Barbara Headrick <[REDACTED]> 1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)
Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 11:21 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Need No Thru Truck sign please on South Prospect, near intersection with Maple Street

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Karen,
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Center's loading docks. I talked to a semi-truck driver who did this On 1/19/2023. He said that his employer, United Foods, has their GPS's programmed to direct the drivers to use South Prospect and Davis Road to enter campus. UVM needs to inform their vendors to change the GPS directions in their trucks to use Spear Street and enter near the Gutterson Garage. In other words, UVM vendor's trucks are driving in a big circle, endangering people on Main Street and on South Prospect, when they should be using the clover leaf at Spear Street and entering campus near Gutterson Garage.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

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From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 3:38 PM EST
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: Police Control Board

Thanks, Kelly. We are still figuring out timing but helpful to know your availability.

We are working on separate campaign materials that will be more high-level and digestible.

So far I've been in touch with former Councilors, Police commissioners, and labor unions. On my list (but haven't reached out to yet):

- Bartenders guild
- Rotaries
- Marc Sherman
- Zandy Wheeler
- Mark Bouchett
- Ted Castle
- Burton

Jordan

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 2:37 PM
To: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: Re: Police Control Board

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

We are also very concerned about this ballot question and its impact on safety. Please count us in on Thursday - though noon is a hard no for both Coin and I.

I may have some ideas for others to include. Can you send a list of who's been contacted so far.

We appreciate the research document you sent. Is there a list of super high-level bullet points geared towards voters that will be key to making the case for a no vote? Phrases like "risky experiment" and "draining resources from current reform efforts" resonate with us. I'd be curious to hear more about your messaging to voters.

Thanks,
Kelly

On Tue, Jan 31, 2023 at 12:18 PM Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Kelly –

As you know, we're always working down to the wire for public announcementsJ

We are hoping to have a press conference on Thursday with a broad coalition of stakeholders to oppose the Control Board charter change. Would you be able to join us? Do you have suggestions of others I should consider reaching out to?

I've attached a draft of our talking points. This document needs a little work, but I wanted to show you where we're headed.

Jordan

--

Jordan Redell
Chief of Staff
Office of Mayor Miro Weinberger
City Hall | 149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
Pronouns: she, her
[Sign up for email newsletter updates from the Mayor's Office](#)

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 4:49 PM EST
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: Letter from former electeds Re: Maintaining 24-Hour Public Safety Services

Yes – I invited this full group

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 4:36 PM
To: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Letter from former electeds Re: Maintaining 24-Hour Public Safety Services

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Colin Hilliard** <colin@bbavt.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 31, 2023 at 4:24 PM
Subject: Letter from former electeds Re: Maintaining 24-Hour Public Safety Services
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

[https://go.boarddocs.com/vt/burlingtonvt/Board.nsf/files/BXLTUQ778335/\\$file/Letter%20from%2020%20Former%20Elected%20Representatives%20of%20Burlington%20re%20Maintaining%2024%20Hour%20Public%20Safety%20Services%20Letter%20from%20former%20electeds%20Re%20Maintaining%2024-Hour%20Public%20Safety%20Services](https://go.boarddocs.com/vt/burlingtonvt/Board.nsf/files/BXLTUQ778335/$file/Letter%20from%2020%20Former%20Elected%20Representatives%20of%20Burlington%20re%20Maintaining%2024%20Hour%20Public%20Safety%20Services%20Letter%20from%20former%20electeds%20Re%20Maintaining%2024-Hour%20Public%20Safety%20Services)

Adam Roof Jane Knodell Bill Keogh Kevin Worden Nancy Kaplan Clarence Davis Barb Perry Sharon Bushor Kurt Wright Dave Hartnett Tim Ashe Ed Adrian Mary Kehoe Richard Deane Paul Decelles Phil Fiermonte
Bryan Aubin Tom Ayres David Berezniak Peter Clavelle

--
Colin Hilliard
Deputy Director
colin@bbavt.org
Burlington Business Association

[JOIN THE BBA TODAY](#)

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Erin Stoetzner <estoetzner@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2023 2:37 PM EST
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: Meeting scheduled next week

Hi Kelly,

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Are you and Colin able to meet Wednesday, the 15th sometime between 3:30 – 4:30?

Best,
Erin

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2023 1:40 PM
To: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Erin Stoetzner <estoetzner@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Meeting scheduled next week

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks Jordan for your sympathies and understanding.

Unfortunately, I can't make tomorrow at 2:30 work. Are there sometimes next week? I will be back on Tuesday.

Kelly

On Mon, Feb 6, 2023 at 12:49 PM Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Kelly –

Glad to find another time. [REDACTED]. Would tomorrow (Tuesday) at 2:30 work for you?
Jordan

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2023 8:11 AM
To: Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: Meeting scheduled next week

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Good Morning Miro:

Thank you again for including us in the press conference yesterday about Question #7. Working to inform voters on this is important to BBA and its members.

Given all that is on the table, I do think it is important that we meet this month. At this point, I need to leave town next Wednesday to lead [REDACTED] and will be away through Monday. So I'm writing to ask whether we can reschedule or meeting which is set for 3pm that day? Another option would be to conduct the meeting virtually.

Thank you for considering.

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Kelly

[REDACTED]
Kelly Devine
802-324-2748

Burlington Business Association
802-863-1175
director@bbavt.org
www.burlingtonbusinessassociation.com

| | | |

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29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

February 21, 2023

The Burlington Business Association, founded in 1978, is a non-profit, non-political membership organization with over 200 business and non-profit members.

Board of Directors:

Chelsea Condos, Chair
Christian Kuzia, Vice Chair
Shireen Hart, Secretary
Michele Asch
Donna Austin-Hawley
Michael Casella
Richard Deane
Peter Dysart
John George Wheeler
Lisa Kingsbury
Leslee MacKenzie
Ryan Nick
Jack Wallace

Staff:

Kelly Devine
Executive Director

Colin Hilliard
Deputy Director

Lexie Wheeler
Program Coordinator

To: Burlington City Council

RE: Proposed ZA-22-04 Trinity Campus Zoning Amendment

On behalf of the 250+ business and nonprofit members comprising the Burlington Business Association's (BBA), please accept the following comments regarding Proposed CDO Amendment: ZA-22-04, Trinity Campus Zoning Amendment.

Burlington has a housing crisis. First called out in the 2014 Downtown Housing Strategy Report, the crisis was more recently highlighted in Building Homes Together 2.0 Campaign's October report that found Chittenden Co. is trailing behind the target of 5,000 new homes by 2025. The December Allen, Brooks & Minor report also found that vacancy rates continue to be historically low at less than 1%. Area businesses consistently find housing affordability and availability as a top challenge in retaining and recruiting staff.

The BBA supports the creation of additional on-campus housing at Trinity campus. Supply-side reforms to housing policy like upzoning Trinity campus are critical major steps to meet the goal of doubling housing production over the next five years. Further, the city's own 2015 Housing Action Plan specifically calls out the need to pursue new strategies for housing college students to reduce pressures on rents by supporting potential on-campus housing development opportunities.

Additionally, planBTV calls out the eastern gateway corridors, where Trinity campus is located, as an area for growth. The eastern gateway area has some of the highest job concentration and multimodal transit connectivity in the state. The city must go beyond Trinity campus and explore zoning changes that support higher densities in surrounding areas to meet the city's housing, climate, and economic goals.

We respectfully urge the council to take the recommended action and refer this item to the Ordinance Committee so work on this zoning amendment may continue. Our housing crisis is urgent. We hope the council balances any concerns on this proposal with the critical need to address the housing crisis today.

Sincerely,

Kelly Devine
(802) 863-1175
director@bbavt.org

From: Lori Olberg <lolberg@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 7:33 PM EST
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: BBA Comment RE: Proposed ZA-22-04 Trinity Campus Zoning Amendment

It was posted earlier.

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 6:35 PM
To: Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lori Olberg <lolberg@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: Re: BBA Comment RE: Proposed ZA-22-04 Trinity Campus Zoning Amendment

Lori,

Thank you, Colin.

Can you please post this to BoardDocs?

Karen

From: Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 4:26 PM
To: City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>, Lori Olberg <lolberg@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: BBA Comment RE: Proposed ZA-22-04 Trinity Campus Zoning Amendment

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Dear Councilors,

Please accept the attached communication from the Burlington Business Association on Agenda item 7.02 regarding Trinity Campus.

###

February 21, 2023

To: Burlington City Council
RE: Proposed ZA-22-04 Trinity Campus Zoning Amendment

On behalf of the 250+ business and nonprofit members comprising the Burlington Business Association's (BBA), please accept the following comments regarding Proposed CDO Amendment: ZA-22-04, Trinity Campus Zoning Amendment.

Burlington has a housing crisis. First called out in the 2014 Downtown Housing Strategy Report, the crisis was more recently highlighted in Building Homes Together 2.0 Campaign's October report that found Chittenden Co. is trailing behind the target of 5,000 new homes by 2025. The December Allen, Brooks & Minor report also found that vacancy rates continue to be historically low at less than 1%. Area businesses consistently find housing affordability and availability as a top challenge in retaining and recruiting staff.

The BBA supports the creation of additional on-campus housing at Trinity campus. Supply-side reforms to housing policy like upzoning Trinity campus are critical major steps to meet the goal of doubling housing production over the next five years. Further, the city's own 2015 Housing Action Plan specifically calls out the need to pursue new strategies for housing college students to reduce pressures on rents by supporting potential on-campus housing development opportunities.

Additionally, planBTV calls out the eastern gateway corridors, where Trinity campus is located, as an area for growth. The eastern gateway area has some of the highest job concentration and multimodal transit connectivity in the state. The city must go beyond Trinity campus and explore zoning changes that support higher densities in surrounding areas to meet the city's housing, climate, and economic goals.

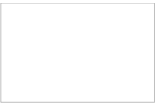
We respectfully urge the council to take the recommended action and refer this item to the Ordinance Committee so work on this zoning amendment may continue. Our housing crisis is urgent. We hope the council balances any concerns on this proposal with the critical need to address the housing crisis today.

Sincerely,

Kelly Devine
(802) 863-1175

--
Colin Hilliard
Deputy Director
colin@bbavt.org
Burlington Business Association

REC014



[JOIN THE BBA TODAY](#)

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 10:34 AM EST
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Your Newsletter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

I apologize if I have missed any acknowledgement that you voted to reduce the police force by 30% before we had a study on how many officers the city should have.

Karen, in my view, there was absolutely nothing positive about that motion. Zero. The additional "goodies" that were added into it, such as hiring CSL's, could have been voted for without the underlying, fundamental motion to cut the police force by 30%. So, yes, you and I will have to disagree on the fundamental terribleness of that motion.

-Walter

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 10:13 AM
To: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Subject: [EXT] Re: Your Newsletter

Walter,

I have acknowledged my vote on that resolution many times over the past nearly three years. You and I may not agree on this issue. While much of the focus is on the police item of that resolution, there were many other aspects of that resolution that moved us forward. We would not have other policing efforts including the long awaited CSL, CSO, and CAHOOTS program without that resolution.

My best,
Karen

From: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Date: Friday, February 24, 2023 at 9:40 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Your Newsletter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Karen,

That motion was a terrible, terrible mistake that has done terrible harm to our city. I think anyone who voted for it should acknowledge that, whether they're a Dem, a Prog, or an Independent.

Regards,
-Walter

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 9:37 AM
To: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Subject: [EXT] Re: Your Newsletter

Walter,

Yes I did and the mayor signed it the resolution. That resolution set up a process for reducing the force through attrition but it would have allowed us to backfill position before we would get to 80 officers from the 90 officers we had at the time.

The amendment was the reason for where we found ourselves a year later, not the resolution which would not have impacted the budget.

Karen

From: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Date: Friday, February 24, 2023 at 9:32 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Your Newsletter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Karen,

My apologies for the confusion about the "amendment." You did vote for the original June 30, 2020 motion to slash the police budget, did you not? <https://www.sevendaysvt.com/OffMessage/archives/2020/06/30/burlington-city-council-votes-to-cut-police-force-through-attribution>

-Walter

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 9:25 AM
To: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Subject: [EXT] Re: Your Newsletter

Walter,

Thank you for your email.

To respond to your questions, no I did not vote for that amendment. I mentioned the vote because it was the single most pivotal vote the Council made and it solidified the trajectory of where we found ourselves until we were able to raise the authorized headcount in October 2021. I did not think it was necessary to disclose my vote because I did not vote for that amendment.

I rewrote almost the entire the October 2021 resolution that raised the authorized headcount after several other drafts would have failed to gain a majority. That resolution passed 8-4.

Walter, as with any legislative body, there are a lot of things that go on behind the scenes that voters do not see. Over the summer of 2022, while others were on vacation, I worked for weeks to pass the best police union contract in the state, if not the region. That negotiation to get a 10-1 vote was left to me, as council president, and acting mayor at the time as Miro was overseas. Press releases from the Administration after the vote as well as communications I received from the acting chief will confirm this. I don't mention these things publicly as they are part of the job but if you ever wonder why there are officers staying or new ones coming, the acting chief will tell you that the single greatest reason is that union contract. Similarly, the rebuilding plan passed 11-1 in June 2022.

I am attaching that section of the minutes from the June 30, 2020 meeting pertaining to that vote. You can find the full minutes on BoardDocs.

My best,
Karen

In line 172 - add "and the City Council resolves otherwise"

In line 173 - remove "to or" replace "85" with "74"; and delete the remainder of the line

so that the whole clause reads:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that except for hiring of a police chief, no vacancies in sworn officer positions in the Police Department will be filled until a functional assessment of the department is completed and the City Council resolves otherwise, except that if staffing drops below 74.

Motion by Zoraya Hightower, second by Jane Stromberg.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Aye: Perri Freeman, Jack Hanson, Zoraya Hightower, Franklin Paulino, Brian Pine, Jane Stromberg, Max Tracy

Nay: Sarah E Carpenter, Ali Dieng, Chip Mason, Karen Paul, Joan Shannon

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 8:11 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Your Newsletter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

REC017

Karen,

Your newsletter says, "While a vote in 2020 to put an amendment into the Mayor's budget that formally prohibited the hiring of police officers until the headcount fell to 74 played a large role in the situation we are in with police staffing today, and it took us nearly a year to begin to rebuild, we are rebuilding."

You voted in favor of that amendment on June 30, 2020, did you not? Why did you do that? Why does your newsletter refer to "a vote" and not mention that you voted for it? You seem to be criticizing a motion that you voted for without disclosing that you voted for it.

-Walter Judge
99 Cliff Street

Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 4:50 PM EST
To: Jack Wallace <jack@burlingtonharbormarina.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: BPP Tax

Hi Jack,

Nice to hear from you and thanks for following up with this note. I've flagged it for the Mayor so he doesn't miss it!

Best,
Jordan

--
Jordan Redell
Chief of Staff
Office of Mayor Miro Weinberger
City Hall | 149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
Pronouns: she, her
[Sign up for email newsletter updates from the Mayor's Office.](#)

From: Jack Wallace <jack@burlingtonharbormarina.com>
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 3:43 PM
To: Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: BPP Tax

You don't often get email from jack@burlingtonharbormarina.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello Mr. Mayor,

Thanks again for taking the time to meet with the BBA and business community. Following up to explain my comment regarding the BPP sunseting. Attached is the current depreciation table for calculating the BPP. What I was pointing out is that the "Cost Factor" column has increased dramatically over the last couple years. The way the tax is calculated is:

Cost of equipment in year purchased x 'Cost Factor' x depreciation rate x tax rate.

So to use an example - \$100,000 of office or guestroom furnishings purchased in 2019 will have a cost factor of 1.271 applied equaling \$127,100 which is then multiplied by depreciation rate of .8 giving a current value to be taxed of \$101,680 – which is more than what it was purchased for 4 years ago! So not based on reality as a 4 year old office chair is not worth more now even with inflation.

That being said I brought up the topic mainly to confirm that the tax will sunset as planned since it seemed odd the tax has actually been increasing the last couple years. So I appreciated your reassurance on sunset and am not raising a specific grievance on the tax, I just wanted to follow up to clarify – so no need to reply just an FYI.

Thanks,

Jack Wallace
75 Penny Lane
Burlington, Vermont 05401
Tel : (802) 540-6869
www.burlingtonharbormarina.com



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Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

REC019

From: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2023 4:06 PM EST
To: Oren Byrne <obyne@bpdvt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Miro Weinberger <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Brian Pine (bpine@burlingtonvt.gov) <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>; KellyDevine (director@bbavt.org) <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: Tagging
Attachment(s): "College St Tags -.pdf", "Image.jpeg"

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

This tag keeps showing up downtown, and these are the culprits. The tags have been on banks, City Hall Park loo, and many other buildings.
I reached out to BHS and UVM, but no one knows them. I spoke to Scottie Raymond from Anthill Collective, and he knows them, but won't share their names. I wish we could just set up some meetings with them and property owners, through CJC. I'm sending an email today, since I saw the Mayor was upset with the tag on the Rainforest mural. I'm upset every day, seeing more and more, and not any deterrent or ways to stop.
Maybe we can start to identify and have community meetings with them, so they understand how graffiti deters visitors, businesses and makes people feel unsafe?
They are even tagging Churches and murals, which was always "taboo" in the tagging community.
Trying to find solutions, and think we can start by deterrence through penalty of some kind?
Best
Meg

Meg McGovern
Donahue & Associates
65 Main St Suite 202
BTV
802.343.6471
Please excuse typos, sent from iPhone

From: Kris Francis <Kris.Francis@cbna.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 2:55:09 PM
To: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Subject: RE: College St Tagging

Here are the culprits....

From: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 1:57 PM
To: Kris Francis <Kris.Francis@cbna.com>
Subject: RE: College St Tagging

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I sent you a text.

Meg McGovern
Senior Associate, Broker
Designations: ABR
Certifications: PSA
Donahue & Associates
65 Main Street Suite 202
Burlington, VT 05401
O: 802-862-6880
C: 802-343-6471
meg@donahueassociatesvt.com

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From: Kris Francis <Kris.Francis@cbna.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 10:37 AM
To: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com
Subject: College St Tagging

Hi Meg – our Security team looked at footage and didn't see much – he ask if we know what the tag looks like?
Do you have a picture of it?

REC020

Kris Francis | *Facilities Supervisor*

Community Bank | 28 Cottonwood Drive | Williston, VT 05495

P: 802-865-1995 | kris.francis@cbna.com

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From: Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov> on behalf of Erin Stoetzner <estoetzner@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 9:59 AM EDT
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: Canceled: Kelly Devine monthly mtg
Attachment(s): "attachment.ics"

Hi all -

Colin and I have discussed moving this meeting to April 5th at 3pm, since the March meeting was cancelled - and hoping to get you folks an earlier time slot in April.

I'll send an updated calendar invite shortly.

Best,
Erin

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:57 PM EDT
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
CC: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa,

Before I pass along this information, if you can please provide me with some answers as to your process with regard to increasing a second bus, that would be helpful. Thank you for your time.

My best,
Karen

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 3:34 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Cc: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa,

I will pass this information along to those who reached out to me. Given that it was neither under 30 degrees or raining or snowing today, I am not sure why there were more students wanting to ride the bus.

What is very troubling to residents is when they see empty or near empty buses, a lot of them, going down South Prospect Street when you can add another bus to the interior route. Yes, it is a longer route but you are putting wear and tear on city streets as opposed to your own streets.

As well, I have to wonder how you remove a bus if demand wanes. I would need to understand how that works – you decide to increase a bus, a driver must drive that bus. If you determine need based on the queue, and the driver goes by Redstone and sees 20 students waiting, the driver would then be obligated to report that and the second bus is eliminated. Just as seeing 100 students means a second bus is added. Perhaps you can see how residents might wonder if that is really how this works. How does the supervisor decide this? What are the criteria?

In the interest of transparency, I do think you should ask to present your bus routes and timing at an NPA meeting.

My best,
Karen

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 3:00 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

I hope you had a nice weekend in DC. It must have been great to get a taste of spring with the cherry blossoms blooming.

We met this morning about the Redstone Express. It seems there has been some confusion about a bus being moved from the On-Campus Route to the Redstone Express Route. We are not moving buses off one route to service another. What does happen is that when demand is warranted during morning peak hours and a driver is available, an additional bus may be added. Both routes are busiest from 8:30-10 am.

The buses are an important part of our Transportation Demand Management efforts. Adding an additional bus during peak demand has been a long-standing practice. We have communicated in the past that we will remove the second bus no later than 10 am and we don't add it in the first place unless there is demonstrated demand. The drivers estimate that during peak demand, there may be 100 students queued for the bus, but only room for 50, which would leave 50 students behind for an additional 15 minutes waiting for the bus to return. When that happens, the drivers communicate to the supervisor, who makes a decision on whether to add the additional bus. Likewise, when demand wanes, the bus drivers will communicate that, and the additional bus will be removed. The supervisor and drivers are aware that the last run with the second bus cannot start later than 10 am.

The route takes 15 minutes for a bus to complete a full loop. That is an additional 6 round trips added to the route. Again, it is not a defined daily practice, though it tends to be more in cold or inclement weather. We anticipate as the weather warms (hopefully soon!), the demand will wane.

As I mentioned in a prior email, this has been the practice for many years, dating back to before the changes we made in 2012. The last few years we have not had the additional bus as demand didn't warrant it during the pandemic and while more students were

engaged in hybrid schedules with more remote classes. I can speculate that because we didn't need the second bus for a couple of years, people are noticing it more now, but I'm not positive. Only Barbara had complained about this in the past.

I hope that helps to better define the situation. Again, we are not removing buses from one route to add to another. We really do try to balance our TDM programs and the needs of our students with the potential impacts on our neighbors. We have had a long history of this, as you know, including when we worked together with you, Jim, and the neighbors to remove the buses on nights and weekends from South Prospect Street. We are not opposed to considering changes that strike that balance, but in this case, when the demand is high we feel that it does warrant the extra 6 loops in an hour and a half.

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 11:00 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa,

I have gotten three emails this morning. In addition to Barbara. Empty buses going up and down South Prospect Street. Please confirm for me that the second bus is off South Prospect Street and back where it has been – on the interior road.

Please, kindly, take care of this today.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 9:55 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>, Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa,

Having a great weekend – I am in DC with our daughter. Looking forward to seeing some cherry blossoms today.

We need to address this, Lisa. It's just too many buses going back and forth. Thank you for your email and the follow up. I have heard from 3 other residents besides Barbara about this, in addition to Peter Young as well.

Congrats to Jim! I am happy for him. Jamie was with GMT, I think? I don't know them but have heard the name if it's the same Jamie Smith. In any event, I will look forward to a new face and new shoes to fill where Jim left off.

Many thanks for getting back to me on a weekend.

My best,
Karen

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 9:22 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>, Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Cc: Jim Barr <James.Barr@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Karen,

I hope you are having a nice weekend. I did ask for clarity around why the bus was moved from the on-campus route to the Redstone express route, but I was then out of the office on Thursday afternoon and didn't get a chance to connect with Transportation and Parking on Friday. I will follow up on it tomorrow and will get back to you. Peter Young also reached out to me and I will get back to him as well.

You may be unaware that Jim Barr retired last year. We have had an interim director of Transportation and Parking since then, but we have a new director, Jamie Smith starting soon. I believe his first day is April 1st. We will be sure to make him aware of the neighborhood concerns when he starts.

I'll be in touch again as soon as I can.

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
University of Vermont
Planning, Design, and Construction
Burlington, VT 05405

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 5:29 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Cc: Jim Barr <James.Barr@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa and Joe,

We need to discuss this two bus situation on South Prospect Street.

I would like to know why you took one bus that was on the interior route and put it on the Redstone route. I realize that the interior route may take a longer loop but if there are three buses, that length is mitigated by the number of buses at one time. Peak demand can be served with buses on the interior route only.

Given the schedule, it would seem that if there are two buses going back and forth from Redstone to the Main Campus, that would be 4 round trips every 15 minutes or 1 bus trip every two minutes, particularly when the same number of buses have been functioning just fine with three on the preferred route.

Please put the second bus back on the interior road. One bus every 120 seconds for several hours is just too much. Please confirm to me that you have taken care of this.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: Barbara Headrick <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 9:37 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Cc: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

This is so wrong, for so many reasons.

On Mar 22, 2023, at 9:14 AM, Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu> wrote:

Good morning, Barbara.

As we have communicated since we did the study and removed evening and weekend buses from South Prospect Street in 2012, there will be times that two buses will be on the Redstone Express route during peak hours. We let you know at the time that any further changes from the 2012 report would go to the Ward 6 NPA for discussion before changes would be made. We did that in 2016 when we began allowing Ruggles House residents to ride the Redstone Express. Two buses on the Redstone Express route during peak hours is not a change from our communicated practice.

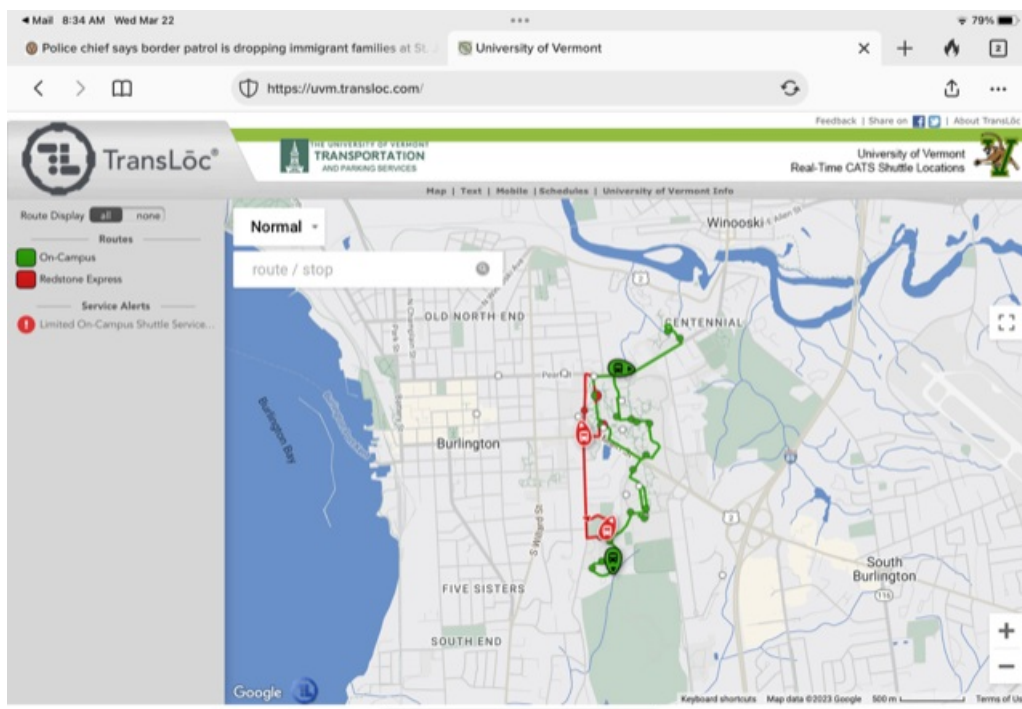
Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Barbara Headrick [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:41 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Cc: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Lisa,
Please have UVM transportation remove the 2nd bus that they added to The Redstone Express route today. Put this bus back on the "on-campus route" (green line in the map below) where there are usually 3 buses, but today there's only two because that 3rd bus is being used as the 2nd bus on the Redstone Express route. Please stop harming our residential street with campus overflow impacts, especially when there are ways to avoid adversely impacting us.
Barbara



Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 2:37 PM EDT
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,
I will get more detail on that and get back to you on it as soon as I can.
Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
University of Vermont
Planning, Design, and Construction
Burlington, VT 05405

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:58 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Cc: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa,

Before I pass along this information, if you can please provide me with some answers as to your process with regard to increasing a second bus, that would be helpful. Thank you for your time.

My best,
Karen

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 3:34 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Cc: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa,

I will pass this information along to those who reached out to me. Given that it was neither under 30 degrees or raining or snowing today, I am not sure why there were more students wanting to ride the bus.

What is very troubling to residents is when they see empty or near empty buses, a lot of them, going down South Prospect Street when you can add another bus to the interior route. Yes, it is a longer route but you are putting wear and tear on city streets as opposed to your own streets.

As well, I have to wonder how you remove a bus if demand wanes. I would need to understand how that works – you decide to increase a bus, a driver must drive that bus. If you determine need based on the queue, and the driver goes by Redstone and sees 20 students waiting, the driver would then be obligated to report that and the second bus is eliminated. Just as seeing 100 students means a second bus is added. Perhaps you can see how residents might wonder if that is really how this works. How does the supervisor decide this? What are the criteria?

In the interest of transparency, I do think you should ask to present your bus routes and timing at an NPA meeting.

My best,
Karen

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 3:00 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

I hope you had a nice weekend in DC. It must have been great to get a taste of spring with the cherry blossoms blooming.

We met this morning about the Redstone Express. It seems there has been some confusion about a bus being moved from the On-Campus Route to the Redstone Express Route. We are not moving buses off one route to service another. What does happen is that when demand is warranted during morning peak hours and a driver is available, an additional bus may be added. Both routes are busiest from 8:30-10 am.

The buses are an important part of our Transportation Demand Management efforts. Adding an additional bus during peak demand has been a long-standing practice. We have communicated in the past that we will remove the second bus no later than 10 am and we don't add it in the first place unless there is demonstrated demand. The drivers estimate that during peak demand, there may be 100 students queued for the bus, but only room for 50, which would leave 50 students behind for an additional 15 minutes waiting for the bus to return. When that happens, the drivers communicate to the supervisor, who makes a decision on whether to add the additional bus. Likewise, when demand wanes, the bus drivers will communicate that, and the additional bus will be removed. The supervisor and drivers are aware that the last run with the second bus cannot start later than 10 am.

The route takes 15 minutes for a bus to complete a full loop. That is an additional 6 round trips added to the route. Again, it is not a defined daily practice, though it tends to be more in cold or inclement weather. We anticipate as the weather warms (hopefully soon!), the demand will wane.

As I mentioned in a prior email, this has been the practice for many years, dating back to before the changes we made in 2012. The last few years we have not had the additional bus as demand didn't warrant it during the pandemic and while more students were engaged in hybrid schedules with more remote classes. I can speculate that because we didn't need the second bus for a couple of years, people are noticing it more now, but I'm not positive. Only Barbara had complained about this in the past.

I hope that helps to better define the situation. Again, we are not removing buses from one route to add to another. We really do try to balance our TDM programs and the needs of our students with the potential impacts on our neighbors. We have had a long history of this, as you know, including when we worked together with you, Jim, and the neighbors to remove the buses on nights and weekends from South Prospect Street. We are not opposed to considering changes that strike that balance, but in this case, when the demand is high we feel that it does warrant the extra 6 loops in an hour and a half.

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 11:00 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa,

I have gotten three emails this morning. In addition to Barbara. Empty buses going up and down South Prospect Street. Please confirm for me that the second bus is off South Prospect Street and back where it has been – on the interior road.

Please, kindly, take care of this today.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 9:55 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>, Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa,

Having a great weekend – I am in DC with our daughter. Looking forward to seeing some cherry blossoms today.

We need to address this, Lisa. It's just too many buses going back and forth. Thank you for your email and the follow up. I have heard from 3 other residents besides Barbara about this, in addition to Peter Young as well.

Congrats to Jim! I am happy for him. Jamie was with GMT, I think? I don't know them but have heard the name if it's the same Jamie Smith. In any event, I will look forward to a new face and new shoes to fill where Jim left off.

Many thanks for getting back to me on a weekend.

My best,
Karen

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 9:22 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>, Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Cc: Jim Barr <James.Barr@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

I hope you are having a nice weekend. I did ask for clarity around why the bus was moved from the on-campus route to the Redstone express route, but I was then out of the office on Thursday afternoon and didn't get a chance to connect with Transportation and Parking on Friday. I will follow up on it tomorrow and will get back to you. Peter Young also reached out to me and I will get back to him as well.

You may be unaware that Jim Barr retired last year. We have had an interim director of Transportation and Parking since then, but we have a new director, Jamie Smith starting soon. I believe his first day is April 1st. We will be sure to make him aware of the neighborhood concerns when he starts.

I'll be in touch again as soon as I can.

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
University of Vermont
Planning, Design, and Construction
Burlington, VT 05405

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 5:29 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Cc: Jim Barr <James.Barr@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

Hi Lisa and Joe,

We need to discuss this two bus situation on South Prospect Street.

I would like to know why you took one bus that was on the interior route and put it on the Redstone route. I realize that the interior route may take a longer loop but if there are three buses, that length is mitigated by the number of buses at one time. Peak demand can be served with buses on the interior route only.

Given the schedule, it would seem that if there are two buses going back and forth from Redstone to the Main Campus, that would be 4 round trips every 15 minutes or 1 bus trip every two minutes, particularly when the same number of buses have been functioning just fine with three on the preferred route.

Please put the second bus back on the interior road. One bus every 120 seconds for several hours is just too much. Please confirm to me that you have taken care of this.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (she, her, hers)
City Council President

REC029



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Barbara Headrick <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 9:37 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Cc: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

This is so wrong, for so many reasons.

On Mar 22, 2023, at 9:14 AM, Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu> wrote:

Good morning, Barbara.

As we have communicated since we did the study and removed evening and weekend buses from South Prospect Street in 2012, there will be times that two buses will be on the Redstone Express route during peak hours. We let you know at the time that any further changes from the 2012 report would go to the Ward 6 NPA for discussion before changes would be made. We did that in 2016 when we began allowing Ruggles House residents to ride the Redstone Express. Two buses on the Redstone Express route during peak hours is not a change from our communicated practice.

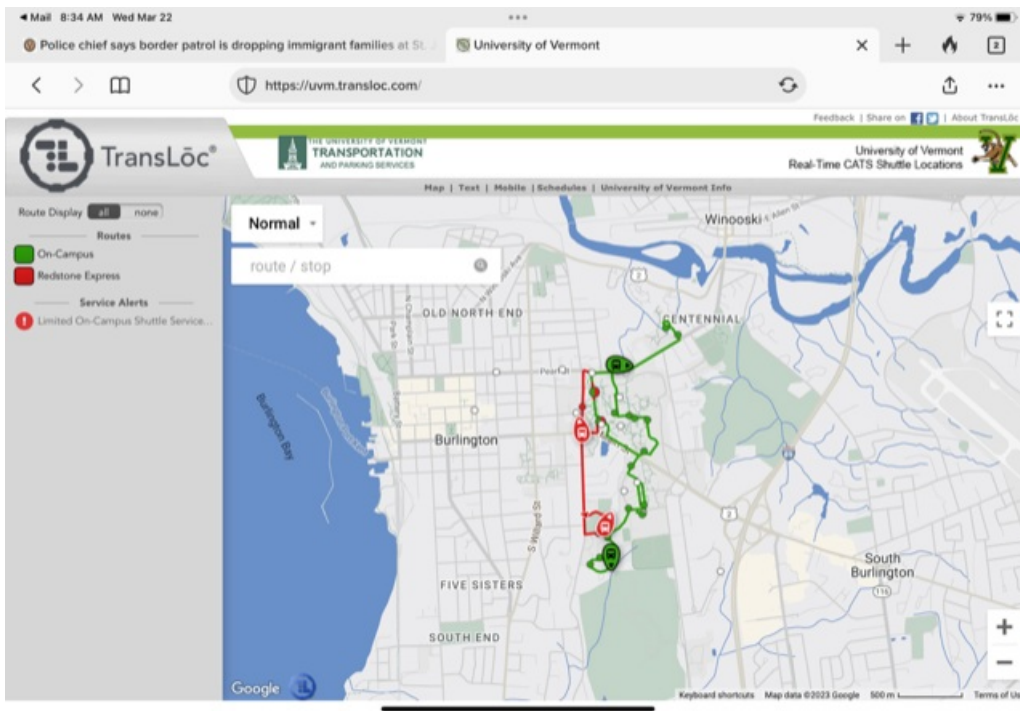
Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Barbara Headrick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 8:41 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Cc: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Redstone Express - 2 buses should not be in operation on this route

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Lisa,
Please have UVM transportation remove the 2nd bus that they added to The Redstone Express route today. Put this bus back on the "on-campus route" (green line in the map below) where there are usually 3 buses, but today there's only two because that 3rd bus is being used as the 2nd bus on the Redstone Express route. Please stop harming our residential street with campus overflow impacts, especially when there are ways to avoid adversely impacting us.
Barbara



Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 4:18 PM EDT
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Admissions bus

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

I will look into this with our Transportation & Parking and Admissions staff.

You had also asked previously about the process of deciding when to remove a second bus once one has been added. My understanding is that there are a few factors that go into that decision. The drivers and the supervisors know the trends and the class change times, so when demand seems to wane, they may decide to take the second bus off right away, but they may wait to see if demand increases again if there is another class change before 10 am. I hope that makes sense.

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 12:28 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Admissions bus

Hi Lisa and Joe,

Today and this week will certainly be great days for the Admissions tours that UVM is conducting.

I have been alerted that you are using a second bus to provide "Admissions" campus tours and because of the route you have chosen for this bus, it is still operating along South Prospect Street, south of Main Street.

Please, I would ask that you discontinue using South Prospect south of Main Street for the Admissions bus's tour route. It would seem that a more informative view of campus for prospective student and their parents would be for the Admissions bus to use your internal campus road south of Main Street to reach the Redstone campus. This means that after passing in front of Waterman Hall, the bus would turn east on Main Street and right onto University Heights Road. From there the prospective students could see much more of campus while traveling to the Redstone campus dorm area.

While I can appreciate the optics of South Prospect Street and the beauty of our community, please see if you can find other ways to showcase our grand Queen City.

Many thanks for your consideration.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



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BURLINGTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The Burlington Business Association, founded in 1978, is a non-profit, non-political membership organization with over 200 business and non-profit members.

Board of Directors:

Chelsea Condos, Chair
Christian Kuzia, Vice Chair
Shireen Hart, Secretary
Michele Asch
Donna Austin-Hawley
Michael Casella
Richard Deane
Peter Dysart
John George Wheeler
Lisa Kingsbury
Leslee MacKenzie
Ryan Nick
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Staff:

Kelly Devine
Executive Director

Colin Hilliard
Deputy Director

Lexie Wheeler
Program Coordinator

29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

April 19, 2023

RE: Proposed CDO Amendment: ZA-23-01 South End Innovation District

On behalf of the 250+ businesses and nonprofits represented by the Burlington Business Association (BBA), please accept the following comments regarding the Proposed CDO Amendment: ZA-23-01 South End Innovation District.

The BBA enthusiastically supports the proposed changes to create a South End Innovation District (SEID).

It is well known Burlington has a housing crisis. First called out in the 2014 Downtown Housing Strategy Report, the crisis was more recently highlighted in Building Homes Together 2.0 Campaign's October report that found Chittenden Co. is trailing behind the target of 5,000 new homes by 2025. The December Allen, Brooks & Minor report also found that vacancy rates continue to be historically low at less than 1%. A healthy vacancy rate is at least 4 times this, between 4-8%. Area businesses continuously report that a lack of both housing availability and affordability is one of the top challenges they face.

The proposed amendment would allow surface parking lots and other underutilized space to be transformed into a mixed-use, vibrant, multimodal community for the next century. Most importantly it would allow for housing for more Burlingtonians to live near where they work and play; with associated positive impacts for our climate.

Specifically, we do have concerns that the proposed FAR of 2.5 is too low to allow for the vibrant neighborhood the SEID has the potential to create. Further, we support the proposed height allowances of up to 85 feet. Exclusionary height restrictions would severely limit the possible benefits of this proposed district. Concerns from neighbors that this density and height would erode neighborhood character devalues how neighborhoods are also defined by the amenities and people that live within them.

Every foot of height we remove from this SEID zoning excludes people who could live in it. We must take into consideration that these new neighbors have no voice in this process. We must consider young professionals hoping to keep their talents in Vermont, people of all income ranges who deserve a



29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

April 19, 2023

place in our community, families who hope to send their kids to a new BHS, and overhoused seniors looking to downsize.

Burlington's housing crisis deserves forward thinking, bold solutions like this proposed amendment. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly".

Kelly Devine
(802) 863-1175
director@bbavt.org

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2023 9:58 AM EDT
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Admissions bus

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks, Karen.

I will bring my copy of the Campus Plan. Happy to talk through any of it with you.

Best,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2023 9:34 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Admissions bus

Hi Lisa and Joe,

Thanks for understanding. 10:30 on May 10 is fine with me.

In addition to the bus issue, I am hearing from South Prospect Street residents who have been alerted to your 2022-2032 master plan. I am hopeful you will be willing to clarify the University's position on some of the items in the plan. More on that when we get together.

Thank you again for your flexibility. See you next Wednesday.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 3:19 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>, Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Admissions bus

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

No problem. Would 10:30 on May 10th work for you? That looks like the best option for Joe, Jamie, and me.

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
University of Vermont
Planning, Design, and Construction
Burlington, VT 05405

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Saturday, April 29, 2023 5:04 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Admissions bus

Hi Lisa and Joe,

I have a work conflict and can't meet at 10:15 on Tuesday. My apologies for the short notice.

Any chance you can meet in the morning on May 3, 8, 9 or 10?

My best,
Karen

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Monday, April 17, 2023 at 8:25 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>, Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Admissions bus

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,
Great! Looking forward to coffee on May 2nd at August First.

I can also confirm that today is the last Admitted Student Visit day for this year. Thanks for helping to communicate with the neighbors.

Hope you enjoyed the sunshine this weekend!
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 6:32 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Admissions bus

Hi Lisa,

Sure, 10:15 on May 2 is just fine. August First.

I hope you both have an amazing weekend!

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Friday, April 14, 2023 at 3:09 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>, Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Admissions bus

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

I will get the remaining dates for you. I did get an out of office message from our director of admissions that he is out for Admitted

Student Days today and Monday, so it looks like those are two of the remaining days.

Would a mid-morning coffee work for you? It looks like Joe, Jamie, and I could all do 10:15 on May 2^d.

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
University of Vermont
Planning, Design, and Construction
Burlington, VT 05405

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 10:29 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Admissions bus

Hi Lisa and Joe,

Thanks for the information on the admitted students day and the buses. If you can pass along to me the dates of these admitted students events, I will pass them on to the residents so they know what's coming. I find that is helpful for everyone.

Yes, I would be happy to meet with you and Jamie. I don't think we have ever met in person (though my memory pre-COVID is sometimes not the best...too long ago!) I could meet in the morning on April 18, 25, 28, May 2. If you need further out, please let me know and I will go into May.

Thank you for your response.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 12:56 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>, Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: Admissions bus

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

I was able to get more information about the "Admissions" bus on South Prospect Street. These are not campus tours, they are part of Admitted Student Day visits. The College of Arts and Sciences has a bus that they use to bring Music majors to Southwick for their academic presentation. As you know, the main entrance to Southwick is on the Redstone Green, which can only be accessed from a vehicle by using South Prospect Street. There is no internal route that a bus can take to reach the entrance to that building. The good news is that there are only 8 Admitted Student Days and they are spread over the course of 3 months, so this is not a frequent event.

All of that being said, our new Transportation & Parking Services Director, Jamie Smith, has started and is in the process of onboarding and understanding the opportunities and challenges of all aspects of our transportation and parking efforts. I had a chance to meet with him yesterday and suggested that it may be helpful for him to meet with you and hear directly about what messages you get from your constituents and what challenges we have faced and worked on together over the years. He is open to doing that if you have time. I was thinking the three of us and Joe can meet for coffee at August First one morning soon. If you have time to meet, could you let me know what days work best for you?

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 12:28 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Admissions bus

Hi Lisa and Joe,

Today and this week will certainly be great days for the Admissions tours that UVM is conducting.

I have been alerted that you are using a second bus to provide "Admissions" campus tours and because of the route you have chosen for this bus, it is still operating along South Prospect Street, south of Main Street.

Please, I would ask that you discontinue using South Prospect south of Main Street for the Admissions bus's tour route. It would seem that a more informative view of campus for prospective student and their parents would be for the Admissions bus to use your internal campus road south of Main Street to reach the Redstone campus. This means that after passing in front of Waterman Hall, the bus would turn east on Main Street and right onto University Heights Road. From there the prospective students could see much more of campus while traveling to the Redstone campus dorm area.

While I can appreciate the optics of South Prospect Street and the beauty of our community, please see if you can find other ways to showcase our grand Queen City.

Many thanks for your consideration.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



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From: Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov> on behalf of Erin Stoetzner <estoetzner@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2023 11:58 AM EDT
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: BBA Meeting with Mayor
Attachment(s): "attachment.ics"

Hi all --

I'm hoping to reschedule the BBA meeting with the Mayor to Friday, May 12th from 2:30 - 3:30pm. The [REDACTED] during your usual Wednesday slot. Please let me know if this time won't work for you all!

Best,
Erin

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Sunday, May 07, 2023 9:52 AM EDT
To: Zandy Wheeler <zandyw@skirack.com>
CC: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Meg McGovern <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Subject: Re: Main Street Great Streets Parking Meeting

Hi Zandy,
I'd be happy to meet at Meg's office tomorrow at 4. See you then!

Joan

On May 6, 2023, at 2:52 PM, Zandy Wheeler <zandyw@skirack.com> wrote:

You don't often get email from zandyw@skirack.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello Joan,

Would you be able to meet up with the three of us on Monday at 4:00 at Meg's office at Donahue Associates on Main St. That will give us time to digest the recent (5/5/23) Parking Draft from the parking consultant at VHB and discuss what we think is proper and necessary to address from Chapin's agenda:

I assume but do not know if this is what Chapin referred to in the past few days as some 'new' proposed strategies that he expected to have by Monday.

From my point of view it is important to clearly articulate a sensible plan that realistically addresses the needs of the community. Hope is not an adequate plan ever and especially in circumstances with so much at stake.

Chapin's Agenda:

I (Chapin) wanted to reach out to you all as Main Street Parking Advisory Committee members and offer you the opportunity to review and get your feedback on:

- Proposed short term (construction phase) on-street regulatory changes
- Proposed long term on-street regulatory changes
- Proposed on-street, off-street and promotional mitigation strategies

Let us know if this works for you at this late hour. Meg's office is at 65 Main, suite 202.

Thank you,

Zandy

On Fri, May 5, 2023 at 2:24 PM Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:
Let me know the best time to meet and how I can help?

On May 5, 2023, at 1:25 PM, Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org> wrote:

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Great. Thx

Kelly Devine
Executive Director
Burlington Business Assoc.

On May 5, 2023, at 11:35, Zandy Wheeler <zandyw@skirack.com> wrote:

Hi Joan,

As a follow up to my email this morning, Chapin Spencer communicated this morning that he is gathering additional Parking mitigation options Monday for discussion with us on Tuesday. He says he is gathering more options based on the signatures and feedback many people offered the DPW Commission by the April deadline. That is good news.

This project is like having 'our' PIT project moved to the middle of Main Street for 3 years.

The Community cannot allow itself to get relegated to the back seat for 3 years. And we don't want to be 'handled by another' consultant who works for DPW and not the community. It took months to develop a relationship with the past consultant and that contract is ending and a 'new' one is out to bid when we are at the 11th hour. We are going to learn about new proposals on Monday, speaking to DPW on Tuesday who will be completing their 'DPW Commission Packet next week for commission action this month. There is a lot at stake for the image, reputation and future of this City.

Zandy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Chapin Spencer** <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>

Date: Fri, May 5, 2023 at 9:53 AM

Subject: Main Street Great Streets Parking Meeting

To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>, meg@donahueassociatesvt.com, meg@donahueassociatesvt.com, Zandy Wheeler <zandyw@skirack.com>, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>, Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>, Laura Wheelock <lwheelock@burlingtonvt.gov>

Let's meet at the City Hall Bushor Conference Room. It's available. C

Hello all. Team City will work on getting materials requested in advance. Thanks in advance for making the time. ~ Chapin

Hello Kelly, Zandy, Meg:

I wanted to reach out to you all as Main Street Parking Advisory Committee members and offer you the opportunity to review and get your feedback on:

- Proposed short term (construction phase) on-street regulatory changes
- Proposed long term on-street regulatory changes
- Proposed on-street, off-street and promotional mitigation strategies

It would be great to get your feedback prior to the DPW Commission packet getting assembled and distributed so we have the best chance to incorporate your input.

We have been working to assemble some updated and expanded mitigation strategies given the stakeholder feedback we've been receiving. We expect to have a draft written

list of the regulatory changes and the proposed mitigation strategies by Monday.

Kara, Laura, Jeff and I are available:

- Monday May 8, 3-5pm (4-5pm preferred)
- Tuesday May 9, 2:30-4:30pm (2:30-3:30 preferred)

Let us know if any of these slots don't work for you. Once we hear back from you three, we'll lock in a time and place. We are flexible on meeting location. Call anytime if you want to discuss any of this. My cell is 802-316-0006.

Best,

Chapin

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.
<mime-attachment.ics>
<invite.ics>

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2023 12:20 PM EDT
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Page 44 of the JIPMP

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

Thanks for reaching out again. Here is some additional context that I hope will provide more clarity:

1. The removal of Coolidge Hall was in the 2020-2022 JIPMP. If you read the text before Table 11, it may become clearer that the table is both updating projects from the previous JIPMP (whether they are complete, not moving forward, or planned for the next 5 years) and identifying new projects. We have asked CATMA/VHB to move Coolidge Hall to the "Not moving forward at this time" section of Table 11. That is consistent with other projects identified in the last JIPMP that UVM does not have current plans to move forward.
2. The 190 spaces for "Residential Housing" in the "Unknown" category is an error and will be removed. This was mentioned at the previous Planning Commission Meeting. This is a double count of "Future Additional Parking to Accommodate New Housing" that shows up earlier in the table. UVM is considering two housing projects and associated parking with a timeline of one in 2025 and one in 2026.
3. The error of the 190 spaces directly under Coolidge Hall is an unfortunate coincidence. Because two items are next to one another does not necessarily mean they are linked together. Most of the projects on this list are not linked to another project by way of where they fall on the table. I do understand the confusion based on the language and the fact that the other housing projects listed have parking directly beneath them, but truly, this was just an error that we have already said will be rectified. It was my mistake not catching it in the table and I apologize for the confusion it has caused.

I'd be happy to talk through this more and if it's easier and quicker to talk by phone, please feel free to call me on my cell at [REDACTED].

Thanks,
Lisa

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 9:06 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Page 44 of the JIPMP

Hi Lisa,

Thank you for this further clarification.

If you are moving this from "unknown" to "not moving forward at this time", and you have said that the 190 parking spaces was an error, that would seem to mean that the -30,150 GSF is an error. If that is the case, the line item would have no information other than the name of the dorm. It would seem that if this is a blank line, if you have no plan, why not eliminate it.

I see no reason for this line to be included in the report. If you have no plans to demolish Coolidge and put up any other structure, I think you should allay those concerns. Moving this to another part of the graph makes the reader wonder. Will this project come back six years from now?

I would ask that you please consider this request. If you can please get back to me tomorrow, prior to the meeting tomorrow, that would be most helpful. Thank you so much.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (she, her, hers)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



REC043

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Monday, May 8, 2023 at 4:13 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Page 44 of the JIPMP

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

I spoke with Josh Katz from CATMA today about what was conveyed to the Planning Commission on 4/25 about the 190 residential space error. He assured me that was noted in the CATMA/VHB presentation to the Planning Commission that evening, so they are aware, as is Meagan Tuttle, that that line will be removed from the JIPMP Table 11. They have not resubmitted the corrected JIPMP yet as they are waiting to see if there are any other edits that need to be made after the Planning Commission discusses the JIPMP. It is likely the amended document will be submitted this week.

We have also asked them to move the Coolidge Hall line out of the "Unknown" section and into the "Not moving forward at this time" section. That is consistent with other projects that have been included in the previous version of the JIPMP but that UVM does not plan to move forward in the next five years.

I hope that helps clarify and alleviate any concerns that the neighbors had. Let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 8:48 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Page 44 of the JIPMP

Hi Lisa,

Thanks so much for your reply. Good to know that the 190 parking spaces was an error and it can be corrected by it is approved. What about the -30,150 GSF change in building area?

Ideally, if you can eliminate this line from the page, that would be ideal. "Unknown" is very unnerving to people – it can mean anything. Much as I may try to allay concerns, what's in writing is in writing.

I know you are busy – when you get a chance, please let me know. Sometime today would be great as the meeting is tomorrow and I am trying to address this prior.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:47 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Page 44 of the JIPMP

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Good morning, Karen,

I hope you had a nice weekend and got some time to be outdoors.

I will clarify a bit more later, but since I am in meetings all morning today, the short answer is that the line that reads 190 spaces for residential parking is an error. It was caught before the Planning Commission meeting, but too late to have the document amended before the meeting on 4/25. It will be removed before the document is approved.

I wasn't able to be at the meeting, but I'll check with CATMA to see if it was noted as an error at the meeting. I thought they were going to do that. I'll also check on whether the document has been amended.

I'll try to get back to you later today.

Thanks,
Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

On May 7, 2023, at 2:51 PM, Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Lisa,

My apologies for emailing you on a Sunday. Hopefully you are outside enjoying this glorious weather.

There is some concern from a group of neighbors who live near the Redstone campus regarding page 44 of this Plan that will go before the Planning Commission on May 9.

Of particular concern is the line about "Coolidge Hall Building." It notes a -30,150 GSF change in building area but an associated change in parking of 190 spaces with an unknown date to completion.

I am hopeful that there can be some clarification of this line item. It would appear that UVM has a potential plan to demolish the Coolidge Building and replace it with parking right on the Redstone Green. Saying "unknown" in a plan raises concerns that by approving this plan and forwarding it to the DRB that while this project may not happen during the life of this plan, it could happen at any time and go to the DRB for permitting.

I am going to request that it be entered into the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting that there was a discussion on this item and possible action on this development be clarified.

A 190 space parking structure on the Redstone Green is not in character with this thoughtful landscape of this campus. It must be respected, particularly given the attention that must be paid to eliminating parking and encouraging TDM.

Lisa, is it part of UVM's long-term potential plan to demolish Coolidge and put up a parking garage? If that is the case, I would request that you be more transparent and say what your plan is. If this is not your plan, I would ask that your JIPMP clarify that and remove this item from the plan.

I will forward an email to the chair of the Planning Commission and Director Tuttle so they are aware of this concern but wanted to email you first and will hope for a response. I apologize for not reading this sooner but am a bit swamped at times.

Thank you for listening and I am happy to discuss this further.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994

<image001.jpg>

Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2023 1:51 PM EDT
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Page 44 of the JIPMP

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,

No need to apologize. I appreciate the open communication.

I think you sent this email at the same time I was sending a response to your email from last night, so some of this is redundant.

In response to your two requests:

1. The removal of Coolidge Hall was in the 2020-2022 JIPMP. If you read the text before Table 11, it may become clearer that the table is both updating projects from the previous JIPMP (whether they are complete, not moving forward, or planned for the next 5 years) and identifying new projects. We have asked CATMA/VHB to move Coolidge Hall to the "Not moving forward at this time" section of Table 11. That is consistent with other projects identified in the last JIPMP that UVM does not have current plans to move forward.
2. We are not able to publicly speak about the potential housing project locations at this time. However, both are footnoted with the following language:

"UVM and the City of Burlington have engaged in a process to rezone Trinity Campus in order to enable the creation of additional student housing on campus. As of this report, City Council has tabled the proposed rezoning language and it is unclear whether the housing at Trinity Campus will move forward. UVM is actively exploring options to increase student housing on Trinity and/or elsewhere. The low end of range of potential gsf estimates was used for totaling change in area."

I am going to direct VHB/CATMA to amend that footnote to read:

"UVM and the City of Burlington have engaged in a process to rezone Trinity Campus in order to enable the creation of additional student housing on campus. As of this report, City Council has tabled the proposed rezoning language and it is unclear whether the housing at Trinity Campus will move forward. UVM is actively exploring options to increase student housing on Trinity and/or elsewhere. **UVM is not in a position to discuss the other sites publicly at this time. None of the sites are associated with a project from the previous JIPMP to remove Coolidge Hall, which is not moving forward at this time.** The low end of range of potential gsf estimates was used for totaling change in area."

I hope that helps provide additional clarity.

Best,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2023 12:23 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Page 44 of the JIPMP
Importance: High

Dear Lisa,

My apologies, I know you have many things on your plate and I appreciate your time on this issue.

I am unable to be at the planning commission meeting this evening. Another committee that I chair is meeting at the same time and I am unable to be in both places, even by zoom.

In the name of full transparency, I have two requests:

1. **As per my email below, please remove this line about Coolidge. If you don't intend to move this project forward and the line information is in error, please just remove it. This is the most transparent way to deal with this.**

REC046

On page 43, the page before the chart, you list two other housing projects with 200 new parking spaces in each. On the “Future Additional Parking to Accommodate New Housing” you list 200 spaces but nothing more and you say this is happening n 2025. Please specify the location of these housing projects. If you don’t, others can understandably wonder if that site is Redstone and a replacement dorm that will again have 200 parking spaces.

Since my last email, in talking with others who attended the April 25 Planning Commission meeting, it is my understanding that CATMA did say that it needed to delete the Coolidge Hall line on page 44 because it was already captured on the planned project list on page 43 where the locations are unspecified.

2. Please specify the location of the two housing projects on page 43. And please add a footnote to the planned project list to say that these housing projects will not be a replacement dorm for Coolidge nor a 200 space parking garage on the Redstone Green. If you have no intention of doing this, then saying that should be an easy fix.

Thank you so much. Please confirm receipt of this email.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Date: Monday, May 8, 2023 at 9:05 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: Page 44 of the JIPMP

Hi Lisa,

Thank you for this further clarification.

If you are moving this from “unknown” to “not moving forward at this time”, and you have said that the 190 parking spaces was an error, that would seem to mean that the -30,150 GSF is an error. If that is the case, the line item would have no information other than the name of the dorm. It would seem that if this is a blank line, if you have no plan, why not eliminate it.

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I would ask that you please consider this request. If you can please get back to me tomorrow, prior to the meeting tomorrow, that would be most helpful. Thank you so much.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



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From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Monday, May 8, 2023 at 4:13 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Page 44 of the JIPMP

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

REC047

Hi Karen,

I spoke with Josh Katz from CATMA today about what was conveyed to the Planning Commission on 4/25 about the 190 residential space error. He assured me that was noted in the CATMA/VHB presentation to the Planning Commission that evening, so they are aware, as is Meagan Tuttle, that that line will be removed from the JIPMP Table 11. They have not resubmitted the corrected JIPMP yet as they are waiting to see if there are any other edits that need to be made after the Planning Commission discusses the JIPMP. It is likely the amended document will be submitted this week.

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Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
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(802) 656-1059

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Subject: Re: Page 44 of the JIPMP

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I know you are busy – when you get a chance, please let me know. Sometime today would be great as the meeting is tomorrow and I am trying to address this prior.

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Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



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From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:47 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Page 44 of the JIPMP

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Lisa

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Thank you for listening and I am happy to discuss this further.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994

<image001.jpg>

Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

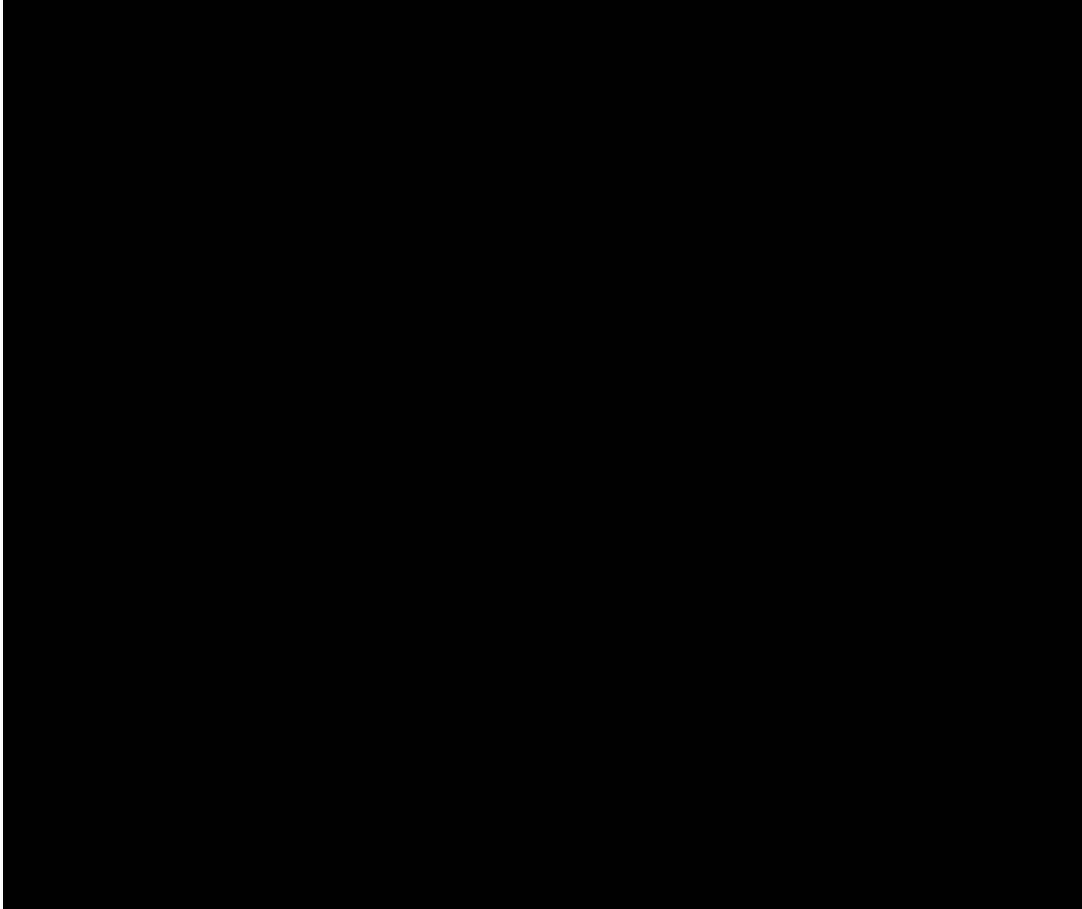
Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2023 2:34 PM EDT
To: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: Main Street Great Streets
Attachment(s): "attachment.ics"

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(25)

Chapin Spencer is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting



Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

- A. Describe what steps DPW is committed to make to take action and invest dollars to achieve Strategies 1-5 on page 2 of May 23, 2023 Parking Study. What are they?
- B. Three Parking Advisory Committee members propose that DPW commit to address May 2023 draft recommendations in the following manner. Execute a contract for a qualified group to further develop and promote the Park Burlington Website to create a digital tool to enable Burlington's visitors, clientele and customers to find and locate parking options during and after the proposed 3 year construction phase of the Main Street Great Streets project. As the project proceeds, updating current conditions will go far in creating a place which can be trusted to guide people to existing parking and reduce environmental damage from cycling around when they don't find the parking that is no longer available or obstructed by construction.

Some in the community speak highly of this tool and report that visitors and people considering Burlington as a business location are impressed that the website is useful in guiding them to parking they want to access. This digital tool directly addresses the first two strategies identified in the Draft May 2023 Executive Summary-2.

- 1. Maximize use of existing parking.
- 2. Strategically invest in Information and Technology

We advise DPW to Commit to execute a contract to continue to develop and Update Park Burlington website to be the tool that best educates residents, businesses, their friends and clients to find the ample parking that is Not familiar to most residents. We propose that there be an element of the contract to assist businesses and organizations in all sectors to incorporate Park Burlington on their websites and publicize the existence of this tool in physical and scannable signage throughout Burlington. These actions will insure their current and future clients find our parking assets during and after the 3 year construction period. The business community is committed to work with our employees, clients and visitors to access and use this tool to locate parking and learn about current construction impact on traffic patterns and on street parking locations. We need the right tools and the assistance to build a comprehensive marketing program for this parking tool. Park Burlington seems like it has a foundation to provide quality assistance to everyone if it is marketed well and kept up to date.

Digital wayfinding will augment the Parking Study's recommendations for updated, uniform and prominent temporary and permanent physical signage installed and updated before, during and after the construction starts. One example of needed signage is at the corner of Main Street and South Champlain as well as at the top of South Champlain directing to the City Garage across College street.

We recommend that the City commit to assess the effectiveness or lack thereof of physical signage every 6 months at a minimum during the construction and the first year afterwards. We advise that the City find ways to work with UPP and other private owners so that our visitors find options that are welcoming, safe and clean.

- C. We urge DPW to develop additional parking options during the Construction Phase of this project. The Updated Parking Study does not comment on parking availability during the 3 year timeframe while the construction is occurring. Based on information shared by DPW in the April DPW Commission meeting, Laura Wheelock shared that more than 67 spaces will be impacted periodically during different phases of the project. Given that 20% of the project will likely be modified during construction due to unforeseen field conditions, it seems prudent to create additional parking to accommodate our visitors, businesses and residents. This is important because downtown neighborhoods will be impacted by those seeking parking who don't find what they are looking for on Main St.

Examples include but are not limited to:

1. Reduce to planned loss of 67 spaces on the project. Consider more 15 minute spaces and allow those to be renewed in Park Mobile or local kiosk one or two times. Consider places where there can be spaces that are retained.
2. Commit to expand available spaces at the Main St. and South Winooski lot through design improvements and collaboration with the Fire Department.
3. Expand the plan for South Champlain Street diagonal parking. Create one way traffic between Main and King Street as was discussed and recommended at the April DPW Commission meeting. Make that So. Champlain one way between King and College St. to add diagonal parking inventory and to extend the proposed one way traffic between Main and College St. One objection was that the street is undergoing major disruption while the residential building is completed. A fall completion would give DPW time to get this into their construction schedule for the majority of the construction of Main St.

Continue to invest and publicize the improvements to safety, cleanliness, illumination and wayfinding to and from City parking garages. Have the parking department within DPW explore ways to incentivize businesses and employees who are using the underutilized parking structures. Make sure that the City works with the business community to highlight the improvements and locations of these parking assets. What if there were monthly prizes that Downtown businesses offered to those employees who are using the parking structure instead of finding inexpensive or free parking on the street. What else can be done to expand use of underused parking at other locations.

Commit to Review successes and failures of downtown parking during the construction period. Commit to budget for and hire a consultant or team to report at 18 months after the start of construction to report to the Commission and to building and business owners, the City Council and residents on how the parking assets are being utilized. Also evaluate whether the parking study assessment that there is a perception that parking is not available, safe, accessible and clean. there is any change in perception that there is not enough parking in Burlington between the onset of the Great Streets project and

after construction has commenced. Make recommendations on what can and should be done to continue to build confidence and belief that Burlington has

- share data quarterly about parking data. Jeff Padgett
- Show data to support 1.50 hr and 3 hour limit.

From: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2023 2:34 PM EDT
To: Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>; Zandy Wheeler <zandyw@skirack.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Laura Wheelock <lwheelock@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Great Streets Main Street - Parking Mitigation Meeting Follow Up

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks Zandy and all,
Very helpful

Meg McGovern
Donahue & Associates
65 Main St Suite 202
BTV
802.343.6471
Please excuse typos, sent from iPhone

From: Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2023 1:01:56 PM
To: Zandy Wheeler <zandyw@skirack.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Laura Wheelock <lwheelock@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Great Streets Main Street - Parking Mitigation Meeting Follow Up

Hello Kelly, Meg, Zandy, Joan:

Thank you for the productive Main Street meeting Tuesday afternoon. As promised, here are the notes from our meeting on Tuesday (see attached Word document). We also have attached the document Zandy provided and the document (Main Street – Parking Mitigation Strategies) that were circulated in the meeting.

Some key City action items we are prepared to take from the meeting:

- Continue to negotiate with UPP to get a City-subsidized off-street parking program in place (Goal to have up and running a month before construction) – City has budgeted some Traffic/DID funding for this and is working on additional sources. I have personally followed up with UPP today on this.
- Work to secure more temporary and permanent parking along corridor than what is currently listed in the “Main Street – Parking Mitigation Strategies” document.
- Not advance to the Commission this month the proposed 3-hour time limit for on-street grey meters – and not bring it back until more data review and engagement with you all is done.
- Update Park Burlington interactive map (already underway) – now that we are executing the Park Burlington brand transfer, DPW will be greatly increasing our promotion of the tool.
- Fund a marketing plan (at least \$15K/yr, very likely more) coordinated by Business & Workforce Development – also launched at least a month before construction.
- Continue conversations with BBA about a convener / engagement role with Main Street stakeholders during the construction process.
- Install robust temporary construction signage with prominent signage to both public and publicly-available private parking.
- Require Main Street project contractors to park personal vehicles off-street so as not to encumber limited spaces.
- Not recommend any increase of the DID rate for FY’24.
- Work with CEDO and private developers to include public parking in future development of the Gateway block. This location is the optimal location for capturing and parking vehicles from the east and south as they enter downtown.

Hope this is helpful. I and my team will continue to be productively engaged in these conversations moving forward. This is a big generational improvement for our community and I appreciate everyone’s collective efforts to mitigate the impacts.

If after reviewing this information, anyone would like to meet again prior to the DPW Commission meeting, please let me know and we’ll make it happen.

Best,
Chapin

Chapin Spencer (he/him), Director
Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW
802-863-9094

REC054



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Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 3:00 PM EDT
To: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>; Zandy Wheeler <zandyw@skirack.com>
CC: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Laura Wheelock <lwheelock@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Great Streets Main Street - Parking Mitigation Meeting Follow Up

Hello Kelly, Meg Zandy, (and Joan)

Yes, thank you for your ongoing Main Street feedback. It continues to be helpful and incorporated.

At the last meeting, Kelly asked the City to go beyond pausing on the meter time-limit discussion on Main St to also pause the rate increase to \$1.50/hr even understanding that it wouldn't go into effect until after construction. We listened and have updated the Commission memo and requested action to remove the rate change from tonight's meeting:

- ~~4. Converting meter rates on Main Street between Battery and South Union to be \$1.50 per hour to encourage turnover of on street parking to support businesses along the street.~~
- o ~~This will be postponed to allow more time to bring forward a comprehensive rate recommendation for:~~
 - ~~Sections of Main Street and adjacent streets for any potential rate changes to help during construction phase~~
 - ~~Entire length of Main Street for post construction~~
 - o Comprehensive recommendations to come this fall.

I hope this is seen as a demonstrable effort that the City wants to be responsive and get this right.

The full packet of materials is at: <https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW/Commission/Agendas>

Best,
Chapin

Chapin Spencer (he/him), Director
Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW
802-863-9094



Our Mission: To steward Burlington's infrastructure and environment by delivering efficient, effective, and equitable public services.

From: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2023 3:02 PM
To: Zandy Wheeler <zandyw@skirack.com>; Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Laura Wheelock <lwheelock@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Great Streets Main Street - Parking Mitigation Meeting Follow Up

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks for the concise comments, Zandy!

Meg McGovern

Senior
Associate, Broker
65 Main St Suite 202 • BTV, VT 05401
Donahue & Associates

802-343-6471
802-862-6880
meg@donahueassociatesvt.com
www.DonahueAssociatesVT.com



From: Zandy Wheeler <zandyw@skirack.com>
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2023 8:08 PM
To: Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; meg@donahueassociatesvt.com; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Laura

Wheelock <lwheelock@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Great Streets Main Street - Parking Mitigation Meeting Follow Up

Hello Chapin and DPW team,

Thank you for setting up this meeting and generating the notes. The dialogue and focus on solutions is very positive and productive.

I fully believe we cannot be over prepared for this project which will surprise us all at times.

The Mitigation suggestions are very encouraging and I think necessary to help anticipate the impact on our community. I personally think the Courthouse initiative is critical on many fronts and I encourage pursuit of this collaboration with the private sector.

I have commented on the notes and hope this adds emphasis to some of the many important points that were covered.

Zandy

On Fri, May 12, 2023 at 1:02 PM Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hello Kelly, Meg, Zandy, Joan:

Thank you for the productive Main Street meeting Tuesday afternoon. As promised, here are the notes from our meeting on Tuesday (see attached Word document). We also have attached the document Zandy provided and the document (Main Street – Parking Mitigation Strategies) that were circulated in the meeting.

Some key City action items we are prepared to take from the meeting:

- Continue to negotiate with UPP to get a City-subsidized off-street parking program in place (Goal to have up and running a month before construction) – City has budgeted some Traffic/DID funding for this and is working on additional sources. I have personally followed up with UPP today on this.
- Work to secure more temporary and permanent parking along corridor than what is currently listed in the “Main Street – Parking Mitigation Strategies” document.
- Not advance to the Commission this month the proposed 3-hour time limit for on-street grey meters – and not bring it back until more data review and engagement with you all is done.
- Update Park Burlington interactive map (already underway) – now that we are executing the Park Burlington brand transfer, DPW will be greatly increasing our promotion of the tool.
- Fund a marketing plan (at least \$15K/yr, very likely more) coordinated by Business & Workforce Development – also launched at least a month before construction.
- Continue conversations with BBA about a convener / engagement role with Main Street stakeholders during the construction process.
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- Require Main Street project contractors to park personal vehicles off-street so as not to encumber limited spaces.
- Not recommend any increase of the DID rate for FY’24.
- Work with CEDO and private developers to include public parking in future development of the Gateway block. This location is the optimal location for capturing and parking vehicles from the east and south as they enter downtown.

Hope this is helpful. I and my team will continue to be productively engaged in these conversations moving forward. This is a big generational improvement for our community and I appreciate everyone’s collective efforts to mitigate the impacts.

If after reviewing this information, anyone would like to meet again prior to the DPW Commission meeting, please let me know and we’ll make it happen.

Best,
Chapin

Chapin Spencer (he/him), Director
Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW
802-863-9094



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From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 6:00 PM EDT
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
CC: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: clarity regarding what was (and was not) communicated on April 25th

Great. I appreciate your willingness to allow me to share the emails with Barbara. I will respond to her tomorrow.

Many thanks. I hope you both have a good evening.

Karen

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 5:58 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: Re: clarity regarding what was (and was not) communicated on April 25th

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks, Karen. I agree with all of that too.

Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

On May 17, 2023, at 5:23 PM, Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Lisa. I watched the Planning Commission meeting from 4/25 and saw the powerpoint (I think it was page 15 of 24 that was Table 11.) The 190 spaces was not on that table. The -30150 GSF and the wrong category was on that table and that was changed for the May 9 meeting.) I do think what I said about you being aware of this issue on 4/25 meeting was accurate. I looked back at your emails and certainly understood that you knew about the 190 error, that Josh spoke to that at the PC meeting and I really don't think I misspoke in my email to her and her neighbors.

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 4:17 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: RE: clarity regarding what was (and was not) communicated on April 25th

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks, Karen. I don't know if you plan to or want to respond, but if it would help to show her that there was no "key messaging to undercut" her and that your intention was also in protecting the neighborhood, I would be fine with you sharing our emails from the day before and the day of the meeting.

Have a nice evening (stay warm!),
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
University of Vermont
Planning, Design, and Construction
Burlington, VT 05405

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 11:44 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: FW: clarity regarding what was (and was not) communicated on April 25th

Hi Lisa and Joe,

I got this email from Barbara Headrick yesterday. In view of our discussion, I thought you might be interested.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (she, her, hers)
City Council President

REC059

<image001.jpg>

Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Barbara Headrick <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 4:01 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: clarity regarding what was (and was not) communicated on April 25th

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Karen,

In your 5/10/23 email to myself and neighbors, you wrote: " She (Lisa Kingsbury) was aware of the error as was discussed at the April 25th meeting..."

When you sent the email on May 10th, did you have the impression that UVM and/or CATMA provided a response on April 25th that addressed and corrected my concerns?

Did you (or do you) have the impression that I learned on April 25th there was nothing to worry about and yet I still decided to engage my neighbors? (I hope not. I wouldn't do that.)

Lisa also seemed to imply that the information she conveyed on May 9th was also provided on April 25th. It sounded like the two of you had agreed on this key messaging in order to undercut me. I felt that this theme of (we already told her) was mean, dishonest, misleading and completely unnecessary.

In fact, regarding the topic of the new dorm and its parking that neighbors and I worried was going to be a replacement dorm for Coolidge, UVM did not provide any clarifying information on April 25th. They only provided useful information on May 9th.

From the audio clips provided below you can verify that UVM and CATMA's comments on April 25th neither confirmed nor denied their plans for Coolidge Hall and its replacement dorm. They simply said that the new housing project with 190 parking spaces was reported twice on the list - higher up on the list - and on the line under Coolidge Hall's demolition. When they said that they had double listed the housing projects and parking, they didn't say my concerns were invalid or unfounded or confused or anything of the sort.

My concern is that your sentence (incorrectly) made it sound like I had been corrected by UVM but had still gone ahead and asked my neighbors to share their opposition to the Coolidge Hall replacement dorm design concept, as shown in the UVM's Master Housing Strategy document, and the planned project details in JIPMP.

This has been bothering me because I feel wronged by your words and the impression it created.

Please, I ask you to send a kind and respectful email to my neighbors (copy me) to say that "you owe (me) an apology because contrary to your earlier understanding, UVM had not provided useful information regarding the Coolidge Hall replacement dorm and the 190 parking spaces on April 25th. You realise this now that you have listened to the Planning Commission audio recording of the April 25th meeting; and you can appreciate why (Barbara) engaged neighbors between April 26th and May 9th. You realize now that not until the May 9th meeting did UVM communicate that none of the projects on the planned project list involve a new dorm to replace and be located beside Coolidge Hall."

The first two audio clips provided below take less than 30 seconds to listen to. They prove that UVM only discussed where the information about the new dorm and its parking would be shown on the project list and nothing else.

Will you do this for me please? In a nice, kind and respectful way? I would be very grateful.

Sincerely,
Barbara

In the April 25th audio recordings provided below, the person talking is Karen Stenoff, CATMA's consultant. The first two audio clips are less than 30 seconds. If you want to listen to the entire April 25th meeting (which I doubt), it is on YouTube. Thank you Karen. I hope that I can give you information and engage others without feeling like you are trying to squash me under your heel in the future. My intentions are good.



Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2023 2:37 PM EDT
To: Lisa Kingsbury <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe. Speidel(Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu) <joe.speidel@uvm.edu>
Subject: FW: postcard from city about UVM development project
Attachment(s): "IMG_5066.JPG"

Hi Lisa and Joe,

I am hopeful that one of you might be able to help with me with a response.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Barbara Headrick <[REDACTED]>
Date: Friday, May 19, 2023 at 1:29 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: postcard from city about UVM development project

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Karen

Perhaps you can help with this please? I received a postcard from the city today. It is attached below.

As you can see in the highlighted text, the postcard indicates that the recipient property owner might be impacted by a UVM development project listed in the JIPMP. But as we have discussed, the JIPMP planned project list doesn't provide sufficient details for us to understand what UVM actually has planned and where the project is. Nor will this needed clarity be provided during the DRB hearing. Hence, the city postcard, the JIPMP planned project list, and the DRB review of the JIPMP don't provide sufficient public warning of UVM's development projects. Yet, the DRB will approve the JIPMP and that planned project list without actually knowing what UVM has planned. Since the city is mailing us a postcard, that indicates that the city thinks some public warning is necessary. But the effectiveness of this public warning is voided by the lack of information about the project location and other specifics.

For every project on the JIPMP planned project list, the potentially impacted neighbors deserve to know exactly which UVM project(s) this city postcard is referring to (because of the proximity of the planned project to the recipient's home); and the potential impacts of the planned project. Otherwise, the city postcard, the JIPMP planned project list, and DRB review of the JIPMP are too high level for neighbors to actually know what's going to happen and where it will happen.

For example, specifically what project(s) prompted the city to mail this postcard to me?
Thank you in advance for your help.

Barbara

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2023 11:27 AM EDT
To: Scott Gustin <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
CC: Meagan Tuttle <mtuttle@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: The postcard from the DRB

Hi all,

Thanks so much for these responses and the explanation as to the postcard. And please no worries about the weekends. We are all allowed a few days off :) even though we sometimes may feel otherwise, particularly when faced with an extensive stream of emails in our inbox or piles of paper on our desks.

Scott and Meagan, I will share the email I got from Barbara Headrick that Lisa mentioned. I hope this will be helpful to you.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records request.

From: Scott Gustin <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2023 10:17 AM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Cc: Meagan Tuttle <mtuttle@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: The postcard from the DRB

Good morning, all. The Joint Institutional Parking Management Plan is subject to DRB review as a public hearing. As such, every abutting property owner needs to be notified. So... we have a very big mailing list for this item. Its scheduled for June 6, 2023. The Plan is online for reference: [Development Review Board Agendas and Minutes | City of Burlington, Vermont \(burlingtonvt.gov\)](https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/development-review-board-agendas-and-minutes)
Scott

Scott Gustin, AICP, CFM
Principal Planner & Zoning Division Manager
Dept. of Permitting & Inspections
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
802-865-7189

From: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2023 9:50 AM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Cc: Meagan Tuttle <mtuttle@burlingtonvt.gov>; Scott Gustin <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: The postcard from the DRB

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Karen,
Sorry I haven't responded to your emails. I was traveling Friday and Saturday and volunteered all day at Commencement yesterday.

The city sends out the public hearing notices and we aren't involved in that process, so I'm sorry I can't answer your question about how far the postcards extended. I know you cc'd Meagan on this, but because the JIPMP has moved from the Planning Commission to the DRB, the notices probably originated from Zoning, so I am including Scott Gustin on this email as well.

I'll leave it up to you on whether you want to share the neighbor's email with Meagan and Scott so they can better answer her questions about why the public hearing notice is being sent. My assumption is that because the JIPMP is a document that demonstrates that the institutions can handle their parking demands in a comprehensive campus-wide manner, that anyone on the periphery of our campus, as well as the UVM Medical Center and Champlain College campuses, may be interested in the information. As a reminder, the JIPMP does not approve projects that require permitting. Those projects will still go through the regular public permit process.

Thanks,
Lisa

Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning
Planning, Design and Construction
University of Vermont
(802) 656-1059

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Sunday, May 21, 2023 2:22 PM
To: Lisa Kingsbury (she/her) <Lisa.Kingsbury@uvm.edu>; Joe Speidel <Joe.Speidel@uvm.edu>
Cc: Meagan Tuttle <mtuttle@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: The postcard from the DRB

Hi Lisa and Joe,

I hope you are having a great weekend.

I have gotten several emails and calls from constituents regarding the postcard I forwarded to you on Friday. This was the DRB Meeting Notice for Tuesday, June 6 to consider the following applications: JIPMP review of proposed 2023-2028 Plan.

People as far as away as South Prospect extension are getting these postcards. If you or Meagan can offer me some understanding of how far these postcards extended, that would be helpful.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA(*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 11:44 AM EDT
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
CC: Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: Chief Murad appointment

Thanks Kelly. I really appreciate it!

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 11:40 AM
To: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: Re: Chief Murad appointment

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks, Sounds good. I have already informed our Board but told them its confidential.

Keep me posted.

I will prepare a few words for tomorrow, keeping is brief.

Kelly

On Wed, May 24, 2023 at 11:14 AM Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Kelly –

It would be really helpful for you to invite businesses to tomorrow's press conference. It will be on the City Hall Park side steps of City Hall. Could you wait until a little later in the afternoon to do outreach? Miro wants to give progressive City Councilors a heads up first.

Also, thank you for offering to make a few remarks. That would be great.

Jordan

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:26 PM
To: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Chief Murad appointment

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks Jordan:

I'm thinking I need some clarification on "broad coalition of support". We'd like to strategically help you create that and to say a few words.

We feel confident we could get at least a dozen business owners and downtown staff (not the usual suspects) to stand at the presser if you think that would be beneficial.

Thanks for clarifying.

Kelly

On Tue, May 23, 2023 at 3:56 PM Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Kelly. I really appreciate your willingness to assist. We don't want to publicly broadcast the Thursday press conference quite yet, but think the letter + support you described would be very helpful leading up to the 6/5 Council meeting.

We're planning a 2pm event. More information soon.

Thanks so much again.

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 3:52 PM
To: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Chief Murad appointment

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Wow, great news. We had it tentatively on our calendar for next week. FYI, we have an event at HULA planned for Thursday to

garner supporters for SEID. It starts at 4pm. Would be ideal if this were over before that. Thx.

Thanks for acknowledging that BBA has invested a lot of time, energy and money in helping with the public safety challenges downtown. I strongly believe that a permanent chief will help in this regard. So we are willing to support.

We would also appreciate the opportunity to say a few words in support of John's appointment regarding how critical it is to the continued vitality of downtown.

Colin and I have brainstormed a few ideas on how we could additionally support this effort:

- Creating broad support - BBA will devote time and resources to getting people to attend
- Letter of Support - Gather list of names of local businesses that support Murad's appointment but can't be there Thursday to send to the council and publish publicly. (this will take some work, but we think we can get it done).
- Messaging to our large social media audience and members about why this really matters.

Thanks so much for reaching out. We look forward to working with you on this important appointment.

Kelly

On Tue, May 23, 2023 at 12:38 PM Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Kelly,

I am reaching out to ask if you might be willing to join us at a press conference this Thursday afternoon when Mayor Weinberger is going to announce that he is re-appointing Chief Murad and asking the Council to confirm him on June 5. We'd like to demonstrate that there is a broad coalition of support for Chief Murad to serve as permanent Chief. As a key partner on several City and public safety issues, it would be meaningful if you could join us. Would you also be willing to share this with your board to see if other Burlington businesses would join?

Thanks for considering, and let me know if you'd like to discuss further.

Best,
Jordan

--

Jordan Redell
Chief of Staff
Office of Mayor Miro Weinberger
City Hall | 149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
Pronouns: she, her
[Sign up for email newsletter updates from the Mayor's Office](#)

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2023 10:09 PM EDT
To: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Subject: Re: Please Vote in to Confirm Acting Chief Murad on Monday Night

Hi Ryan,

Awesome weather, YES! I love the summer and this weather is just what I have needed for a while. I hope you had a great weekend.

I appreciate your perspective as well as your assessment of the Acting Chief.

Thank you for being in touch. We will have the vote on Monday and I look forward to continuing our work to rebuild and enrich our public safety responses in Burlington.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 3:25 PM
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Please Vote in to Confirm Acting Chief Murad on Monday Night

You don't often get email from rnick@jldavisrealty.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hey Karen,

I hope this email finds you well and you're enjoying the nice weather we've been having.

I wanted to reach out and strongly encourage you to vote to confirm Jon Murad as our police chief. Jon has been a force for good in our community and has certainly demonstrated a commitment to the safety and security of our city. It would be really unfortunate if, after Monday's vote, Jon wasn't confirmed and we just maintained the status quo. I don't know how we can really address our public safety challenges without a permanent chief supported by the City Council. I appreciate that some have criticisms of Jon, and I'm not arguing that he's perfect, but he'll make a great police chief and I hope we can move forward on the many challenges we face.

Thank you for hearing me out and for all you do for the city,

Ryan

Ryan Nick
NAI/J.L. Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
802-316-5049

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.



BURLINGTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The Burlington Business Association, founded in 1978, is a non-profit, non-political membership organization with over 200 business and non-profit members.

Board of Directors:

Chelsea Condos, Chair
Shireen Hart, Secretary
Donna Austin-Hawley
Michael Casella
Richard Deane
Peter Dysart
John George Wheeler
Lisa Kingsbury
Leslee MacKenzie
Ryan Nick
Jack Wallace

Staff:

Kelly Devine
Executive Director

Colin Hilliard
Deputy Director

Lexie Wheeler
Program Coordinator

29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

June 5, 2023

Burlington City Council
City of Burlington
149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear City Councilors,

On behalf of the 250+ businesses and nonprofits represented by the Burlington Business Association (BBA), please accept the following comments regarding the appointment of Jon Murad as Police Chief.

We support the appointment of John Murad as permanent Police Chief and respectfully request the City Council to approve his appointment.

Burlington has been without a council-confirmed police chief since 2019. In that time, our city has faced serious challenges with police staffing and public safety affecting residents, businesses, and visitors alike.

The appointment of a permanent chief is a critical step for our city's future. The chief plays a key role in officer recruitment and retention, the ability to deliver much-needed public safety services in Burlington, and in creating a just, effective, and transparent 21st-century police department.

Please vote Yes to Confirm Jon Murad as Chief of Police

Sincerely,

Kelly Devine
(802) 863-1175
director@bbavt.org

The following business representatives, business owners and community members have also signed on to support the appointment of Jon Murad.



29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

June 5, 2023

Full Name	Affiliation	Business Name
Mark Bouchett	Burlington Business Owner	Homeport
Michelle Buswell	Burlington Resident	
Dan Cunningham	Burlington Resident & Business Owner	One Day In July
Michael DeSanto	Burlington Business Owner	Phoenix Books
Peter Dysart	Burlington Resident	
Alex Halpern	Burlington Resident & Business Owner	Freeman French Freeman, Architects
Shirin Hart	Burlington Resident	
Evan Langfeldt	Burlington Business Owner	O'Brien Brothers
Thomas S. Leavitt	Burlington Business	Northfield Savings Bank
Leslee MacKenzie	Burlington Resident & Business Owner	
Steven McClure	Burlington Resident	
Meg McGovern	Burlington Resident & Business Owner	131 Church Street LLC + Donahue & Associates
Ryan Nick	Burlington Resident	
Jeff Nick	Burlington Property Owners	Nick & Morrissey
Kathleen Schirling	Burlington Resident	
Claudia Shapiro & Billy Mauer	Burlington Business Owners	Grandview Farms Inc + Furst Management Ventures LLC
Michael van Gulden	Burlington Resident & Business Owner	Chocolate Thunder
Zandy Wheeler & Karen George	Burlington Business Owners	Skirack, Patagonia Burlington, & Wilsuzan Associates Inc.

From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 07, 2023 10:32 AM EDT
To: Joe Carton <joe@hotelvt.com>; Charles DesLauriers <chuck@deslauriersco.com>; Jay Canning <[REDACTED]>; Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
CC: Erin Stoetzner <estoetzner@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: State Office Building on Cherry Street- Homeless Shelter

Good afternoon Joe,

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

I completely understand your opposition to the location.

While this location is not yet finalized, the City did struggle to find a location and an appropriate way to respond to the State's abrupt decision. The alternative to a shelter creation like this one is to have this population sleeping outside throughout the city which, in my opinion, would be more problematic to our businesses.

I have shared your concerns with the Mayor and he would welcome the opportunity to discuss this decision with you and those on this email.

Please continue to voice any and all concerns with me as I am happy to address them and help find solutions.

I've put Erin from the Mayor's office on cc and she will work to find a time in his schedule.

Best,
Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

**BUSINESS &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**

From: Joe Carton <joe@hotelvt.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:17 PM
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Charles DesLauriers <chuck@deslauriersco.com>; Jay Canning <[REDACTED]>; Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: State Office Building on Cherry Street- Homeless Shelter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Dear Kara,

Representing Hotel Vermont and the Courtyard Burlington Harbor which are both located on Cherry Street, we very much oppose the suggestion that the State Office Building on Cherry Street be transformed into a facility to house the homeless population of Burlington. Our businesses and the entire downtown are being harmed on a daily basis by the constant siege of homelessness, drugs, theft, graffiti, and negative behavior throughout our downtown.

I cannot see how locating a homeless shelter adjacent to the economic engine of our City can be considered a good idea. This concept should have been discussed and vetted with the stakeholders on Cherry Street and the surrounding downtown resident and business community before ever being reported out of a City Council meeting.

Please share this with the Mayor and other City Officials.

Sincerely,

Joe Carton
COO
Westport Hospitality

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REC069

Letter of Support from Community Members for the South End Innovation District

I fully support the proposed zoning change to create the South End Innovation District and legalize housing in a community that desperately needs it.

This proposal will help Burlington address its housing crisis by bringing hundreds of homes to our community. Moreover, the proposal is focused on building on underutilized and surface parking lots. The opportunity to develop a multimodal, sustainable, environmentally progressive, mixed-use neighborhood where parking lots currently stand cannot be passed up.

Please vote YES to create the South End Innovation District.

South End Residents

Marina McCoy
Norris Johnson
Anna Krause
Gordon MacFarland
Troi Bachmann
Natalie von Turkovich
John Tarcza
Penelope Wall
Timothy Barrett
Abigail Pelon
Lydia Slauson

Nathan Van Dusen
Jacob Shapiro
Dawn Moskowitz
Jason Lenihan
Ollin Demian Langle Chimal
Mike Lane
William Morris
Jeffrey Pierce
William Butt
Kelly Kee
Ryan Nick

Burlington Residents (outside of S. End)

Alex Merrill
Grace Canfield
Stephen St. John
Tyler Clavelle
James Dufour
Jennifer Barry
Mason Hill
Bennett Siegel
Will Fleming
JP Wade

Aleksandr "Sasha" Kapriylov
Alex Melville
David Kunin
Sarah Kjelleren
Tyler Cataldo
Liam Griffin
Susanne Trexler
Reagan Smith
Olivia Coon
Zach Piper

6/28/23

60 Signers

Gillian Wigton Bell

Colin Hilliard

Work in Burlington / Greater Burlington Community Members

Mitchell Joseph
Caroline Henne
Ian Schwartz
Kelsey Matheson
Jesse Curran
Gabriel Harwood
Michael Headley
Hannah Kornfeld

Jake Samuelson
Kaity Wells
Ryan Osborne
Dan Faris
Lisa Minuta Gorke
Nathaniel Horton
Jason Van Nest
Jim Verzino

6/28/23

Letter of Support from Employers - South End Innovation District

I fully support the proposed zoning change to create the South End Innovation District.

As a business, housing affordability and availability are a great challenge to hiring and retaining talent. Specifically, workforce housing like the kind that the South End Innovation District could create is critically needed. The opportunity to develop a multimodal, sustainable, mixed-use neighborhood where parking lots currently stand cannot be passed up.

Please vote YES to create the South End Innovation District.

17 Burlington and South End Business Employing over 750 people

Burlington Harbor Marina
Conant Metal & Light and the Soda Plant
Burton
Chocolate Thunder Inc
Green Mountain Insight
Fluency
Dedalus Wine
Hula
LOGIC Building Systems
Blue Tree Analytics
Ark Strategy Advisors, LLC
Ceres Collaborative
Drink Plink Inc.
Faris Financial/Commonwealth Financial Group
Burlington Bio
The Ski Rack and Patagonia Burlington
Brio Coffeeworks

Collected by the Burlington Business Association



From: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2023 3:21 PM EDT
To: Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>
Subject: Re: Guest feedback related to Burlington

Dear Hans,

This is very upsetting; I am sorry you are receiving these types of guest feedback. Are they anonymous? Or do you have the opportunity to engage with the guest. If you do, I hope there might be a way to keep in touch with the guest and hopefully by next summer, an invitation could be made by City Hall to invite them back to Burlington. Just a thought.

With respect to police presence in City Hall Park and downtown, the deployment of officers rests with the police chief which he can elaborate on. My understanding is that there are now officers assigned to this area and there is an increased presence. The mayor or chief could give us an updated report as I am not closely connected to these decisions.

As you may have read, there are four officers undergoing field training that will bring them to full status by October, I believe. I think there are as many candidates in the queue to begin at the academy in August which means they will be fully active in early 2024. All this to say that provided we can retain officers, the number of sworn officers will increase in the coming months. I am including the chief on this email as he can give us updated figures.

Thank you for sharing this guest feedback with us. Our continued health, vibrancy and appeal as a city rests with everyone feeling safe.

My best,
Karen

Karen Paul, CPA (*she, her, hers*)
City Council President
City Councilor – Ward 6, City of Burlington, Vermont
802.598.5994



Please be advised that this email may, at some point, be the subject of a Public Records Request.

From: Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>
Date: Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 12:38 PM
To: Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>, Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: Guest feedback related to Burlington

You don't often get email from hans@hotelvt.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

One of more that we receive more of lately unfortunately:

– Let me clarify why we would not return to your amazing hotel. We were not happy with the city of Burlington. The lake is beautiful, the shops and restaurants on Church were nice and The Hen of the Wood was fantastic. That said we did not feel safe walking around the area. The park was over run by 'aggressive' and heavily drugged homeless people. We are not insensitive to the homeless and their plight. But what we experienced in Burlington was by far the worst we have seen - we had just come from Boston and it was several orders of magnitude less there. Again, no reflection on your wonderful hotel but its location would keep us from going back.

--

Hans van Wees

—
Hotel Vermont
41 Cherry Street, Burlington VT 05401
Ph 802 651 0080 Direct 802 651 5005

—
hotelvt.com
For reservations and sales
call toll free on 855 650 0080

Conde Nast readers vote Hotel Vermont as one of the "Top 10 Best Hotels in the U.S." (2015 Readers Choice Awards)
and Top 5 in New England (2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018)

REC073

Voted 4th "Best New Hotel in the World" by Conde Nast (2014)

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Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Sent: Friday, July 07, 2023 8:37 AM EDT
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Oren Byrne <obyrne@bpdvt.org>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine(director@bbavt.org) <director@bbavt.org>
CC: Steve Donahue <steve@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Subject: RE: How should we respond?

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Someone walking into Rira's late last night, with a large stick.
Downtown is getting worse, unfortunately. I know there isn't an easy fix.
Just making everyone aware. I'd hate to have Rira's close.

Meg McGovern

Senior
Associate, Broker
65 Main St Suite 202 • BTV, VT 05401

Donahue & Associates

802-343-6471
802-862-6880
meg@donahueassociatesvt.com
www.DonahueAssociatesVT.com



From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 7, 2023 8:28 AM
To: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com; Oren Byrne <obyrne@bpdvt.org>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine (director@bbavt.org) <director@bbavt.org>
Cc: Steve Donahue <steve@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Subject: Re: How should we respond?

What am I looking at? What's the white pole/stick?

Kara Alnasrawi

*Director, Business & Workforce Development
(802) 238-1910*

From: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 11:06:10 PM
To: Oren Byrne <obyrne@bpdvt.org>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine (director@bbavt.org) <director@bbavt.org>
Cc: Steve Donahue <steve@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Subject: How should we respond?

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

How do we respond, who do we call?
I'd like to be able to respond to my tenants.
Staff is asking.
Any help appreciated.

Meg McGovern
Donahue & Associates
65 Main St Suite 202
BTV
802.343.6471

Please excuse typos, sent from iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2023 8:42 AM EDT

To: Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>; Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>

CC: Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Cathy Davis <cathy@vermont.org>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Steven McClure <steven.mcclure@aimbridge.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: FW: Crime in the Garage

Good Morning Hans,

We certainly share your concerns and have moved aggressively to address security (staffing/cameras/lighting/cleaning/etc.). But you are absolutely right, your guests (and ours) deserve better. We're in the process of renewing our security service contract and now is a good time to incorporate any additional services they may be able to provide.

Also, it's been a while since we've had a "security summit" meeting with the Hotels and Security Services. I'll put one on the calendar in couple of weeks.

We certainly welcome any ideas on what we can do on our side.

Thanks for working with us on this.

Jeff

Jeffrey A. Padgett

Division Director for Parking & Traffic

Burlington Department of Public Works

jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov

www.burlingtonvt.gov/parking

www.parkburlington.com

From: Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 9:20 PM

To: Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Cathy Davis <cathy@vermont.org>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Steven McClure <steven.mcclure@aimbridge.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: FW: Crime in the Garage

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

I think a conversation with garage management and city leadership is important. As customers we expect better service and security. The number of incidents justifies so. Collectively we refer thousands of car owners to the city garage every year and expect better.

Every day we deal with incidents, as again today when we received a very negative report from guests at the Courtyard who had over \$5,000 worth of damage to their vehicle and were told there was no access to video footage as that is controlled by BPD and the only action available is to file an only online report with the BPD. The hotel is getting the blame for this. We owe our customers, and the city's customers, better service than this.

We want to participate and help make this situation better, and garage and city management must be part of this. Our guests do not accept the simple response of filing a police report online, they want more and it reflects on our businesses and on this city.

Thank you for working with us.

Hans van Wees

General Manager Hotel Vermont

(our company also manages the Courtyard Burlington Harbor Hotel)

Hans van Wees

—

Hotel Vermont

41 Cherry Street, Burlington VT 05401

Ph 802 651 0080 Direct [802 651 5005](tel:8026515005)

—

hotelvt.com

For reservations and sales

call toll free on 855 650 0080

REC076

Conde Nast readers vote Hotel Vermont as one of the "Top 10 Best Hotels in the U.S." (2015 Readers Choice Awards) and Top 5 in New England (2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018)

Voted 4th "Best New Hotel in the World" by Conde Nast (2014)

On Wed, Jul 12, 2023 at 6:01 PM Steven McClure <steven.mcclure@aimbridge.com> wrote:

Chief Murad,

It was a pleasure meeting with you last Thursday to discuss the on-going concerns we have had with security in the Downtown Garage.

Even after you and I met our guests continue to be plagued by car break-ins. Last weekend two guests of the Hilton Burlington Lake Champlain experienced this type of occurrence, and it seems to be continuing with our neighbors at the Courtyard and Hotel Vermont.

It is extremely frustrating to not get any type of urgency from the garage management team. They are solely relying on BPD to take care of this. We expect your assistance as we discussed; however, you can see below the messaging that is being sent to Hotel Leaders whose guests utilize this garage as well the Cherry St. Garage, (interconnected).

Have you been able to deploy a patrol car, after hours as we discussed last week?

Outside of the resource shortage on your end, (I understand as I deal with it here at the hotel), what can we do as a collective unit to better prevent this from occurring. The garage is city owned and wide open; we need to do better. Travelers visiting our community and city need to have a much greater sense of security.

Thanks,

Steven McClure
General Manager
steven.mcclure@aimhosp.com

HILTON BURLINGTON LAKE CHAMPLAIN

d:+1 802 859 5034
m:+1 703 261 5320
t:+1 802 658 6500
60 Battery Street Burlington, VT 05401
burlington.hilton.com
hilton.com



From: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 4:33 PM
To: Steven McClure <steven.mcclure@aimbridge.com>; Tim Weaver <timw@hoteltvt.com>; Carver, Dana <Dana.Carver@marriott.com>
Cc: Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jackie Esperti <jesperti@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Crime in the Garage

Cyber Security Reminder: This is an external email please use caution – forward suspicious messages by clicking on the “Report Phish” button at the top of your Aimbridge Managed Email.

Hey all:

I was talking with Matt today and he said that he continues to get calls from Guests who's cars have (unfortunately) been vandalized or stolen from. Please remember that, after a crime has occurred, there's nothing Matt can do except direct the Guest to the Police.

If you want to share his email, that's fine, we appreciate hearing from folks and can share that readily with GMCS, but please don't

REC077

share his phone number ... it just gives the Guest a false expectation that we can do something to resolve the situation, that we can't. The Guest needs to call the police immediately. (then email Matt if they want)

Thanks!
Jeff

Jeffrey A. Padgett
Division Director for Parking & Traffic
Burlington Department of Public Works

jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov

www.burlingtonvt.gov/parking

www.parkburlington.com

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From: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 5:01 PM EDT
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>
CC: Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Steven McClure <steven.mcclure@aimbridge.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: FW: Crime in the Garage

Thanks for the support, Kelly.

I'll loop you in as the Board of Finance and Council meetings approach.

Jeff

Jeffrey A. Padgett
Division Director for Parking & Traffic
Burlington Department of Public Works

jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov

www.burlingtonvt.gov/parking

www.parkburlington.com

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 1:37 PM
To: Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>
Cc: Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Steven McClure <steven.mcclure@aimbridge.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: Re: FW: Crime in the Garage

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

This is a serious problem that needs to be addressed. We can do some information/outreach to remind people to lock their cars, but there is clear evidence that locks are keeping people out. The vandalism is almost worse in that its senseless.

I'm glad to hear that Jeff Padgett from DPW and the PD are willing to meet with hotel management to take a look at possible solutions. I'm happy to join if that helps.

I also heard from Jeff today that BPD is patrolling the garage by motorcycle. Jeff also shared that he will ask the city council for adequate funding to maintain current levels of security in the garage. Costs have risen, but now is the wrong time to reduce security. The BBA plans to submit a letter of support for this funding. I hope you will join me by signing on.

Thanks for considering.

Please let me know if there are any other suggestions or concerns.

Kelly


Kelly Devine
802-324-2748


Burlington Business Association
802-863-1175
director@bbavt.org
www.burlingtonbusinessassociation.com

On Wed, Jul 12, 2023 at 9:20 PM Hans van Wees <hans@hotelyt.com> wrote:

I think a conversation with garage management and city leadership is important. As customers we expect better service and security. The number of incidents justifies so. Collectively we refer thousands of car owners to the city garage every year and expect better.

Every day we deal with incidents, as again today when we received a very negative report from guests at the Courtyard who had over \$5,000 worth of damage to their vehicle and were told there was no access to video footage as that is controlled by BPD and the only action available is to file an only online report with the BPD. The hotel is getting the blame for this. We owe our customers, and the city's customers, better service than this.

We want to participate and help make this situation better, and garage and city management must be part of this. Our guests do not accept the simple response of filing a police report online, they want more and it reflects on our businesses and on this city.

Thank you for working with us.

Hans van Wees
General Manager Hotel Vermont
(our company also manages the Courtyard Burlington Harbor Hotel)

Hans van Wees

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41 Cherry Street, Burlington VT 05401
Ph 802 651 0080 Direct [802 651 5005](tel:8026515005)

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and Top 5 in New England (2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018)

Voted 4th "Best New Hotel in the World" by Conde Nast (2014)

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It is extremely frustrating to not get any type of urgency from the garage management team. They are solely relying on BPD to take care of this. We expect your assistance as we discussed; however, you can see below the messaging that is being sent to Hotel Leaders whose guests utilize this garage as well the Cherry St. Garage, (interconnected).

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Thanks,

Steven McClure
General Manager
steven.mcclure@aimhosp.com

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m:+1 703 261 5320
t:+1 802 658 6500
60 Battery Street Burlington, VT 05401
burlington.hilton.com
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From: Jeff Padgett <jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 4:33 PM
To: Steven McClure <steven.mcclure@aimbridge.com>; Tim Weaver <timw@hotelvt.com>; Carver, Dana <Dana.Carver@marriott.com>
Cc: Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jackie Esperti <jesperti@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Crime in the Garage

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Thanks!
Jeff

Jeffrey A. Padgett
Division Director for Parking & Traffic
Burlington Department of Public Works

jpadgett@burlingtonvt.gov

www.burlingtonvt.gov/parking

www.parkburlington.com

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CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email, including any attachments, may contain confidential, proprietary and/or privileged information for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). Any review, use, distribution, copy or disclosure by others is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient (or authorized to receive information on behalf of the recipient), please contact the sender and delete all copies of this message. Thank you

REC081



29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

August 7, 2023

BBA Comment RE FY24 Parking Garage Security Contract

The Burlington Business Association, founded in 1978, is a non-profit, non-political membership organization with over 200 business and non-profit members.

Board of Directors:

Chelsea Condos, Chair
Shireen Hart, Secretary
Donna Austin-Hawley
Michael Casella
Richard Deane
Peter Dysart
John George Wheeler
Lisa Kingsbury
Leslee MacKenzie
Ryan Nick
Jack Wallace

Staff:

Kelly Devine
Executive Director

Colin Hilliard
Deputy Director

Dear Board of Finance Members,

The BBA strongly supports the increased funding requested by DPW for security in the city's parking garages.

Parking garage security is a top concern for downtown businesses. Retailers, restaurants, and professional services businesses have all reported concerns from both customers and employees about safety in parking garages. Theft and break-in occurrences have notably increased and added to employee retention challenges and decreased YoY foot traffic for many downtown retailers.

Additionally, garage security is a crucial issue for hotels. Many have reported increases in theft and 'smash and grab' incidents from hotel guests. Our city's hotels are substantial tax-paying parcels to the grand list (at 120% commercial rate) and the Downtown Improvement District. An unsafe parking experience can and is affecting Burlington's brand as a destination for business and leisure travelers.

Lastly, we'd like to acknowledge the hard work of DPW in increased lighting and graffiti removal in the garages, particularly at the Downtown Garage. These Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) measures have improved the parking experience. Given downtown's current safety climate, it is clear that an even greater active security presence is needed.

Sincerely,

Colin Hilliard
(802) 863-1175
colin@bbavt.org

From: Lori Olberg <lolberg@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 08, 2023 9:13 AM EDT
To: Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Joseph Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ali Dieng <adieng@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Katherine Schad <kschad@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: BBA Comment RE BoF Item 4.12 - FY24 Parking Security

Would you like this placed on the 8/14 City Council Consent Agenda—let me know Colin—thank you—

From: Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 4:09 PM
To: Joseph Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ali Dieng <adieng@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Katherine Schad <kschad@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Lori Olberg <lolberg@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: BBA Comment RE BoF Item 4.12 - FY24 Parking Security

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Dear Board of Finance Members,

Please see below and attached for BBA's comment in support of increased funding for parking garage security.

Thank you
Colin

####

BBA Comment RE FY24 Parking Garage Security Contract

Dear Board of Finance Members,

The BBA strongly supports the increased funding requested by DPW for security in the city's parking garages.

Parking garage security is a top concern for downtown businesses. Retailers, restaurants, and professional services businesses have all reported concerns from both customers and employees about safety in parking garages. Theft and break-in occurrences have notably increased and added to employee retention challenges and decreased YoY foot traffic for many downtown retailers.

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Sincerely,
Colin Hilliard

--

Colin Hilliard
Deputy Director
colin@bbavt.org
Burlington Business Association



[JOIN THE BBA TODAY](#)

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:22 AM EDT

To: DPW_ALL_USERS <DPW_ALL_USERS@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jennifer Blow <jblow@burlingtonvt.gov>; Darlene Bayko <dbayko@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ann Barton <abarton@burlingtonvt.gov>; Katherine Schad <kschad@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>; Hayley McClenahan <HMcClenahan@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tony Berry <tberry@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ashley Parker <aparker@burlingtonvt.gov>; Nicole Losch <NLosch@burlingtonvt.gov>; Elizabeth Ross <ERoss@burlingtonvt.gov>; Cindi Wight <cwight@burlingtonvt.gov>; Erin Moreau <emoreau@burlingtonvt.gov>; William Ward <wward@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lynn Reagan <lreagan@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kerin Durfee <kdurfee@burlingtonvt.gov>; DPW Commission <dpwcommission@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Festive Sendoff for Jeff Padgett

Hello Fans of Jeff,

This is DPW Division Director Jeff Padgett's last week with the City and to make sure we get a good chance to appreciate and simultaneously razz him, we will be gathering at Zero Gravity this Thursday from 4-6pm. Tasty bites will be provided.

Jeff Padgett Sendoff

Thursday, August 24, 4-6pm

Zero Gravity, Pine Street

No RSVP needed. Please pass along the invite to anyone I may have missed. I look forward to seeing many of you on Thursday!

Best,
Chapin

Chapin Spencer (he/him), Director
Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW
802-863-9094



Our Mission: To steward Burlington's infrastructure and environment by delivering efficient, effective, and equitable public services.

From: Chapin Spencer

Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 11:58 AM

To: DPW_ALL_USERS <DPW_ALL_USERS@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Tony Berry <tberry@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: A Transition for the Parking & Traffic Team

Hello Team DPW:

I am sorry to let folks know that Division Director Jeff Padgett is moving on and his last day will be Friday, August 25. Jeff has received an amazing opportunity to do some strategic organizational development work for Casella – an opportunity that builds off his work with us and an opportunity that was too good for him to pass up. It is tough news for us, but Jeff has built a great team that I know will continue to carry on the good work.

We are still working on the interim leadership plan for after Jeff's last day. More details forthcoming. We are moving quickly to fill this position. The job should be posted publicly later today.

A goodbye party is being arranged for next Thursday, August 24 – in the 4-6pm timeframe. Details will follow.

I want to publicly thank Jeff for all of his impactful work. Jeff's leadership to well-implement the integration of Parking Enforcement, now Parking Services, into DPW was a major success but there are many others. Jeff and Team Parking & Traffic have significantly improved the cleanliness and maintenance of the downtown garages, united parking payment systems for off-street and on-street parking, implemented new parking services software tools to improve the staff and customer experience with new offerings and more online functionality. We have accomplished so much under Jeff's leadership, but the future for the division is bright!

Best,
Chapin

Chapin Spencer (he/him), Director
Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
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Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 10:29 AM EDT

To: DPW_ALL_USERS <DPW_ALL_USERS@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jennifer Blow <jblow@burlingtonvt.gov>; Darlene Bayko <dbayko@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ann Barton <abarton@burlingtonvt.gov>; Katherine Schad <kschad@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>; Hayley McClenahan <HMcClenahan@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tony Berry <tberry@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ashley Parker <aparker@burlingtonvt.gov>; Nicole Losch <NLosch@burlingtonvt.gov>; Elizabeth Ross <ERoss@burlingtonvt.gov>; Cindi Wight <cwight@burlingtonvt.gov>; Erin Moreau <emoreau@burlingtonvt.gov>; William Ward <wward@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lynn Reagan <lreagan@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kerin Durfee <kdurfee@burlingtonvt.gov>; DPW Commission <dpwcommission@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tiki Archambeau <[REDACTED]>; Scot Barker <sbarker@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: REMINDER: Festive Sendoff for Jeff Padgett - Today @ 4pm

Reminder that tonight is our send off for Jeff Padgett @ Zero Gravity. Parking is limited at ZG so carpooling or parking at 645 Pine and walking over is good. See many of you this evening!

Best,
Chapin

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: Chapin Spencer

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:22 AM

Subject: Festive Sendoff for Jeff Padgett

Hello Fans of Jeff,

This is DPW Division Director Jeff Padgett's last week with the City and to make sure we get a good chance to appreciate and simultaneously razz him, we will be gathering at Zero Gravity this Thursday from 4-6pm. Tasty bites will be provided.

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Thursday, August 24, 4-6pm

Zero Gravity, Pine Street

No RSVP needed. Please pass along the invite to anyone I may have missed. I look forward to seeing many of you on Thursday!

Best,
Chapin

Chapin Spencer (he/him), Director
Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW
802-863-9094



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From: Chapin Spencer

Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 11:58 AM

To: DPW_ALL_USERS <DPW_ALL_USERS@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Tony Berry <tberry@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: A Transition for the Parking & Traffic Team

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REC086

Best,
Chapin

Chapin Spencer (he/him), Director
Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW
802-863-9094



Our Mission: To steward Burlington's infrastructure and environment by delivering efficient, effective, and equitable public services.

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2023 12:25 PM EDT
To: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>; Manriel Grant <mgrant@btv.aero>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Melo Grant <mgrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joseph Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Safety & Security on Church st

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

You don't often get email from tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Melissa,

Thank you for your email and I am terribly sorry for, and concerned about, your experiences and the experiences of your staff at your business on Church Street. You are the victims of unacceptable criminal conduct. If you have time and are willing, I'd like the chance to discuss this with you further. Perhaps I could even come to your store and meet with you and your staff? If you'd like to talk, my cell is [REDACTED]

Best,
Tim Doherty

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 4:59 PM
To: Manriel Grant <mgrant@btv.aero>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Subject: Safety & Security on Church st

[You don't often get email from melissa@whimboutique.com. [Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification](https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification)]

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello,

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(5)(A)(iii)

I heard you have a meeting this evening but I am unable to attend. I wanted to share the latest from Church st. I am an employer of an all female staff in their 20s.

[REDACTED]

Just this morning a woman came into my store- not to shop or look around- she apologized because she was only in there because she didn't feel safe being on the street because someone was acting erratically.

[REDACTED]

I honestly feel there is little sympathy and zero action from our local government to assist small businesses like mine. We feel helpless.

Imagine if you had a store and it was your retirement plan? This is a plan that is now worth nothing but the inventory I can liquidate if things continue to get worse. I have nothing to sell, nothing to hand down to my kids. Yet I spend so much time & energy lately away from my family because of what is happening on the street & downtown.

My small business group is texting at all hours about all of the bad things happening to them on a daily basis. We feel alone.

Our fees have gone up, our rent climbs yearly, our costs are up, wages..... yet sales & traffic are down.

REC088

Who can help? Who WANTS to help?

I have many more stories I could share about shoplifting, stalking, loitering, open drug use.... But the message would be too long.

Thank you for your time,

Melissa Desautels

Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:55 AM EDT
To: Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>; Manriel Grant <mgrant@btv.aero>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joseph Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Safety & Security on Church st

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Tim
We can echo Melissa concerns....
Our employees will not even bring trash out back at Jess Boutique/expressions....we have our property management team do that now..
And as days get shorter we will be closely before dark.....
Not a day goes by where we do not have concerned customers being hassled by panhandlers or opioid addicts...
Dozens of empty syringes being picked up daily = and half a dozen people constantly shooting up along Dailey planet by Center street. We have increased lighting/alarms – you name it....nothing deters these folks....
Theft is high/disturbing incidence are daily.....sadly many of our customers are no longer coming into downtown – we are dramatically off volumes
And continue to drop....a common concern by many merchants....Police who were defunded unfortunately now WAY understaffed are doing all they can as well as social workers.....we need many more officers
And social workers....know funding tricky but we are losing church street.....three merchants have declared they are leaving due to these scary conditions..
And not sure how long we can hang on with our stores.....
I have been a active participant in downtown for 50 years! Was on the original planning group for the marketplace...so passionate about our city...
But sadly have seen NOTHING close to what we are faced with now...in entire 5 decades.....
Our foundation continues to sponsor downtown entertainment programs/graffiti removal/ support of BPD etc etc...and will continue to do anything to assist in this process....
Unfortunately We have crossed the Rubicon and are at an inflection point.....and may be close to point of no return...
I am an eternal optimist....have to be in my business but as one of the largest owners of real estate and shops on church street...
Sounding the alarms.....we have to increase all aspects of this fight – or are going to lose our city like many in this country already have = and I do not say this lightly...
Stand ready to help in any way we can..
Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau
Pomerleau Real Estate
69 College Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802 8638210
www.VermontRealEstate.com



From: Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 12:26 PM
To: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>; Manriel Grant <mgrant@btv.aero>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joseph Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Safety & Security on Church st

*** This email originated outside your organization ***
Melissa,

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1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Best,

REC090

Tim Doherty

From: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>

Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 4:59 PM

To: Manriel Grant <mgrant@btv.aero>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Subject: Safety & Security on Church st

[You don't often get email from melissa@whimboutique.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello,

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(5)(A)(iii)

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[REDACTED]

Just this morning a woman came into my store- not to shop or look around- she apologized because she was only in there because she didn't feel safe being on the street because someone was acting erratically.

[REDACTED]

I honestly feel there is little sympathy and zero action from our local government to assist small businesses like mine. We feel helpless.

Imagine if you had a store and it was your retirement plan? This is a plan that is now worth nothing but the inventory I can liquidate if things continue to get worse. I have nothing to sell, nothing to hand down to my kids. Yet I spend so much time & energy lately away from my family because of what is happening on the street & downtown.

My small business group is texting at all hours about all of the bad things happening to them on a daily basis. We feel alone.

Our fees have gone up, our rent climbs yearly, our costs are up, wages..... yet sales & traffic are down.

Who can help? Who WANTS to help?

I have many more stories I could share about shoplifting, stalking, loitering, open drug use.... But the message would be too long.

Thank you for your time,

Melissa Desautels

Sent from my iPhone

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REC091



Arts So Wonderful

presents

Art Show and Fundraiser

at the

Courtyard Marriott

ft. Lighthouse Quintet &
Body Painting by Kadena

Sept. 30th, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Harbor Room, Courtyard Marriott
25 Cherry St, Burlington VT

Cash bar & free hors d'oeuvres



COURTYARD
BY MARRIOTT

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 11:38 AM EDT

To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

CC: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com <tnettleton@uppglobal.com>; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Brian,

Our group met this morning and agreed we could meet most any time next Wednesday – Friday. Thought we should meet at the VFW if possible.

Let us know what works best for your team.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 5:27 PM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hi Jeff:

I am working with the City team (Chief Murad, Lacey, Jordan, Sarah and Kara) to find times that work for all of us on 11/1/ and 11/3.

I prefer to have our discussion in person rather than by email so my focus now is getting the meeting scheduled.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Pine
CEDO Director
Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 578-6953
www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act. CEDO (including the Community Justice Center), as part of the City of Burlington, is bound by the Vermont Public Records Act. There are exemptions to this Act for certain personal and confidential information, and we will take steps to protect your privacy. If you have any questions, please ask us.

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Saturday, October 21, 2023 2:51 PM

To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

REC093

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Brian,

I cannot stress enough that the situation downtown is dire, and any shelter will only bring greater problems. This is exactly why the city's own plan suggests that bringing more services into the downtown core is unwise for a host of reasons including for those in need. One simple example of the ripple effect is that young female store clerks, with the urging of their parents, are choosing to quit their jobs as they are afraid to confront the multitude of shop lifters or walk to their cars in the dark (especially during winter months). This story has been repeated by a number of store owners. When you hear stories like this you know this city is headed in the wrong direction!

Hoping we can all meet sometime between Wednesday November 1st and Friday the 3rd to discuss a robust safety and security plan for this shelter and surrounding properties.

Wish we were meeting under more positive circumstances.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 10:27 AM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hi Jeff:

I understand the concerns and welcome the chance to meet to discuss how the shelter will operate. I've copied my colleague, Sarah Russell in her role as Special Assistant to End Homelessness and Samantha Dunn as the project developer. As you can see, I've also copied both Chief Murad and Lacey Smith since many of the concerns relate directly to matters of public safety.

I will work with the City team to find workable times next Wed and Friday.

We are committed to hearing the concerns and working collaboratively to find the best path forward as we experience an historic level of homelessness.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Pine
CEDO Director
Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 578-6953
www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

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From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 2:26 PM

To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

REC094

Subject: VFW shelter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Brian,

Since Kara met with the abutting property owners Perry Sporn, Jeff Davis, and myself (King Street apartment and Mid-Town rooming house) as well as Courthouse Plaza tenant DRM two weeks ago we have meet among ourselves to discuss our many concerns.

While we are amazed that the city continues to ignore it's own advice set forth in the city's Downtown and Water front plan warning against sighting additional social services within our downtown core we understand this is moving forward.

Since CEDO will be managing this shelter, we would like to meet with you at the VFW building to gain a better understanding of your management plan and how you will address the negative off-site behaviors, such as trespassing , theft, drug use, drug dealing, fighting, etc. that will emanant from the shelter. We know this will happen as it is in the area surrounding the Elmwood Ave. PODS. Perhaps you can also invite someone from BPD to attend the meeting as well to help address the safety concerns we have for our customers, tenants, and employees as many are already on edge.

As I write this, I have learned from Kelly Devine that you have agreed to meet with us. That's great. Would anytime between Wednesday November 1st and Friday November 3rd work for you? Please let us know a good date and time.

Thanks.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

REC095

From: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 9:36 AM EDT
To: hking@burlingtonvt.gov <hking@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Oct. 23 City Council Meeting

You don't often get email from wjudge@drm.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Glad you voted for the extension.

Walter Judge | Director, Litigation Group
199 Main Street, PO Box 190, Burlington, VT 05402-0190
Direct: 802.846.8326 · Main: 802.863.2375 · Mobile: 802.343.6887 · Email: wjudge@drm.com
[LinkedIn](#) · [Twitter](#) · [YouTube](#) · [Lex Mundi](#) · [Food & Beverage Law Blog](#)

DRM DOWNS
RACHLIN
MARTIN

From: Abra Clawson <AClawson@burlingtoncityarts.org>

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 10:44 AM EDT

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jed Davis <[REDACTED]>; Zach Williamson <ZWilliamson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

CC: Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Turkey Dinners

Thanks for the update Jed! I will take this off the Contois calendar.

Best,
Abra

BCA

Abra Clawson, Event Manager
she/her

BURLINGTON CITY ARTS

135 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

(802) 829-6305

aclawson@burlingtoncityarts.org

From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 10:25 AM

To: Jed Davis <[REDACTED]>; Zach Williamson <ZWilliamson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Abra Clawson <AClawson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Cc: Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: Turkey Dinners

Jed,

This is amazing work. Thank you so much for providing this to the community.

The City will work to get the word out.

Putting Sarah Russell on cc who can help spread the work.

Kara

Kara Alnasrawi

Director, Business & Workforce Development

131 Church St. – Suite 209

Burlington, VT 05401

802.238.1910

[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

**BUSINESS &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**

From: Jed Davis <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 9:24 AM

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Zach Williamson <ZWilliamson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Abra Clawson <AClawson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Subject: Turkey Dinners

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Team BTV:

I have some further details on our plan for Turkey Dinner distribution. Meals will be delivered to The Salvation Army (Main Street Burlington) and Feeding Chittenden (North Winooski Ave. Burlington) on 11/22 for their further distribution to the public. 550 total meals to those organizations. Can the City help get the word out on this so that community folks know where to pick up? Best to contact those organizations directly I think in terms of public pick up times, procedures, and such.

Additionally we are again preparing and delivering meals to COTS, ANEW Place, Fletcher Library, Cathedral Square, and others for their clients on Wednesday 11/22.

Contacts:

Feeding Chittenden

Midhat Hadzic

802 658 7939 x128

REC097

mhadzic@cveo.org

The Salvation Army
Felisha Davis
802 495 2600 x101

We will be doing another round of meals, a Ham Dinner, to be distributed on 12/23 and or 12/24. Likely to the same partners mentioned above.

All this said, we will not need Contois for meal distribution this year. Feeding Chittenden and Salvation Army are already set up for smooth distribution, as we do not have Everyone Eats available this year.

Thanks!

--

Jed Davis

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From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 10:59 AM EDT

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann(LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com <tnettleton@uppglobal.com>

Subject: Meeting w/ downtown stakeholders re: winter shelter

Attachment(s): "attachment.ics"

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Good morning:

We have found a time to meet this Wednesday at 11-12 to discuss the plans for the winter shelter at the former VFW.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Pine
CEDO Director
Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 578-6953
www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

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From: Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 11:04 AM EDT
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jed Davis [REDACTED]; Zach Williamson <ZWilliamson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Abra Clawson <AClawson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: Turkey Dinners

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Thanks for including me, Kara.

Also want to note that I learned this morning Jed has generously agreed to provide 45 meals to the Elmwood Shelter. This is amazing- thank you so much!

Sarah

From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 10:25 AM
To: Jed Davis [REDACTED]; Zach Williamson <ZWilliamson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Abra Clawson <AClawson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Cc: Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Turkey Dinners

Jed,
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The City will work to get the word out.
Putting Sarah Russell on cc who can help spread the work.
Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

**BUSINESS &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**

From: Jed Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 9:24 AM
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Zach Williamson <ZWilliamson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Abra Clawson <AClawson@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: Turkey Dinners

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Contacts:
Feeding Chittenden
Midhat Hadzic
802 658 7939 x128
mhadzic@cveo.org

The Salvation Army
Felisha Davis
802 495 2600 x101

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All this said, we will not need Contois for meal distribution this year. Feeding Chittenden and Salvation Army are already set up for smooth distribution, as we do not have Everyone Eats available this year.

Thanks!

REC100

--

Jed Davis

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From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 9:29 AM EDT

To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

CC: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com <tnettleton@uppglobal.com>; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

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Brian,

We look forward to our meeting tomorrow at 11:00. We would like to switch the meeting location back to the VFW (rather than city hall) so we can better understand how CEDO plans to manage this facility.

See you there.

Jeff Nick

29 Church Street, 3rd Floor

Burlington, VT 05401

Telephone: (802) 876-6923

Email: jeff@jeffnick.com

www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 5:27 PM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

Hi Jeff:

I am working with the City team (Chief Murad, Lacey, Jordan, Sarah and Kara) to find times that work for all of us on 11/1/ and 11/3.

I prefer to have our discussion in person rather than by email so my focus now is getting the meeting scheduled.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Pine

CEDO Director

Community & Economic Development Office

City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32

Burlington, VT 05401

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From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Saturday, October 21, 2023 2:51 PM

To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

REC102

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Brian,

I cannot stress enough that the situation downtown is dire, and any shelter will only bring greater problems. This is exactly why the city's own plan suggests that bringing more services into the downtown core is unwise for a host of reasons including for those in need. One simple example of the ripple effect is that young female store clerks, with the urging of their parents, are choosing to quit their jobs as they are afraid to confront the multitude of shop lifters or walk to their cars in the dark (especially during winter months). This story has been repeated by a number of store owners. When you hear stories like this you know this city is headed in the wrong direction!

Hoping we can all meet sometime between Wednesday November 1st and Friday the 3rd to discuss a robust safety and security plan for this shelter and surrounding properties.

Wish we were meeting under more positive circumstances.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 10:27 AM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hi Jeff:

I understand the concerns and welcome the chance to meet to discuss how the shelter will operate. I've copied my colleague, Sarah Russell in her role as Special Assistant to End Homelessness and Samantha Dunn as the project developer. As you can see, I've also copied both Chief Murad and Lacey Smith since many of the concerns relate directly to matters of public safety.

I will work with the City team to find workable times next Wed and Friday.

We are committed to hearing the concerns and working collaboratively to find the best path forward as we experience an historic level of homelessness.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Pine
CEDO Director
Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
Burlington, VT 05401
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Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com

REC103

Subject: VFW shelter

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Brian,

Since Kara met with the abutting property owners Perry Sporn, Jeff Davis, and myself (King Street apartment and Mid-Town rooming house) as well as Courthouse Plaza tenant DRM two weeks ago we have meet among ourselves to discuss our many concerns.

While we are amazed that the city continues to ignore it's own advice set forth in the city's Downtown and Water front plan warning against sighting additional social services within our downtown core we understand this is moving forward.

Since CEDO will be managing this shelter, we would like to meet with you at the VFW building to gain a better understanding of your management plan and how you will address the negative off-site behaviors, such as trespassing , theft, drug use, drug dealing, fighting, etc. that will emanant from the shelter. We know this will happen as it is in the area surrounding the Elmwood Ave. PODS. Perhaps you can also invite someone from BPD to attend the meeting as well to help address the safety concerns we have for our customers, tenants, and employees as many are already on edge.

As I write this, I have learned from Kelly Devine that you have agreed to meet with us. That's great. Would anytime between Wednesday November 1st and Friday November 3rd work for you? Please let us know a good date and time.

Thanks.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

REC104

From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2023 8:52 AM EDT
To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
CC: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com <tnettleton@uppglobal.com>; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Winter shelter meeting today at VFW

Good morning:

We cannot meet at the VFW because the lease isn't yet executed, there is no heat or furniture for a meeting. See you all at 11:00 @ the Sharon Bushor conference room on the ground floor of City Hall.

Thanks,

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Brian

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 9:29:26 AM
To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com <tnettleton@uppglobal.com>; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: VFW shelter

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Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

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To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: VFW shelter

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Thanks,

Brian

REC105

Brian Pine
CEDO Director
Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 578-6953
www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

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Subject: RE: VFW shelter

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REC106

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City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
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Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com
Subject: VFW shelter

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

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Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

REC107

From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2023 2:45 PM EDT
To: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>
CC: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us <pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: RE: October Sales

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hello Melissa,

I am fully aware of the challenges in Burlington and its vast economic impact.

In my honest opinion, much of the problem lies with the State of Vermont. I have added Senator Baruth & Representative Krowinski to this email. My concerns related to the State are multiple:

- 1 Motel Program: the state-run motel program which housed hundreds of people was abruptly closed in June without strong alternative plans in place
- 2 Mental Health/Substance Use: treatment and support for these issues lie with the State of Vermont and I hope that more plans around these issues will be forthcoming
- 3 Opioid Settlement Funds: I am concerned that the majority of the \$23M that the state received has yet to be deployed and hope these funds can be put to good use soon
- 4 Retail Theft: I believe the State needs to adequately review and address the known issues around retail theft and the threshold for felony prosecution

In addition, our surrounding communities have yet to contribute to the burden of the challenges that are concentrated in Burlington.

Below is a list of programs and policies that the City has initiated to address your concerns.

I look forward to hearing the thoughts of other leaders in this community on these issues

Best,

Kara

Burlington Responses

Treatment/Housing:

- Elmwood Pod shelter - housing 35 individuals
- Champlain Inn/Anew Place - current operator announced they were closing the doors on this facility, Mayor & City Team worked hard to find another operator and keep the doors open
- Temporary low-barrier winter shelter - opening late fall at former VFW space. Open 5pm to 8am. 30-35 beds.
- BTV Cares - these new positions have been posted. This program is in conjunction with UVMHC and involves pairs of two (1 mental health clinician and 1 nurse) roaming the City
- Largest number of units (including affordable units) being built in the City in over a decade to make housing more accessible
- Extensive financial support (over \$1M) flowing from the City to area non-profits to support response
- Rapid Response EMTs - two medical technicians, 12 hours a day, responding only to overdose calls and when not actively responding they are instructed to engage with the impacted population

Enforcement:

- CSLs (Community Support Liaisons) - social workers housed in the BPD
- CSOs (Community Service Officer) - unarmed/unsworn officers able to enforce ordinance violations
- Drug Trafficking - active undercover operations and operations in conjunction with ATF and DEA
- State Level Advocacy - Actively asking the State to deploy the \$23M received in the opioid settlement
- 2 BPD Officers dedicated to the downtown 40 hr/week since May. They do not respond to other calls.
- Vermont State Police - OT hours posted for VT State Police paid for by the City
- Parks Patrol Officer program reinstituted
- Park Ranger Program instituted and slated to expand

Kara Alnasrawi

Director, Business & Workforce Development

131 Church St. - Suite 209

Burlington, VT 05401

802.238.1910

The Marketplace | Love Burlington | ELI

-----Original Message-----

From: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 4:28 PM

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul

<kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Billy Mauer

<billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <sarah.george@vermont.gov>;

REC108

Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>
Subject: October Sales

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello- I waited to write this when I had official numbers. I am sad/scared to admit that October was the WORST in HISTORY at both stores (Whim & Dear Lucy). Worse than my 2020 numbers when we were at a limited capacity, wore masks and had air ventilated all day.

In 2020 we were in the middle of a pandemic. But the government was here to help me. The citizens of Burlington wanted to help me too/ they shopped online and opted for in-store pickup. This too is a pandemic but there is no one to help and the citizens, while shocked at what is happening (and talking about it at parties, on social media-LOUDLY) seem to have little sympathy. Instead they are shopping in Shelburne & Essex with my competition. Both towns with lower rents & costs of doing business than Church Street. Both towns where it isn't scary for a 17 year old associate to work alone at night and walk to her car.

I know this isn't something I have done or not doing. My merchandise has brand recognition, I hold events (low attendance), I am constantly marketing, posting, emailing, promoting, hanging posters, blowing up balloons, personally emailing clients. My staff is stellar & seasoned. I even promote other businesses on Shoplocalbtv- because when they look good i do too.

Most retailers like myself need a strong 4th quarter to survive the 1st quarter. In Burlington no one shops for 3 months, really 4. We need October to Dec 24th to be huge. And I'm just not seeing it happening for us this year.

We need your help- the leaders of our community. I don't want to hear things like "I'm painfully aware of your situation". I want action.

Thank you for your time,

Melissa Desautels

Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

REC109

From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 03, 2023 8:31 AM EDT
To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; Emma Allen <eallen@burlingtonvt.gov>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com <tnettleton@uppglobal.com>; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann(LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Rescheduling meeting today at 1pm

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hello all ,

Mayor Weinberger asked me to reschedule our planned meeting this afternoon so that he could participate. Could you meet on Monday at 3pm?

Jordan

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 9:29 AM
To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: VFW shelter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Brian,

We look forward to our meeting tomorrow at 11:00. We would like to switch the meeting location back to the VFW (rather than city hall) so we can better understand how CEDO plans to manage this facility.

See you there.

Jeff Nick
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 5:27 PM
To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: VFW shelter

Hi Jeff:

I am working with the City team (Chief Murad, Lacey, Jordan, Sarah and Kara) to find times that work for all of us on 11/1/ and 11/3.

I prefer to have our discussion in person rather than by email so my focus now is getting the meeting scheduled.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Pine
CEDO Director
Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 578-6953
www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

REC110

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From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 21, 2023 2:51 PM
To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: VFW shelter

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Brian,

I cannot stress enough that the situation downtown is dire, and any shelter will only bring greater problems. This is exactly why the city's own plan suggests that bringing more services into the downtown core is unwise for a host of reasons including for those in need. One simple example of the ripple effect is that young female store clerks, with the urging of their parents, are choosing to quit their jobs as they are afraid to confront the multitude of shop lifters or walk to their cars in the dark (especially during winter months). This story has been repeated by a number of store owners. When you hear stories like this you know this city is headed in the wrong direction!

Hoping we can all meet sometime between Wednesday November 1st and Friday the 3rd to discuss a robust safety and security plan for this shelter and surrounding properties.

Wish we were meeting under more positive circumstances.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 10:27 AM
To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: VFW shelter

Hi Jeff:

I understand the concerns and welcome the chance to meet to discuss how the shelter will operate. I've copied my colleague, Sarah Russell in her role as Special Assistant to End Homelessness and Samantha Dunn as the project developer. As you can see, I've also copied both Chief Murad and Lacey Smith since many of the concerns relate directly to matters of public safety.

I will work with the City team to find workable times next Wed and Friday.

We are committed to hearing the concerns and working collaboratively to find the best path forward as we experience an historic level of homelessness.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Pine
CEDO Director
Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 578-6953

REC111

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From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 2:26 PM

To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com

Subject: VFW shelter

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

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Brian,

Since Kara met with the abutting property owners Perry Sporn, Jeff Davis, and myself (King Street apartment and Mid-Town rooming house) as well as Courthouse Plaza tenant DRM two weeks ago we have meet among ourselves to discuss our many concerns.

While we are amazed that the city continues to ignore it's own advice set forth in the city's Downtown and Water front plan warning against sighting additional social services within our downtown core we understand this is moving forward.

Since CEDO will be managing this shelter, we would like to meet with you at the VFW building to gain a better understanding of your management plan and how you will address the negative off-site behaviors, such as trespassing , theft, drug use, drug dealing, fighting, etc. that will emanant from the shelter. We know this will happen as it is in the area surrounding the Elmwood Ave. PODS. Perhaps you can also invite someone from BPD to attend the meeting as well to help address the safety concerns we have for our customers, tenants, and employees as many are already on edge.

As I write this, I have learned from Kelly Devine that you have agreed to meet with us. That's great. Would anytime between Wednesday November 1st and Friday November 3rd work for you? Please let us know a good date and time.

Thanks.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Friday, November 03, 2023 10:25 AM EDT

To: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

CC: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; Emma Allen <eallen@burlingtonvt.gov>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com <tnettleton@uppglobal.com>; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann(LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Wet Shelter meeting

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

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Jordon,

Both Perry and Jeff Davis can make the meeting although I have a scheduling conflict. The mayor needs to understand that this population is the most troubled and challenging group to work with. Plus, with city's diminished police force, coupled with our experience with the PODS and the city's broken promises, leaves us knowing the results from the operation of a low-barrier shelter in this location will be greater problems for our employees and customers.

Jeff N.

From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 8:31 AM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; Emma Allen <eallen@burlingtonvt.gov>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Rescheduling meeting today at 1pm

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See you there.

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Burlington, VT 05401

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Email: jeff@jeffnick.com

www.jldavisrealty.com

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Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis <[REDACTED]>; Perry

REC113

Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

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Subject: RE: VFW shelter

REC114

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Subject: VFW shelter

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Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Sent: Friday, November 03, 2023 1:36 PM EDT
To: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us <pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; City Council <CityCouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: October Sales
Attachment(s): "IMG_0592.MOV"

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Kara,

It is important for our elected officials to understand the magnitude of the retail theft problem. While CVS is locking down much of their merchandise including deodorant, major theft is happening up and down Church Street almost on a daily basis. The attached video tape shows just how brazen these thieves can be.

With no meaning consequences for this behavior nor a willingness to prosecute, the number of thieves operating in Burlington grows by the day.

With Vermont's robust social safety net there is no reason to steal to feed a family as some have suggested. This sense of lawlessness has taken over and has made downtown Burlington feel very unsafe. Something must change before we see more store closures or worse.

Wish things were different!

Jeff Nick
Former Church Street Marketplace Commission chair
29 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
802-876-6923
jeff@jeffnick.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 1:10 PM
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us; jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; City Council <CityCouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: October Sales

Kara,

Thank you for your very thorough response. I appreciate all you do for retailers and feel for you as you are our sounding board/ and we are screaming for help.

I look forward to hearing from the 2 city councilors I added here (running for Mayor) as well as Senator Baruth & Representative Krowinski. I will be sharing the response with my fellow retailers.

I would like to invite our elected officials to a meeting to hear all of the concerns you heard today at our monthly Church Street meeting. A meeting that was supposed to be dedicated to Holiday planning but ended up a therapy session.

We need a short term fix- something that starts asap and continue to work on the long term that you listed below.

Best,

Melissa Desautels

Sent from my iPhone

> On Nov 2, 2023, at 2:45 PM, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

REC117

> 8Q3jcVtz_UPuM&e=>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara
> Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>;
> Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>
> Subject: October Sales

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

> [WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

> Hello- I waited to write this when I had official numbers. I am sad/scared to admit that October was the WORST in HISTORY at both stores (Whim & Dear Lucy). Worse than my 2020 numbers when we were at a limited capacity, wore masks and had air ventilated all day.

> In 2020 we were in the middle of a pandemic. But the government was here to help me. The citizens of Burlington wanted to help me too/ they shopped online and opted for in-store pickup. This too is a pandemic but there is no one to help and the citizens, while shocked at what is happening (and talking about it at parties, on social media-LOUDLY) seem to have little sympathy. Instead they are shopping in Shelburne & Essex with my competition. Both towns with lower rents & costs of doing business than Church Street. Both towns where it isn't scary for a 17 year old associate to work alone at night and walk to her car.

> I know this isn't something I have done or not doing. My merchandise has brand recognition, I hold events (low attendance), I am constantly marketing, posting, emailing, promoting, hanging posters, blowing up balloons, personally emailing clients. My staff is stellar & seasoned. I even promote other businesses on Shoplocalbtv- because when they look good i do too.

> Most retailers like myself need a strong 4th quarter to survive the 1st quarter. In Burlington no one shops for 3 months, really 4. We need October to Dec 24th to be huge. And I'm just not seeing it happening for us this year.

> We need your help- the leaders of our community. I don't want to hear things like "I'm painfully aware of your situation". I want action.

> Thank you for your time,

> Melissa Desautels

> Sent from my iPhone

> Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

I look forward to hearing from the 2 city councilors I added here (running for Mayor) as well as Senator Baruth & Representative Krowinski. I will be sharing the response with my fellow retailers.

I would like to invite our elected officials to a meeting to hear all of the concerns you heard today at our monthly Church Street meeting. A meeting that was supposed to be dedicated to Holiday planning but ended up a therapy session.

We need a short term fix- something that starts asap and continue to work on the long term that you listed below.

Best,

Melissa Desautels

Sent from my iPhone

> On Nov 2, 2023, at 2:45 PM, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

>

> Hello Melissa,

>

> I am fully aware of the challenges in Burlington and its vast economic impact.

>

> In my honest opinion, much of the problem lies with the State of Vermont. I have added Senator Baruth & Representative Krowinski to this email. My concerns related to the State are multiple:

> 1) Motel Program: the state-run motel program which housed hundreds of people was abruptly closed in June without strong alternative plans in place

> 2) Mental Health/Substance Use: treatment and support for these issues lie with the State of Vermont and I hope that more plans around these issues will be forthcoming

> 3) Opioid Settlement Funds: I am concerned that the majority of the \$23M that the state received has yet to be deployed and hope these funds can be put to good use soon

> 4) Retail Theft: I believe the State needs to adequately review and address the known issues around retail theft and the threshold for felony prosecution

>

> In addition, our surrounding communities have yet to contribute to the burden of the challenges that are concentrated in Burlington.

>

> Below is a list of programs and policies that the City has initiated to address your concerns.

> I look forward to hearing the thoughts of other leaders in this community on these issues

> Best,

> Kara

>

> Burlington Responses

> Treatment/Housing:

> • Elmwood Pod shelter – housing 35 individuals

> • Champlain Inn/Anew Place –current operator announced they were closing the doors on this facility, Mayor & City Team worked hard to find another operator and keep the doors open

> • Temporary low-barrier winter shelter – opening late fall at former VFW space. Open 5pm to 8am. 30-35 beds.

> • BTV Cares – these new positions have been posted. This program is in conjunction with UVMMC and involves pairs of two (1 mental health clinician and 1 nurse) roaming the City

> • Largest number of units (including affordable units) being built in the City in over a decade to make housing more accessible

> • Extensive financial support (over \$1M) flowing from the City to area non-profits to support response

> • Rapid Response EMTs – two medical technicians, 12 hours a day, responding only to overdose calls and when not actively responding they are instructed to engage with the impacted population

> Enforcement:

> • CSLs (Community Support Liaisons) – social workers housed in the BPD

> • CSOs (Community Service Officer) – unarmed/unsworn officers able to enforce ordinance violations

> • Drug Trafficking – active undercover operations and operations in conjunction with ATF and DEA

> • State Level Advocacy – Actively asking the State to deploy the \$23M received in the opioid settlement

> • 2 BPD Officers dedicated to the downtown 40 hr/week since May. They do not respond to other calls.

> • Vermont State Police – OT hours posted for VT State Police paid for by the City

> • Parks Patrol Officer program reinstituted

> • Park Ranger Program instituted and slated to expand

>

>

> Kara Alnasrawi

> Director, Business & Workforce Development

> 131 Church St. – Suite 209

> Burlington, VT 05401

> 802.238.1910

> The Marketplace | Love Burlington | ELI

>

>

>

>

>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>
> Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 4:28 PM
> To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
> Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>
> Subject: October Sales

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

> [WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

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>
> Hello- I waited to write this when I had official numbers. I am sad/scared to admit that October was the WORST in HISTORY at both stores (Whim & Dear Lucy). Worse than my 2020 numbers when we were at a limited capacity, wore masks and had air ventilated all day.

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>
> Thank you for your time,

>
> Melissa Desautels

>
> Sent from my iPhone

> Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.



To: City Council
From: Kara Alnasrawi, Director of Business & Workforce Development
CC: Mayor Miro Weinberger
Katherine Schad, Chief Administrative Officer
Date: November 6, 2023

Re: Funds for Downtown Support

Background: After the end of the state-run motel housing program in June, and in conjunction with the impacts of the national Fentanyl crisis, Burlington's business community is experiencing serious challenges. Recognizing that over 90% of Burlington's businesses are locally owned, the Office of Business & Workforce Development (BWD) understands the urgency of supporting these community members and the jobs they create in Burlington. While some indicators of economic health have returned to robust, pre-pandemic levels and we are working to support another strong winter season, BWD recognizes that these challenges can negatively impact commercial activity in our City. For many local businesses, a strong holiday shopping season and first fiscal quarter are critical to the ongoing strength and success of their business.

Financial Support: In response to concerns raised by local businesses, President Paul requested that the Administration identify \$50,000 for small business support and secured a \$50,000 match donation from the Pomerleau Family Foundation to fund increased initiatives by BWD that support small businesses in Burlington during the winter season. BWD has managed the City's economic recovery via the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars and was able to identify \$50,000 in reserved ARPA funds that would be eligible for new programs to support our downtown. The eligibility centers around guidance from the US Treasury Department in the [State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule](#). This guidance enumerates that funds may be used to address the negative economic impacts from the Covid-19 pandemic-related increase in crime and drug use.

Proposed Use of Funds: BWD recommends a two-pronged approach to the use of these combined funds totaling \$100,000:

- **Public Relations/Marketing Campaign:** BWD proposes to engage a PR firm to discuss a campaign encouraging the public to continue to support local businesses and to continue to visit Burlington's Downtown. Such a PR campaign is well beyond the normal marketing budget housed in the Marketplace and BWD's "Love Burlington".
- **Better Lighting for Downtown Workers:** DPW generously provides [free parking](#) for all downtown restaurant and retail workers and all City staff, however, BWD frequently hears that the walk from places of employment to the garage can be intimidating at night. As a result, multiple businesses have communicated difficulty hiring staff to work evenings, resulting in shorter hours and reduced revenue.

City Council Motion:

To authorize the Director of Business & Workforce Development to accept a donation of \$50,000 from the Pomerleau Family Foundation and to reallocate \$50,000 in ARPA funds for the use of a PR/Marketing campaign and downtown lighting and security project. The purpose of which is to support economic activity in downtown Burlington and stabilize worker retention.

From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, November 06, 2023 10:28 AM EST

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

CC: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; Emma Allen <eallen@burlingtonvt.gov>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com <tnettleton@uppglobal.com>; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: Wet Shelter meeting

Hi everyone – we're confirmed today for 3pm. We can meet in the Mayor's Office on the 3^d floor of City Hall.

Jordan

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 10:25 AM

To: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; Emma Allen <eallen@burlingtonvt.gov>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Wet Shelter meeting

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Jordan,

Both Perry and Jeff Davis can make the meeting although I have a scheduling conflict. The mayor needs to understand that this population is the most troubled and challenging group to work with. Plus, with city's diminished police force, coupled with our experience with the PODS and the city's broken promises, leaves us knowing the results from the operation of a low-barrier shelter in this location will be greater problems for our employees and customers.

Jeff N.

From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 8:31 AM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; Emma Allen <eallen@burlingtonvt.gov>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Rescheduling meeting today at 1pm

Hello all ,

Mayor Weinberger asked me to reschedule our planned meeting this afternoon so that he could participate. Could you meet on Monday at 3pm?

Jordan

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 9:29 AM

To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]>; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Brian,

We look forward to our meeting tomorrow at 11:00. We would like to switch the meeting location back to the VFW (rather than city hall) so we can better understand how CEDO plans to manage this facility.

See you there.

Jeff Nick

29 Church Street, 3^d Floor
Burlington, VT 05401

REC124

Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 5:27 PM
To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (<LSmith@bpdvt.org>) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: VFW shelter

Hi Jeff:

I am working with the City team (Chief Murad, Lacey, Jordan, Sarah and Kara) to find times that work for all of us on 11/1/ and 11/3.

I prefer to have our discussion in person rather than by email so my focus now is getting the meeting scheduled.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Pine
CEDO Director
Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 578-6953
www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act. CEDO (including the Community Justice Center), as part of the City of Burlington, is bound by the Vermont Public Records Act. There are exemptions to this Act for certain personal and confidential information, and we will take steps to protect your privacy. If you have any questions, please ask us.

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 21, 2023 2:51 PM
To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (<LSmith@bpdvt.org>) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: VFW shelter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Brian,

I cannot stress enough that the situation downtown is dire, and any shelter will only bring greater problems. This is exactly why the city's own plan suggests that bringing more services into the downtown core is unwise for a host of reasons including for those in need. One simple example of the ripple effect is that young female store clerks, with the urging of their parents, are choosing to quit their jobs as they are afraid to confront the multitude of shop lifters or walk to their cars in the dark (especially during winter months). This story has been repeated by a number of store owners. When you hear stories like this you know this city is headed in the wrong direction!

Hoping we can all meet sometime between Wednesday November 1st and Friday the 3rd to discuss a robust safety and security plan for this shelter and surrounding properties.

Wish we were meeting under more positive circumstances.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com

REC125

From: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 10:27 AM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com; Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Smith, Lacey-Ann (LSmith@bpdvt.org) <LSmith@bpdvt.org>; Samantha Dunn <sdunn@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: VFW shelter

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hi Jeff:

I understand the concerns and welcome the chance to meet to discuss how the shelter will operate. I've copied my colleague, Sarah Russell in her role as Special Assistant to End Homelessness and Samantha Dunn as the project developer. As you can see, I've also copied both Chief Murad and Lacey Smith since many of the concerns relate directly to matters of public safety.

I will work with the City team to find workable times next Wed and Friday.

We are committed to hearing the concerns and working collaboratively to find the best path forward as we experience an historic level of homelessness.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Pine
CEDO Director
Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, 149 Church St., Room 32
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 578-6953
www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

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From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 2:26 PM

To: Brian Pine <bpine@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Davis [REDACTED]; Perry Sporn <perry.sporn@devotiondiamonds.com>; tnettleton@uppglobal.com

Subject: VFW shelter

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Brian,

Since Kara met with the abutting property owners Perry Sporn, Jeff Davis, and myself (King Street apartment and Mid-Town rooming house) as well as Courthouse Plaza tenant DRM two weeks ago we have meet among ourselves to discuss our many concerns.

While we are amazed that the city continues to ignore it's own advice set forth in the city's Downtown and Water front plan warning against sighting additional social services within our downtown core we understand this is moving forward.

Since CEDO will be managing this shelter, we would like to meet with you at the VFW building to gain a better understanding of your management plan and how you will address the negative off-site behaviors, such as trespassing , theft, drug use, drug dealing, fighting, etc. that will emanant from the shelter. We know this will happen as it is in the area surrounding the Elmwood Ave. PODS. Perhaps you can also invite someone from BPD to attend the meeting as well to help address the safety concerns we have for our customers, tenants, and employees as many are already on edge.

As I write this, I have learned from Kelly Devine that you have agreed to meet with us. That's great. Would anytime between Wednesday November 1st and Friday November 3rd work for you? Please let us know a good date and time.

Thanks.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, November 06, 2023 5:00 PM EST

To: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>

CC: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us <pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; <[REDACTED]>; <[REDACTED]>; <[REDACTED]>; <[REDACTED]>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: October Sales

Hi Melissa,

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Thank you for your persistence in drawing our attention to this critically important issue for our City. Sorry for my delayed reply but I wanted to give this some thought.

Clearly our problem downtown is twofold: Making our downtown clean and safe for shoppers and workers has to be top priority, and marketing our strengths to shoppers from Chittenden County up to Canada is second to that. On the marketing side I would love to hear more from businesses if there are things we can do to help support you. It will be important for the City to have a successful tree lighting ceremony this year to kick off the holiday season and make sure the word gets out that Church Street is open for business and safe for families. On the safety side here are some initiatives I am currently pursuing:

1. Immediate support for security

- Reform the trespass ordinance to make it more effective against repeat offenders and easier for businesses to use.
- I'm encouraged by the new city funds designated for additional security Church St & Downtown
 - Further discussion is needed to determine what is most effective and achievable in short time frame
- Huge THANK YOU to the Pomerleau Family for their matching contribution and continued support
- Reconsider how the City can provide a compassionate response to people in mental health crisis

2. Working with State Legislators (both in and outside Chittenden County) on improving our statutes to assure that offenders are held appropriately accountable and working with the Governor.

- Reform theft laws to make prosecutions and penalties clearer and more effective
- Rutland is experiencing similar problems and I know the legislators there are actively seeking to address areas where our laws differ and are inferior to neighboring states.
- Now that the problem has spread outside of Burlington, we have a real opportunity for legislative action
- Appoint 7 judges to address judiciary backlog
- We need immediate resources spread throughout the state to house and treat people in need (including the opioid settlement money).

3. Supporting initiatives for recruiting police officers

- The hiring process for officers is painfully slow and despite recent actions by the Council to correct past mistakes, their current staffing levels doesn't give BPD the bandwidth for essential police department services.
- I'm happy to support Council President Paul's initiative for a photo if BPD thinks that is helpful
- The political climate we created continues to be a recruitment problem. We need to work as a council to change the narrative.
- Housing and affordability are also preventing good people from moving here to fill needed positions.

I know Burlington cannot be successful without Church Street and our posture as a city should reflect that. Please keep us posted on how you're doing and how we can help. I'm open to your suggestions as we try to navigate this very difficult situation.

Yours sincerely,
Joan



29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

Nov 6, 2023

The Burlington Business Association, founded in 1978, is a non-profit, non-political membership organization with over 200 business and non-profit members.

Board of Directors:

Chelsea Condos, Chair
Shireen Hart, Secretary
Donna Austin-Hawley
Michael Casella
Joe Carton
Richard Deane
Peter Dysart
John George Wheeler
Rose Kenary
Lisa Kingsbury
Leslee MacKenzie
Ryan Nick
Jack Wallace

Staff:

Kelly Devine
Executive Director

Colin Hilliard
Deputy Director

Dear Members of the Burlington City Council,

First, we appreciate tonight's proposal to invest \$100,000 in support of downtown businesses. Our downtown businesses, most of whom are locally owned and operated, need your help. The BBA has been speaking to and collecting survey responses from downtown restaurant and retail businesses. Here is what we are hearing:

Over 80% report foot traffic is down compared to the same time last year.
Over 50% report that their sales are down year-over-year.
Half of the respondents have had staff quit in the past year, citing public safety concerns.
Over half responded YES to the Question, "Are you considering closing or relocating your business to a location outside downtown Burlington?"

We also heard that businesses downtown are asking for added security resources, especially during the upcoming holiday season. While the top choice for added security is overwhelmingly more police officers; Street Outreach members and downtown ambassadors were also called for.

BBA has managed a downtown ambassador program led by a private/public partnership for the last two holiday seasons. This program has provided services to downtown staff, residents, and visitors like:

Safe walk home or escort to your vehicle
Additional eyes and ears on the street
Direct coordination with BPD, Howard Center, and other service providers
Peace of mind to staff that an additional resource is on-call and nearby

Given the current challenges downtown and the growing perception that downtown is unsafe, the **BBA requests that at least 50% of the \$100,000 be dedicated to safety programs for the downtown.** We also ask that a task force of downtown businesses and the BBA be formed to work in collaboration with the city to craft both short and long-term plans to address public safety issues.

While a PR/Marketing campaign would add value, we need to have a good story to tell. Funding in public safety measures would tell our long-time customers and community members that Burlington is working to make our downtown safer.

I appreciate your consideration, and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Kelly Devine

From: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>

Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 12:03 PM EST

To: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

CC: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us <pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; City Council <CityCouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>; Sarah Beal <sarah@commondeer.com>

Subject: Re: Some follow-up on Melissa's email from November 1st

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Thanks marc

Jumping back in and echoing everything you stated

I was on the committee to create the marketplace over 40years ago and nothing close to this has occurred in entire history of downtown-

We all love this city but we sadly have crossed the tipping point

Defunding the police will go down as the historic worst/most costly decision ever made in BTV

It is not only issue but this in combination with issues of homelessness /opioid addiction/aggressive panhandling

And no consequences to people stealing massive amounts of merchandise -we have already lost our street if not over corrected ...

Our Queen City is dieing

We have contributed from our foundation large sums to fight graffiti /provide entertainment to church street and now more for security / lighting etc

This needs to be a massive effort dealing with a place to bring opioid addicted people for help NOT overloading emergency wards -we need thief's having consequence to their action !

Need more housing for homeless

All will need combined city and state initiatives

I have screamed about this for way over a year -we have crossed the "rubicon"

Without much stronger and immediate action church street is lost - and will take years to recover -this is our home that we love but losing her -no longer our "Queen city"

Our two shops are down almost 40% our customers are older and will not venture downtown -desperately trying to get an online store up..

But we cannot hold on much longer

Our other buildings we own are stressed

Fat face is installing metal fencing on front of store -other tenants are not renewing -have spent 10s of thousands of dollars with cameras/alarms /fencing /security —endless

So just adding my voice again we are in crisis and may have already crossed the point of no return if 100% of our community does not put this up as thier

100% top priority

Fingers crossed and hoping but on a serious downward cycle

Born here/live here/work here/devoted and passionate about our city fir 50 years but have never been more concerned or worried about it's very survival

We are all in this together but all have to realize that what you are hearing is not the future it is NOW

thanks

Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau
Pomerleau Real Estate
69 College Street
Burlington, Vermont
802 8638210
www.VermontRealEstate.com

On Nov 13, 2023, at 10:35 AM, Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com> wrote:

*** This email originated outside your organization ***

REC130

Good morning,

I want to echo Melissa's concerns. Outdoor Gear Exchange is also having historically low sales in Burlington which we attribute significantly to a drop in downtown foot traffic of 20-30% - most of which appears to be local Vermont customers choosing not to come into Burlington. OGE recently opened a second location in the Essex Experience in an effort to recapture some of the business we have lost. Sales there have met our expectations thus far but not without some concerning information: A majority of customers shopping in Essex expressed concern that they won't go to Burlington anymore due to the crime, the houseless and substance dependent population, and parking. And this morning we all woke to two more shooting deaths over the weekend in the Old North End. This only serves to reinforce concerns locals have about Burlington's safety - regardless of any details associated with those deaths.

This past weekend a DJ from PointFM was relating his own visit to our Essex grand opening this weekend with positive comments about the new store and the Essex Experience (this was not paid for or arranged for by us - though we have been advertising on PointFM for 28 years). He also, then added, how he prefers not to go into Burlington for all the reasons above. This is being BROADCAST state wide - nothing good can come from this prevalent sentiment.

Equally concerning is [the national news](#) highlighting the issue many downtowns around the country are having as suburban centers evolve into mini city centers like the one South Burlington recently developed off Dorset street or the one developed in and around the Essex Experience. While we may be caught up in a national evolution of downtown, we need to find a way to stop this trend in Burlington sooner than later and it will take massive investment and, for businesses like mine, possible subsidies to help us all survive to get to the other side of this.

As foot traffic declines, businesses are letting their leases lapse and either closing or moving their downtown businesses elsewhere. With less foot traffic restaurants are electing to be closed one, two, or three nights a week - further discouraging visits to town. This is a frightening downward spiral that will be harder to fight in the coming months with less draw from our incredible waterfront infrastructure. The Burlington brand is suffering and, I fear, at or beyond the tipping point.

Safety and Security resolutions and the recently approved \$100,000 in support and marketing/PR funds are helpful, needed, and appreciated. I know how much the police are dealing with and doing along with the many outreach personnel who are committed to the less fortunate segments of our population. I know that everyone on this email distribution is aware of these issues and cares deeply about Burlington in every way. I know that I don't have the answers but I am seeing the issues on an existential level for our still vibrant downtown, my own business, and my investment in our Church Street property. More significantly, it saddens me to see the city that I love and the city that instantly drew me to relocate to Vermont in 1992 in such a state of decline - especially when I see these issues dominate conversations at bars, at parties, and on the radio.

If we don't aggressively change the conversation soon there will be a lot fewer of us in the conversation. I welcome the chance to sit down with anyone to discuss solutions (though I know there are no quick fixes here) and to find a way to change the apparent course of things.

Thank you for your engagement in this,

Marc

Marc Sherman
Visionary
he/him/his

Outdoor Gear Exchange / Gearx.com
37 Church St. Burlington, VT. 802-598-1185

From: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>

Sent: Sunday, November 26, 2023 9:59 AM EST

To: Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>

CC: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us <pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

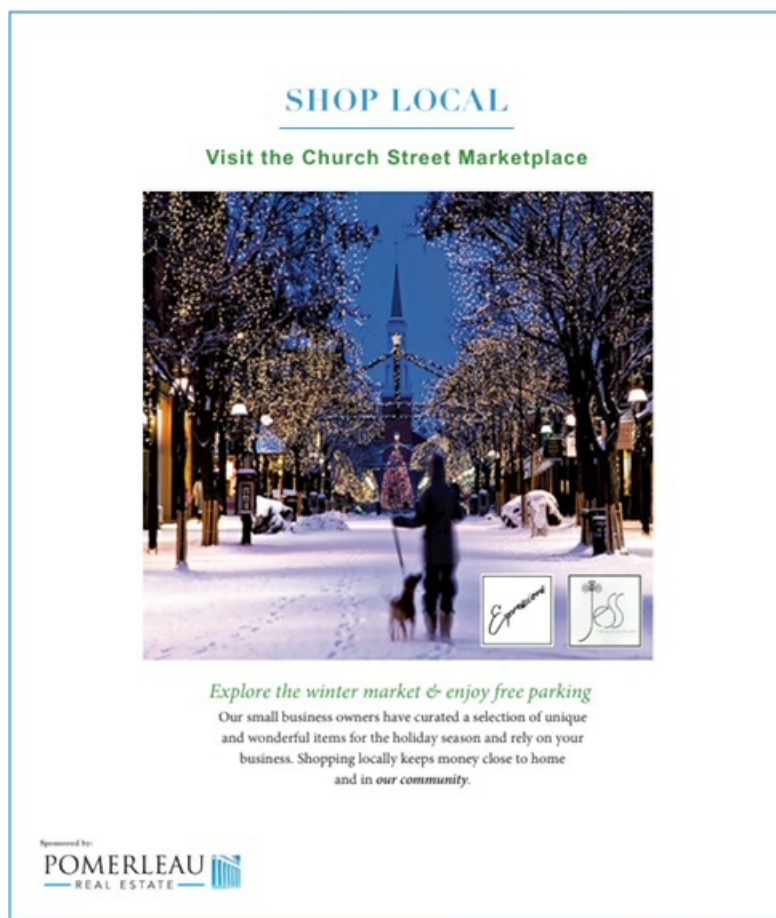
City Council <CityCouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: But local

Some people who received this message don't often get email from epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)



46 SEVENDAYS NOVEMBER 22-29, 2023

Wanted to share a buy local ad have put in a dozen papers in area

Also agree our foundation 50k match is to be used only

For security/lighting -the top of survey!

Fingers crossed

Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau

Pomerleau Real Estate

69 College Street

Burlington, Vermont

802 8638210

www.VermontRealEstate.com

REC132

On Nov 3, 2023, at 1:29 PM, Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com> wrote:

*** This email originated outside your organization ***

Melissa, thank you for putting this email together and reaching out to us all. I agree that a meeting could prove to be very helpful, before it is too late. Kara is doing what she can for us but the city needs to step up and provide the support we desperately need. My most pressing requests would be a 24 hour security presence on Church St. as well as hiring a PR company to handle the city's reputation and crisis management. Without both of those tools in place, I have grave concerns for the future of downtown Burlington.

I will make myself available at any time for a meeting.

Best regards,

On Fri, Nov 3, 2023 at 1:10 PM Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com> wrote:

Kara,

Thank you for your very thorough response. I appreciate all you do for retailers and feel for you as you are our sounding board/ and we are screaming for help.

I look forward to hearing from the 2 city councilors I added here (running for Mayor) as well as Senator Baruth & Representative Krowinski. I will be sharing the response with my fellow retailers.

I would like to invite our elected officials to a meeting to hear all of the concerns you heard today at our monthly Church Street meeting. A meeting that was supposed to be dedicated to Holiday planning but ended up a therapy session.

We need a short term fix- something that starts asap and continue to work on the long term that you listed below.

Best,

Melissa Desautels

Sent from my iPhone

> On Nov 2, 2023, at 2:45 PM, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

>

> Hello Melissa,

>

> I am fully aware of the challenges in Burlington and its vast economic impact.

>

> In my honest opinion, much of the problem lies with the State of Vermont. I have added Senator Baruth & Representative Krowinski to this email. My concerns related to the State are multiple:

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> In addition, our surrounding communities have yet to contribute to the burden of the challenges that are concentrated in Burlington.

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> Below is a list of programs and policies that the City has initiated to address your concerns.

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> Best,

> Kara

>

> Burlington Responses

> Treatment/Housing:

> • Elmwood Pod shelter – housing 35 individuals

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> • Temporary low-barrier winter shelter – opening late fall at former VFW space. Open 5pm to 8am. 30-35 beds.

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- > • Extensive financial support (over \$1M) flowing from the City to area non-profits to support response
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- > Enforcement:
 - > • CSLs (Community Support Liaisons) – social workers housed in the BPD
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>
> Kara Alnasrawi
> Director, Business & Workforce Development
> 131 Church St. – Suite 209
> Burlington, VT 05401
> 802.238.1910
> The Marketplace | Love Burlington | ELI

> -----Original Message-----

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

> From: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>
> Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 4:28 PM
> To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
> Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>
> Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>
> Subject: October Sales

> [WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

> Hello- I waited to write this when I had official numbers. I am sad/scared to admit that October was the WORST in HISTORY at both stores (Whim & Dear Lucy). Worse than my 2020 numbers when we were at a limited capacity, wore masks and had air ventilated all day.

> In 2020 we were in the middle of a pandemic. But the government was here to help me. The citizens of Burlington wanted to help me too/ they shopped online and opted for in-store pickup. This too is a pandemic but there is no one to help and the citizens, while shocked at what is happening (and talking about it at parties, on social media-LOUDLY) seem to have little sympathy. Instead they are shopping in Shelburne & Essex with my competition. Both towns with lower rents & costs of doing business than Church Street. Both towns where it isn't scary for a 17 year old associate to work alone at night and walk to her car.

> I know this isn't something I have done or not doing. My merchandise has brand recognition, I hold events (low attendance), I am constantly marketing, posting, emailing, promoting, hanging posters, blowing up balloons, personally emailing clients. My staff is stellar & seasoned. I even promote other businesses on Shoplocalbtv- because when they look good i do too.

> Most retailers like myself need a strong 4th quarter to survive the 1st quarter. In Burlington no one shops for 3 months, really 4. We need October to Dec 24th to be huge. And I'm just not seeing it happening for us this year.

> We need your help- the leaders of our community. I don't want to hear things like "I'm painfully aware of your situation". I want action.

> Thank you for your time,

> Melissa Desautels

>

> Sent from my iPhone

> Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

--

LLyndara Harbour

Owner

Harbour Thread

p 802.864.2800

harbourthread.com

From: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>

Sent: Sunday, November 26, 2023 11:20 AM EST

To: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>

CC: Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Sarah George <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <rlarah@aol.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us <pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

City Council <CityCouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Buy local

Attachment(s): "IMG_0484.jpg"

Some people who received this message don't often get email from epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Welcome mark

We are all in this together!!

Fingers crossed!

Ernie Pomerleau
Pomerleau Real Estate
69 College Street
Burlington, Vermont
802 8638210
www.VermontRealEstate.com

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

On Nov 26, 2023, at 11:09 AM, Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com> wrote:

*** This email originated outside your organization ***

Ernie,

Thanks so much for all that you are doing to make Downtown and the Marketplace a success. It's never been more important that we all join together to push back against the negative tide and you always do more than your share; it is sincerely appreciated.

-Mark Bouchett

mark.homeport@gmail.com

802-863-4644

www.homeportonline.com

52 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

On Sun, Nov 26, 2023 at 9:59 AM Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com> wrote:

<IMG_0484.jpg>

Wanted to share a buy local ad have put in a dozen papers in area

Also agree our foundation 50k match is to be used only

For security/lighting -the top of survey!

Fingers crossed

Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau
Pomerleau Real Estate
69 College Street
Burlington, Vermont

REC136

On Nov 3, 2023, at 1:29 PM, Llyndara Harbour <lara@stella-mae.com> wrote:

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Melissa, thank you for putting this email together and reaching out to us all. I agree that a meeting could prove to be very helpful, before it is too late. Kara is doing what she can for us but the city needs to step up and provide the support we desperately need. My most pressing requests would be a 24 hour security presence on Church St. as well as hiring a PR company to handle the city's reputation and crisis management. Without both of those tools in place, I have grave concerns for the future of downtown Burlington.

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Best,

Melissa Desautels

Sent from my iPhone

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- >
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> 131 Church St. – Suite 209

> Burlington, VT 05401

> 802.238.1910

> The Marketplace | Love Burlington | ELI

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> To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

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1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

> Subject: October Sales

>

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LLyndara Harbour

Owner

Harbour Thread

p 802.864.2800

harbourthread.com

SHOP LOCAL

Visit the Church Street Marketplace



Explore the winter market & enjoy free parking

Our small business owners have curated a selection of unique and wonderful items for the holiday season and rely on your business. Shopping locally keeps money close to home and in our community.

Sponsored by
POMERLEAU
— REAL ESTATE — 

From: Sarah Carpenter <scarpenter@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 12:26 PM EST

To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

CC: Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us <pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: But local

Attachment(s): "IMG_0484.jpg"

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Yes. Thank you so much ♥

Sarah Carpenter

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 29, 2023, at 11:08 AM, Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org> wrote:

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

This is a lovely ad. Very Grateful for you Ernie.

Kelly

On Sun, Nov 26, 2023 at 9:59 AM Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com> wrote:

<IMG_0484.jpg>

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Fingers crossed

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Ernie Pomerleau

Pomerleau Real Estate

69 College Street

Burlington, Vermont

802 8638210

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REC141

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> • CSOs (Community Service Officer) – unarmed/unsworn officers able to enforce ordinance violations

> • Drug Trafficking – active undercover operations and operations in conjunction with ATF and DEA

- > • State Level Advocacy – Actively asking the State to deploy the \$23M received in the opioid settlement
- > • 2 BPD Officers dedicated to the downtown 40 hr/week since May. They do not respond to other calls.
- > • Vermont State Police – OT hours posted for VT State Police paid for by the City
- > • Parks Patrol Officer program reinstituted
- > • Park Ranger Program instituted and slated to expand

>

>

> Kara Alnasrawi

> Director, Business & Workforce Development

> 131 Church St. – Suite 209

> Burlington, VT 05401

> 802.238.1910

> The Marketplace | Love Burlington | ELI

>

>

>

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>

> Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 4:28 PM

> To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

> Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Sarah George <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Lara Allen <lara.allen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>

> Subject: October Sales

>

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

> [WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

>

>

> Hello- I waited to write this when I had official numbers. I am sad/scared to admit that October was the WORST in HISTORY at both stores (Whim & Dear Lucy). Worse than my 2020 numbers when we were at a limited capacity, wore masks and had air ventilated all day.

>

> In 2020 we were in the middle of a pandemic. But the government was here to help me. The citizens of Burlington wanted to help me too/ they shopped online and opted for in-store pickup. This too is a pandemic but there is no one to help and the citizens, while shocked at what is happening (and talking about it at parties, on social media-LOUDLY) seem to have little sympathy. Instead they are shopping in Shelburne & Essex with my competition. Both towns with lower rents & costs of doing business than Church Street. Both towns where it isn't scary for a 17 year old associate to work alone at night and walk to her car.

>

> I know this isn't something I have done or not doing. My merchandise has brand recognition, I hold events (low attendance), I am constantly marketing, posting, emailing, promoting, hanging posters, blowing up balloons, personally emailing clients. My staff is stellar & seasoned. I even promote other businesses on Shoplocalbtv- because when they look good i do too.

>

> Most retailers like myself need a strong 4th quarter to survive the 1st quarter. In Burlington no one shops for 3 months, really 4. We need October to Dec 24th to be huge. And I'm just not seeing it happening for us this year.

>

> We need your help- the leaders of our community. I don't want to hear things like "I'm painfully aware of your situation". I want action.

>

> Thank you for your time,

>

> Melissa Desautels

>

> Sent from my iPhone

> Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

--

LLyndara Harbour
Owner
Harbour Thread
p 802.864.2800
harbourthread.com

SHOP LOCAL

Visit the Church Street Marketplace



Explore the winter market & enjoy free parking

Our small business owners have curated a selection of unique and wonderful items for the holiday season and rely on your business. Shopping locally keeps money close to home and in our community.

Sponsored by
POMERLEAU
— REAL ESTATE — 

Title 24 Appendix: Municipal Charters

Chapter 3: CITY OF BURLINGTON

24 App. V.S.A. § 3-325. Annual taxation for downtown improvement district; free parking for two hours in public lots and garages; annual budget of Church Street Marketplace District

§ 3-325. Annual taxation for downtown improvement district; free parking for two hours in public lots and garages; annual budget of Church Street Marketplace District

(a) The Church Street Marketplace commission shall annually recommend and the city council shall annually assess upon nonresidential properties (as defined in Sec. 81 hereof) located within the downtown improvement district a tax upon the dollar of the property grand list to be used for the herein enumerated purposes of the downtown improvement district, which tax shall not exceed \$0.12 unless a larger amount has been authorized by the city council upon affirmative recommendation of the Church Street Marketplace commission. The revenues from such tax will be utilized for the purpose of providing a parking program which shall include not less than two free hours of parking for anyone parking in any designated municipally or privately owned or operated parking garage or parking lot located within the downtown improvement district pursuant to regulations to be established by the public works commission.

(b) Annual budget. The commission shall prepare a proposed budget for each fiscal year showing the proposed expenditures and anticipated receipts of such year. The estimated net cost of operation of the marketplace, after taking account of all anticipated receipts available to meet such cost, shall, on or before the fifteenth day of April, 1980, and annually thereafter, be reported to the mayor to be incorporated, with such changes as he or she deems expedient, into the annual budget to be submitted to the city council for the next fiscal year. In adopting an appropriation for operation of the marketplace, the city council shall not determine that any portion thereof be raised by the city tax levy.

24 App. V.S.A. § 3-321. Creation of downtown improvement district, Church Street Marketplace District and marketplace

§ 3-321. Creation of downtown improvement district, Church Street Marketplace District and marketplace

(a) There is hereby created in the City of Burlington a special district to be known as the downtown improvement district, such district to be bounded by the shoreline of Lake Champlain on the west, the north property lines of properties fronting on Pearl Street on the north, the east property lines of properties fronting on South Winooski Avenue on the east, and the south property lines of properties fronting on Main Street to the intersection of Battery Street and then extending southerly to include properties fronting on Maple Street, on the south. The Church Street Marketplace District defined below shall also be included within the downtown improvement district.

(b) There is hereby created in the City of Burlington and within the downtown improvement district a special district to be known as the Church Street Marketplace District (district) which includes all of Church Street and the properties which have frontage thereon bounded on the north by the northernmost property line of properties bounded by Church and Pearl Streets, and bounded on the south by the southernmost property lines of properties at the northern corners of the Church and Main Street intersection, and more precisely shown on a plan entitled "Church Street Marketplace District" recorded with the chief administrative officer of the City of Burlington on June 27, 1979.

(c) The Church Street Marketplace (marketplace) shall be that section of the district now or hereafter under the direct control of the City of Burlington including but not limited to the Church Street right-of-way and adjacent sidewalks.

Title 24 Appendix: Municipal Charters

Chapter 3: CITY OF BURLINGTON

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From: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>

Sent: Friday, December 01, 2023 9:56 AM EST

To: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

CC: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Brian Pine (BPine@burlingtonvt.gov) <BPine@burlingtonvt.gov>; Chapin Spencer (cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov) <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jim Daly <jdaly@ci.burlington.vt.us>; Jon Murad(jmurad@BPDVT.org) <jmurad@bpdvt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; MarkBouchette (mark.homeport@gmail.com) <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; MeaganTuttle (mtuttle@burlingtonvt.gov) <mtuttle@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melissa Desautels <melissa@whimboutique.com>; miro@burlingtonvt.gov <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Pomerleau Family Office <Pomfamoffice@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Camping on the Marketplace

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Marc /Jeff

Kara has come up with new security protocols that I have approved funding from our foundation for..

We are also hiring our own security to monitor back of our stores off center street a haven for drug injections and sales

Since plan in place now with city to do asap -mailing our \$50,000 check today to match city 50k

Will get us 12pm to 12am coverage

Hopefully acting as good ambassadors as well but capable of moving campers and intervening with shop lifters since BPD limited in staffing - also contact retailers have immediately

Worth trying -we are at crisis intervention time!!

-Kara need to use every resource possible -losing control of church street we will be doomed-

Mellisa noted yesterday had more shoplifters than customers!one our our tenants called in tears -opioid crazies on stairway preventing clients from coming to her workout -one employee quit - very limited what we can do without constant help -time running out -need this in place immediately at all costs!!

Fingers crossed

Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau

Pomerleau Real Estate

69 College Street

Burlington, Vermont

802 8638210

www.VermontRealEstate.com

On Dec 1, 2023, at 9:12 AM, Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com> wrote:

*** This email originated outside your organization ***

Kara and Miro,

I will agree with Jeff on this - none of this allowed behavior will stop on its own and my staff, along with other retailers' staff and shoppers are getting fed up and frustrated - not to mention how this impacts perceptions.

Surely we have resource issues around enforcement as well as concerns around ACLU backlash, but if this behavior continues unchecked we will see significant and long lasting erosion of the Burlington brand beyond what has already happened.

I also understand that with the two weekends of gun violence behind us you have a lot on your plate and appreciate all you do,

Marc

Please forgive any typos - I've got fat fingers

On Fri, Dec 1, 2023 at 9:06 AM Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com> wrote:

Kara,

This encampment grows by the day. Putting aside the reasons these folks find themselves in this predicament, surely allowing this to continue and grow is not helpful to anyone including themselves.

They are blocking the sidewalk, leave all kinds of trash behind, and use our doorways and alleyways as toilets. If you ask them politely to clean up their trash, they just yell at you. In a city where everyone needs a permit to do most anything I don't understand how this is allowed.

I would also like to remind everyone that unless the boundaries were changed at some point the Marketplace district includes the sidewalks adjacent to the buildings fronting on the four blocks of Church Street (See attachment) meaning the nine (9) foot right of way from the building foundations outward should be enforced on these sidewalks and not just on Church Street.

If I have for some reason I have misinterpreted the city's own charter, ordinances, and rules, please let me know.

We need to find ways to bring civility, sanity, and safety back to Burlington quickly. I am VERY concerned about the health of our city!

Jeff Nick

29 Church Street, 3rd Floor

Burlington, VT 05401

Telephone: (802) 876-6923

Email: jeff@jeffnick.com

www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 8:22 AM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Subject: Camping on the Marketplace



Sent from my iPhone

From: Vastine, Karen <Karen.Vastine@uvmhealth.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 6:04 PM EST
To: Grove, StaciAnne K. <StaciAnne.Grove@uvmhealth.org>; Williams, JasonW. <Jason.Williams@uvmhealth.org>; Werneke, Christine <Christine.Werneke@uvmhealth.org>; Smart, Erika <Erika.Smart@uvmhealth.org>; ena_Backus@welch.senate.gov <ena_Backus@welch.senate.gov>; cbaker@ccrpcvt.org <cbaker@ccrpcvt.org>; jrbaker@southburlingtonvt.gov <jrbaker@southburlingtonvt.gov>; timothy.bilodeau@uvm.edu <timothy.bilodeau@uvm.edu>; Glenn.Boyde@vermont.gov <Glenn.Boyde@vermont.gov>; Mike_Cusick@vtp.uscourts.gov <Mike_Cusick@vtp.uscourts.gov>; michael@vahhs.org <michael@vahhs.org>; nicholas.deml@vermont.gov <nicholas.deml@vermont.gov>; kdevine@bbavt.org <kdevine@bbavt.org>; Jeff_Eaton@vtd.uscourts.gov <Jeff_Eaton@vtd.uscourts.gov>; Anthony.Facos@usdoj.gov <Anthony.Facos@usdoj.gov>; sarah.george@vermont.gov <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Giancamilli, Frank <Frank.Giancamilli@uvmhealth.org>; jason.gibbs@vermont.gov <jason.gibbs@vermont.gov>; kgoulette@chcb.org <kgoulette@chcb.org>; Devon Green <devon@vahhs.org>; emma@vahhs.org <emma@vahhs.org>; bethh@howardcenter.org <bethh@howardcenter.org>; rjolly@burlingtonvt.gov <rjolly@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kaulius, Jennifer <Jennifer.Kaulius@uvmhealth.org>; Kendrew, Heather <Heather.Kendrew@uvmhealth.org>; Nikolas.Kerest@usdoj.gov <Nikolas.Kerest@usdoj.gov>; King, Roz <Roz.King@uvmhealth.org>; kelley.klein@partner.vermont.gov <kelley.klein@partner.vermont.gov>; wendy.koenig@uvm.edu <wendy.koenig@uvm.edu>; alison.krompf@vermont.gov <alison.krompf@vermont.gov>; Leffler, Stephen M. <Stephen.Leffler@uvmhealth.org>; mark.levine@vermont.gov <mark.levine@vermont.gov>; Mackin, Annie <Annie.Mackin@uvmhealth.org>; mattm@howardcenter.org <mattm@howardcenter.org>; hmelbostad@howardcenter.org <hmelbostad@howardcenter.org>; jmckee@chcb.org <jmckee@chcb.org>; MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org <MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org>; jmurad@bpdvt.org <jmurad@bpdvt.org>; domenica.padula@vermont.gov <domenica.padula@vermont.gov>; Christian.Pedoty@vermont.gov <Christian.Pedoty@vermont.gov>; Cheryl.Read@champlainhousingtrust.org <Cheryl.Read@champlainhousingtrust.org>; jredell@burlingtonvt.gov <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; mredmond@spectrumvt.org <mredmond@spectrumvt.org>; Christina_Reiss@vtd.uscourts.gov <Christina_Reiss@vtd.uscourts.gov>; jenney.samuelson@vermont.gov <jenney.samuelson@vermont.gov>; michael.schirling@uvm.edu <michael.schirling@uvm.edu>; ssheehan@burlingtonvt.org <ssheehan@burlingtonvt.org>; Stein, Heather <hstein@chcb.org>; beth_stern@sanders.senate.gov <beth_stern@sanders.senate.gov>; miro@burlingtonvt.gov <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>; James.Whitcomb@vermont.gov <James.Whitcomb@vermont.gov>; Mark Crow <crow@tenthcrowcreative.com>; Brodt,Bonita <Bonita.Brodt@uvmhealth.org>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Subject: Workplace & Community Violence Alliance – Important Updates
Attachment(s): "ViolenceResponse_PPT_r1.pdf"

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello Everyone –

I am reaching out with a number of important updates regarding progress with bodies of work from both the Upstream and Downstream sub-committees. Additionally, at the bottom of this email, you will see information about the Public Safety Forums being hosted by Mayor Weinberger at City Hall this Thursday and next Tuesday.

Resource Guide – Attached to this email is the Resource Guide put together by the Downstream Workgroup. I want to extend a big 'thank you' to Kelley Klein from DMH and Kerry Goulette from CHC as the lead developers of this guide; additionally, thank you to all of the members of the Downstream Workgroup for their edits and thoughtful additions.

This guide is meant to serve as a stand-alone resource for organizations and businesses to use to prepare and plan for preventing workplace violence and should violence occur, it provides tips for responding. We invite you to share this broadly and include on your website.

Small Acts of Community – With leadership and direction from the Upstream Group, we're readying a launch of the Small Acts of Community Campaign. We expect to start communicating with the community about this in early 2024 with an official kickoff in March. We look forward to sharing more information with you in the new year. We'd hoped to launch this year, but the tragic shooting in Burlington the weekend after Thanksgiving caused us to rethink the launch date and framing of the campaign. Meanwhile, support for the work has grown with generous financial contributions by Hotel Vermont, Marriott Burlington Harbor, the BBA Foundation and others.

Finally, below please find an excerpt from an email Mayor Weinberger sent to the broader community earlier this month regarding two public safety forums. I plan to attend both and look forward to the conversation. I hope to see many of you there as either panelists or participants.

Thank you, all –
Karen

This month, the City of Burlington will host two Public Safety Community Forums to discuss important issues and challenges facing our city: drug trafficking, gun crime, substance use disorder, and property crime. Panelists at each forum will present information about ongoing work at the local, state, and federal levels to address these issues.

Participants are invited to [submit questions in advance of the forums on the City's website](#)

Community Forum Part 1: Drug Trafficking and Gun Crime

Thursday, December 14 at 6:00 pm

Contois Auditorium, City Hall

- Chief Jon Murad and Lieutenant Mike Beliveau, Burlington Police Department
- US Attorney Nikolas Kerest
- Special Agent Alex Schmidt, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives

Community Forum Part 2: Substance Use Disorder and Property Crime

Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00 pm

Contois Auditorium, City Hall

- Jess Kirby, Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform
- Commissioner Mark Levine, Vermont Department of Health
- Chief Jon Murad, Burlington Police Department
- Mayor Miro Weinberger
- State's Attorney Sarah George
- Rachel Jolly, Community Justice Center

(Additional panelists may be added.)

Town Meeting TV will also [live stream both events on their YouTube page](#).

In October 2023, the City Council passed a resolution declaring the unprecedented increase in substance use a public health crisis and together with drug activity in our city, to be Burlington's top public health and safety

Karen Vastine (She/Her)

Sr. Community Relations Officer/Interim Director of Diversity Equity & Inclusion (Community Engagement & Health Equity)

Office of Government & Community Relations

Cell: 802-324-6914

Karen.Vastine@UVMHealth.org

The University of Vermont Health Network

725 Community Drive, Suite 302

South Burlington, VT 05403

UVMHealth.org

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Grove, StaciAnne K. <StaciAnne.Grove@uvmhealth.org>

Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 5:51 PM

To: Grove, StaciAnne K.; Williams, Jason W.; Vastine, Karen; Werneke, Christine; Smart, Erika; ena_Backus@welch.senate.gov; cbaker@ccrpcvt.org; jbaker@southburlingtonvt.gov; timothy.bilodeau@uvm.edu; Glenn.Boyde@vermont.gov; Mike_Cusick@vtp.uscourts.gov; michael@vahhs.org; nicholas.deml@vermont.gov; kdevine@bbavt.org; Jeff_Eaton@vtd.uscourts.gov; Anthony.Facos@usdoj.gov; sarah.george@vermont.gov; Giancamilli, Frank; jason.gibbs@vermont.gov; kgoulette@chcb.org; devon@vahhs.org; emma@vahhs.org; bethh@howardcenter.org; rjolly@burlingtonvt.gov; Kaulius, Jennifer; Kendrew, Heather; Nikolas.Kerest@usdoj.gov; King, Roz; kelly.klein@partner.vermont.gov; wendy.koenig@uvm.edu; alison.krompf@vermont.gov; Leffler, Stephen M.; mark.levine@vermont.gov; Mackin, Annie; mattm@howardcenter.org; hmelbostad@howardcenter.org; jmckee@chcb.org; MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org; jmurad@bpdvt.org; domenica.padula@vermont.gov; Christian.Pedoty@vermont.gov; Cheryl.Read@champlainhousingtrust.org; jredell@burlingtonvt.gov; mredmond@spectrumvt.org; Christina_Reiss@vtd.uscourts.gov; jenney.samuelson@vermont.gov; michael.schirling@uvm.edu; ssheehan@burlingtonvt.org; Stein, Heather; beth_stern@sanders.senate.gov; miro@burlingtonvt.gov; James.Whitcomb@vermont.gov; Mark Crow; Brodt, Bonita

Cc: director@bbavt.org; VAHHS Master Calendar

Subject: Workplace & Community Violence Alliance

When: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 2:30 PM-4:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: VIRTUAL MEETING;; [https://uvmhealth.zoom.us/j/92435275303?](https://uvmhealth.zoom.us/j/92435275303?pwd=OG5rWTMrVExRYVVSSTXNjbEpXV3RSdz09&from=addon)

[pwd=OG5rWTMrVExRYVVSSTXNjbEpXV3RSdz09&from=addon](https://uvmhealth.zoom.us/j/92435275303?pwd=OG5rWTMrVExRYVVSSTXNjbEpXV3RSdz09&from=addon)

UVM Health Network

StaciAnne Grove from the UVM Health Network is inviting you to a scheduled meeting via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

Phone one-tap: US: [+16469313860](tel:+16469313860) or [+1 301 715 8592](tel:+13017158592)
Meeting URL: <https://uvmhealth.zoom.us/j/92435275303?pwd=OG5rWTMrVExRYVVSTXNJbEpXV3RSdz09&from=addon>
Meeting ID: 924 3527 5303
Password: 821477

Join by Telephone

For higher quality, dial a number based on your current location.

Dial:
US: +1 646 931 3860 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 305 224 1968 or +1 309 205 3325 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 360 209 5623 or +1 386 347 5053 or +1 507 473 4847 or +1 564 217 2000 or +1 669 444 9171 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 689 278 1000 or +1 719 359 4580 or +1 253 205 0468 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free) or 833 928 4608 (Toll Free) or 833 928 4609 (Toll Free) or 833 928 4610 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free) or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free)
Meeting ID: 924 3527 5303

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REC153

Workplace violence prevention and response **RESOURCE GUIDE**



What's inside:

3 | Introduction

5 | Prevention

9 | Emergency response

11 | Supporting staff

14 | Communication

17 | After action review and organizational readiness

Why are we concerned?



**Violence can
impact any
workplace, at
any time!**



Recent events in the news, and experiences of community members have highlighted the need for organizations to be better prepared to prevent and respond to workplace threats.

Workplace violence is defined as an act or threat of physical violence, intimidation, harassment, bullying, or any other disruptive behavior ⁽¹⁾

In most workplaces where risk factors can be identified, the risk of assault can be prevented or minimized if employers take appropriate precautions.

People are often negatively impacted emotionally, cognitively, or behaviorally for variable amounts of time during and after a crisis at work.

Nearly 2 million workers report having been victims of workplace violence each year ⁽²⁾

One of the best protections employers can offer their workers is to establish a zero-tolerance policy toward workplace violence

Prevention



Environmental and facility safety

Conduct a security assessment looking at building access for staff and public, lighting, whether staff wear identification, window and lock security, and other elements of a facility's layout to ensure staff access to exits and safe spaces in the event of a confrontation or threat.

Encourage employees to report vulnerabilities

Train Employees to recognize potential dangers beyond escalated mood that require a call to 911

Implement a No-Tolerance policy on violence or threatening behavior

Consider additional security measures as appropriate for your organization (i.e. security cameras)

Consider security personnel as appropriate

Establish an outside lockbox for emergency agencies who may need access



Situational awareness



**What
is it?**



The act of being aware of what is happening around you, taking everything into account and adjusting your behavior to reduce the risk of injury to you, your family, your coworkers, or your business operations.

Why is situational awareness important?

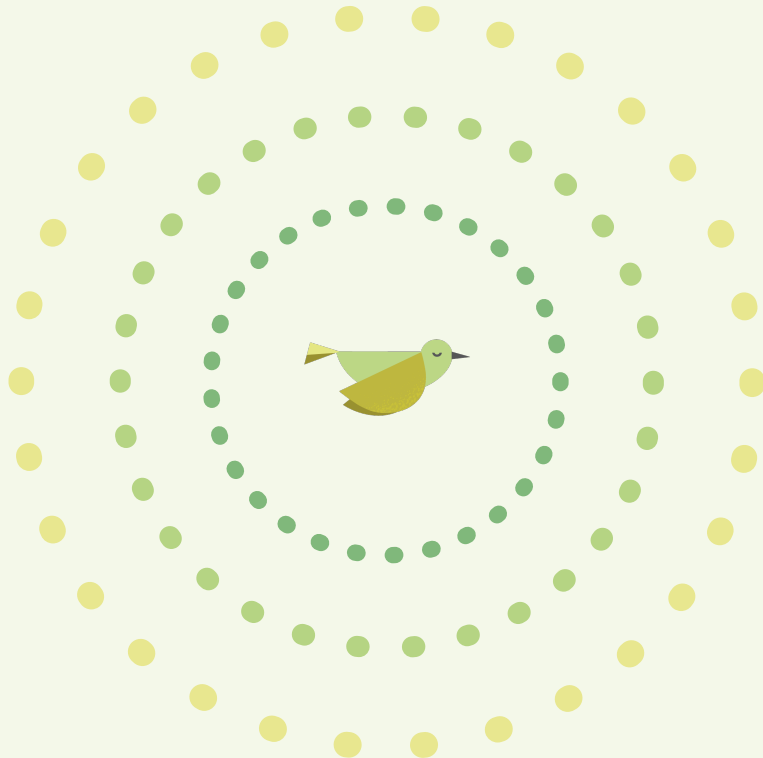
Provides a mental model for perceiving, thinking, evaluating and acting in a systematic way

Being alert makes you a less vulnerable target

Encourages trust in your intuition and/or instincts

Helps you to spot anomalies and learn what “normal” looks and feels like in a given situation

Conditions you to act based on your observations, rather than reacting automatically



Developing a mindset of situational awareness

5 behaviors for effective awareness

Intentionally and persistently practice the following behaviors:

Be aware of your surroundings

Stay vigilant and minimize distractions

Notice and evaluate other people

Take action

Trust your senses and intuition



Be aware of your surroundings

- > Know what “normal” looks like in your environment
- > Observe and listen for things that are abnormal
- > Scan for unusual or suspicious objects
- > Don’t presume abnormalities are innocent or fine
- > Know where all exits/entrances are – have an exit strategy
- > Know locations of safety equipment and protective gear

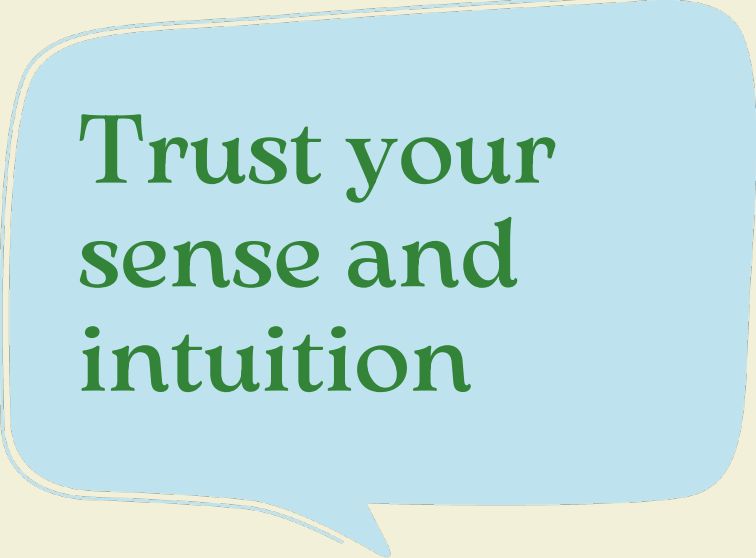


Notice other people

- Observe people around you
- Watch for abnormal behavior
- Know warning signs of high-risk behavior:
 - Loud, aggressive speech
 - Trembling, shaking, or sweating
 - Aggressive acts or violent gestures
 - Tense posturing
 - Frequently changing body position, pacing
 - Argumentative or angry demeanor
 - Approaching others personal space
- Protect against entry into your personal space

Stay vigilant and minimize distractions

- Be attentive and focused
- Minimize distractions
(i.e. cell phones, ear buds, background noise)
- Be aware of and minimize fatigue



Trust your sense and intuition

Your brain is constantly comparing patterns of current environmental clues to stored patterns of previous experiences. Your brain's analysis of these patterns is what provides you with intuition:

- **“Trust your gut”**—your intuition understands more about a situation than you consciously realize
- **Tune into your emotions and bodily clues**—when something doesn't feel right, at some level, it probably isn't



Take action

- Don't give in to "normalcy bias", the act of ignoring prospective threats because it's unlikely a dangerous situation might occur
 - Take indications of danger seriously
 - Don't delay in responding to alarming/abnormal behavior
 - Decide upon course of action
- Act upon office safety protocols/procedures to mitigate risks
 - Follow rehearsed safety scenarios
 - Employ de-escalation techniques
- Communicate concern to others
 - Report vulnerabilities or threats
 - Call 9-1-1 if appropriate

Situational awareness frameworks

Organizations should establish a behavioral framework for employees to follow to encourage quick decision-making and consistency.



Two of the most
commonly practiced
frameworks are:



The OODA Loop (U.S. Air Force strategy)
The SLAM Technique

OODA loop (U.S. Air Force strategy)

A process to assess confusing or rapidly evolving situations.

Observe the situation

Orient yourself to the reality of your surroundings, eliminating your assumptions and biases

Decide what you are going to do

Act confidently with your ongoing awareness



SLAM

Stop—decrease distractions, stop your current work, make sure you are not in a situation when you are facing away from an escalated person, and try not to be looking down at your phone so you can maintain presence in the moment.

Look—at your work area and find the hazards that are present to you and your workmates.

Assess—the situation and what would need to happen to ensure safety

Manage—the current situation using protocols/procedures appropriate to your business/setting.



Prepare and train for emergencies

Key components of trainings to prepare staff to handle difficult interactions that have potential to become dangerous include:

Recognizing an
escalated individual

Training in verbal
de-escalation techniques

Recognizing an
imminent threat

Practicing emergency
scenarios and
evacuation drills

Train staff to:

- Use person-first language to reduce stigma
- Choosing appropriate language to reduce the stigma around mental illness and substance use disorders



Emergency response



Best practices

Organizations should establish a behavioral framework for employees to follow to encourage quick decision-making and consistency.



Verbal de-escalation



Individuals who are agitated but cooperative may be amenable to verbal de-escalation techniques.⁽³⁾

An obviously angry individual should always be considered potentially violent.

Higher risk behaviors to be aware of include:

- Provocative behavior
- Angry demeanor
- Loud, aggressive speech
- Tense posturing (e.g., gripping arm rails tightly, clenching fists)
- Frequently changing body position, pacing
- Aggressive acts (e.g., pounding walls, throwing objects, hitting oneself)

Staff should call 911 if they are dealing with an individual who is actively violent, uncooperative, extremely agitated and/or not responding to verbal de-escalation techniques.

Supporting staff



Psychological First Aid (PFA)



Initial disaster
response
intervention



- Promote safety
- Stabilize victims emotionally
- Connect individuals to help/resources

Address immediate concerns and needs / NOT to provide on-site therapy

PFA core actions

Contact and engagement

To respond to contacts initiated by colleagues, or to initiate contacts in a **non-intrusive, compassionate, and helpful manner**.

Safety and comfort

To **enhance** immediate and ongoing safety and provide physical and emotional comfort.

Stabilization (if needed)

To **calm and orient** emotionally overwhelmed or disoriented colleagues.

Information gather: current needs and concerns

To **identify immediate needs** and concerns, gather additional information, and tailor response/interventions.

Practical assistance

To **offer practical help** to colleagues in addressing immediate needs and concerns.

Connection with social supports

To **help establish brief or ongoing contacts** with primary support persons and sources of support, including family members, friends, and community helping resources.

Information on coping

To **provide information about stress reactions and coping** to reduce distress and promote adaptive functioning.

Linkage with collaborative services

To **link colleagues with available services** needed at the time or in the future.



Communication

“When people are stressed and upset, they want to know that you care before they care what you know.”

– Will Rogers

Best practices for leaders⁽⁴⁾

The leader

Utilize informed compassion.
Know your people and how they best respond.

Vulnerability

Be vigilant in identifying factors that have potential to negatively impact people.

CCO model

Compassion
Conviction
Optimism

Message development to staff

- Prepare communications, keep it short/simple/repeated
- Positives should outnumber negatives 3:1
- Messages should be delivered in order or importance prioritizing primacy and recency (do not include the most important message in the middle).
- Don't be afraid to admit if you do not know. Make a commitment to follow up.

Supervisors⁽⁵⁾

Promote a sense of
calm and control

Avoid snap
decisions

Identify a trusted
colleague to bounce
ideas off

Take breaks
when needed—
do not overwork

Reward and
compliment others
for their work

After action review and organization assessment of readiness



Root cause analysis

No name, no blame

Review what happened, if protocols were followed, what went well, and what needs to be improved

Reach out to internal supports/legal communications to determine best route for communicating with community members if needed

References



1. [Violence Occupational Hazards in Hospitals | NIOSH | CDC](#)
2. [U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration \(OSHA\)](#)
3. Richmond, J. S., Berlin, J. S., Fishkind, A. B., Holloman, G. H., Jr, Zeller, S. L., Wilson, M. P., Rifai, M. A., & Ng, A. T. (2012). Verbal De-escalation of the Agitated Patient: Consensus Statement of the American Association for Emergency Psychiatry Project BETA De-escalation Workgroup. The western journal of emergency medicine, 13(1), 17–25. <https://doi.org/10.5811/westjem.2011.9.6864>
4. [Leadership Communication: Anticipating and Responding to Stressful Events \(cstsonline.org\)](#)
5. [Recovery in the Aftermath of Workplace Violence: Guidance for Supervisors \(cstsonline.org\)](#)
6. [Use Person-First Language to Reduce Stigma - Mental Health First Aid](#)
7. [Words Matter - Terms to Use and Avoid When Talking About Addiction | National Institute on Drug Abuse \(NIDA\) \(nih.gov\)](#)
8. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41386-021-01069-4>

Thank you



From: meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2023 1:47 PM EST
To: Kelly Devine (director@bbavt.org) <director@bbavt.org>
CC: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Retail theft - FYI

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

I was at an ICSC NYC trade show, last week, where they discussed shrinkage. It's a HUGE problem, and many retailers were not expanding, due to it.

[ICSC Testifies Before House on Organized Retail Crime | ICSC](#)

Meg McGovern

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Associate,Broker
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GREAT STREETS MAIN STREET REVISED 3-BLOCK PROJECT LAYOUT (PHASE 1)

Pine Street to South Winooski Avenue

Ravine Sewer

Pics of
Ravine Sewer
clay pipes

Bus + Wiforce calendar
Community calendar

Have Burlington
PDF Feb
From: mail chimp

Show pics of infrastructure
that we are improving

Nboyle@EIVtech.com

Geographic
References

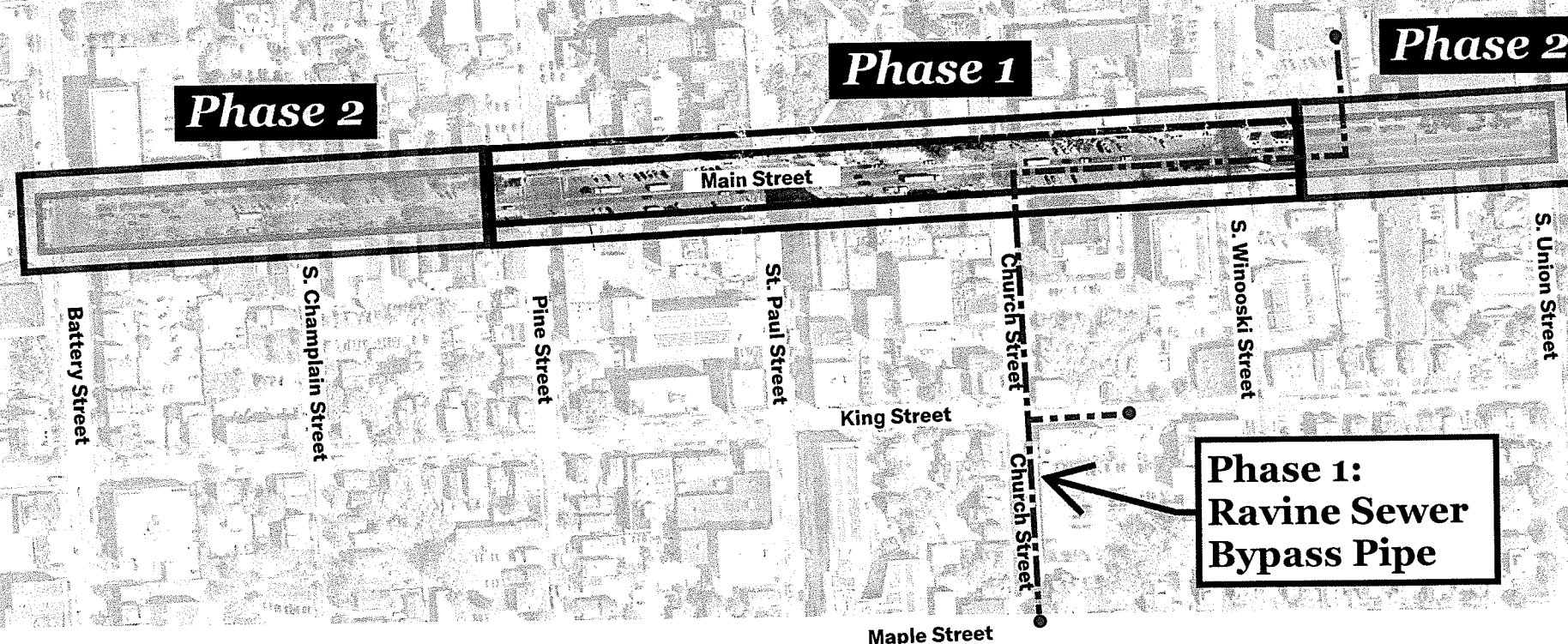
Have Burlington
machinery machine
Positive feedback
Anchor business/complex

PT of
Contact

Address street
Natalie Boyle (EIV)

24-25^{no} no background work
w/ maybe no work
25-26 - construction w/
Pause in winter
Prob asphalt in between seasons

when
intersections will
be open on weekends
for the most part
on weekends
but not always



From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, January 02, 2024 12:03 PM EST

To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Subject: Automatic reply: Our monthly meeting

I am [REDACTED] and working remotely. Thank you for your patience, as my response times may be delayed.

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 02, 2024 3:54 PM EST
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Our monthly meeting

Hi Kelly,

We always try to hold our standing meeting times, but sometimes it's just not possible. I know that Miro has appreciated meeting with the BBA on a regular basis for 12 years, and we intend to carry that strong partnership through the end of the term. I think the partnership has been further strengthened by the creation of the Business and Workforce Development Department. It has been tremendously impactful to have Kara on the Mayor's leadership team and acting as a point person on business issues.

I see the next regular meeting is on Wednesday, January 10. I'm nearly certain that time will still work for Miro – I will be able to confirm by the end of this week.

Jordan

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2024 12:03 PM
To: Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Jordan Redell <jredell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>
Subject: Our monthly meeting

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Good afternoon Miro,

Last month Jordan let us know that you had a schedule conflict during our monthly meeting time on Wednesday. Sometimes that can't be avoided. She suggested we skip our meeting. We did do that, but wanted to check in with you to make sure the meeting time and purpose still work for you? This is the 3rd or 4th month that we've been asked to reschedule.

If the standing time doesn't work or there is a way we could make the meeting more impactful please let me know. I value the time to meet and think there are things we can accomplish together in the months remaining on your term. Please let me know what works best for you. Thx

Kelly Devine
Executive Director
Burlington Business Assoc.

www.bbavt.org

802-863-1175

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 08, 2024 11:10 AM EST
To: melissa dearlucy . com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
CC: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Where is our fight? **1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)**

My schedule is booking up quickly, but I am happy to participate in any meeting where I can be helpful, if available. Thank you for initiating the conversation Melissa. And thanks to Kara for all you and your team are doing!

Joan

On Jan 8, 2024, at 11:07 AM, melissadearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com> wrote:

You don't often get email from melissa@dearlucy.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

I love this Kara!

What if we did a marketing push around why we love Church St? 30 days of posts with a mix of retail & restaurants focused on Valentines Day and loving local. Get people thinking about making Valentine reservations and shopping local around a positive holiday- most shops do a cute Valentine window- I'm encouraging my staff to think of ideas for my windows and getting some merchandise around the Holiday.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 8, 2024, at 9:59 AM, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Good morning,
CSM is already working on an extensive advertorial with Seven Days on the topic of changing the narrative.
We raised separate funds just for that. Stay tuned for the roll out.
I would welcome stores being open later and am happy to brainstorm how we can make that happen.
Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The MarketPlace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

-
<image001.png>

From: Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 7:03 AM
To: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>
Cc: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Where is our fight?

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Melissa,

I'd also like to be part of the discussion & brainstorm ideas that can be put into action. We need support now and I know we all want to see positive change.

Thank you,
Kaitlin

On Jan 7, 2024, at 9:08 PM, Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com> wrote:

REC188

Thanks Melissa!

I wholeheartedly agree with you on all of this. We need to band together for such a plan. One thing I think we need to work on is how to stay open later - I think OGE and Phoenix were a couple of only a handful of shops open past 6pm - even during the holidays.

If you don't live or work on Burlington how can you get out of work at 5, drive into Burlington where you may be wrongly convinced there is no parking, only to find all the shops close at 6? If that were me I'd consider shopping on Dorset Street or Williston.

I'd love to get together to discuss how we can fix this sooner than later and we need support from the city. OGE pays roughly 10% of the church street fees - can we get some or all of these fees invested in PR and incentivizing business to stay open longer?

Let's all get together and form a plan to present to the city who should be driving this!

Marc

On Sun, Jan 7, 2024 at 7:09 PM melissa [dearlucy.com](mailto:melissa@dearlucy.com) <melissa@dearlucy.com> wrote:

Hi! Post holiday now. My numbers were as bad as I had feared. My 2023 was comparable to 2020 (COVID).

I find myself leaving Facebook when reading my friends posts about a dinner or trip downtown- and the horrible things people say in the comment section. I want to respond, and start to, but hit erase. I don't know what to say that won't incite people further or say I am a liar when I say "things aren't so bad, come down & support". Honestly, things aren't so bad when you shield your eyes from the situation at the park or you pretend the graffiti is a form of artistic expression. People aren't getting mugged or attacked when they come down. And most that came down for the holidays probably had a lovely experience- but no one hears about that

We desperately need to stop the negative chatter. I honestly feel a lot of our issues are people talking and it has snowballed. We need to focus all of our efforts on turning the comments around.

I know the news focuses on the negative- like closed businesses or people moving out. And Church st comes out with a reply that new businesses have taken over the leases. And that's great/ but the current businesses need to be supported before they become another casualty.

I opened Whim in 2007 when stores were in an economic slump/ but I had no idea because I had nothing to compare it to. I struggled for years before I found my footing (and climbed out of debt). I fought to be in Burlington because Burlington is great- Church Street is a true gem- not many cities have such a gorgeous center. Residents of Chittenden county should be proud of the street, brag about it. It's their home too! But that's not happening now. We need to change their tone- this is their city, where they raise their kids and have homes. the negative comments are hurting them in ways they don't even realize yet.

I have cc'd some smart people on here and I think we need to make a plan of some sort. We need positive press. I feel like businesses are tucking in their tails- the shoplifting site we all belong to is the most depressing place/ we have all just decided the crap that is happening is the new norm. Everyone has cut their hours down due to lack of traffic.

We need to remain positive for our mental health and that of our employees. If I don't pretend to be all happy & positive my staff will jump ship, just like our local customer has.

How can we spread positivity? Or as my son would say "Fake it till we make it"? How much does that cost? Do we know? We need experts if we can't get it done- it seems like it will take a lot & we are already late to the game.

Thanks for listening to another one of my rants.

Melissa
Whim & Dear Lucy

Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

<image001.png>

Church Street Marketplace

Financial Fact Sheet

	A	B
1		
2		
3		
4	Land area:	6.24 acres
5	Building area:	244,000 SF
6	Annual City revenue From Marketplace businesses:	
7	Annual real estate taxes:	\$2,049,703
8	Downtown Improvement District tax:	\$55,990
9	Gross receipts tax:	\$550,000
10	Local Option sales tax:	Assumed to be substantial
11	Total annual revenue generated by Church Street property and businesses:	\$2,655,693
12	Annual City revenue/value from Marketplace:	
13	Marketplace annual contribution to Street Outreach Program:	\$7,500
14	Indirect fee transfer from Marketplace to City for various government services:	\$64,552
15	Annual cost to hang Holiday, winter, and summer lights	\$55,000
16	Parking space for electric lift	\$1,100
17	Savings to City:	
18	Annual Value of city services performed by Marketplace:	\$51,350
19	TOTAL REVENUE AND FINANCIAL BENEFIT TO CITY:	\$2,835,195
20	Value of bricks over 38 years	\$736,000
21		
22	Marketplace Income	
23	Total Annual Marketplace Fees:	\$698,480
24	Supplemental fees and income:	\$295,500
25	Total Annual Operating Income:	\$993,980
26		
27	Revenue/Value received from City:	
28	City General Fund contribution to Marketplace:	\$0.00
29	Marketplace Fees paid by City Hall and City Arts Property Total Ground Floor 12,900 SF:	\$0.00
30	Capital Improvement Funds available from City to Marketplace:	\$0.00
31	Credit from City to Marketplace for discontinued city services:	\$0.00
32	Interfund transfer from City to Marketplace:	\$16,000

Church Street Marketplace Benefits to City/Commission Concerns

	C	D
1		
2	6/12/2019	
3		
4	Includes streets	
5	gross ground floor area	
6		
7	Highest concentration of real estate taxes in entire city	
8	Benefits 2 hours free parking program	
9	21 restaurants @1.3M average x 2%	
10	1% sales tax on Jewelry and hard goods	
11	Does not include Marketplace Fees	
12		
13	Marketplace has contributed annually to this program since its inception in 2000. Cost to fee payer \$0.03/SF	
14	9.24 % of annual Marketplace fees; This fee was \$35,089 FY 2013, resulting in a 84% increase over 6 years or 14%/year.Services include: Payroll, legal, IT, human resources, and general government services. Fee payers feel strongly that they already pay for many of these services through their property taxes. This fee represents a cost of \$0.235/SF to our fee payers. Commission agrees that the actual fee should be \$32,276 resulting in an over charge of \$32,276 or \$0.13/SF	
15	Recently purchased new energy efficient LED tree lights enjoyed by entire city or \$0.225/SF	
16	Marketplace garage	
17		
18	Includes snow plowing, sidewalk plowing, street sweeping, salting, rubbish removal; initial value estimated at \$45,600 by former public works director, Steve Goodkind in 2012; increased by 2% annually. This cost estimate represents a loss of \$0.21/SF to our fee payers	
19	Without sales tax revenue	
20	City has not paved Church Street nor repaired /rebuilt sidewalks for 4 paving cycles (.3 miles @ \$400,000/mile x 4 paving cycles plus one-time cost of new sidewalks @ 3,200 LF x \$80/LF)	
21		
22		
23	\$2.87/SF ground floor (includes 24,904 sf of Burlington Town Center/one level from Church Street to Saint Paul Street.	
24	Café fees, cart and vendors, sponsorships	
25	\$4.07/SF 12% increase over 6 years	
26		
27		
28	Per City Charter	
29	Based upon ground floor area; the fee would be \$37,023.00 if allowed by charter	
30	Per City Charter. City Council has agreed to consider a charter change to allow the Marketplace access to city's capital improvements funds.	
31	Marketplace property owners pay property taxes for city services which they have not received for 38 years including snow plowing, sidewalk plowing, street sweeping, salting, rubbish removal estimated at \$51,350.00 (see above)	
32	For snow and trash removal in front of City Hall and City Arts, has not increased from \$11,000 since 2012. Actual cost calculated at \$21,000 which represents7% of maintenance budget. Mayor recently agreed to increase the interfund transfer to \$16,000 in FY'19 and \$21,000 in FY'20	

Church Street Marketplace Benefits to City/Commission Concerns

	A	B
33	Repair/replacement of street amenities including trees, benches, and trash receptacles, cleaning and repair of storm water catch basins, basic street lighting provided	
34	Value of street amenities	\$8,000
35	TOTAL REVENUE/VALUE FROM CITY TO MARKETPLACE:	\$24,000.00
36	Cost to Fee Payers	\$88,626.00
37		
38	Benefits to City	
39	A successful Church Street Marketplace benefits the City in numerous ways	
40		
41	Increases Real Estate & Gross Receipts Tax Revenue on Church Street	
42	Increases tourism and hotel room demand	
43	Increases retail & restaurant demand on side streets	
44	Helps increase tax revenue in other parts of the City	
45	Benefits college recruiting	
46	Always noted as a major draw in the city's numerous nationwide "Best Places to Live" rankings	
47	Without the success of the Marketplace, the redevelopment of the Burlington area would not have been possible	
48	The demand created by the Marketplace has allowed the city to increase its tax base	
49	Executive Director and Marketplace Staff's involvement and support in city projects	
50		
51	Marketplace Commission Concerns:	
52		
53	1. The city charter allows the mayor to make changes to our budget which he has done in the past.	
54		
55	2. In practice, the city treasurer sets a seemingly arbitrary indirect fee transfer to the city as to how the city arrives at this total fee.	
56		
57	3. The Marketplace Commission would like to establish a reserve fund for city projects (if the city will continue to raise the indirect fee transfer as future administrative costs).	
58		
59	4. The CSM executive director is paid by the fee payers BUT is a city employee of the Marketplace Commission.	
60		
61	5. The CSM executive director submits two (2) annual budgets to Mayor: The CSM budget and the City budget.	
62		
63	6. Why are Burlington Telecom, CEDO, and City Arts exempt from paying the indirect fee? Please provide an explanation.	
64		
65	7. Those city departments that are assessed the "indirect fee" are supported by the city and 100+/- businesses.	
66		
67	8. While the Marketplace provides huge economic benefits to the city, it receives no direct funding from the city.	
68		
69	9. The city's attorney reminds us that Church Street is a city street and the Marketplace Commission is responsible for the improvements to Church Street. This is an extremely odd and troublesome arrangement.	
70		
71	10. Marketplace District fees are among the highest in the U.S. as identified in the National Association of City and County Officials (NACCO) survey.	

Church Street Marketplace Benefits to City/Commission Concerns

	C	D
33	For 30+ years CSM paid 100% for these costs. Resolved in 2013-17. CSM now pays only for enhanced lighting and event/vendor electric. Again, taxpayers pay for street lights, street amenities, and storm water infrastructure through their property taxes and should not have been subject to this form of double taxation.	
34	Since 2015 available to street for replacement of benches, trash cans, and trees; but not the removal of dead trees.	
35		
36	This represents an annual charge for city services of \$0.36/SF	
37		
38		
39		5/29/2018
40		
41	et	
42		
43		
44		
45		
46	st Of" awards	
47	rlington Town Center would not be possible	
48	ase parking garage and meter revenue	
49	of numerous city initiatives outside the Marketplace District	
50		
51		
52		
53	or she deems "expedient" (Definition: Suitable for a particular purpose; advantageous rather than right or just).	
54		
55	r without consulting with the Marketplace Commission. After meeting with city treasurer, we were not given any rational explanation	
56		
57	apital improvements; however, we are very concerned that without a firm understanding of the "cost of city services"(i.e. indirect ons realizes the size of our reserve fund.	
58		
59	ee and works at the pleasure of the Mayor. Result: The CSM executive director does not have to take direction from the	
60		
61	"staff recommended" budget and the Commission's budget. The commission has rejected the city's budget for the past 4 years.	
62		
63	e "indirect fee" for city services, while the Marketplace is charged an "indirect fee" which has risen on average 14% per year without	
64		
65	by a broad base of utility rate payers, airlines, and parking garage users, while the Marketplace is funded by 30 property owners	
66		
67	es very little financial support from the city.	
68		
69	arketplace is a city department while the city treasurer tells us the city charter does not allow the city to spend any funds on capital angement.	
70		
71	by P.U.M.A. the DID expansion consultants.	

Church Street Marketplace Benefits to City/Commission Concerns

	A	B
72		
73	11. Throughout the USA, there are thousands of BID's. PUMA estimates that 8	
74	controlled by local government.	
75		
76	12. There is a great deal of dysfunction casued by being both a BID & city dep	
77	13. City dictates hiring practices of part-time and full time CSM employees w	
78		
79	14. Our governance model, with the city in control, is outdated and will presu	
80	in this fashion.	
81	15. We believe it is time for a new partnership with the city with the fee payers	

	C	D
72		
73	80% operate as a private non-profit , less than 20% are run under a public/private partnership model, and only "a handful" are	
74		
75	artment at the same time.	
76		
77	hich limits our ability to manage our workforce efficiently resulting in additional costs.	
78		
79	mably discourage the creation of an expanded BID. Other successful BID's such as Boulder, CO and Santa Monica, CA are not run	
80		
81	largely in control of their funds and governance.	

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Church Street Marketplace Goals/Responsibilities/Actions					
2	Mission Statement: Maintain/promote a world class public pedestrian shopping district that is clean and safe and fun for residents and visitors all the while maintaining a strong business environment.					
3	Primary Focus: Staff to focus on the following core obligations: marketing, communications, public parking, maintenance					
4						
5	Responsibilities	Description	Action/Status/Updates			
6	Advocacy	Support expanded DID	Participate in DIDAC meetings			
7		Downtown Parking Mangement	-Free or discounted pricing in Lakeview Garage for retail and restaurant employees.. -Explore elimination of 2hrs free in Marketplace Garage with validation program. -Use new funds for DID funding. -Support management of Parking Ambassador program.			
8		Panhandling Management	-Seek enforcement of current ordinance to keep sidewalks open for handicapped access. -Campaign to encourage giving to charities instead of panhandlers.			
9		Seek to limit Expanded Social Services within the DID	Remind City that the location of additional social services should follow goals set forth in plan BTV (page 53).			
10		Greater police presence	Advocate for greater police presence			
11		Informational Meetings with City Councilors	Invite councilors to attend our monthly meetings			
12		Food Trucks	Provide guidance to CEDO for any food truck policy within the CBD			
13		Marketplace Trespass Ordinance	Monitor CA's office effort to make changes to existing ordinance.			
14		SWOT Analysis	Bi-Annual 2019/2021/2023			
15	Communications	Keep fee payers, commissioners, and city officials informed on issues important to the Marketplace.				
16		Executive Director's Report	Update progress chart monthly			
17		Use the CSMP commission as a board of directors for their guidance and expertise				
18		Keep commissioners informed of any CSMP policy or pending staff changes				
19	Finance	Reimbursement for standard city services withheld from Church Street property owners.	Continue to stress concept of double taxation and fairness. City should reimburse taxpayers for snow removal, winter maintenance and trash removal.			
20		Collections	Quarterly collections report.			
21		Work with city to reduce amount of indirect fee	2019 fee represented 8% of Marketplace fees. CSMP is overcharged for "city service" by 50%.			
22		Outside Financial Consultant	Meet with Alice Astaria annually at end of year			
23		Prepare Annual Operating budget FY 20	Start process January each year			
24		Bus station kiosk	Instruct DPW to remove bus station kiosk at their expense			
25		Sponsorship Funds	Excess sponsorship fees should be directed to CSM Foundation			
26		Marketplace Foundation	Current balance: \$3,350 / use of funds for CEPTD/capital improvements/			
27	Capital Improvements	CSM Access to Capital Budget.	Seek charter change to allow CSMP to access city funds for capital improvements.			
28		10 Year Capital Plan for CSM District	\$890,000 deferred maintenance. Determine who is responsible for costs.			
29		CSMP Electrical System and Lighting	Resolve ownership issue with BED who owns wires under street			

	A	B	C	D	E	F
30	Operations	Event Management	-Coordinate Marketplace events with other city departments -Provide list of events each January. -Work to minimize negative impact to certain retailers from high traffic events -Determine how to leverage event with greater retail sales			
31		Street maintenance	-Continue to maintain street in a very professional manner -Seek creative ways to reduce snow removal costs			
32		Manage Street entertainers	New rules in place. Surveying business owners for their input.			
33	Projects	CSM Public WIFI	Launched July 6, 2015. Consider suspending service due to cost. Looking for sponsor including Comcast & BT			
34		CSM Web Cams	Private funds raised to install phase 1: 1 heavy duty, outdoor security camera connected to CSM fiber optic network. Compressed images on CSM's webpage; high definition images available to BPD for criminal investigations. Consider TV stations to sponsor additional cameras.			
35		Replace dead trees	City pays for new trees but not removal of old trees.			
36		Pedestrian Counts				
37		Public Restrooms - Location TBD	On hold due to cost, liability, and unintended consequences. Work with City Place ownership.			
38		Information Kiosks	CSM Staff evaluating "lessons learned" from Boulder, Ithaca and other cities with outdoor digital signage before proceeding w/ our own program. On hold.			
39	Marketing	Robust marketing campaign	-Focused Social Media Advertising has begun. -Analyze how certain events impact specific retailers. -Tie-in events and holidays with retail promoters			
40		Data collection from visitors	Inquire with Champlain College @ data collection and interpretation.			
41	Promotion	Website Updates	Special events to be highlighted on page one			
42		Strengthening the CSM Brand	New logo completed 2017			
43	Sponsorships	Seek sponsorships for special events	Ongoing ; Annual Revenue \$90,000 +/- . Consider additional sponsors.			
44	Governance	Officers	Elections held each July			
45		Annual Committee Assignments	Finance, Maintenance, Municipal Relations, Retail Promotions/Summer			
46		Executive Director Annual review	April/May			
47		Charter Change/BID Expansion	Advocate for charter change to have ED work for commission rather than Mayor. Budgets & funds controlled by DID.			
48	COMPLETED					
49						

From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2024 2:59 PM EST

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

CC: melissa dearlucy . com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Where is our fight?

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Thanks, Jeff.

I too think that a new administration is a good time to review our current system/structure and make adjustments.

Kara Alnasrawi

Director, Business & Workforce Development

131 Church St. – Suite 209

Burlington, VT 05401

802.238.1910

[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

**BUSINESS &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 9, 2024 2:38 PM

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

Cc: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Where is our fight?

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Kara,

Good afternoon and thanks for thinking ahead towards the new administration.

I have attached work we did back in 2018/2019 when we took a deep dive into the Marketplace finances, core responsibilities, governance, and the possibilities of expanding the DID. The same issues and concerns remain relevant today, however the one glaring difference is the issue of public safety. At the time we learned that we pay some of the highest DID fees in the entire country due of our small size and imbalanced financial model. It is clear to me that the city benefits far more from a well-run and successful Marketplace/downtown business climate than the Marketplace benefits from city services. This is especially true now that our Police Department has been harmed by the ill-fated and shortsighted effort to defund the Police.

I might suggest you meet with a core group of business owners before finalizing the "transition document" for some valuable input from those of us on the front lines.

Feel free to give me a call a to discuss.

All the best,

Jeff Nick

NAI JL Davis Realty

29 Church Street, 3rd Floor

Burlington, VT 05401

Telephone: (802) 876-6923

Email: jeff@jeffnick.com

www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 11:46 AM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

REC199

Cc: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: Where is our fight?

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hi Jeff et al,

I have met with both candidates and I am working on a transition document for the new administration that will outline what I see as the weaknesses/difficulties facing our business community

The funding structure of the Marketplace and the numerous financial burdens on businesses will be outlined in this document.

Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

**BUSINESS &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 10:25 AM

To: Kara Alnasrawi <karnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

Cc: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: Where is our fight?

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Kara,

I would also like to see the Marketplace Commission ask the new administration in April to stop taking 6-7% of the Marketplace fees for "general city services". In 2008 the city took 3.7% of our fees and now I believe it is closer to 7%. I have always said that our real estate taxes should cover these costs, but the city charter wrongly allows the city to take a % of our fees for city services. This is now more important than ever since while we pay high real estate taxes and some of the highest BID (business improvement district) fees in the country we have very little police coverage. These funds could go towards both marketing and greater security which we need nor more than ever!

Jeff Nick
29 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
802-876-6923
jeff@jeffnick.com

From: Kara Alnasrawi <karnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 9:59 AM

To: Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

Cc: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: Where is our fight?

Good morning,

CSM is already working on an extensive advertorial with Seven Days on the topic of changing the narrative. We raised separate funds just for that. Stay tuned for the roll out.

I would welcome stores being open later and am happy to brainstorm how we can make that happen.

Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

REC200

From: Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 7:03 AM
To: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>
Cc: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Lara Allen [REDACTED]; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Where is our fight? 1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Melissa,

I'd also like to be part of the discussion & brainstorm ideas that can be put into action. We need support now and I know we all want to see positive change.

Thank you,
Kaitlin

On Jan 7, 2024, at 9:08 PM, Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com> wrote:

Thanks Melissa!

I wholeheartedly agree with you on all of this. We need to band together for such a plan. One thing I think we need to work on is how to stay open later - I think OGE and Phoenix were a couple of only a handful of shops open past 6pm - even during the holidays.

If you don't live or work on Burlington how can you get out of work at 5, drive into Burlington where you may be wrongly convinced there is no parking, only to find all the shops close at 6? If that were me I'd consider shopping on Dorset Street or Williston.

I'd love to get together to discuss how we can fix this sooner than later and we need support from the city. OGE pays roughly 10% of the church street fees - can we get some or all of these fees invested in PR and incentivizing business to stay open longer?

Let's all get together and form a plan to present to the city who should be driving this!

Marc

On Sun, Jan 7, 2024 at 7:09 PM melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com> wrote:

Hi! Post holiday now. My numbers were as bad as I had feared. My 2023 was comparable to 2020 (COVID).

I find myself leaving Facebook when reading my friends posts about a dinner or trip downtown- and the horrible things people say in the comment section. I want to respond, and start to, but hit erase. I don't know what to say that won't incite people further or say I am a liar when I say "things aren't so bad, come down & support". Honestly, things aren't so bad when you shield your eyes from the situation at the park or you pretend the graffiti is a form of artistic expression. People aren't getting mugged or attacked when they come down. And most that came down for the holidays probably had a lovely experience- but no one hears about that

We desperately need to stop the negative chatter. I honestly feel a lot of our issues are people talking and it has snowballed. We need to focus all of our efforts on turning the comments around.

I know the news focuses on the negative- like closed businesses or people moving out. And Church st comes out with a reply that new businesses have taken over the leases. And that's great/ but the current businesses need to be supported before they become another casualty.

I opened Whim in 2007 when stores were in an economic slump/ but I had no idea because I had nothing to compare it to. I struggled for years before I found my footing (and climbed out of debt). I fought to be in Burlington because Burlington is great- Church Street is a true gem- not many cities have such a gorgeous center. Residents of Chittenden county should be proud of the street, brag about it. It's their home too! But that's not happening now. We need to change their tone- this

is their city, where they raise their kids and have homes. the negative comments are hurting them in ways they don't even realize yet.

I have cc'd some smart people on here and I think we need to make a plan of some sort. We need positive press. I feel like businesses are tucking in their tails- the shoplifting site we all belong to is the most depressing place/ we have all just decided the crap that is happening is the new norm. Everyone has cut their hours down due to lack of traffic.

We need to remain positive for our mental health and that of our employees. If I don't pretend to be all happy & positive my staff will jump ship, just like our local customer has.

How can we spread positivity? Or as my son would say "Fake it till we make it"? How much does that cost? Do we know? We need experts if we can't get it done- it seems like it will take a lot & we are already late to the game.

Thanks for listening to another one of my rants.

Melissa
Whim & Dear Lucy

Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 2:48 PM EST

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Subject: BBA Meeting with Mayor

Attachment(s): "attachment.ics"

Hi all --

I'm hoping to reschedule the BBA meeting with the Mayor to Friday, May 12th from 2:30 - 3:30pm. The [REDACTED] during your usual Wednesday slot. Please let me know if this time won't work for you all!

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Best,

Erin

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Steven McClure <steven.mcclure@aimbridge.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 8:21 AM EST

To: Joe Carton <joe@hotelvt.com>; miro@burlingtonvt.gov <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>; Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>; Carver, Dana <Dana.Carver@marriott.com>; Matt Canning <matt@hotelvt.com>; Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>; Catherine Z. Davis <cathy@vermont.org>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Subject: RE: New review alert: Courtyard by Marriott Burlington Harbor - BTVDT - marriott - Google

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Miro,

The Hilton has had similar occurrences and if you look at our social media sites they are riddled with comments regarding car break-ins. Travelers and guests of our hotels visiting Burlington and spending money within this city no longer feel safe. Why can't BPD arrest this individual? Everyone knows who he is and where he lives, (tent encampment on Battery St.).

Steven McClure
General Manager

Steven.McClure@aimbridge.com

HILTON BURLINGTON LAKE CHAMPLAIN

d:+1 802 859 5034

m:+1 703 261 5320

t:+1 802 658 6500

60 Battery Street Burlington, VT 05401

burlington.hilton.com

hilton.com



From: Joe Carton <joe@hotelvt.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 8:01 AM

To: miro@burlingtonvt.gov; Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>; Steven McClure <steven.mcclure@aimbridge.com>; Carver, Dana <Dana.Carver@marriott.com>; Matt Canning <matt@hotelvt.com>; Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>; Catherine Z. Davis <cathy@vermont.org>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Subject: Fwd: New review alert: Courtyard by Marriott Burlington Harbor - BTVDT - marriott - Google

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Cyber Security Reminder: This is an external email please use caution – forward suspicious messages by clicking on the "Report Phish" button at the top of your Aimbridge Managed Email.

Miro,

Here is the type of negative guest feedback posted on a google review that will slowly erode the health of our visitor economy. We had over 7 break-ins in the last few days, mostly smashed windows. One gusset berated the front desk team so much that other guests were coming to their aid. If you read the review it sounds like the hotel owns the garage and are gouging the guest and do not care about the safety and security of their belongings (probably because of the police comment). We need help on this issue. It is not going away until we can arrest the individual who is doing the crime! PLEASE.

Joe Carton

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Carver, Dana <Dana.Carver@marriott.com>

Date: Tue, Jan 16, 2024 at 6:35 PM

Subject: Fwd: New review alert: Courtyard by Marriott Burlington Harbor - BTVDT - marriott - Google

To: Mercurio, Patrice (F) <Patrice.Mercurio@marriott.com>, joe <joe@hotelvt.com>, Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>, Matt Canning <matt@hotelvt.com>

This is the first google review of this caliber I have seen. Also concerning the police told him the cameras don't work in the garage.

Dana

Begin forwarded message:

REC204

From: no-reply@rioseo.com
Date: January 16, 2024 at 6:27:31 PM EST
To: "Carver, Dana" <Dana.Carver@marriott.com>
Subject: New review alert: Courtyard by Marriott Burlington Harbor - BTVDT - marriott - Google

This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments

<div></div>	
Account	Marriott International Alert Details ...
Location	Courtyard by Marriott Burlington Harbor - BTVDT - marriott
Source	Google
Star rating	1.0
Date	Jan 16, 2024
Review	<p>Don't stay here and park your car. They charge you for parking but have no security. Multiple cars got broken into the same night, all from out of state. When talking to the police we found out that the cameras dont work, and there have been multiple break-ins over the course of 10 months. Of course the hotel never told us any if this or have taken any measures to secure there parking lot but sure will take your money for parking.</p>
Reviewer Name	keyth brazee
<div></div> <div></div>	

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From: George, Sarah <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 10:42 AM EST

To: Joe Carton <joe@hotelvt.com>; jmurad <jmurad@bpdvt.org>; Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>; Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>; Carver, Dana <Dana.Carver@marriott.com>; Matt Canning <matt@hotelvt.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Catherine Z. Davis <cathy@vermont.org>; Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>

CC: George, Sarah <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>

Subject: RE: Silas Benoit

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello Joe (and everyone else),

Thank you for reaching out. I am so sorry to hear that this is happening to you and others, and to your guests. It is completely unacceptable and horrendous.

We have charged him with one count of unlawful mischief (felony) and one count of petit larceny (misdemeanor) for the damage and theft that occurred on 12/29/23. Neither of these charges are violent offenses (not as our law defines it that is, I certainly understand that the conduct you have outlined is violent in another sense), and none of his other pending cases are considered crimes of violence. He is 20 years old and has no criminal record.

For us to *request* that someone be held in jail pre-trial (before they are convicted), they must be charged with a violent felony. Otherwise, our laws require that folks are released into the community until they have been found guilty by a jury or plead guilty. Coupled with the fact that he has no criminal history means that he will be released by the Judge after his arraignment today. To be clear, within the confines of the law, it is entirely up to a Judge whether someone is held or released. My office does not make the determination.

I will share this email and your concerns with the assigned prosecutor so they can attempt to get these cases resolved quickly, but that is a massive struggle for us right now given the covid backlog. We will continue to try so that he stops engaging in this completely unacceptable behavior.

Sarah F. George

Chittenden County State's Attorney

32 Cherry Street

Suite 305

Burlington, VT 05401

Phone: (802) 863-2865

(she/her pronouns)

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to Justice everywhere" - Martin Luther King Jr.

** Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act **

From: Joe Carton <joe@hotelvt.com>

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 10:11 AM

To: George, Sarah <Sarah.George@vermont.gov>; jmurad <jmurad@bpdvt.org>; Miro Weinberger <miro@burlingtonvt.gov>; Hans van Wees <hans@hotelvt.com>; Carver, Dana <Dana.Carver@marriott.com>; Matt Canning <matt@hotelvt.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Catherine Z. Davis <cathy@vermont.org>; Matt Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Silas Benoit

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear State's Attorney George,

I am writing to you regarding Silas Benoit.

He was apprehended by the Burlington Police on the morning of January 20, 2024 in the Cherry Street parking garage. Mr. Benoit alias, "small guy", has been wreaking havoc in the downtown garages for almost one year. He has been spotted by our security team, (Courtyard Burlington Harbor/Hotel Vermont) and the Hilton's security team (Sensor Security) many times in the act of breaking into cars, urinating in cars, smashing windows but has not been caught until this past Saturday morning. His actions have caused thousands of dollars in guest car damages, severe mistrust of visiting Burlington from many guests at all three hotel locations and also ten of thousands of dollars of furious guest refunds at the Courtyard Burlington Harbor, Hotel Vermont and the Hilton Lake Champlain.

I implore you to remove him from the streets of Burlington as his behavior has proven that he is untrustworthy and he is dangerous. His violent acts have escalated from checking car door handles to now smashing windows, cutting rag top jeeps, to urinating in automobiles. He is proving to be very dangerous to citizens and visitors alike. Please take him off the streets of Burlington.

Sincerely,

Joe Carton

REC206

COO
Westport Hospitality

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From: Cindi Wight <cwight@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 4:44 PM EST
To: Jeff Hodgson <jhodgson@wagnerhodgson.com>; Doreen Kraft <dkraft@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Kelly Devine (director@bbavt.org) <director@bbavt.org>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Meagan Tuttle <mtuttle@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Keith Wagner <hkwwagner@wagnerhodgson.com>; Kyle Hoepner [REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: City Hall Park article

Hi Jeff,

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Yes, that is okay and if it happens, be sure to send us a link!

Cindi



Cindi Wight, MR, CPRE

(she/her)

Director

Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront

645 Pine Street Suite B Burlington, VT 05401

Direct Line: (802) 495-1919

General Info Line: (802) 864-0123

enjoyburlington.com

@BTVparks



From: Jeff Hodgson <jhodgson@wagnerhodgson.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 4:43 PM
To: Doreen Kraft <dkraft@burlingtoncityarts.org>; Cindi Wight <cwight@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine (director@bbavt.org) <director@bbavt.org>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Meagan Tuttle <mtuttle@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Keith Wagner <hkwwagner@wagnerhodgson.com>; Kyle Hoepner <[REDACTED]>
Subject: City Hall Park article

You don't often get email from jhodgson@wagnerhodgson.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello All

We are working with Kyle Hoepner, (copied here) who is pitching City Hall Park to Landscape Architecture magazine for an article. I have identified all of you as people of were instrumental in getting the Park to completion!... just wondering if it is okay for someone to reach out to you to discuss the park.... Should he be successful!? It would likely not be for awhile...

Jeff

Jeff Hodgson, FASLA, PLA
Partner



VT 802.864.0010 ext. 101

NY 518.567.1791

www.wagnerhodgson.com

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

REC208

From: Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 12:56 PM EDT
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>; Carter Neubieser <cneubieser@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Kane <jkane@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>
Subject: Re: Downtown Burlington Business Vandalized

Good Afternoon Kara,

I have thought about this response the last few days and I have to say that I'm deeply concerned. You start out with empathy which of course is important but the rest is just so obviously a copy and paste response. Not that the items that you mentioned aren't important but they don't address more immediate concerns and I think it's time to make some changes.

First we need to review the Priority Response plan because an officer should have been sent to the scene to make sure that the individual wasn't a threat to people and other businesses. Yes, technically it was "vandalism" but it was also something more and people recognize that. The department needs to as well. Submitting an online report that doesn't even provide an incident number isn't acceptable anymore. We need to look at that process. No BPD response is demoralizing for our businesses and the rest of the public. When there is response, some officers are rude and ill tempered when interacting with people further eroding community trust and respect. This needs to change. We need BPD to look at deployment in a different way.

We have to be innovative given our situation. The officer count is trending down again as of the March Chief's report. We are going to have staffing issues for the foreseeable future. How do we think differently especially now when there is widespread concern across this city about what this Spring and Summer will bring? How can we utilize mutual aid from other agencies and VPO? Maybe we need to look what it would take to bring the National Guard in and look at different ways we can utilize them that provides positive interaction with the public while keeping an eye on things. They could have a table for recruitment in City Hall park and do double duty. What would it take to make that happen. Maybe it's not possible but what we have now isn't working and we need to think out of the box in a way that has not been happening. We need to be nimble. We also have to address officer morale in a way that is not occurring. We need to be real about what is expected of them in terms of community engagement that will help improve community relations which then will make officers feel appreciated and better about working here. I, along with others, have been advocating for this for some time now and there hasn't been anything done that is substantial.

Chief Murad, please be sure that this incident is pulled and that someone contacts the owners to make sure they have the support that they need with regards to providing a police report that may be necessary for insurance purposes. Please confirm an investigation has been started.

Sincerely,

Melo Grant
City Councilor Central District (Wards 2 and 3)
megrant@burlingtonvt.gov
802.310.0962

From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2024 11:33 AM
To: Allen Caruso <allen@thornandroots.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Emma Allen <eallen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Carter Neubieser <cneubieser@burlingtonvt.gov>; Gene Bergman <gbergman@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Kane <jkane@burlingtonvt.gov>; Sarah Carpenter <scarpenter@burlingtonvt.gov>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Becca Brown McKnight <bbrownmcknight@burlingtonvt.gov>; Evan Litwin <elitwin@burlingtonvt.gov>; Marek Broderick <mbroderick@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>
Cc: Samantha McGinnis <smcginnis@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brandon Acres <brandon@thornandroots.com>; Aidan Stewart <aidan@thornandroots.com>; Erica Vanalstyne <erica@thornandroots.com>; Bill Kiendl <bk@vtcommercial.com>; Jim Daly <jdaly@burlingtonvt.gov>; Stephanie Shohet <sshohet@burlingtonvt.gov>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; director@bbavt.org <director@bbavt.org>; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; melissa@whimboutique.com <melissa@whimboutique.com>; dougs@skirack.com <dougs@skirack.com>; orion.breen@globalp.com <orion.breen@globalp.com>; RNick@jldavisrealty.com <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>; christian.kuzia@marriott.com <christian.kuzia@marriott.com>; wjudge@drm.com <wjudge@drm.com>; meg@donahueassociatesvt.com <meg@donahueassociatesvt.com>; johngw@skirack.com <johngw@skirack.com>; jd0407@gmail.com <jd0407@gmail.com>; Kru Coffee Collective <getroasted@krucoffee.com>; jared@brianboardmanvt.com <jared@brianboardmanvt.com>; kathrynvett@gmail.com <kathrynvett@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Downtown Burlington Business Vandalized

***Please note:** I have removed local media partners as I do not make statements via email and added Chief of Police Jon Murad to

this thread.

Allen,

Firstly, I am so sorry that this happened to you. I cannot imagine how upsetting, scary, and frustrating this was.

I also want to acknowledge the personal financial investment that you and many others on this email have made to operate your businesses in Burlington.

Due to a decrease in their ranks, the BPD must "stack" their calls. Since 2022 they have had [a modified priority response plan](#) in place which I assume was being followed when you called.

Recognizing the complexity of the challenges facing our downtown, the City and multiple departments have taken on the following tasks to help address the situation from a support and enforcement perspective:

Treatment/Housing:

- Elmwood Pod shelter – housing 35 individuals until they can receive transitional or permanent housing
- BTV Cares – this program has not fully launched but is in conjunction with UVMHC and involves pairs of two (1 mental health clinician and 1 nurse) roaming the City
- Largest number of units (including affordable units) being built in the City in over a decade to make housing more accessible and affordable
- Extensive financial support (over \$1M) in the form of grants from the City to area non-profits
- Rapid Response EMTs – two medical technicians, 12 hours a day, responding only to overdose calls, and when not actively responding they are instructed to engage with the impacted population
- I meet weekly with the Howard Street Outreach Team, the BPD, and loss prevention managers from large retailers to discuss the downtown challenges and brainstorm solutions
- CSLs (Community Support Liaisons) – social workers housed in the BPD to address the needs of impacted populations

Enforcement:

- CSOs (Community Service Officers) – unarmed/unsworn officers able to enforce ordinance violations
- Drug Trafficking – BPD has active undercover operations and operations in conjunction with ATF and DEA
- \$15,000 recruitment bonuses for new BPD officers to increase our ranks
- State Level Advocacy –
 - Burlington has repeatedly asked the State to deploy more of the funds they received in the opioid settlement
 - We have actively lobbied the State to create more mental health and substance use support services
- 2 BPD Officers dedicated to the downtown starting again in May.
- Parks Patrol Officer program reinstituted last year
- Park Ranger Program instituted
- Active communication between the City and the State's Attorney's Office regarding prosecution of crimes

I and the City team are always open to feedback and suggestions on ways to address the challenges that retailers are facing. Please let me know if you think there is something additional that I can do for you and your business.

I am happy to come speak with your employees anytime if you feel that would be helpful.

Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

**BUSINESS &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**

From: Allen Caruso <allen@thornandroots.com>

Sent: Saturday, April 13, 2024 9:18 PM

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Emma Allen <eaallen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Carter Neubieser <cneubieser@burlingtonvt.gov>; Gene Bergman <gbergman@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Kane <jkane@burlingtonvt.gov>; Sarah Carpenter <scarpenter@burlingtonvt.gov>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Becca Brown McKnight <bbrownmcknight@burlingtonvt.gov>; Evan Litwin <elitwin@burlingtonvt.gov>; Marek Broderick <mbroderick@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: jchalmers@burlingtonvt.gov; Samantha McGinnis <smcginnis@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brandon Acres <brandon@thornandroots.com>; Aidan Stewart <aidan@thornandroots.com>; Erica Vanalstyne <erica@thornandroots.com>; Bill Kiendl <bk@vtcommercial.com>; Jim Daly <jdaly@burlingtonvt.gov>; Stephanie Shohet <ssshohet@burlingtonvt.gov>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@stella-mae.com>; director@bbavt.org; Colin Hilliard <colin@bbavt.org>; melissa@whimboutique.com; dougs@skirack.com; orion.breen@globalp.com; RNick@jldavisrealty.com; christian.kuzia@marriott.com; asoga@freepressmedia.com; jay.barton@wcax.com; opinion@vtdigger.org; contact@vtdigger.org; wjudge@drm.com; news@wcax.com; meg@donahueassociatesvt.com; johngw@skirack.com; jd0407@gmail.com; Kru Coffee Collective

REC210

<getroasted@krucoffee.com>; jared@brianboardmanvt.com; [REDACTED]

Subject: Downtown Burlington Business Vandalized

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi Kara,

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Tonight, our business was vandalized by an individual who appears to be homeless. They took our patio furniture and threw it at our storefront window, shattering it. We contacted the police to have the individual apprehended; however, the police instructed us to go online and fill out a police report. This response is completely unacceptable and portrays a negative image of downtown Burlington. It fails to ensure the safety of the community and our employees, especially at the time this incident occurred.

It is already challenging enough to persuade employees to come to work due to ongoing safety issues in downtown Burlington. Now, when directly threatened, there is no immediate response from the police. Additionally, our storefront has been destroyed as we head into the spring season after a long, hard winter. What proactive measures is the city taking to address these issues and ensure Burlington is safe? It was not only our business affected; multiple businesses were vandalized tonight.

Thank you,

Allen



Allen Caruso
THORN + ROOTS
allen@thornandroots.com
C: 518.727.0822

Follow us @thornandroots
thornandroots.com

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

REC211

From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 5:15 PM EDT
To: melissa dearlucy . com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
CC: Jessica Dudley <jdudley@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>
Subject: RE: Senior Clientele

I agree there is a loss of this clientele. It is most likely due to the perceptions around downtown which we are working on.
However, as you know, marketing is only a small part of the solution here. I have been clear with the new administration that the business community is looking for solutions. I'll keep you updated.

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. - Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
The Marketplace | Love Burlington | ELI

-----Original Message-----

From: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 4:59 PM
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Jessica Dudley <jdudley@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>
Subject: Re: Senior Clientele

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thank you- but we are seeing less of that clientele this year. Do you have any ideas on why that might be if we are marketing towards them regularly?

Sent from my iPhone

> On May 13, 2024, at 4:55 PM, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:
>
> Hi Melissa,
> We absolutely do target this population due to their higher rate of affluence and that they dine and go to the Flynn more than the younger generation.
> We target them through various mediums, particularly VPR, local news broadcasts (i.e. good old fashioned commercials), and the local town newspapers. All of these outlets have higher engagement with that demographic.

> Kara
>
> Kara Alnasrawi
> Director, Business & Workforce Development
> 131 Church St. - Suite 209
> Burlington, VT 05401
> 802.238.1910
> The Marketplace | Love Burlington | ELI

>
>
>
>
>
>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
> Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 10:54 AM
> To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jessica Dudley <jdudley@burlingtonvt.gov>
> Cc: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>
> Subject: Senior Clientele
>

> [WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.
>
>
> Hi All- as you know I've seen a decrease in business this year. I've been very vocal about it. I do have some idea on this loss as I compare Whim to Dear Lucy.
>
> Whim is a younger client so I've seen less of a decrease (still a decrease in general). Dear Lucy's client has always been about 50% of an older crowd. I buy comfort brands for them, walking styles for Europe etc. It is a crowd that shopped at Expressions (who closed this Spring). This client simply isn't coming down anymore & I have to guess it's due to not feeling safe. The garage where they typically park has become a hot spot for people trading stolen goods & doing drugs- that's their introduction to Church Street. They also aren't as internet savvy so they aren't using my website like some local customers have moved towards instead of coming in.
>
> Can we start marketing towards these women? I have thought about reaching out to retirement communities and inviting them down for a morning of shopping- but it might be more fun if other retailers/coffee shops were involved. I would open an hour early on a dedicated day to cater to them.
>
> Just a thought. But hate losing this customer.
>
> Thank you,
>
> Melissa
>
> Sent from my iPhone
> Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 04, 2024 1:41 PM EDT
To: Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>
CC: melissa dearlucy . com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

That is also my understanding.

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Joan

On Jun 4, 2024, at 1:36 PM, Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com> wrote:

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mark.homeport@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Melissa,

I've asked the same question and here's what was explained to me.

Although the PD is authorized for up to 87 officers, when the PD budget is made the salary portion is only made with an estimate of the actual numbers that the chief thinks he is likely to be able to hire. This means that the PD budget comes into the mayor at a reduction of what it otherwise would have been. The City then has the ability to spend that money in other ways, for example half a million dollars for private security for city buildings... It does not, however, go unused, especially in a budget crunch year. If someone thinks I've got this wrong please let us both know. -Mark

mark.homeport@gmail.com
802-863-4644
www.homeportonline.com

52 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

On Tue, Jun 4, 2024 at 12:25 PM melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com> wrote:

Just a quick followup/question on this.

Since we haven't filled the police quota where are those funds going that would be for their salaries etc? Would be nice to get more temp CSOs to walk around the garages and stairwells this summer- make tourists feel safe and report to someone about cleanliness. If there was someone making rounds hourly I don't think we should see as many issues where our customers are parking.

Thanks,

Melissa

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 3, 2024, at 3:44 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com> wrote:

Melissa and Joan,

The situation in the parking garage today feels unsafe again today. The area between the garage and Handy's service center looks like a drug den. City should figure out some type of deterrent/barrier to keep people out of that area.

REC214

Between the level of retail theft, open drug use, and vagrancy it feels like we are under assault from a very bad element.

Jeff Nick

29 Church Street, 3rd Floor

Burlington, VT 05401

Telephone: (802) 876-6923

Email: jeff@jeffnick.com

www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2024 11:18 PM
To: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
Cc: Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

Melissa,

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Thank you for sharing these photos to raise awareness about what is happening in our City. Illegal activity including drug use, drug dealing and littering should not be tolerated. But in order to enforce the law, the police need to know that they have the backing of the administration to do it. What I have heard so far is that we should not enforce drug possession, drug use, or drug dealing unless its a high level drug distributor. I don't agree with that, but that is the messaging I hear.

There needs to be clear communication from the Mayor that we are going to provide a safe experience for our residents, visitors and workers and assure compliance with our laws. What you are showing in these pictures would not make most people feel this is a safe place to bring their children, and certainly not an enjoyable place.

With an increased reliance on consumer taxes, the consumer experience is more important than ever in order for us to balance our budget. I look forward to hearing the Mayor's position on the activity shown in these photos, and how she is going to assure a positive downtown experience for workers and visitors alike so that we can realize our budget revenue goals and once again feel comfortable in our community living room.

Sincerely,

Joan

On Jun 2, 2024, at 3:12 PM, melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com> wrote:

REC215

Some people who received this message don't often get email from melissa@dearlucy.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi- I wanted to share images from the Marketplace Garage today. You may get these same images from multiple sources. They are not very clear but the photographer didn't feel safe. What is happening is open drug use with needles.

The parking garage is the gateway to the downtown. Locals & tourists park here & often it's their introduction to our city.

The stairwells are often littered with needles, garbage & blood stained clothing/rags. It's also where shoplifters leave hangers from their latest raid on LuLuLemon. If I were a visitor to a city for the first time & saw these things when I got out of my car with my children in tow I would not come back & I would tell me friends. BTV shouldn't allow this to happen.

Burlington is no longer an orderly, safe, secure, or prosperous place to be. It feels like all of the laws have completely gone out the window- citizens & merchants are not being supported by our leaders. While focusing on one group of people, who are in a heartbreaking struggle, you are neglecting the rest of the people- those going to work everyday, children who love to play in the water fountain in the park & climb the rocks & families looking to enjoy a meal & shopping with their loved ones.

Mayor, I thank you for your time in meeting with us last week via zoom- but we need immediate action. You heard from merchants but the things you were told are things we have been talking about since 2020 and things have only gotten worse.

Other cities are going through the same thing, some ahead of us. We need to look at what has worked & not worked for them to make our city a livable place for ALL.

Thank you for opening another one of my emails.

Melissa Desautels

Whim & Dear Lucy

<image0.jpeg><image1.jpeg><image2.jpeg><image3.jpeg><image4.jpeg>
<image5.jpeg><image6.jpeg><image7.jpeg>

Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2024 9:50 AM EDT
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissa dearlucy . com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage
Attachment(s): "image001.png" **1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)**

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks Kara

Most do not realize or see how bad downtown issues truly are -but those working downtown and their customers do -huge drop in customer base which for many of us was unsustainable and had to close others facing same issue now - know Jon's team doing best it can but very limited staff -thanks Kon for your response !

We need entire community to focus on all aspects of this crisis

Thankful to mayor for setting up public safety council -need to push hard for funding and new approaches

Know of a couple of private initiatives underway as well which should help too

-more on those later...

Fingers crossed

Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau
Pomerleau Real Estate
69 College Street
Burlington, Vermont
802 8638210
www.VermontRealEstate.com

On Jun 5, 2024, at 7:52 AM, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

*** This email originated outside your organization ***

Good morning all,

I have spoken with the Chief and he has instructed his officers to pay a higher level of attention to the garage and the area behind Handy's.

The downtown currently has all officers assigned to it unless called away. That means when the shift starts in the morning they are stationed in the marketplace area unless urgently needed elsewhere.

I recognize this does not immediately solve our greater issues.

Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

-
<image001.png>

From: LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 5:07 AM
To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Cc: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <rnick@jldavisrealty.com>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

REC218

Hi everyone,

The marketplace garage entrance area was terrifying yesterday. I've never seen it so unsafe in all my years of parking there. There was a large group of people (ant least 20) actively doing drugs and screaming things at people as they arrived or walked to their cars. Down below there are smaller groups of people doing drugs regularly. I see this EVERY SINGLE DAY. I am afraid to go to my car and so is everyone else who parks there. This area needs to be monitored daily and this behavior should not be tolerated. Please come check it out today.

We absolutely need more police coverage daily in our downtown and no positions should be left unfilled. This is an emergency situation and I don't understand how anyone can observe what's going on around us all day and not see this clearly.

Thank you,
Lara Heath Allen
Ecco Clothes
Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 4, 2024, at 4:46 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com> wrote:

Mark and Melissa,

The Marketplace properties collectively pay over \$2,000,000 in annual real estate taxes plus marketplace fees, yet as you point out we have lost the police coverage that our taxes support. It is interesting that the city is paying \$500,000 for private security for city property but offered nothing to the Marketplace.

The level of retail theft on the street is at an all-time high with no end in sight. Now word is out in the retail community that Burlington is riddled with theft, open drug use, and worse. We lost a new tenant for Church St. ready to fill the Black Dimond space due to the CEO hearing of Burlington's problems. I am fearful that without a greater police presence within our downtown our community will experience further decline.

Wish I could see a brighter future for Burlington.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 1:37 PM
To: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <jmurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Lara Allen [REDACTED]; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Melissa,
I've asked the same question and here's what was explained to me.
Although the PD is authorized for up to 87 officers, when the PD budget is made the salary portion is only made with an estimate of the actual numbers that the chief thinks he is likely to be able to hire. This means that the PD budget comes into the mayor at a reduction of what it otherwise would have been. The City then has the ability to spend that money in other ways, for example half a million dollars for private security for city buildings... It does not, however, go unused, especially in a budget crunch year. If someone thinks I've got this wrong please let us both know. -Mark

mark.homeport@gmail.com
802-863-4644

REC219

52 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

On Tue, Jun 4, 2024 at 12:25 PM melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com> wrote:

Just a quick followup/question on this.

Since we haven't filled the police quota where are those funds going that would be for their salaries etc? Would be nice to get more temp CSOs to walk around the garages and stairwells this summer- make tourists feel safe and report to someone about cleanliness. If there was someone making rounds hourly I don't think we should see as many issues where our customers are parking.

Thanks,

Melissa

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 3, 2024, at 3:44 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com> wrote:

Melissa and Joan,

The situation in the parking garage today feels unsafe again today. The area between the garage and Handy's service center looks like a drug den. City should figure out some type of deterrent/barrier to keep people out of that area.

Between the level of retail theft, open drug use, and vagrancy it feels like we are under assault from a very bad element.

Jeff Nick
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2024 11:18 PM
To: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
Cc: Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>
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Melissa,

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With an increased reliance on consumer taxes, the consumer experience is more important than ever in order for us to balance our budget. I look forward to hearing the Mayor's position on the activity shown in these photos, and how she is going to assure a positive downtown experience for workers and visitors alike so that we can realize our budget revenue goals and

once again feel comfortable in our community living room.

Sincerely,
Joan

On Jun 2, 2024, at 3:12 PM, melissa~~dearlucy.com~~ <melissa@dearlucy.com> wrote:

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Other cities are going through the same thing, some ahead of us. We need to look at what has worked & not worked for them to make our city a livable place for ALL.

Thank you for opening another one of my emails.

Melissa Desautels
Whim & Dear Lucy

<image0.jpeg><image1.jpeg><image2.jpeg><image3.jpeg><image4.jpeg>
<image5.jpeg><image6.jpeg><image7.jpeg>
Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>

Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2024 10:03 AM EDT

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

CC: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissa dearlucy . com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks Jeff

What everyone not dealing daily w church street everyone needs to understand

Is we have already crossed the tipping point

We had to close our two beautiful stores

We have lost so many other retailers , many now open have to consider if viable to continue

And as you noted new tenants are getting very Leary of entering the Burlington market -really concerned for city place retail as well when they come online

Downtown is in crisis -was part of group that got the marketplace installed a 1/2 century ago -have always been so positive- nothing like this has ever existed -I am an eternal optimist but this has all of us in Burlington at 5 alarm status

Thanks -we are all in this together and all stand to help just must have everyone on same page understanding the present and future peril we are in

Best

Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau

Pomerleau Real Estate

69 College Street

Burlington, Vermont

802 8638210

www.VermontRealEstate.com

On Jun 4, 2024, at 4:47 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com> wrote:

*** This email originated outside your organization ***

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The level of retail theft on the street is at an all-time high with no end in sight. Now word is out in the retail community that Burlington is riddled with theft, open drug use, and worse. We lost a new tenant for Church St. ready to fill the Black Dimond space due to the CEO hearing of Burlington's problems. I am fearful that without a greater police presence within our downtown our community will experience further decline.

Wish I could see a brighter future for Burlington.

Jeff Nick

JL Davis Realty

29 Church Street, 3rd Floor

Burlington, VT 05401

Telephone: (802) 876-6923

Email: jeff@jeffnick.com

www.jldavisrealty.com

REC222

From: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 1:37 PM

To: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>

Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <jmurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; [REDACTED] <rlarah@aol.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>

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Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>

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<image6.jpeg><image7.jpeg>
Sent from my iPhone

REC224

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2024 10:37 AM EDT
To: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: LARA HEATH [REDACTED]; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissa dearlucy . com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <rnick@jldavisrealty.com>; Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Scenes from our parking garage

Thanks, Joan.

I have a meeting with Howard Street Outreach tomorrow and will discuss more garage walk-throughs.

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

**BUSINESS &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 10:30 AM
To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: LARA HEATH [REDACTED]; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <rnick@jldavisrealty.com>; Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

Thank you for your efforts Kara! And thanks to all on here who are raising our awareness about the issues and documenting them.

Thank you Chief for focusing this effort downtown. Unfortunately, "all the officers stationed downtown unless they are called elsewhere, is not necessarily a lot of officers....or any. But it is the best we can do on that front at this time. Yesterday I noticed some folks hanging around City Market, arguing about the lies each tells to get a hit of crack. They were not being terribly disruptive and were not actively injecting drugs, but we continue to see a migration of open drug users around town.

Since the discussion here is about the parking garage, I've added Chapin to this thread.

Chapin, is it possible to get staffing in the parking garage to improve monitoring, accountability, and official eyes on the situation here so that our garages are safe places for our local work force, visitors and residents? Giving up staffing of garages in favor of auto pay may have a cost in terms of "eyes" on the garage. Interested in any ideas you might have to improve cleanliness and safety. I know you've been committed to addressing the graffiti which I greatly appreciate and applaud you for. I also know we keep asking for more.

Kara, can we get more focus from Street Outreach in this area as well? They could help with the feeling that something bad is about to escalate and erupt at any moment. CSLs could be another option here.

I am sorry for all that this is the state of affairs at this time and that we do not have any quick fixes. I'm also appreciative of the efforts on many fronts.

Best,
Joan

On Jun 5, 2024, at 7:52 AM, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Good morning all,
I have spoken with the Chief and he has instructed his officers to pay a higher level of attention to the garage and the area behind Handy's.
The downtown currently has all officers assigned to it unless called away. That means when the shift starts in the morning they are stationed in the marketplace area unless urgently needed elsewhere.
I recognize this does not immediately solve our greater issues.
Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

<image001.png>

From: LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 5:07 AM
To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Cc: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissadearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <karnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <rnick@jldavisrealty.com>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi everyone,

The marketplace garage entrance area was terrifying yesterday. I've never seen it so unsafe in all my years of parking there. There was a large group of people (at least 20) actively doing drugs and screaming things at people as they arrived or walked to their cars. Down below there are smaller groups of people doing drugs regularly. I see this EVERY SINGLE DAY. I am afraid to go to my car and so is everyone else who parks there. This area needs to be monitored daily and this behavior should not be tolerated. Please come check it out today.

We absolutely need more police coverage daily in our downtown and no positions should be left unfilled. This is an emergency situation and I don't understand how anyone can observe what's going on around us all day and not see this clearly.

Thank you,
Lara Heath Allen
Ecco Clothes
Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 4, 2024, at 4:46 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com> wrote:

Mark and Melissa,

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Wish I could see a brighter future for Burlington.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>

REC227

Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 1:37 PM

To: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>

Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <jmurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

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From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>

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REC228

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Burlington is no longer an orderly, safe, secure, or prosperous place to be. It feels like all of the laws have completely gone out the window- citizens & merchants are not being supported by our leaders. While focusing on one group of people, who are in a heartbreaking struggle, you are neglecting the rest of the people- those going to work everyday, children who love to play in the water fountain in the park & climb the rocks & families looking to enjoy a meal & shopping with their loved ones.

Mayor, I thank you for your time in meeting with us last week via zoom- but we need immediate action. You heard from merchants but the things you were told are things we have been talking about since 2020 and things have only gotten worse.

Other cities are going through the same thing, some ahead of us. We need to look at what has worked & not worked for them to make our city a livable place for ALL.

Thank you for opening another one of my emails.

REC229

Melissa Desautels
Whim & Dear Lucy

<image0.jpeg><image1.jpeg><image2.jpeg><image3.jpeg><image4.jpeg>
<image5.jpeg><image6.jpeg><image7.jpeg>
Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Murad, Jon <JMurad@bpdvt.org>

Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2024 11:48 AM EDT

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

CC: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissa dearlucy . com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; BillyMauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; RyanNick <rnick@jldavisrealty.com>; Spencer, Chapin <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

Attachment(s): "image001.png"

To everyone on this thread,

I am in Washington DC today and tomorrow, attending an ATF conference and presenting about the success BPD and ATF had in Burlington with regard to our gun violence issue. But I'm reading this thread and acknowledging, uncomfortably, that we have not had the same success addressing less violent (and therefore less prosecutable, less jailable) public disorder. Our drug unit has made a lot of progress against traffickers, and are paying attention to new dealing crews as they arise and as tips come in. The in-progress case against the New York crew, some of whose members sadly died this weekend in a Colchester crash, is a case in point. But low-level sales and open-air use are different. As Kara related, patrol officers have also been dialed into this and will be doing all they can to focus on the Marketplace.

Respectfully,

Chief of Police Jon Murad

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 5, 2024, at 10:37, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Joan.

I have a meeting with Howard Street Outreach tomorrow and will discuss more garage walk-throughs.

Kara Alnasrawi

Director, Business & Workforce Development

131 Church St. - Suite 209

Burlington, VT 05401

802.238.1910

The Marketplace<<https://churchstmarketplace.com/>> | Love Burlington<loveburlington.org> |

ELI<<https://earlylearningbtv.org/>>

<image001.png>

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 10:30 AM

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <rnick@jldavisrealty.com>; Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

Thank you for your efforts Kara! And thanks to all on here who are raising our awareness about the issues and documenting them. Thank you Chief for focusing this effort downtown. Unfortunately, "all the officers stationed downtown unless they are called elsewhere, is not necessarily a lot of officers...or any. But it is the best we can do on that front at this time. Yesterday I noticed some folks hanging around City Market, arguing about the lies each tells to get a hit of crack. They were not being terribly disruptive and were not actively injecting drugs, but we continue to see a migration of open drug users around town.

Since the discussion here is about the parking garage, I've added Chapin to this thread.

Chapin, is it possible to get staffing in the parking garage to improve monitoring, accountability, and official eyes on the situation here so that our garages are safe places for our local work force, visitors and residents? Giving up staffing of garages in favor of auto pay may have a cost in terms of "eyes" on the garage. Interested in any ideas you might have to improve cleanliness and safety. I know you've been committed to addressing the graffiti which I greatly appreciate and applaud you for. I also know we keep asking for more.

REC231

Kara, can we get more focus from Street Outreach in this area as well? They could help with the feeling that something bad is about to escalate and erupt at any moment. CSLs could be another option here.

I am sorry for all that this is the state of affairs at this time and that we do not have any quick fixes. I'm also appreciative of the efforts on many fronts.

Best,
Joan

On Jun 5, 2024, at 7:52 AM, Kara Alnasrawi
<kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>> wrote:

Good morning all,
I have spoken with the Chief and he has instructed his officers to pay a higher level of attention to the garage and the area behind Handy's.
The downtown currently has all officers assigned to it unless called away. That means when the shift starts in the morning they are stationed in the marketplace area unless urgently needed elsewhere.
I recognize this does not immediately solve our greater issues.
Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. - Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
The Marketplace<<https://churchstmarketplace.com/>> | Love Burlington<x-msg://123/loveburlington.org> |
ELI<<https://earlylearningbtv.org/>>

<image001.png>

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]<mailto:[REDACTED]>>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 5:07 AM
To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com<mailto:jeff@jeffnick.com>>
Cc: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com<mailto:mark.homeport@gmail.com>>; melissa
dearlucy.com<<http://dearlucy.com>> <melissa@dearlucy.com<mailto:melissa@dearlucy.com>>; Joan Shannon
<jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Ernie Pomerleau
<epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com<mailto:epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>>; Kaitlin Ryan
<kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com<mailto:kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>>; Kara Alnasrawi
<kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Kelly Devine
<director@bbavt.org<mailto:director@bbavt.org>>; Billy Mauer
<billymauer@furst.ca<mailto:billymauer@furst.ca>>; Mayor's Office
<mayor@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Jon Murad
<JMurad@bpdvt.org<mailto:JMurad@bpdvt.org>>; Llyndara Harbour
<dara@harbourthread.com<mailto:dara@harbourthread.com>>; Benjamin Traverse
<btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Melo Grant
<megrant@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Ryan Nick
<rnick@jldavisrealty.com<mailto:rnick@jldavisrealty.com>>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi everyone,

The marketplace garage entrance area was terrifying yesterday. I've never seen it so unsafe in all my years of parking there. There was a large group of people (at least 20) actively doing drugs and screaming things at people as they arrived or walked to their cars. Down below there are smaller groups of people doing drugs regularly. I see this EVERY SINGLE DAY. I am afraid to go to my car and so is everyone else who parks there. This area needs to be monitored daily and this behavior should not be tolerated. Please come check it out today.

We absolutely need more police coverage daily in our downtown and no positions should be left unfilled. This is an emergency situation and I don't understand how anyone can observe what's going on around us all day and not see this clearly.

Thank you,
Lara Heath Allen
Ecco Clothes
Sent from my iPhone

REC232

On Jun 4, 2024, at 4:46 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com<mailto:jeff@jeffnick.com>> wrote:

Mark and Melissa,

The Marketplace properties collectively pay over \$2,000,000 in annual real estate taxes plus marketplace fees, yet as you point out we have lost the police coverage that our taxes support. It is interesting that the city is paying \$500,000 for private security for city property but offered nothing to the Marketplace.

The level of retail theft on the street is at an all-time high with no end in sight. Now word is out in the retail community that Burlington is riddled with theft, open drug use, and worse. We lost a new tenant for Church St. ready to fill the Black Diamond space due to the CEO hearing of Burlington's problems. I am fearful that without a greater police presence within our downtown our community will experience further decline.

Wish I could see a brighter future for Burlington.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com<mailto:jeff@jeffnick.com>
www.jldavisrealty.com<x-msg://123/www.jldavisrealty.com>

From: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com<mailto:mark.homeport@gmail.com>>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 1:37 PM
To: melissa dearlucy.com<http://dearlucy.com> <melissa@dearlucy.com<mailto:melissa@dearlucy.com>>
Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com<mailto:jeff@jeffnick.com>>; Joan Shannon
<jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Ernie Pomerleau
<epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com<mailto:epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>>; Kaitlin Ryan
<kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com<mailto:kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>>; Kara Alnasrawi
<kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Kelly Devine
<director@bbavt.org<mailto:director@bbavt.org>>; Billy Mauer
<billymauer@furst.ca<mailto:billymauer@furst.ca>>; Mayor's Office
<mayor@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Jon Murad
<jmurad@bpdvt.org<mailto:jmurad@bpdvt.org>>; Llyndara Harbour
<dara@harbourthread.com<mailto:dara@harbourthread.com>>; Lara Allen
<[REDACTED]>; Benjamin Traverse
<btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Melo Grant
<megrant@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Melissa,

I've asked the same question and here's what was explained to me.

Although the PD is authorized for up to 87 officers, when the PD budget is made the salary portion is only made with an estimate of the actual numbers that the chief thinks he is likely to be able to hire. This means that the PD budget comes into the mayor at a reduction of what it otherwise would have been. The City then has the ability to spend that money in other ways, for example half a million dollars for private security for city buildings... It does not, however, go unused, especially in a budget crunch year. If someone thinks I've got this wrong please let us both know. -Mark

mark.homeport@gmail.com<mailto:mark.homeport@gmail.com>
802-863-4644
www.homeportonline.com<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-
3A__www.homeportonline.com&d=DwMFaQ&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-
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52 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

On Tue, Jun 4, 2024 at 12:25 PM melissa dearlucy.com<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-
3A__dearlucy.com&d=DwMFaQ&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-
v5A_Cdp gnVfiiMM&r=CbZEgVro8441DetyJIUQ3rLQWmzney0p-eJi5kM1l4Y&m=77ncREmdJNw8FozExUlqmlAOK3ysZS2NVZ-
_RfTSAcymX19xIzQ5n0B7AeKe7ibe&s=SDh90AKg-iIXyCzc8tIGljt4T4VUAjgFqdmEGglwa5A&e=>
<melissa@dearlucy.com<mailto:melissa@dearlucy.com>> wrote:
Just a quick followup/question on this.

REC233

Since we haven't filled the police quota where are those funds going that would be for their salaries etc? Would be nice to get more temp CSOs to walk around the garages and stairwells this summer- make tourists feel safe and report to someone about cleanliness. If there was someone making rounds hourly I don't think we should see as many issues where our customers are parking.

Thanks,

Melissa
Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 3, 2024, at 3:44 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com<mailto:jeff@jeffnick.com>> wrote:

Melissa and Joan,

The situation in the parking garage today feels unsafe again today. The area between the garage and Handy's service center looks like a drug den. City should figure out some type of deterrent/barrier to keep people out of that area.

Between the level of retail theft, open drug use, and vagrancy it feels like we are under assault from a very bad element.

Jeff Nick
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com<mailto:jeff@jeffnick.com>
www.jldavisrealty.com<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.jldavisrealty.com&d=DwMFaQ&c=euGZstcaTD1lvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_CdpqnVfiiMM&r=CbZEgVro8441DetyJIUQ3rLQWmzney0p-eJi5kM1l4Y&m=77ncREmdJNw8FozExUlqmlAOK3ysZS2NVZ-_RfTSAcymX19xIzQ5n0B7Aeke7ibe&s=lTmG6aY00dKP-wwZgBSwkmfdlEsOMFiYYS6XC7gxaiU&e=>

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>>
Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2024 11:18 PM
To: melissa dearlucy.com<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__dearlucy.com&d=DwMFaQ&c=euGZstcaTD1lvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_CdpqnVfiiMM&r=CbZEgVro8441DetyJIUQ3rLQWmzney0p-eJi5kM1l4Y&m=77ncREmdJNw8FozExUlqmlAOK3ysZS2NVZ-_RfTSAcymX19xIzQ5n0B7Aeke7ibe&s=SDh90AKg-iIXyCzc8tIGljt4T4VUAjgFqdmEGglwa5A&e=>
<melissa@dearlucy.com<mailto:melissa@dearlucy.com>>
Cc: Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com<mailto:epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com<mailto:jeff@jeffnick.com>>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com<mailto:kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org<mailto:director@bbavt.org>>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com<mailto:mark.homeport@gmail.com>>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca<mailto:billymauer@furst.ca>>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org<mailto:JMurad@bpdvt.org>>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com<mailto:dara@harbourthread.com>>; Lara Allen <[REDACTED]>>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov<mailto:btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Melissa,
Thank you for sharing these photos to raise awareness about what is happening in our City. Illegal activity including drug use, drug dealing and littering should not be tolerated. But in order to enforce the law, the police need to know that they have the backing of the administration to do it. What I have heard so far is that we should not enforce drug possession, drug use, or drug dealing unless its a high level drug distributor. I don't agree with that, but that is the messaging I hear.

There needs to be clear communication from the Mayor that we are going to provide a safe experience for our residents, visitors and workers and assure compliance with our laws. What you are showing in these pictures would not make most people feel this is a safe place to bring their children, and certainly not an enjoyable place.

With an increased reliance on consumer taxes, the consumer experience is more important than ever in order for us to balance our budget. I look forward to hearing the Mayor's position on the activity shown in these photos, and how she is going to assure a positive downtown experience for workers and visitors alike so that we can realize our budget revenue goals and once again feel comfortable in our community living room.

Sincerely,

REC234

Joan

On Jun 2, 2024, at 3:12 PM, melissa dearlucy.com<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__dearlucy.com&d=DwMGaQ&c=euGZstcaTD1lvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_CdpgnVfiiMM&r=CbZEgVro8441DetyJIUQ3rLQWmzney0p-eJi5kM1l4Y&m=kJ0I72tVn8lRs4GFOU-ObqAG5uCmLc41LOog-A9HrRdkdlOw0xJg8QxGpTUY5oo4&s=RvQlri6UC09MDxPwgzDbe3ffDHjeNcE0GiC6beik4Q&e=>> wrote:

Some people who received this message don't often get email from melissa@dearlucy.com<<mailto:melissa@dearlucy.com>>. Learn why this is important<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__aka.ms_LearnAboutSenderIdentification&d=DwMGaQ&c=euGZstcaTD1lvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_CdpgnVfiiMM&r=CbZEgVro8441DetyJIUQ3rLQWmzney0p-eJi5kM1l4Y&m=kJ0I72tVn8lRs4GFOU-ObqAG5uCmLc41LOog-A9HrRdkdlOw0xJg8QxGpTUY5oo4&s=t0IvD1HH3o0g0pPLgfdQf_PwQMhDqOfo4dWd9eG5Mg&e=>>

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi- I wanted to share images from the Marketplace Garage today. You may get these same images from multiple sources. They are not very clear but the photographer didn't feel safe. What is happening is open drug use with needles.

The parking garage is the gateway to the downtown. Locals & tourists park here & often it's their introduction to our city.

The stairwells are often littered with needles, garbage & blood stained clothing/rags. It's also where shoplifters leave hangers from their latest raid on LuLuLemon. If I were a visitor to a city for the first time & saw these things when I got out of my car with my children in tow I would not come back & I would tell me friends. BTV shouldn't allow this to happen.

Burlington is no longer an orderly, safe, secure, or prosperous place to be. It feels like all of the laws have completely gone out the window- citizens & merchants are not being supported by our leaders. While focusing on one group of people, who are in a heartbreaking struggle, you are neglecting the rest of the people- those going to work everyday, children who love to play in the water fountain in the park & climb the rocks & families looking to enjoy a meal & shopping with their loved ones.

Mayor, I thank you for your time in meeting with us last week via zoom- but we need immediate action. You heard from merchants but the things you were told are things we have been talking about since 2020 and things have only gotten worse.

Other cities are going through the same thing, some ahead of us. We need to look at what has worked & not worked for them to make our city a livable place for ALL.

Thank you for opening another one of my emails.

Melissa Desautels
Whim & Dear Lucy

<image0.jpeg><image1.jpeg><image2.jpeg><image3.jpeg><image4.jpeg><image5.jpeg><image6.jpeg><image7.jpeg>
Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

CAUTION: EXTERNAL MAIL. DO NOT CLICK ON LINKS OR OPEN ATTACHMENTS YOU DO NOT TRUST.

From: Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>

Sent: Sunday, June 09, 2024 7:08 PM EDT

To: Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>

CC: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; melissa dearlucy . com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Chapin Spencer

<cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi

<kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; LARA HEATH [REDACTED]; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Kaitlin

Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon

Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse

<btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>

Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Sorry have to disagree Billy

I have been an extreme advocate of downtown Burlington for over 50 years - was on committee to establish marketplace - brought what was the merchants bureau w several others to church st and

Established Downtown Burlington Business Association and chaired it for half dozen years -founding director of Flynn theatre and dozens of other engagements-

I also own a huge amount of real estate here - nothing like this has ever occurred before and is causing crisis

We have been working closely w administration/police/ Howard center and personally funding two new initiatives -along with city hall park and downtown entertainment and funding a graffiti removal project -

Do not see comments as negative

Simply the reality of the moment and if not turned around your investments and mine along w many retailers are at serious risk

Yes we have to be proactive and we all continue to be but must keep this crisis front and center to have all parties put this on highest priority and get clear understanding of the magnitude of problem that those working downtown are facing-

Stores in 50 years have not closed because of dramatic drops in volumes due the street challenging conditions -always had a line of retailers who wanted space on church street -

We had to close Jess boutique and Expression because of crisis on street -40 % drop in volume ,many others have left and

Will be challenging replacing many of them with comparable retailers and similar rents

Thanks for your investment in downtown we need you -but we can agree to disagree on what is perceived as negative or rightful, necessary expression of concerns

We are all in this together - many moving parts -need to continue to support police/collaborate with administration new public safety committee / promote initiatives in opioid addition -homelessness but necessary to keep solutions front and center -we have crossed the tipping point and need to turn this around with all the efforts we can muster....

Thanks

Best Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau

Pomerleau Real Estate

69 College Street

Burlington, Vermont

802 8638210

www.VermontRealEstate.com

On Jun 9, 2024, at 6:00 PM, Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca> wrote:

*** This email originated outside your organization ***

For those who don't know me my cos have numerous properties on and around Church st

I am aware of the issues but they are no different then what we face in Mtl and Toronto where we are headquartered

Do I have answers NO

Do I have solutions NO

But I know one thing These constant public criticisms etc do no good and are very harmful

No utopia exists

I suggest we all work city officials and stop the negativity

Billy Mauer

On Jun 9, 2024, at 2:40 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com> wrote:

REC236

Greetings all,

I wanted to share with everyone my conversations I had yesterday at an engagement party for my daughter's good friend. Spoke with many 28–30-year-old CVU graduates just starting their careers, most have lived out of state since graduating college. Parents and friends from Williston, Charlotte, Hinesburg, Shelburne and beyond were also in attendance.

ALL were shocked and saddened at what they saw when visiting downtown Burlington and could not believe how hard and fast Burlington has fallen. No one was surprised to hear that Church Street has already lost one retailer ready to fill the former Black Diamond space because the CEO heard of Burlington's many problems related to rampant shoplifting and drug use. And no one was eager to come back to downtown anytime soon.

We must all attack Burlington's troubles with a tremendous sense of urgency and find solutions fast or else it will take years to recover. Hoping our city leaders will engage all of us to help in this effort.

Jeff Nick

From: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>

Sent: Saturday, June 8, 2024 1:01 PM

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

To: Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>

Cc: Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <jmurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>

Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

Yes- our older clientele (that are still trying to cone down) feel that the city is alienating them. They don't feel safe in the garage & are not feeling like it's a welcoming environment for them overall.

This is the demographic with the funds and we are pushing them away. They aren't as internet savvy- so where can they shop? We need them as much as they need us.

My shoe store is missing the shopper that went into Expressions since they were forced to close.

Melissa

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 8, 2024, at 12:36 PM, Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com> wrote:

Thanks Chapin

Much appreciated....I know from personal experience our more mature women shoppers continuously noted they would not use the garage too scary....we lost many of them....younger people / workers/ tourist more tolerant but know we have lost many stores including ours to combination of all this...garage is key to downtown so thanks for your response and willingness to fix as best you can

Ernie

Ernie Pomerleau
Pomerleau Real Estate
69 College Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802 8638210
www.VermontRealEstate.com
<image002.png>
<image003.jpg>
<image004.jpg>

From: Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 10:54 AM

To: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Mark Bouchette

REC237

<mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <rnick@jldavisrealty.com>

Subject: RE: Scenes from our parking garage

*** This email originated outside your organization ***

Thank you for looping me into the thread Joan. Team DPW agrees that there are current issues that need additional resources to manage in Marketplace Garage.

I convened a cross-departmental meeting this morning on the topic and we will be meeting weekly. I have directed my team to document the incidents and issues in a written format for my review. I have made some operational changes in the Marketplace Garage this week to respond to recent incidents. Team DPW will also be rebidding our security contract for garage security services this year. The garage staffing is not much different than before. Yes, previously we had booth attendants sitting in booths at the exit. Now we have Parking Services Agents circulating through the garages confirming customers have paid to park. While our Parking Services Agents aren't always around, they do circulate within the garages more than the booth attendants before. We still have the Parking Maintenance Workers on site same as always. We have one vacant position that we are looking to fill – and welcome any referrals people can give us!

Best,
Chapin

Chapin Spencer (he/him), Director
Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW
802-863-9094

<image005.png>

Our Mission: To steward Burlington's infrastructure and environment by delivering efficient, effective, and equitable public services.

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 10:30 AM

To: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Mark Bouchette <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan

<kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <rnick@jldavisrealty.com>; Chapin Spencer <cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

Thank you for your efforts Kara! And thanks to all on here who are raising our awareness about the issues and documenting them. Thank you Chief for focusing this effort downtown.

Unfortunately, "all the officers stationed downtown unless they are called elsewhere, is not necessarily a lot of officers....or any. But it is the best we can do on that front at this time.

Yesterday I noticed some folks hanging around City Market, arguing about the lies each tells to get a hit of crack. They were not being terribly disruptive and were not actively injecting drugs, but we continue to see a migration of open drug users around town.

Since the discussion here is about the parking garage, I've added Chapin to this thread.

Chapin, is it possible to get staffing in the parking garage to improve monitoring, accountability, and official eyes on the situation here so that our garages are safe places for our local work force, visitors and residents? Giving up staffing of garages in favor of auto pay may have a cost in terms of "eyes" on the garage. Interested in any ideas you might have to improve cleanliness and safety. I know you've been committed to addressing the graffiti which I greatly appreciate and applaud you for. I also know we keep asking for more.

Kara, can we get more focus from Street Outreach in this area as well? They could help with the feeling that something bad is about to escalate and erupt at any moment. CSLs could be another option here.

I am sorry for all that this is the state of affairs at this time and that we do not have any quick

fixes. I'm also appreciative of the efforts on many fronts.

Best,
Joan

On Jun 5, 2024, at 7:52 AM, Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Good morning all,
I have spoken with the Chief and he has instructed his officers to pay a higher level of attention to the garage and the area behind Handy's.
The downtown currently has all officers assigned to it unless called away. That means when the shift starts in the morning they are stationed in the marketplace area unless urgently needed elsewhere.
I recognize this does not immediately solve our greater issues.
Kara

Kara Alnasrawi
Director, Business & Workforce Development
131 Church St. – Suite 209
Burlington, VT 05401
802.238.1910
[The Marketplace](#) | [Love Burlington](#) | [ELI](#)

<image001.png>

From: LARA HEATH <[REDACTED]>

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 5:07 AM

To: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Cc: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; melissadearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <rnick@jldavisrealty.com>

Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi everyone,

The marketplace garage entrance area was terrifying yesterday. I've never seen it so unsafe in all my years of parking there. There was a large group of people (at least 20) actively doing drugs and screaming things at people as they arrived or walked to their cars. Down below there are smaller groups of people doing drugs regularly. I see this EVERY SINGLE DAY. I am afraid to go to my car and so is everyone else who parks there. This area needs to be monitored daily and this behavior should not be tolerated. Please come check it out today.

We absolutely need more police coverage daily in our downtown and no positions should be left unfilled. This is an emergency situation and I don't understand how anyone can observe what's going on around us all day and not see this clearly.

Thank you,
Lara Heath Allen
Ecco Clothes
Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 4, 2024, at 4:46 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com> wrote:

Mark and Melissa,

The Marketplace properties collectively pay over \$2,000,000 in annual real estate taxes plus marketplace fees, yet as you point out we have lost the police coverage that our taxes support. It is interesting that the city is paying \$500,000 for private security for city property but offered nothing to the Marketplace.

The level of retail theft on the street is at an all-time high with no end in sight. Now word is out in the retail community that Burlington is riddled with theft, open drug use, and worse. We lost a new tenant for Church St. ready to fill the Black Dimond space due to the CEO hearing of Burlington's problems. I am fearful that without a greater police presence within our downtown our community will experience further decline.

Wish I could see a brighter future for Burlington.

Jeff Nick
JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 1:37 PM
To: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
Cc: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ernie Pomerleau <epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Kaitlin Ryan <kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Billy Mauer <billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad <jmurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour <dara@harbourthread.com>; Lara Allen [REDACTED]
Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Melissa,
I've asked the same question and here's what was explained to me. Although the PD is authorized for up to 87 officers, when the PD budget is made the salary portion is only made with an estimate of the actual numbers that the chief thinks he is likely to be able to hire. This means that the PD budget comes into the mayor at a reduction of what it otherwise would have been. The City then has the ability to spend that money in other ways, for example half a million dollars for private security for city buildings... It does not, however, go unused, especially in a budget crunch year. If someone thinks I've got this wrong please let us both know. -Mark

mark.homeport@gmail.com
802-863-4644
www.homeportonline.com

52 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

On Tue, Jun 4, 2024 at 12:25 PM
melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com> wrote:

Just a quick followup/question on this.

Since we haven't filled the police quota where are those funds going that would be for their salaries etc? Would be nice to get more temp CSOs to walk around the garages and stairwells this summer- make tourists feel safe and report to someone about cleanliness. If there

was someone making rounds hourly I don't think we should see as many issues where our customers are parking.

Thanks,

Melissa

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 3, 2024, at 3:44 PM, Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com> wrote:

Melissa and Joan,

The situation in the parking garage today feels unsafe again today. The area between the garage and Handy's service center looks like a drug den. City should figure out some type of deterrent/barrier to keep people out of that area.

Between the level of retail theft, open drug use, and vagrancy it feels like we are under assault from a very bad element.

Jeff Nick
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2024 11:18 PM
To: melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
Cc: Ernie Pomerleau
<epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Jeff Nick
<jeff@jeffnick.com>; Kaitlin Ryan
<kaitlin@saratogaoliveoil.com>; Kara Alnasrawi
<kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kelly Devine
<director@bbavt.org>; Mark Bouchette
<mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Billy Mauer
<billymauer@furst.ca>; Mayor's Office
<mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jon Murad
<JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Llyndara Harbour
<dara@harbourthread.com>; Lara Allen
<[REDACTED]>; Benjamin Traverse
<btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Scenes from our parking garage

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Melissa,

Thank you for sharing these photos to raise awareness about what is happening in our City. Illegal activity including drug use, drug dealing and littering should not be tolerated. But in order to enforce the law, the police need to know that they have the backing of the administration to do it. What I have heard so far is that we should not enforce drug possession, drug use, or drug dealing unless its a high level drug distributor. I don't agree with that, but that is the messaging I hear.

There needs to be clear communication from the Mayor that we are going to provide a safe experience for our residents, visitors and workers and assure compliance with our laws. What you are showing in these pictures would not make most people feel this is a safe place to

bring their children, and certainly not an enjoyable place.

With an increased reliance on consumer taxes, the consumer experience is more important than ever in order for us to balance our budget. I look forward to hearing the Mayor's position on the activity shown in these photos, and how she is going to assure a positive downtown experience for workers and visitors alike so that we can realize our budget revenue goals and once again feel comfortable in our community living room.

Sincerely,
Joan

On Jun 2, 2024, at 3:12 PM,
melissa dearlucy.com <melissa@dearlucy.com>
wrote:

Some people who received this message don't often get email from melissa@dearlucy.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi- I wanted to share images from the Marketplace Garage today. You may get these same images from multiple sources. They are not very clear but the photographer didn't feel safe. What is happening is open drug use with needles.

The parking garage is the gateway to the downtown. Locals & tourists park here & often it's their introduction to our city.

The stairwells are often littered with needles, garbage & blood stained clothing/rags. It's also where shoplifters leave hangers from their latest raid on LuLuLemon. If I were a visitor to a city for the first time & saw these things when I got out of my car with my children in tow I would not come back & I would tell me friends. BTV shouldn't allow this to happen.

Burlington is no longer an orderly, safe, secure, or prosperous place to be. It feels like all of the laws have completely gone out the window- citizens & merchants are not being supported by our leaders. While focusing on one group of people, who are in a heartbreaking struggle, you are neglecting the rest of the people- those going to work everyday, children who love to play in the water fountain in the park & climb the rocks & families looking to enjoy a meal & shopping with their loved ones.

Mayor, I thank you for your time in meeting with us last week via zoom- but we need immediate action. You heard from merchants but the things you were told are things we have been talking about since 2020 and things have only gotten worse.

Other cities are going through the same thing, some ahead of us. We need to look at what has worked & not worked for them to make our city a livable place for ALL.

Thank you for opening another one of my emails.

Melissa Desautels
Whim & Dear Lucy

<image0.jpeg><image1.jpeg><image2.jpeg>
<image3.jpeg><image4.jpeg><image5.jpeg>
<image6.jpeg><image7.jpeg>
Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 8:23 PM EDT
To: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: Meet

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hi, Mr. Gobeille,

I am just now wrapping up for the day, and apologies for not being able to call you earlier. Can we connect tomorrow? If so, what is your availability?

Thank you,
erin

...
Erin Jacobsen (*she/her*)
Chief of Staff
Office of Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
City Hall | 149 Church St., Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 557-2988

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 5:43 AM
To: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Meet

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Erin,

Would it be possible to connect by phone today to discuss meeting with Emma on the Community Safety Work?

My cell [REDACTED]

Al Gobeille

REC244

From: Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 10:25 AM EDT

To: Carol Kass <[REDACTED]>

CC: Andrew LeSturgeon <andrew@monarchandthemilkweed.com>; George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <[REDACTED]>; U.S. Senator Peter Welch <enews@welch.senate.gov>

Subject: RE: Trip advisor and stolen goods

I am moving all City Councilors to BCC. I certainly understand the importance of this issue and the desire for public engagement. It is a violation of open meeting law, however, for a quorum of City Councilors to discuss issues outside of a publicly warned meeting.

Thank you for your understanding.

Ben

Ben Traverse

City Council President

btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov

(802) 357-2055

From: Gene Bergman <gbergman@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 4:23 PM

To: Carol Kass <[REDACTED]>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Andrew LeSturgeon <andrew@monarchandthemilkweed.com>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>; George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <[REDACTED]>; U.S. Senator Peter Welch <enews@welch.senate.gov>

Subject: RE: Trip advisor and stolen goods

Carol, you misrepresent what I said. We've had encampments for years down the embankment in my neighborhood. What I said was that there are issues and there needs to be engagement with the neighborhood before there is the placement of facilities. That isn't NIMBYism; it's good and responsive government. I also said I support there being facilities because people will go regardless of whether you provide toilets or not, the provision of trash containers on the bike path up from the encampments and their daily pick up and removal has meant that the incidents of piles of trash there are far fewer than what they would be if the containers weren't there, and as human beings, people deserve access to basics like water and toilets and trash facilities.

From: Carol Kass <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 12:59 PM

To: Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Andrew LeSturgeon <andrew@monarchandthemilkweed.com>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>; George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ryan Nick <[REDACTED]>; U.S. Senator Peter Welch <enews@welch.senate.gov>

Subject: Re: Trip advisor and stolen goods

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thank you for your email Melo.

I moved here 10 years ago, kids went to UVM, im no stranger around here and to Vt. My husband was a councilmen in NJ.

I cant understand and why the city tolerates the challenges we face here and i can tell you without a doubt, this decline would have never happened never mind be tolerated in our town.

We invite people here with all our "free" [services.no](#) consequences. Seriously, now we are giving them, water, bathrooms, trash cans, allowing encampments. Gene Bergman, progressive, quoted in the paper, he lives near an allowed encampment now and his neighbors are outraged and worried about their property value and are contacting him. Of course they are! Its a "not in my backyard" mentality. The taxpayers did not authorize this spending on our backs and are outraged at this.

The city created and tolerated these problems for years and are backtracking to clean it up.

These are the questions every one should ask themselves. Do you actually live and walk downtown daily? I do. Do you have a business on church st that the homeless are stealing from? Sleeping in storefronts of hard working peoples businesses. Why is it you are letting them ruin our businesses? The people are frustrated and angry. The graffiti is so bad all over town.

Would it be ok with you and everyone else if they did these things to your home? Would it be ok if you found homeless in your storefront and in your dumpster emptying it out every single day, shooting up, shoplifting, trash, needles etc. Ive sent many pictures over the years! I Even helped clean up the graffiti so i have "skin in the game".

Do you all walk thru City Hall Park and sit on the benches with all the people that are there starting at 8am, drugs, etc. i see it everyday!

Would you let your own kids, knowing what you know, use the bathroom in City Hall Park or play in the fountains? Out of towners see these things too. I have used trip advisor every time I travel, i was never disappointed with the reviews, only once or twice that i didnt listen to them. Its my go to for travel.

My condo had to spend \$120,000 to close our parking garage. How is this fair? Do you know what we could've use that money for? The city puts the responsibility on everyone else except the people that are causing these problems. It has to stop.

While I enjoyed the Park this weekend too, its not the norm.

Carol

On Mon, Jun 17, 2024 at 9:44 AM Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Good Morning Carol,

It is true that shoplifting on the Top Block has gotten out of control. There are individuals clearly targeting certain stores and the situation has been further complicated by one store's corporate headquarters having a policy not to file charges (recently resolved) and the lack of a police response. We have a few brave people who are working to intervene in attempts at retail theft and at times they have been successful. Regrettably residents and visitors see these events and comment on them. You don't need to look further than our local Reddit sub. We are also still in the mist of severe drug crisis and we have no support from the Governor. We must continue to diversify our communitiy safety options and help get more people into recovery. We have a long way to go.

Having said all that we must remember that Burlington is still a great city with a lot to offer. This past weekend was amazing, the Juneteenth event was fantastic and Burlington's downtown was full of visitors. City Hall Park was full of people. Overall Tripadvisor reviews for Church Street reflect the love for this area. There are 21 "Terrible", 40 "Poor", 167 "Average", 653 "Very Good", and 1121 "Excellent" reviews with an average of 4.5 out of 5. I found the review that you are referencing and I believe that it was submitted by a troll and may not be a real "visitor". I haven't used Tripadvisor in a long time but I was able to reset my password, logged in and reported the review as it contains racisit and homophobic language. I encourage others to do the same. The review is located[here](#) for others who wish to see and report it, once on the page please scroll down. With regards to other reviews that are less than stellar, some make legimate points about crime and drug use in our area but some honestly weren't educated on the variety of restuarants available to them in our area. Others wanted to see more Vermont businesses. We have a long way to go to get back to "normal" but we must take pride in what we have in order to contradict all the media bashing and online trolls.

[Church Street Marketplace - All You Need to Know BEFORE You Go \(2024\)](#)

www.tripadvisor.com

Melo Grant
City Councilor Central District (Wards 2 and 3)
megrant@burlingtonvt.gov
802.310.0962

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: Carol Kass <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Saturday, June 15, 2024 1:12 PM

To: City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>; George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; U.S. Senator Peter Welch <enews@welch.senate.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Trip advisor and stolen goods

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

REC246

Just had a guy in our store Saturday, June 15, 2024 to tell us he witnessed a church street theft going on. Someone was stealing clothes and stuffing them in their bag. Store employees wanted it back.

He asked if I read Trip Advisor about Burlington. I said, yes, been a while. He said, read the first one in June 2024. Not good! This is very bad.

Carol

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 05, 2024 1:52 PM EDT
To: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Top Community Safety Recommendations and July 9
Thanks, Al!

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

--
Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)
City of Burlington, Vermont

From: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2024 9:41 AM
To: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Becky Penberthy <bpenberthy@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brent Demers <BDemers@citymarket.coop>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kathryn Titus <Titus@cathedralsquare.org>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Michael Monte <MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com; [REDACTED]; drukhshan@vtafghanalliance.org; ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org; gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org; [REDACTED]; jess@vcjr.org; jill@vaapvt.org; jmckee@chcb.org; jonesr@bsdvt.org; kathy.fox@uvm.edu; nvirag@aalv-vt.org; pdecelles@howardcenter.org; peterh@gearx.com; selene.colburn@gmail.com; shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org; smurray@burlingtonhousing.org; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Top Community Safety Recommendations and July 9

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Mayor,

This is a strong list and I look forward to Tuesday. Thank you!

Al Gobeille

On Thu, Jul 4, 2024 at 12:11 PM Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

One important missing piece!

We will meet from **5-7pm on Tuesday** (library) to allow us more time.

See you all soon!

--
Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)
City of Burlington, Vermont

From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 11:35 AM
To: [REDACTED]; peterh@gearx.com; pdecelles@howardcenter.org; nvirag@aalv-vt.org; chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com; kathy.fox@uvm.edu; jill@vaapvt.org; jess@vcjr.org; [REDACTED]; ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org; drukhshan@vtafghanalliance.org; [REDACTED]; shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org; Brent Demers <BDemers@citymarket.coop> [REDACTED]; Michael Monte <MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org>; jmckee@chcb.org; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kathryn Titus <Titus@cathedralsquare.org>; smurray@burlingtonhousing.org; [REDACTED]; jonesr@bsdvt.org; gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org
Cc: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Becky Penberthy <bpenberthy@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Top Community Safety Recommendations and July 9

Hello Community Safety Advisors –

Thank you for all your hard work over the last 5-6 weeks to help my administration begin to understand where we can and need to evolve our community safety response strategies. I sat with your recommendations and came up with the following core immediate things I would like to pursue as a city. I picked these items based on a loose application of the S.M.A.R.T.I.E. model that looks at goals and determines if they are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, timeline, it-reasoned (meaning, data informed), and equitable. These are the items we will be discussing with city staff on Tuesday, July 9th. Your additional ideas will not be lost. I will be using them in the months to come as we welcome on a new staff member in my office to work specifically on community safety. More on that below.

Core Recommendations

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REC248

non-emergency number.

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3. More public bathrooms.
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Preparation for July 9th Meeting (Homework)

1. Please review the core recommendations and reflect on if there is anything missing that is urgent and immediately actionable
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need to do as a city. Thank you to Gretchen who has been an advisor in this group and requested this!

Thanks all! Have a wonderful holiday weekend!

Peace, Emma

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)
City of Burlington, Vermont

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Michael Monte <MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org>
Sent: Sunday, July 07, 2024 8:08 PM EDT
To: Paul Decelles <pdecelles@howardcenter.org>; Al gobeille [REDACTED]; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Becky Penberthy <bpenberthy@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brent Demers <BDemers@citymarket.coop>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kathryn Titus <Titus@cathedralsquare.org>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com <chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; drukhshan@vtafghanalliance.org <drukshshan@vtafghanalliance.org>; ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org <ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org>; gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org <gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; jess@vcjr.org <jess@vcjr.org>; jill@vaapvt.org <jill@vaapvt.org>; jmckee@chcb.org <jmckee@chcb.org>; jonesr@bsdvt.org <jonesr@bsdvt.org>; kathy.fox@uvm.edu <kathy.fox@uvm.edu>; nvirag@aalv-vt.org <nvirag@aalv-vt.org>; peterh@gearx.com <peterh@gearx.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org <shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org>; smurray@burlingtonhousing.org <smurray@burlingtonhousing.org>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Top Community Safety Recommendations and July 9

You don't often get email from mmonte@champlainhousingtrust.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks Paul.

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Michael Monte (he, him)
Chief Executive Officer
Champlain Housing Trust

802.861.7300 Direct Line
802.578.9735 Cell
802.862.6244 Main Line
802.864.0734 Fax

88 King Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401

[Web](#) / [Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#)

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From: Paul Decelles <pdecelles@howardcenter.org>
Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2024 3:52 PM
To: Al gobeille [REDACTED]; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Becky Penberthy <bpenberthy@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brent Demers <BDemers@citymarket.coop>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kathryn Titus <Titus@cathedralsquare.org>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Michael Monte <MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com; [REDACTED]; drukhshan@vtafghanalliance.org; ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org; gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org; [REDACTED]; jess@vcjr.org; jill@vaapvt.org; jmckee@chcb.org; jonesr@bsdvt.org; kathy.fox@uvm.edu; nvirag@aalv-vt.org; peterh@gearx.com; [REDACTED]; shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org; smurray@burlingtonhousing.org; [REDACTED]
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REC251

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Paul Decelles
Street Outreach
802-305-0195



1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2024 9:41 AM
To: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Becky Penberthy <bpenberthy@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brent Demers <BDemers@citymarket.coop>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kathryn Titus <Titus@cathedralsquare.org>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Michael Monte <MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com; [REDACTED]; drukshshan@vtafghanalliance.org; ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org; gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org; [REDACTED]; jess@vcjr.org; jill@vaapvt.org; jmckee@chcb.org; jonesr@bsdvt.org; kathy.fox@uvm.edu; nvirag@aavt-vt.org; Paul Decelles <pdecelles@howardcenter.org>; peterh@gearx.com; [REDACTED]; shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org; smurray@burlingtonhousing.org; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Top Community Safety Recommendations and July 9

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Mayor,

This is a strong list and I look forward to Tuesday. Thank you!

Al Gobeille

On Thu, Jul 4, 2024 at 12:11 PM Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

One important missing piece!

We will meet from **5-7pm on Tuesday** (library) to allow us more time.

See you all soon!

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)
City of Burlington, Vermont

From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 11:35 AM
To: [REDACTED]; peterh@gearx.com; pdecelles@howardcenter.org; nvirag@aavt-vt.org; chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com; kathy.fox@uvm.edu; jill@vaapvt.org; jess@vcjr.org; [REDACTED]; ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org; drukshshan@vtafghanalliance.org; diengali9@gmail.com; shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org; Brent Demers <BDemers@citymarket.coop>; [REDACTED]; Michael Monte <MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org>; jmckee@chcb.org; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kathryn Titus <Titus@cathedralsquare.org>; smurray@burlingtonhousing.org; [REDACTED]; jonesr@bsdvt.org; gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org
Cc: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Becky Penberthy <bpenberthy@burlingtonvt.gov>
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REC252

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City of Burlington, Vermont

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Links contained in this email have been replaced. If you click on a link in the email above, the link will be analyzed for known threats. If a known threat is found, you will not be able to proceed to the destination. If suspicious content is detected, you will see a warning.

From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, July 08, 2024 7:58 PM EDT

To: Paul Decelles <pdecelles@howardcenter.org>; Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>

CC: Becky Penberthy <bpenberthy@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brent Demers <BDemers@citymarket.coop>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kathryn Titus <Titus@cathedralsquare.org>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Michael Monte <MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com <chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; drukhshan@vtafghanalliance.org <drukshsan@vtafghanalliance.org>; ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org <ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org>; gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org <gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; jess@vcjr.org <jess@vcjr.org>; jill@vaapvt.org <jill@vaapvt.org>; jmckee@chcb.org <jmckee@chcb.org>; jonesr@bsdvt.org <jonesr@bsdvt.org>; kathy.fox@uvm.edu <kathy.fox@uvm.edu>; nvirag@aalv-vt.org <nvirag@aalv-vt.org>; peterh@gearx.com <peterh@gearx.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org <shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org>; smurray@burlingtonhousing.org <smurray@burlingtonhousing.org>; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Top Community Safety Recommendations and July 9

Hi Paul,

Thank you for sending these additional thoughts. I am hopeful we can work to clarify the community safety response part of the conversation from last time when we gather tomorrow. I heard in our advisor discussions a combination of people (the general public) not getting the right kind of help when they need it combined with confusion on what type of help is available. We didn't get into the weeds on the types of calls as you noted, so it may be good to have a few examples of what folks have experienced to build more understanding here. The combination of not getting a response and assumptions on what police should/should not respond to then creates a wide range of expectations. We also can do better at helping people know what they can expect, who to call to be more informed on who to contact, and looking at coordination/strengthening what we can. This was my intention in the first recommendation that seemed to read a bit too heavily on dispatch vs the larger response system. I reworded my original draft of recommendations to see if that can help clarify things (see below).

Tomorrow we will work to clarify, begin to map out what needs more work and what can be implemented from the 6 recommendations sooner rather than later. I agree we need more time and I am hopeful the new Senior Advisor on Community Safety will help to reconvene advisors this fall and continued to advance this work in deeper and more impactful ways.

Thanks again, Paul, for saying the thing and seeking more clarity from this group.

Peace, Emma

Revised Wording of Recommendations

1. **Improve public safety response effectiveness**, such as improving dispatch's response to the public with information provided and approach/tone with callers, reviewing how calls are triaged and what entities are selected to respond. Also improve **public education** on who to call for what/when and how the non-emergency number works and outcome when using that number (BPD and City).
2. **Improve the customer service when people physically go to the Police Department for help or information.** Consider staffing the entry-way (need not be a sworn officer). Make sure any informational signage is clear, simple, and in commonly-spoken languages besides just English.
3. **Facilitate more public bathroom access in core city.**
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Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)
City of Burlington, Vermont

From: Paul Decelles <pdecelles@howardcenter.org>

Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2024 3:52 PM

To: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>

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1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

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802-305-0195



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Mayor,

This is a strong list and I look forward to Tuesday. Thank you!

Al Gobeille

On Thu, Jul 4, 2024 at 12:11 PM Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

One important missing piece!

We will meet from **5-7pm on Tuesday** (library) to allow us more time.

REC256

See you all soon!

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)
City of Burlington, Vermont

From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak

Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 11:35 AM

To: [REDACTED]; peterh@gearx.com; pdecelles@howardcenter.org; nvirag@aavt.org; chocolate.thunder.llc@gmail.com; kathy.fox@uvm.edu; jill@vaapvt.org; jess@vcjr.org; ejohnk@firstchurchburlington.org; drukshah@vtafghanalliance.org; [REDACTED]; shabnam@kingstreetcenter.org; Brent Demers <BDemers@citymarket.coop>; [REDACTED] Michael Monte <MMonte@champlainhousingtrust.org>; jmckee@chcb.org; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>; Tim Doherty <tdoherty@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kathryn Titus <Titus@cathedralsquare.org>; smurray@burlingtonhousing.org; [REDACTED] ionesr@bsdvt.org; gfitzgerg@bsdvt.org
Cc: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Becky Penberthy <bpenberthy@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Top Community Safety Recommendations and July 9

Hello Community Safety Advisors –

Thank you for all your hard work over the last 5-6 weeks to help my administration begin to understand where we can and need to evolve our community safety response strategies. I sat with your recommendations and came up with the following core immediate things I would like to pursue as a city. I picked these items based on a loose application of the S.M.A.R.T.I.E. model that looks at goals and determines if they are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, timeline, it-reasoned (meaning, data informed), and equitable. These are the items we will be discussing with city staff on Tuesday, July 9th. Your additional ideas will not be lost. I will be using them in the months to come as we welcome on a new staff member in my office to work specifically on community safety. More on that below.

Core Recommendations

1. Improve dispatch effectiveness via better response, strategic triage, better tone/engagement with public which includes how they speak about safety/staffing. Couple this with public education on who to call for what/when and how non-emergency number works - to be done by BPD and City in general. Also, improve outcome of when people call the non-emergency number.
2. Related to the above, improving the customer service when people go to the Police Department for help or information. Consider staffing the entry-way (need not be a sworn officer). Make sure any informational signage is clear, simple, and in commonly-spoken languages besides just English.
3. More public bathrooms.
4. Better coordination between the BPD, State's Attorney, and Courts on criminal justice work in general, but specifically offenders (release and reentry).
5. Coordinate and use data to inform community safety staffing, including staffing schedules (e.g., making sure there are officers on duty during beginning and end of school day), job assignments (CSL, CSO, officer, Street Outreach, Rangers), and review current teaming efforts for better response/outcomes (ex: not having police at a call that escalates situation).
6. Improve case management coordination across partners, including the city.

Preparation for July 9th Meeting (Homework)

1. Please review the core recommendations and reflect on if there is anything missing that is urgent and immediately actionable
2. Skim the notes from our last meeting (**attached**)
3. Here are the city staff who are invited to join us next week. I was mistaken about the number of folks who we invited (my apologies). However, not everyone can attend due to vacations/conflicts. I indicated YES for folks who did confirm. I am asking city staff to come ready to listen to understand why the recommendations were made, ready to build trust with this group and to honor your work/time invested into providing this feedback, and ready to collaborate on what it will take to implement these recommendations with a productive attitude. This group is the same group we convened in May to help inform community safety investments we should make in FY25 that could have a more immediate impact on our community. These folks are all interfacing with community safety in one way or another. (I may not have every job title correct)
 - a. Fire Chief Michael Lachance – yes
 - b. CEDO Director Brian Pine – yes
 - c. Library Director Mary Danko – yes
 - d. Library Assistant Director Emer Feeney – yes
 - e. Police Chief Jon Murad – yes
 - f. Deputy Chief Wade Labrecque
 - g. CAIP Director Lacey Smith – yes

- h. Parks Director Cindi Wight
- i. BWD Director Kara Alnarsawi (out of town)
- j. Nancy Stetson, Data Analyst in Planning (oversees Burlington Stat and Burlington Police Dept Annual Data Report)
- k. Sarah Russell, Specialist to End Homelessness
- l. Marcelle Grange, CEDO Engagement Specialist (working on homelessness too)
- m. CJC Director, Rachel Jolley (out of town)
- n. Shannon Tramelle, BPD Executive Director

Other Important Updates

The City is moving forward on several other areas we touched on in our last three meetings. Here is a brief update on these items. I am happy to answer questions on any of these things next week.

- Implementing a temporary camping plan for warm months of 2024. We shared a draft camping plan with the City Council in mid June and incorporated feedback on that plan. We will present it again on July 15th to the City Council. Within this plan there are three locations identified to offer basic support services (dumpster, bathroom, water access, and sharps containers). The money for these items was approved in the FY25 Budget vote on June 24th.
- The legislature overturned the Governor's veto of H.72, a bill allowing Burlington to open the first Overdose Prevention Center in the state. We started to brainstorm initial steps of this important next step to support people with opioid use disorder with Comm Stat in late June. We will begin work on initial steps in the coming weeks which including siting the center, zoning and legal considerations, community partner coordination, community engagement, research, and core staffing to successfully bring this center online.
- We are actively working to find a site for a low barrier shelter for the colder months in the City again. We are at the very early stages and working with the state to consider our funding options. We expect a significant increase of unhoused individuals in the fall and winter due to changes to the state's General Assistance Emergency Housing Program and specifically the Adverse Weather Conditions Program.
- We have a cross-department "Hot Spot" coordination team meeting since May to find solutions and adapt our response to known areas in the city where problematic and/or illegal behavior is taking place. We started with the library and Marketplace Garage and are working with community partners to interrupt trends. We are seeing some initial improvements.
- We are beginning to bring together regional coordination efforts across towns on public safety efforts. I cannot share more on this at this moment, but more soon.
- In the FY25 budget, the City Council approved the hiring of a Special Assistant on Community Safety to work within the Mayor's Office. This two-year position will strategically help us coordinate, assess, and develop new approaches to community safety response. This is a critical part of the work ahead. We are posting the position in the coming days and hope to quickly hire this position.
- We are organizing a meeting with BHS youth and my office before school begins to hear directly from youth what more we need to do as a city. Thank you to Gretchen who has been an advisor in this group and requested this!

Thanks all! Have a wonderful holiday weekend!

Peace, Emma

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)
City of Burlington, Vermont

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

[HowardCenter.org](https://www.howardcenter.org)



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DOWNTOWN SAFETY AND SECURITY GUIDE

Business Name: _____ Address: _____ Manager/Owner: _____

FOR AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

• FIRE • MEDICAL EMERGENCY • ROBBERY/BURGLARY • VIOLENCE • IMMINENT THREAT TO LIFE

**ILLEGAL/AGGRESSIVE/
THREATENING BEHAVIOR?**

Call BPD

Uniformed, fully armed
patrol officers.

802-658-2700 (EXT 9)

**ORDINANCE VIOLATION/ISSUING
A TRESSPASS?**

Call a CSO

Uniformed civilian employees within the
patrol division of BPD. CSOs are trained in
CPR and first aid. They can also help with
animal control and found property.

802-540-2375

**MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE
USE OR HOUSING ISSUE?**

Call Street Outreach

The Howard Center's outreach specialists work
with police and service providers to coordinate
support for adults, young adults, and families.

802-488-7013

Hours

- Monday/Tuesday/Friday: 8am - 8pm
- Wednesday/Thursday: 8am - 4:30pm
- Saturday/Sunday: 10:30am - 6pm

TIPS ON TALKING TO BPD AND CSO:

- Give your name, address and phone number.
- Describe why you are calling.
- Pay attention to clothing, height and other physical details.

SEE-CLICK-FIX

When to use:

- Found syringe
or needle
- Graffiti
- Trash or illegal dumping



From: Romeo Von Hermann <romeovonhermann@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 9:40 AM EDT
To: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mbouchett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Downtown Safety and Security Guide

Good morning Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak,

Thank you so much for the update and have a wonderful day.

Kindly,

Romeo von Hermann
Church Street Marketplace Commissioner
City of Burlington
149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
802.829.4858
romeovonhermann@burlingtonvt.gov
churchstreetmarketplace.com
burlingtonvt.gov/BWD
burlingtonvt.gov



From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 8:58 AM
To: Romeo Von Hermann <romeovonhermann@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mbouchett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Downtown Safety and Security Guide

Good morning Romeo,
We will be working with Kara at BWD to likely do a review and update as public education and renewed outreach was one action step I identified from my community advisors' recommendations made earlier this month.

Look for something soon. Emma

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 25, 2024, at 8:52 AM, Romeo Von Hermann <romeovonhermann@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Good morning Director Devine,

Thank you so much for the update. This helps a lot.

Kindly,

Romeo von Hermann
Church Street Marketplace Commissioner
City of Burlington
149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
802.829.4858
romeovonhermann@burlingtonvt.gov
churchstreetmarketplace.com
burlingtonvt.gov/BWD
burlingtonvt.gov

<Outlook-kr2h5mwo.png>

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 6:27 AM

To: Romeo Von Hermann <romeovonhermann@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mbouchett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Downtown Safety and Security Guide

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.
Good Morning Roméo:

Yes we do collaborate on the piece along with the Church Street Marketplace and Street Outreach.

While we did a big distribution push last year, it's likely time to do that again. In addition, I'm looking to have this available on multiple websites.

I will send you a link once it's updated.

You can pick up physical copies at my office or the Marketplace offices.

Getting this out to more folks will how for sure. Thanks.

Kelly Devine
Executive Director
Burlington Business Assoc.

www.bbavt.org

802-863-1175

On Jul 24, 2024, at 21:54, Romeo Von Hermann <romeovonhermann@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon Chief Murad and Director Devine,

Hi and how are you both doing? I hope all is well. I wanted to know if the Burlington Police Department, Burlington Business Association in collaboration with the Mayors office makes the Downtown Safety and Security Guide and if this is updated on annual basis to reflect on the correct contact information and procedures for businesses both on the marketplace and downtown in general?

I noticed today during my regular visits to business along the marketplace that some of them did not have the downtown safety and security guide or where not aware of it.

Kindly,

Romeo von Hermann
Church Street Marketplace Commissioner
City of Burlington
149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
802.829.4858
romeovonhermann@burlingtonvt.gov
churchstreetmarketplace.com
burlingtonvt.gov/BWD
burlingtonvt.gov

<Outlook-ixpaa5do.png>
<Downtown Safety and Security Guide .png>

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2024 9:51 AM EDT
To: Walter Judge <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: Seeking Input on Police Oversight Board

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Thank you Walter!

Joan

On Aug 2, 2024, at 9:17 AM, Unknown Unknown [REDACTED] > wrote:

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks for posting this.

- Owners of downtown businesses who've been repeatedly ripped off should be considered for inclusion.

- Burlington citizens who've been victims of crime should be considered for inclusion.

-Walter

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Becca Brown McKnight <bbrownmcknight@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Saturday, September 07, 2024 5:58 PM EDT
To: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Subject: Re: Good To See Positive, Real Action on Public Safety, Not Fake Concern
Attachment(s): "image001.png"

Thanks Walter! I am trying!!

On Sep 7, 2024, at 5:42 PM, Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com> wrote:

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thanks very much for being proactive and public on this issue. Thanks for taking the initiative on public safety in Burlington. Please continue efforts to make our city safer and oppose efforts to turn it into a sordid, violent, no-police drug den.

<https://www.sevendaysvt.com/news/burlington-city-councilors-propose-lifting-police-roster-cap-41783086>

Walter Judge | Director, Litigation Group
199 Main Street, PO Box 190, Burlington, VT 05402-0190
Direct: 802.846.8326 • Main: 802.863.2375 • Mobile: 802.343.6887 • Email: wjudge@drm.com
[LinkedIn](#) • [Twitter](#) • [YouTube](#) • [Lex Mundi](#) • [Food & Beverage Law Blog](#)
<image001.png>

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.



**Burlington Business Association
Board of Directors
September 26, 2024
8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m**

**Location:
BBA Conference Room
29 Church St. 3rd Floor**

Entrance via 110 Cherry St. Red Awning, Glass elevator to 3rd Floor

Agenda

- | | | |
|--|----------------|------|
| 1. Welcome | Chelsea Condos | 8:00 |
| 2. Executive Director Update | Kelly Devine | 8:05 |
| a. Downtown Ambassador Project Testimonials | | |
| b. Introducing new board and executive committee members | | |
| i. Welcome Heidi Srumpff, M&T Bank | | |
| ii. Thanks for your service, Ryan Nick, Exec. Comm. | | |
| 3. Special Guest Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak | Al Gobeille | 8:30 |
| a. Introductions and Welcome | | |
| b. Hearing from the Mayor | | |
| c. Q&A | | |
| 4. Adjourn | | 9:30 |

Next Board Meetings: 10/24, TBD [Board Meeting Schedule](#)

From: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2024 3:04 PM EDT
To: jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Why I'm Voting NO on Q2 Police Oversight

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Thank you.

Too bad the Progs don't spend as much time, effort, and energy on making Burlington safe as they do on thinking up ways to further hobble the already-decimated police department. Their hatred for the police is a bizarre obsession. It's a form of mental disorder.

Walter Judge | Director, Litigation Group
199 Main Street, PO Box 190, Burlington, VT 05402-0190
Direct: 802.846.8326 · Main: 802.863.2375 · Mobile: 802.343.6887 · Email: wjudge@drm.com
[LinkedIn](#) · [Twitter](#) · [YouTube](#) · [Lex Mundi](#) · [Food & Beverage Law Blog](#)

DRM DOWNS
RACHLIN
MARTIN

From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 5:24 PM EDT

To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Subject: Re: Advocacy Request and Gratitude

Hi Kelly,

Thank you for this email and apologies for my delay. I appreciate your note about not automatically connect unsheltered folks with criminal behavior. That is important.

I saw Cathy sent a letter from LCC. Are you and BBA still considering sending a letter?

THank you, Emma

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)

Burlington, Vermont

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Sent: Friday, October 11, 2024 1:35 PM

To: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Advocacy Request and Gratitude

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Dear Mayor Emma:

I appreciate you sharing this memo and continuing to work to address the needs of unsheltered people.

As I mentioned in my note to you, we found your time with our Board of Directors very helpful. My board members were enthusiastic about finding ways to support your public safety plan. We agreed that access to public restrooms is a great place to start.

The BBA board will review this with some urgency and determine how we can support your efforts. It is critical that Burlington advocates at the state level to address our most pressing challenges. I thank you for your leadership in this area. I will also connect with Cathy Davis to explore a shared approach.

In thinking about this, I am reminded that I don't see a direct connection between housing status and illegal behaviours downtown. I want you to know that I advise business owners not to make such a connection when speaking about their concerns. I'm sure you agree that it is vital to our work to avoid painting those in need with a broad brush.

I appreciate the continued communication on areas where we can work together for Burlington.

All the best,

Kelly Devine

802-324-2748

Burlington Business Association

802-863-1175

director@bbavt.org

www.burlingtonbusinessassociation.com

□ □ □ □

On Thu, Oct 10, 2024 at 1:45 PM Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Resending as I had a typo in Kelly's email. Apologies. Please use this thread. Emma

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)

City of Burlington, Vermont

From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak

Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2024 1:42 PM

To: cathy@vermont.org; austin@vermont.org; director@bba.org

Cc: Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi

<kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Advocacy Request and Gratitude

Hi Cathy, Austin, and Kelly –

Kelly, thank you again for inviting me to the last BBA board meeting to meet your leadership and discuss the myriad of issues we covered. Austin, thank you for the recent invitation to meet with your policy committee.

As I mentioned in both meetings, the City is increasing our advocacy to the state on the ongoing emergency with unsheltered people in our City. We are sending the attached letter this week to the Governor after gathering the support from most of our department heads and a representative group of City Councilors (we were capped at 6 due to quorum/open meeting law rules).

I am hopeful your organizations will consider writing a similar letter to the Governor advocating for the same immediate actions we call for in our letter to provide shelter to vulnerable Vermonters. I welcome you to model your letter after the City's letter, but also understand you may want to adjust language to meet the perspectives of your members/other businesses.

I know your members and many businesses have felt the impacts of this crisis in Burlington and surrounding communities. I heard this first hand at our quarterly Town Hall meeting for businesses yesterday. I feel confident that advocacy from the business community will have a significant impact in this moment. Thank you for considering this. Peace, Emma

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)
City of Burlington, Vermont

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 7:13 PM EDT

To: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>; George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Murad, Jon <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ci.burlington.vt.us>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>; Philip Baruth <PBaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Sarah Beal <sarah@commondeer.com>; Jill Krowinski <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Brian Pine (BPine@burlingtonvt.gov) <BPine@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jane Knodell (janeknodell@burlingtontelecom.net) <janeknodell@burlingtontelecom.net>; epomerleau@vermontrealestate.com <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>

Subject: We had another similar incident this evening (yes two significant attempts one day)

Attachment(s): "IMG_8340.jpg", "20241023 multiple crimes update 2.pdf", "20241017 larceny from a person.pdf"

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Marc,

You are absolutely correct; this situation is not sustainable. CVS encounters over 20 thefts per day and the staff at Lululemon is on constant lookout for thieves. Both stores have hired security to the tune of over \$100,000 per year. Helly Hansen also loses \$1,000's in merchandise every week.

Fjallraven is leaving the street and Athleta has left, both due to falling sales and theft. Staff in many stores feel unsafe and local customers are leaving the Marketplace vowing to never return. Now as you mentioned there are "getaway" vehicles to quickly ferry away stolen goods in exchange for quick cash. I know of three (3) such vehicles (See photo attached)

All of us who work downtown know our community is under assault. Reading the police reports (See attached) indicates that there are no meaning consequences for both retail theft and more serious crimes. No accountability for "failures to appear", "violations of court order", "violations of probation/parole charges" the list goes on. The message this sends to the criminals is obvious. Keep stealing, selling drugs, assaulting people and nothing will happen to you.

It is sad to see our once great city falling apart with no answers in sight.

Jeff Nick

29 Church Street, 3rd Floor

Burlington, VT 05401

Telephone: (802) 876-6923

Email: jeff@jeffnick.com

www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 5:57 PM

To: George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Murad, Jon <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; CityCouncil <CityCouncil@ci.burlington.vt.us>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>; Philip Baruth <PBaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Sarah Beal <sarah@commondeer.com>; Jill Krowinski <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: We had another similar incident this evening (yes two significant attempts one day)

Hi,

Shortly after 5:00 we had a woman come into the store, grab an arm load of Northface Product and then try to head out the door. My staff formed a wall by the door and with much shoving was able to get all the product back before she left. She walked out, spoke with the man she was working with (for) and then proceeded down Church Street going into store after store as she took what her "handler" told her to take.

This morning the person who walked out with \$1,500 in product went right to a getaway vehicle parked near CVS

Both times, we called BPD and, unfortunately, no one was able to respond.

My staff is at risk, my business is at risk (who can operate with these losses?)

THIS IS NOT SUSTAINABLE

Marc

Marc Sherman
Visionary
he/him/his

Outdoor Gear Exchange / [Gearx.com](https://gearx.com)
37 Church St. Burlington, VT. 802-598-1185
21 Essex Way # 116, Essex, VT
Riders Outpost 7575 Main St, Waitsfield, VT 05673

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Tue, Oct 29, 2024 at 1:30PM Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com> wrote:

Hey all,

These folks hit us again this morning. I think we've lost upwards of 3,500 to this duo in less than a month.

Annualized, that equals nearly two employees we can't afford or us being unable to offer a 2% increase to our ENTIRE staff

THIS IS NOT SUSTAINABLE

Marc Sherman
Visionary
he/him/his

Outdoor Gear Exchange / [Gearx.com](https://gearx.com)
37 Church St. Burlington, VT. 802-598-1185
21 Essex Way # 116, Essex, VT
Riders Outpost 7575 Main St, Waitsfield, VT 05673

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <chrisc@gearx.com>
Date: Tue, Oct 29, 2024 at 1:14PM
Subject: Bolo, Masked Bandits, Burlington
To: <bolo@gearx.com>, <chrisc@gearx.com>

Form submitted with the following responses:

Timestamp: 10/29/2024 13:14:35
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Staff Name: [REDACTED]
Subject ID: Masked Bandits
Store Location: Burlington

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(5)(A)(iv)

Ethnicity: White
Height: 5'8"/5'11"

Age: 30s

Date of Incident: 10/29/2024

Time of Incident: 11:13:00 AM

Incident Report: These familiar looking masked bandits visited again shortly after opening this morning - They made off with close to \$1500 worth of TNF and various other goods, and had a get-away vehicle waiting around the corner.

The woman entered first and did most of the shopping while the male waited outside, he lost patience and couldn't leave without getting something for himself so he came in grabbed a full style of TNF Willow Stretch Jackets and left right after.

Keep those Eyes peeled for suspicious behavior around TNF and apparel in general, and call a MOD if you have any off Vibes - Better safe than sorry.
What was stolen?: X2 Sale snow pants (~\$200/ea), OR Activeice Hijab, OR Alpine Fleece Balaclava, TNF Half Dome Hoodie (Gry), TNF Mens Alta Vista jacket, X5 TNF Willow stretch jacket (Entire style on floor)

Where was it stolen?: Mens Apparel and Center Aisle

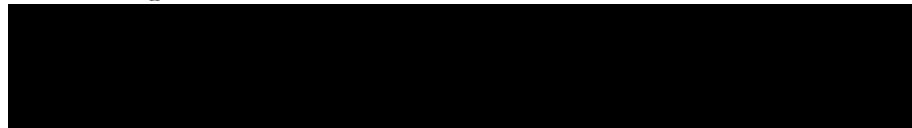
Estimated Loss Amount: \$1,428

Status: To Be Trespassed

Notice of Trespass:

Incident Image:

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(5)(A)(iv)



Police Report Filed: Yes

Police Report #: 24BU025291

--

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "BOLO" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to bolo+unsubscribe@gearx.com.

To view this discussion visit <https://groups.google.com/a/gearx.com/d/msgid/bolo/autogen-java-e6b19152-933e-467a-8845-5c0df48ba0bb@google.com>.

For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/a/gearx.com/d/optout>.



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

MEDIA RELEASE

INCIDENT TYPE:		DATE/TIME REPORTED:	
Larceny from a Person		10/15/2024 2009 Hours	
INCIDENT NUMBER:		LOCATION:	
24BU024184		South Union Street	
INVESTIGATOR:		INVESTIGATOR CONTACT:	
Officer Bartlett		(802) 540-2407	
AUTHOR:		APPROVED BY:	
Sarah Hernandez Timm		Lieutenant Nguyen	
SUSPECT:		AGE:	SUSPECT ADDRESS:
Anthony Lewis		36	Burlington, VT
SUSPECT DISPOSITION:			
Anthony Lewis was taken into custody, cited and released.			

NARRATIVE:

On October 15, 2024, at approximately 8:09 pm, officers with the Burlington Police Department were dispatched to a report of a larceny on South Union Street.

When officers arrived on scene, investigation revealed a male suspect stole an individual's purse while the individual was dining. The suspect was later identified as Anthony Lewis, 36, of Burlington. Individuals who were with the victim pursued Lewis who fled the scene and were able to detain him until police arrived. Lewis was taken into custody.

Lewis was processed at the BPD, cited, and released.

A records check of Lewis' criminal history yielded the following results: 2 Failures to Appear, 6 Violation of Court Orders or Conditions with 2 convictions, 4 Felony charges, 16 Misdemeanor charges with 9 convictions, 2 Assaultive Crime charges with 1 conviction, and 4 Violation of Probation/Parole charges.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Burlington Police Department at (802) 658-2704.

Information is preliminary and subject to change.

ANTONIO B. POMERLEAU BUILDING • ONE NORTH AVENUE • BURLINGTON, VT 05401

REC271



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

MEDIA RELEASE

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME REPORTED:	
Burglary	10/23/2024 1808 Hours	
Violation of Conditions of Release	10/23/2024 1221 Hours	
Burglary	10/22/2024 0558 Hours	
Burglary	10/18/2024 1219 Hours	
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:	
24BU024860	Battery Street	
24BU024830	South Winooski Avenue	
24BU024707	Battery Street	
24BU024828	Battery Street	
INVESTIGATOR:	INVESTIGATOR CONTACT:	
Officer Gurung	(802) 540-2363	
SUSPECT:	AGE:	SUSPECT ADDRESS:
Patrick Ibbotson	38	Burlington, VT
SUSPECT DISPOSITION:		
Patrick Ibbotson was taken into custody.		

UPDATE #2: October 24, 2024

On October 24, 2024, Patrick Ibbotson was arraigned and released. Ibbotson's 34 sets of active conditions remain in effect. He is expected at court on November 22, 2024.

UPDATE: October 24, 2024

On October 23, 2024, Patrick Ibbotson was arraigned and released on conditions. Currently, Ibbotson has 34 sets of active conditions of release.

A few hours after Ibbotson was released from court for burglarizing an establishment on Battery Street, Ibbotson returned to the same establishment and burglarized it again.

On October 24, 2024, Ibbotson was located in Burlington, arrested, and transported to court for arraignment.

The Burlington Police Department would like to thank the Chittenden County Sheriff's Department for their assistance with Ibbotson's arrest.

Information is preliminary and subject to change.

ANTONIO B. POMERLEAU BUILDING • ONE NORTH AVENUE • BURLINGTON, VT 05401

REC272



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

NARRATIVE:

Patrick Ibbotson, 38, was arrested today on multiple charges. Since being released from jail on September 26, 2024, Mr. Ibbotson has been linked to 14 incidents in Burlington and one in Williston. Today he will be taken to court to be arraigned for a burglary reported on October 22, and face other charges, as well. These include a citation for another burglary that occurred on October 18, but which was reported today, and a citation for violating his conditions of release by trespassing in the Marketplace Garage.

A review of Ibbotson's Vermont criminal history on Valcour shows that he has 5 failures to appear, 3 violation of court orders or conditions charges, 10 misdemeanor charges, and 1 assaultive charge. Ibbotson has been linked to over 270 incidents in Valcour since June 2016.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Burlington Police Department at (802) 658-2704.

Information is preliminary and subject to change.

ANTONIO B. POMERLEAU BUILDING • ONE NORTH AVENUE • BURLINGTON, VT 05401

REC273



From: Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2024 11:16 AM EDT

To: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

CC: George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Philip Baruth <PBaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Sarah Beal <sarah@commondeer.com>; Jill Krowinski <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Third week in a row: Fwd: Bolo, Masked Bandits, Burlington

Thanks Marc,

I'll suggest 2:00PM on Friday 11/1. I can meet you at your office at 110 Cherry St. Anybody else on this chain who wants to join is welcome to.

Mark



Mark Barlow

City Councilor, North

District

mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov

802.549.4433

From: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2024 10:29 AM

To: Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Philip Baruth <PBaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Sarah Beal <sarah@commondeer.com>; Jill Krowinski <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Third week in a row: Fwd: Bolo, Masked Bandits, Burlington

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I expect to be off tomorrow - do you have time Friday after 1:30?

Happy to host any or all of the folks on this email chain.

Thank you Mark

Sent from a small hand held device - sorry for any typos

On Wed, Oct 30, 2024 at 10:14 AM Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Marc,

I agree with you. The level of organized retail theft that downtown businesses are enduring is unacceptable and unsustainable. I was saddened but not surprised to see another Church St anchor store close last week. I'm sorry OGE and other businesses are still dealing with this scourge and the associated losses and security costs for three years running now. We are clearly failing to adequately address this aspect of the drug crisis and need to bring more intention and urgency to our City response.

Can you meet with me at your office or talk by phone today or tomorrow?

Mark



Mark Barlow

City Councilor, North

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<PBaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Sarah Beal <sarah@commondeer.com>; Jill Krowinski <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>

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Annualized, that equals nearly two employees we can't afford or us being unable to offer a 2% increase to our ENTIRE staff

THIS IS NOT SUSTAINABLE

Marc Sherman
Visionary
he/him/his

Outdoor Gear Exchange / [Gearx.com](https://gearx.com)
[37 Church St. Burlington, VT](https://37churchstburlingtonvt.com) 802-598-1185
21 Essex Way # 116, Essex, VT
Riders Outpost 7575 Main St, Waitsfield, VT 05673

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <chrisc@gearx.com>
Date: Tue, Oct 29, 2024 at 1:14 PM
Subject: Bolo, Masked Bandits, Burlington
To: <bolo@gearx.com>, <chrisc@gearx.com>

Form submitted with the following responses:

Timestamp: 10/29/2024 13:14:35

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Staff Name: [REDACTED]

Subject ID: Masked Bandits

Store Location: Burlington

Ethnicity: White

Height: 5'8"/5'11"

Age: 30s

Date of Incident: 10/29/2024

Time of Incident: 11:13:00 AM

Incident Report: These familiar looking masked bandits visited again shortly after opening this morning - They made off with close to \$1500 worth of TNF and various other goods, and had a get-away vehicle waiting around the corner.

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(5)(A)(iv)

The woman entered first and did most of the shopping while the male waited outside, he lost patience and couldn't leave without getting something for himself so he came in grabbed a full style of TNF Willow Stretch Jackets and left right after.

Keep those Eyes peeled for suspicious behavior around TNF and apparel in general, and call a MOD if you have any off Vibes - Better safe than sorry.
What was stolen?: X2 Sale snow pants (~\$200/ea), OR Activeice Hijab, OR Alpine Fleece Balaclava, TNF Half Dome Hoodie (Gry), TNF Mens Alta Vista jacket, X5 TNF Willow stretch jacket (Entire style on floor)
Where was it stolen?: Mens Apparel and Center Aisle
Estimated Loss Amount: \$1,428
Status: To Be Trespassed
Notice of Trespass:
Incident Image:



Police Report Filed: Yes
Police Report #: 24BU025291

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(5)(A)(iv)

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To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to bolo+unsubscribe@gearx.com.

To view this discussion visit <https://groups.google.com/a/gearx.com/d/msgid/bolo/autogen-java-e6b19152-933e-467a-8845-5c0df48ba0bb%40google.com>.

For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/a/gearx.com/d/optout>.

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2024 7:05 PM EDT
To: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>; Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>
CC: George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Philip Baruth <PBaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Sarah Beal <sarah@commondeer.com>; Jill Krowinski <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Third week in a row: Fwd: Bolo, Masked Bandits, Burlington

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Marc,

I plan to attend as well. The larger conference room is available for a larger gathering.

Looking forward to a fruitful discussion.

Jeff Nick
NAI JL Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 876-6923
Email: jeff@jeffnick.com
www.jldavisrealty.com

From: Marc Sherman <duck@gearx.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2024 12:03 PM
To: Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: George, Sarah <sarah.george@vermont.gov>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Jon Murad <JMurad@bpdvt.org>; Philip Baruth <PBaruth@leg.state.vt.us>; Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Jeff Nick <jeff@jeffnick.com>; Sarah Beal <sarah@commondeer.com>; Jill Krowinski <jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Third week in a row: Fwd: Bolo, Masked Bandits, Burlington

Thanks for initiating Mark - I look forward to seeing everyone - please let me know if you are coming - our office building is secure so I will need to meet people inside the entrance on Cherry Street (opposite our mural).

I can accommodate 4-5 in my office and we have larger spaces available. I realize that depending on who attends there may be open-meeting issues.

Marc

My cell [REDACTED]

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Marc Sherman
Visionary
he/him/his

Outdoor Gear Exchange / Gearx.com
37 Church St. Burlington, VT. 802-598-1185
21 Essex Way # 116, Essex, VT
Riders Outpost 7575 Main St, Waitsfield, VT 05673

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Wed, Oct 30, 2024 at 11:16AM Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

REC278

Thanks Marc,

I'll suggest 2:00PM on Friday 11/1. I can meet you at your office at 110 Cherry St. Anybody else on this chain who wants to join is welcome to.

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mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov
802.549.4433

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THIS IS NOT SUSTAINABLE

Marc Sherman
Visionary
he/him/his

Outdoor Gear Exchange / Gearx.com
[37 Church St. Burlington, VT](http://37.Church.St.Burlington.VT) 802-598-1185
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To: <bolo@gearx.com>, <chrisc@gearx.com>

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Email Address: [REDACTED]

Staff Name: [REDACTED]

Subject ID: Masked Bandits

Store Location: Burlington

Ethnicity: White

Height: 5'8"/5'11"

Age: 30s

Date of Incident: 10/29/2024

Time of Incident: 11:13:00 AM

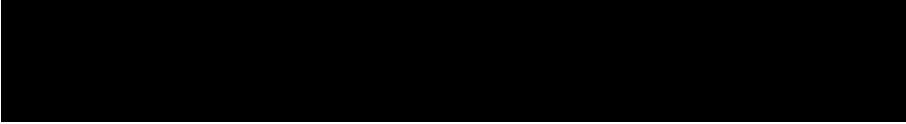
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Estimated Loss Amount: \$1,428
Status: To Be Trespassed
Notice of Trespass:
Incident Image:

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(5)(A)(iv)



Police Report Filed: Yes
Police Report #: 24BU025291

--

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29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

November 17, 2024

**Subject: Urgent Request to Delay the Closure of Main St. & South Winooski Ave.
Intersection During the Holiday Season**

The Burlington Business Association, founded in 1978, is a non-profit, non-political membership organization with over 200 business and non-profit members.

Dear Burlington City Councilors,

I am writing on behalf of the Burlington Business Association and its 250+ members regarding the proposed closure of the Main Street and South Winooski Avenue intersection, planned to begin on December 9 and extend for approximately eight weeks. **This closure, during the crucial holiday season, has raised significant concerns among downtown businesses.**

Board of Directors:

Chelsea Condos, Chair
Al Gobeille, Vice Chair
Michael Casella
John George Wheeler
Rose Kenary
Lisa Kingsbury
Ryan Nick
Heidi Stumpff
Jack Wallace

I was surprised by this announcement, especially after recent discussions with DPW Director Spencer, Church Street Marketplace Commissioners, and several city councilors. In those conversations, we highlighted the difficulties local businesses are facing, with many reporting sales declines of 40-50% compared to last year. Additionally, we discussed the persistent issues of retail theft and its negative impacts.

I want to acknowledge and commend the recent initiatives to support our downtown, such as the increased police presence during the holiday season organized by Director Alansrawi, Councilor Traverse, and Chief Murad, as well as the promotional downtown parking rate of 99 cents per hour. These efforts, coupled with the festive events and decorations by the Church Street Marketplace (CSM) team, are steps in the right direction to create a welcoming atmosphere and a fun and festive holiday season.

Everything seemed to be headed in a positive direction until this news. None of these efforts matter much if we don't have people coming downtown. For many businesses downtown, this holiday season represents a critical opportunity to offset a challenging year of declining sales, rising vacancies, and quality-of-life concerns. Closing Main Street and South Winooski Avenue risks reducing foot traffic to the point of no return.

It is important to also mention that the Main St. project is being funded with Tax Increment Financing. That means costs are covered by future tax revenue. If downtown doesn't thrive, tax revenue doesn't grow, and the city can't pay its bills on the project.

Kelly Devine
Executive Director



29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

November 17, 2024

Beyond the financial implications, downtown Burlington – and Church Street in particular – is a vital community space during the holidays, serving as a gathering point for residents and visitors alike. **I hope you will keep in mind that this is an accessibility issue for those who visit and work in our downtown - not just a concern for business owners. Our community must keep our downtown open, accessible, and safe during this holiday season.**

In light of these concerns, I respectfully urge you to work with the contractor to explore alternative solutions that could keep this intersection open through December 26, at a minimum.

If a complete delay is not possible, please consider the following options to maintain accessibility to some extent:

1. **Route Traffic through Main St. Surface Lot** – Enable at least one lane of traffic to access downtown, while diverting other traffic to College Street.
2. **Keep College Street Open through December 26 as the Main Detour** – Consider a one-way traffic flow into town, with parking removed on one side between S. Union and S. Winooski to add a turning lane.
3. **Make Buell Street Temporarily One-Way** – Direct traffic from Willard Street with traffic management at S. Winooski. Remove parking on one side between S. Union and S. Winooski to add a turning lane.

The holiday season is, by far, the most vital time of year for downtown businesses, with many retailers and restaurants generating over 30%, and some up to 50%, of their annual revenue between Thanksgiving and Christmas. A delay in this closure could make a meaningful difference in ensuring that local businesses survive. **I also request your support for Item 8.10 on tonight's agenda, which would further strengthen our downtown community during this important season by adding police patrols.**

Thank you for considering this request to protect the livelihood of downtown Burlington. Please feel free to reach out if there is room to reconsider the timing of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kelly'.

Kelly Devine
(802) 863-1175
director@bbavt.org



29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kelly'.

Kelly Devine
(802) 863-1175
director@bbavt.org

BBA Memo on the FY2025 Budget to Actuals Review

On Monday, December 9th, the Board of Finance will receive a presentation on the FY2025 budget actuals through October 31, 2024, compared to the FY2024 actuals through October 31, 2023. Below, we have summarized some of the key concerns that stand out from this presentation.

Gross Receipts Revenue Shortfall:

Gross receipts are projected to fall short by \$1.27M, with gross sales down 9.8% year-over-year, part of a broader trend across Vermont but more pronounced in Burlington (-5.3%). This shortfall reflects declining economic activity. The city's budget seems unlikely to realize the aggressive revenue projections tied to increased rates. If this trend continues, it could require mid-year adjustments that would impact city services or business-facing initiatives.

Rooms Tax Discrepancy:

Despite Burlington doubling the room tax rate, receipts are up only 60.3%, with gross sales down 4.8%. This is far below the nearly 100% increase expected from the tax change. This particular discrepancy could undermine confidence in revenue forecasts and the city's financial planning.

Local Option Tax (LOT) Lag:

LOT revenues are projected to miss budget by \$186K, with only one quarterly payment received so far. Timing issues may obscure the true revenue picture. Delays in state reimbursements or lower-than-expected taxable activity may indicate weaker-than-anticipated consumer spending.

Vacancy-Driven Budget Savings:

The city is "saving" \$4.4M in personnel costs due to a 14% vacancy rate in the Burlington Police Department and turnover across other departments. While this eases budget pressure, the high vacancy rate dramatically impacts public safety and service delivery, which directly affects the business environment.

Other notes:

- Despite being at 87% of the budget, projected investment revenue is expected to fall short of last year's actuals by nearly \$1M, suggesting the city may have changed its investment strategy.
- One way to connect this decrease in sales to downtown would be to gather the data only for businesses in the Designated Downtown. That could then be compared both to the city as whole and other cities like Winooski.

What we are hearing:

- Restaurant and retailers are reporting year over year losses of anywhere from just under 10 percent to over 30 percent. We plan to create more concrete data on this following the holiday season. We are holding out hope that the holiday season will be strong.
- Restaurants are all reporting that alcohol sales are down. This is consistent with the report on GRT.

From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 03, 2025 6:54 AM EST

To: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Re: Time for a Quick Call?

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hi Al,

Friday at 2pm is still open for me. Can you share your number? Thanks! Emma

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)

Burlington, Vermont

From: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 4:36 PM

To: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Time for a Quick Call?

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Mayor,

Thank you for reaching out. I could do 2/7 2-2:30. Please let me know ow if that works.

Al Gobeille

On Fri, Jan 31, 2025 at 4:05 PM Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Al -

I hope you have been well. I am wondering if you have a few minutes to chat in the next week or so. I am curious what your thoughts are on the gun charter change question we are putting on the ballot in March. I have heard from several businesses, especially after the Red Square tragic shooting, and they are concerned about the increased number of guns in our downtown bars. This measure will help with customer, workers, and first responder safety. I'd love to hear your thoughts if you have a few minutes.

Possible times from my end: Tue, 2/4 in between 4:30-5:30pm or 2/7 between 2-2:30pm.

Have a good weekend. Peace, Emma

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)

Burlington, Vermont

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.



DEPARTMENT of PLANNING, DESIGN
and CONSTRUCTION

February 18, 2025

Kaitlin Hayes, District 4 Coordinator
111 West Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452

**Re: Proposed Permit Amendment Number 4C1043-1C
Elimination of Requirements for Off Campus Lot and Monthly Parking Utilization
Reports**

Dear Kaitlin,

Thank you for sharing Proposed Permit amendment 4C1053-1C, which authorizes:

1. The suspension of the requirement established in item 4(b) of University of Vermont's (UVM's) Local Parking Management Plan (Exhibit #018 of LUP 4C1043-1), that UVM lease and utilize a 200-space off campus parking lot.
2. The elimination of Condition 11 of LUP 4C1043-1A, which required monthly parking utilization counts and the offsite parking requirement when parking utilization rates reached 83%.

UVM appreciates the Commission's willingness to make these adjustments in light of the City of Burlington's approval of the 2023-2028 Joint Institutional Parking Management Plan and issuance of a zoning permit (ZP-24-335) to permanently remove the city's conditions of the long-term lease of a 200-space off campus parking lot.

We are requesting that the Commission reconsider Condition #9 in the Proposed permit amendment 4C1043-1C, which reads:

9. The Permittee shall evaluate the parking utilization rates quarterly and provide this data to the District Commission as it becomes available. The submitted data will include a narrative explaining the method by which the parking utilization rate is assessed and reported.

To make Act 250 requirements consistent with the City of Burlington requirements, UVM is requesting that Condition #9 be amended to remove the quarterly reporting and instead require that UVM submit the JIPMP annual update to Act 250. This would be consistent with the requirement that UVM has with the City of Burlington through the Comprehensive Development Ordinance Section 8, Part 3: Institutional Parking Plans, which requires an Annual Report to be provided to the administrative officer. This is the only requirement that UVM currently has with

the City of Burlington to submit regular updates on parking utilization. There is no requirement for quarterly reporting.

Thank you for considering this change to the Proposed Permit Amendment.

Best,

Lisa
Kingsbury
Lisa Kingsbury
Associate Director of Planning

Digitally signed by Lisa
Kingsbury
Date: 2025.02.18
15:17:53 -05'00'

From: Evan Litwin <elitwin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 1:12 PM EDT
To: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Subject: Re: Car Break-Ins Heineberg Rd

Thanks Walter, While I wish I could magically wave a wand and restaff our Police Dept to where it deserves to be, I feel the best thing I can do right now is try and help folks think about parked vehicle safety and maybe give them some ideas that others have thought of that have worked for them. I love having an air tracker in my car because when I travel I can see its safely parked at home or the airport. Great little tool for \$30

Evan Litwin (he/him)
Ward 7 City Councilor

Be Alert: Visit [SeeClickFix](#) or download the app to submit a wide variety of service needs around our city including street or sidewalk pavement issues, graffiti on public property, greenbelt violations, and dozens of other community concerns. Select "Parks Department Issue" to report encampments, down trees, or other issues in city parks.

Stay Informed: A huge amount of city business is discussed and worked out in committee first. Visit [CivicClerk](#) to view all public meetings and associated documents for City Council, boards, and committees. Once logged in, click the "Manage Subscriptions" button in the upper-righthand corner to get email alerts for any committee or board you are interested in when they post their agenda! Learn more about our various [Boards, Commissions, and Committees](#) and how to apply to join one.

Impacted by Conflict or Crime?: ***Burlington Police Department:*** Online reporting is no longer accessible, victims of crime should report incidents directly to a dispatcher. Other helpful resources include: understanding and accessing the array of services offered by the [Crisis, Advocacy, Intervention Programs](#) (CAIP), understanding the [BPD Priority Response Plan](#) created due to the severe officer staffing shortage, reporting suspected drug activity using the [Drug Tip Form](#), and if you had a positive or negative interaction with BPD you can use either the [compliment or complain forms](#). ***Community Justice Center:*** Get assistance from the [Burlington Community Justice Center](#). They offer a wide array of programming and services, including if you've been a [victim of harm or crime](#), or are [struggling with neighborhood conflict](#).

Smoke-Free Businesses: Local businesses and organizations can [order free smoke and vape-free signs](#) courtesy of the Vermont Department of Health.

From: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 22, 2025 6:15 PM
To: Evan Litwin <elitwin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Car Break-Ins Heineberg Rd

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Good post. Thanks.

-Walter
99 Cliff st.

Sent from my iPhone

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Total Number of Individuals served (duplicated):						2087
2	Total Number of unique Individuals (unduplicated):						599
3	Total number of individuals with demographic data:						510
4	Unknown	White	Black/African American	Asian	American Indian	Other	
5	12	404	55	13	15	7	
6	% from total of number of unique individuals:	82%	11%	3%	3%	1%	
7	total race collected:	494					
8	extrapolated:	490	67	16	18	8	
9							
10	Unknown	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic		Disability		% from total of demographic data collected:
11	17	22	466		Yes	280	63%
12	% from total of demographic data collected:	5%	95%		No	163	37%
13					Mental	168	38%
14	total ethnicity collected:	488			Physical	134	30%
15	extrapolated:	27	572		SUD	112	25%
16					total disability collected:		443
17							
18		Where did you stay last night?					
19	Transitional Housing	Shelter	ESD Hotel	Self-Pay Hotel	Couch Surfing	In Car	Outdoors
20	1	52	39	0	82	36	211
21							
22		Unhoused/Sheltered		Unstable Housing		Unhoused/Unsheltered	
23							
24							
25		91		83		247	
26	percentage of total:	15.3%		13.9%		41.5%	

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1									
2									
3	85%								
4	Hmis								
5	Yes	% from total number of unique individuals:	% from total number of unique individuals for which we have any data:	% from total number of unhoused individuals for which we have any data:					
6	362	60%	71%	67%					
7									
8									
9									
10	extrapolated:	Mental	Mental & Physical	Mental & SUD	Physical	Physical & SUD	SUD	All Three	Yes
11	379	32	46	27	16	9	13	63	74
12	220								
13	227								
14	181								
15	151								
16									
17				total age collected:	494				
18				Age		% from total of demographic data collected:	extrapolated:		
19	Housed	Unknown		Below 18	0	0%	0		
20	174	2		18-24	13	3%	16		
21				25-54	347	70%	421		
22	Stable Housing			55-61	69	14%	84		
23				62+	49	10%	59		
24				Below 55	16	3%	19		
25	174								
26	29.2%		% of total number of unique individuals (unduplicated)						

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
27	extrapolated:	92			84		249
28							

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
		Total Housing Status Collected:							
27	175		99%						
28		595							

From: Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:16 AM EDT
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
CC: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: CVOEO is Planning to Close the Community Resource Center in Burlington

Hi Kelly,

Service referrals include employment counseling, medical and mental health care, housing navigation, benefits and entitlement programs, and yes substance use treatment.

Moving the FNB lunches will not impact attendance at the CRC – mainly because it does not replace services and operates for roughly one hour of the day. Anyone from the community can access services at the CRC between 9am and 4pm daily. Again, if you have questions about the FNB lunches, you should reach out to the Mayor's Office. If BBA would like to engage in advocacy efforts for sustainable funding for CRC operations beyond 6/30/2025, please let me know.

Thank you,
Sarah

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 5:00 PM
To: Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: CVOEO is Planning to Close the Community Resource Center in Burlington

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Sarah:

Can you help me understand what a referral to services is? Is it getting someone into treatment of some kind?

If we truly want to support businesses and help downtown a big step would be ending the daily lunch at the garage. I know the Mayor has spoken about ending it. If we want to have the CRC be successful in giving people a welcoming place to be in the daytime, ending the garage lunch which is exposed to the elements, provides no seating for people, provides no sanitation services, and provides no service support to those in need would be a great step forward.

Please let me know where we stand on this.

Kelly

On Fri, Apr 4, 2025 at 6:29 PM Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Just heard from CVOEO- more than 450 referrals to services for CY24.

Sarah

Sarah K. Russell
Special Asst. to End Homelessness

City of Burlington
149 Church Street
Burlington VT

(802)829-6326 (text/call)

On Apr 4, 2025, at 1:39 PM, Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Kelly,

Please see answers below in red. After reviewing, please let me know how/if you'd like to proceed.

Thank you,
Sarah

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 12:39 PM
To: Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Sam Donnelly <sdonnelly@bbavt.org>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Al Gobeille <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: CVOEO is Planning to Close the Community Resource Center in Burlington

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Dear Sarah:

I have spoken with board members about whether we can support continued funding for this. Two important questions came up.

1) Is there any data to show that the CRC is successful in getting people to services, housed or to the treatment they need - some sort of key performance indicators? **The data report indicates the number of people served. While CRC staff are consistently enrolling guests in Coordinated Entry and providing connections to resources and services for guests, I do not have that data point at this time.**

2) Is there additional data from let's say a year to show how the service is being used? **The CRC has been utilized by thousands of people over the last year (evidenced from the two monthly reports I shared with you). The CRC serves as a meal site for people experiencing homelessness, connection to services and resources, and daytime space for people without a low-barrier place to go. Without this daytime shelter space, people will not have access to daytime accommodation, meals, services, and supplies to meet basic needs. Other than the data reports indicating attendance, I am unsure how to represent the gap this vital resource fills. CRC staff also conduct outreach in the afternoons to people on the streets, camping, and unsheltered folks throughout the county.**

#) Would the city be willing to end the lunch at the Marketplace Garage hosted by Food Not Cops and move those services to the CRC? As long as that program exists, it's challenging to make the argument that we are seeing a meaningful change in the number of community members requiring assistance in our downtown. **The FNC lunches are outside the scope of this request. If you have questions about this, I would encourage you to follow-up with the Mayor's Office. If operation of a low-barrier daytime shelter isn't something the BBA is willing to advocate for, please let me know, and we will seek alternative routes for advocacy. Advocacy isn't a negotiating chip. My goals for BBA outreach were:**

- Inform the BBA that this critical community resource was at risk of no longer existing
- Offer an avenue of support with advocacy, if BBA so desires
- Share data reports from CVOEO re. gap CRC services fill in our community for both people who are housed and people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness

Please let me know and I'm happy to continue to explore this with you.

Kelly

On Fri, Apr 4, 2025 at 11:42 AM Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Kelly,

Looping back to this and attaching the March CRC data for your review. Paul Dragon and I met with Sen Lyons re. FY26 funding and, while she was sympathetic and supportive, I left the conversation feeling slightly confused about next steps to ensure funding will be available for FY26 CRC operations. Please let me know if BBA is interested in advocacy and if I can provide support in any way.

Thank you,
Sarah

From: Sarah Russell
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 4:05 PM
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Sam Donnelly <sdonnelly@bbavt.org>
Subject: RE: CVOEO is Planning to Close the Community Resource Center in Burlington

Per Paul's email (below in the thread), CRC serves upwards of 200 each day. I have attached a data report from Feb. If, after reviewing, you have additional questions, please let me know.

Thank you,
Sarah

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 3:09 PM
To: Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Sam Donnelly <sdonnelly@bbavt.org>
Subject: Re: CVOEO is Planning to Close the Community Resource Center in Burlington

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello Sarah;

I appreciate your letting me know and do want to take a look at this.

I agree that lack of a CRC could be detrimental to downtown, but would like to learn more. Do you have any data on its services?

I can provide detailed questions if that helps.

Thx
Kelly Devine
Executive Director
Burlington Business Assoc.

www.bbavt.org

802-863-1175

On Mar 26, 2025, at 12:41, Sarah Russell <srussell@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Hi Kelly,

I wanted to reach out to you to ensure you were aware that the funding for the Community Resource Center is not in the proposed FY26 AHS budget.

Paul and I are meeting with Senator Lyons, chair of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee next week.

I realize not having a low-barrier daytime shelter could have a significant impact on downtown businesses so I wanted to make sure you were aware of this- and see if you or others within the BBA have any interest in engaging in some advocacy around this.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or would like to talk further.

Thank you,
Sarah

From: Sarah Russell
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2025 1:47 PM
To: Paul Dragon <pdragon@cvoeo.org>
Cc: Jenney Samuelson <Jenney.Samuelson@vermont.gov>; Kristin McClure <Kristin.McClure@vermont.gov>; Commissioner Chris Winters <chris.winters@vermont.gov>; lily.sojourner@vermont.gov; vlyons@leg.state.vt.us; Theresa Wood <twood@leg.state.vt.us>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kerri.Duquette-Hoffman <Kerri.Duquette-Hoffman@vermont.gov>; Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Karina McNamara <karina.mcnamara@icalliances.org>
Subject: Re: CVOEO is Planning to Close the Community Resource Center in Burlington

Thank you, Paul.

I've incorporated advocacy for continued CRC funding into all of my talking points, locally and statewide over the last few months.

This is a vital resource for not just Burlington but for the entire county.

I request that the other recipients of this email consider how we can ensure ongoing funding for the CRC. They see upwards of 200 people per day and provide the only low-barrier daytime shelter for Burlington (and Chitt Cty).

I appreciate that CVOEO must support staff retention at this time, with alternative positions. It's unfortunate but a supportive measure to preserve the talented and empathetic staff members.

The City has provided ARPA funds (fully expended) and served as a pass-through for Leahy CDS funding. We have maxed local resources for the CRC.

I advocate strongly for continued State funding for the CRC, on behalf of the City of Burlington and the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance. We cannot lose this critical resource for our most vulnerable community members.

Thank you,
Sarah

Sarah K. Russell
Special Asst. to End Homelessness

City of Burlington
149 Church Street
Burlington VT

(802)829-6326 (text/call)

On Mar 21, 2025, at 1:17 PM, Paul Dragon <pdragon@cvoeo.org> wrote:

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hi everyone,

I hope you are having a great day. I do need to send this as a reminder that CVOEO will need to close the Community Resource Center (CRC) on July 1st. I believe this is the largest outreach / day shelter site in the state for people experiencing homelessness. We saw 3,177 unique individuals over the past 12 months and had 32,233 visits. Over 50 % are unsheltered and over 80% have a disability. There are large disparities for disability, race, and age. The budget is \$545,000 and CVOEO provided an additional \$250,000 from our own fundraising for daily hot meals, essential needs, and groceries to go. We are letting you know of this impending closure because of the potential impact on the Burlington community and Chittenden County as a whole. The site at 228 is a regional facility as determined by the state (ACCD). We have been completely transparent with our valued team at the CRC and our CRC Coordinator has just taken another leadership role here at CVOEO. We are beginning to find our other team members positions here at CVOEO as they arise.

We have been advocating for continued funding since July 2024 and talked about the challenges of hosting this site year by year with no assurances of funding. This is no way to run an organization or work to support our team who has done everything for our community. We had hoped the CRC was going to be in the governor's budget. We have appreciated the responsiveness of the DMH staff who have visited the site, yet we have heard nothing from DMH higher leadership. We will need to let the public know in May about the planned closure and wanted to let you know in advance. Our hope is to do some limited case management at the site and perhaps provide sandwiches to go. It will no longer be a day shelter.

We have deeply appreciated our partnership with State and will continue to partner however we cannot keep this site open without committed funding and value our staff too much not to help them with other positions here at CVOEO or elsewhere.

Thank you for all you do and have a great weekend.

Paul
<image002.png>

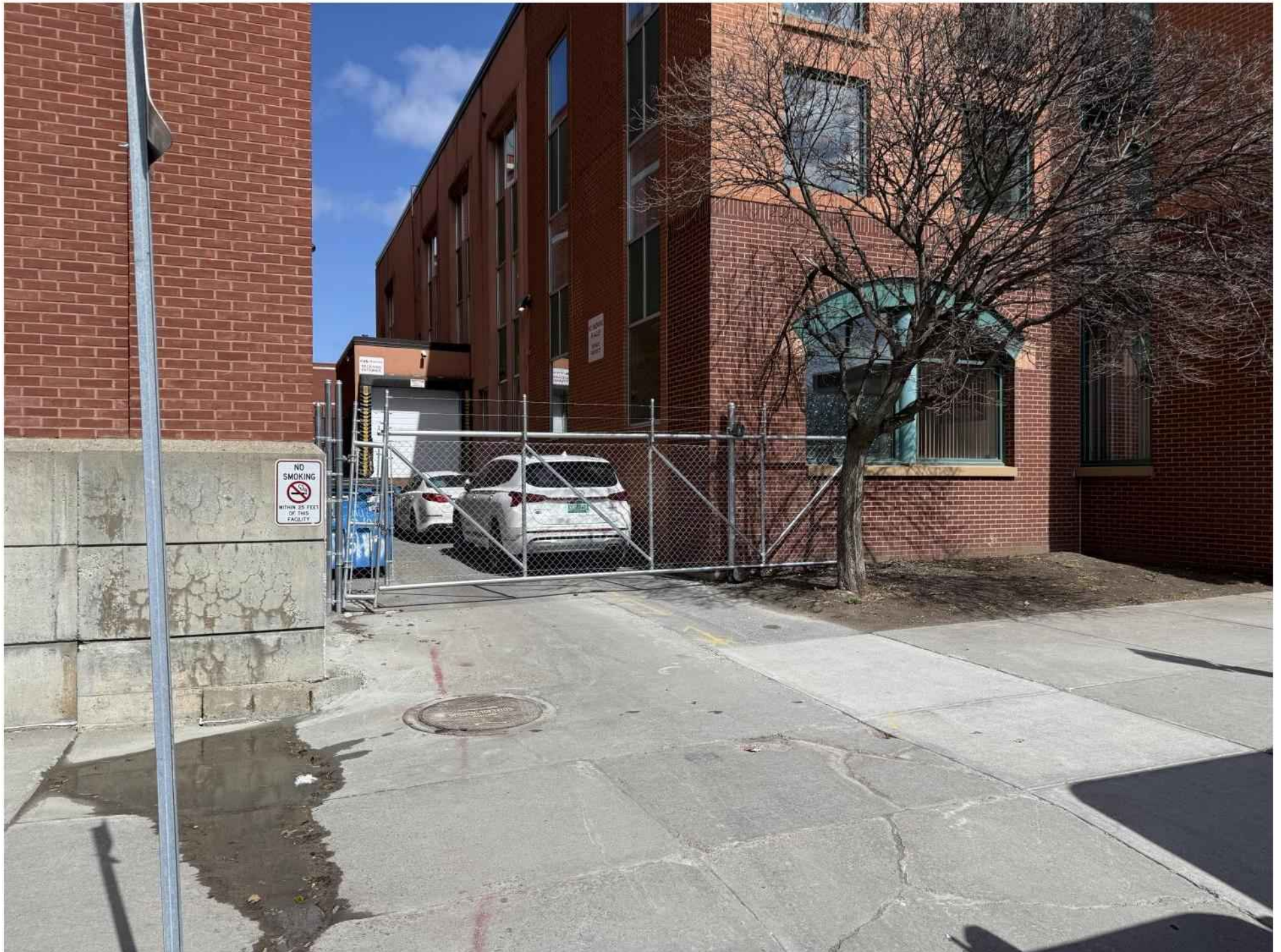
Paul Dragon
he/him/his
Executive Director

<image001.png>
Black Lives Matter
Respect the earth

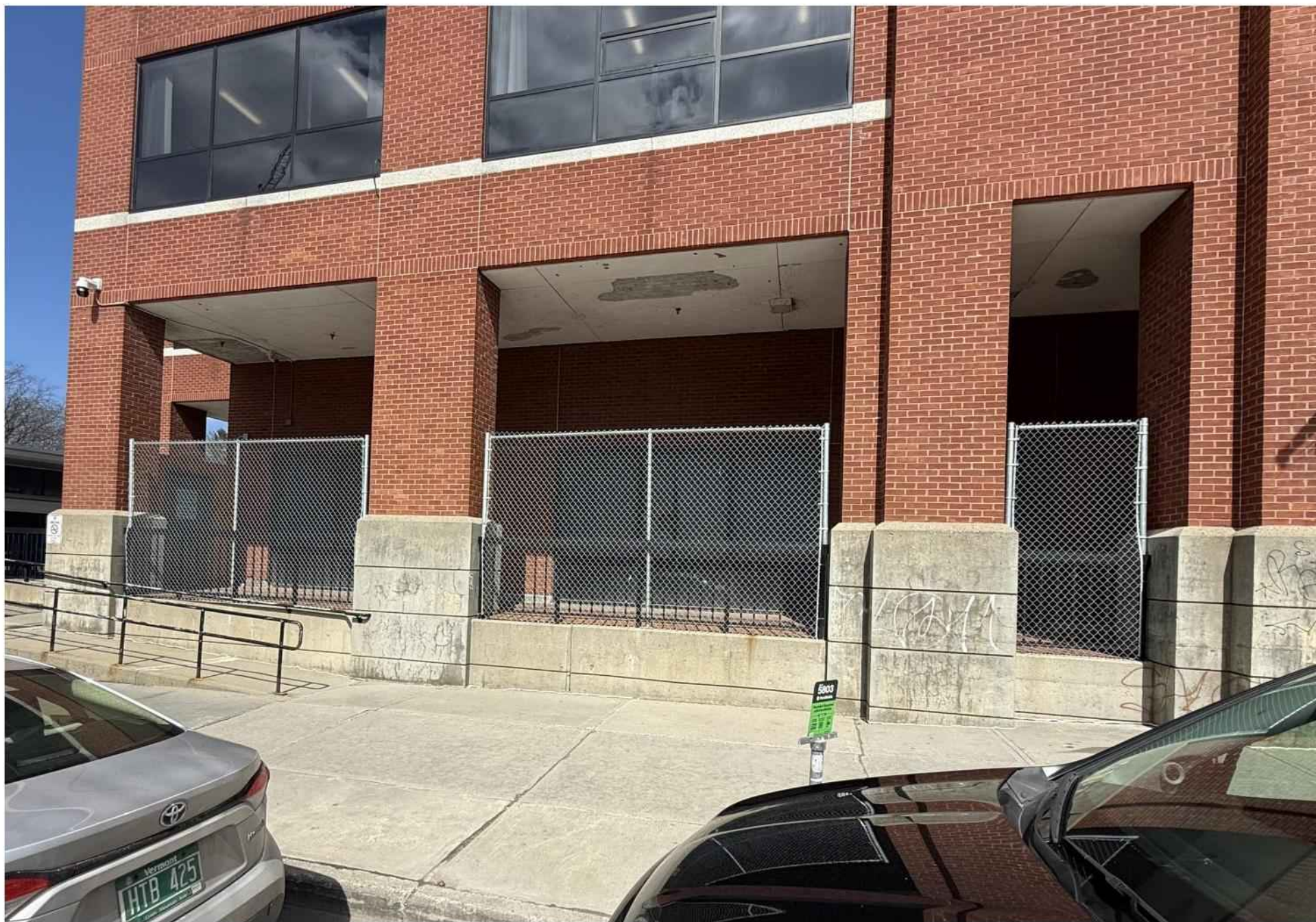
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity
255 South Champlain Street
Burlington, VT 05401
Tel: 802 585 9188
Email: pdragon@cvoeo.org
cvoeo.org

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act. CEDO (including the Community Justice Center), as part of the City of Burlington, is bound by the Vermont Public Records Act. There are exemptions to this Act for certain personal and confidential information, and we will take steps to protect your privacy. If you have any questions, please ask us.



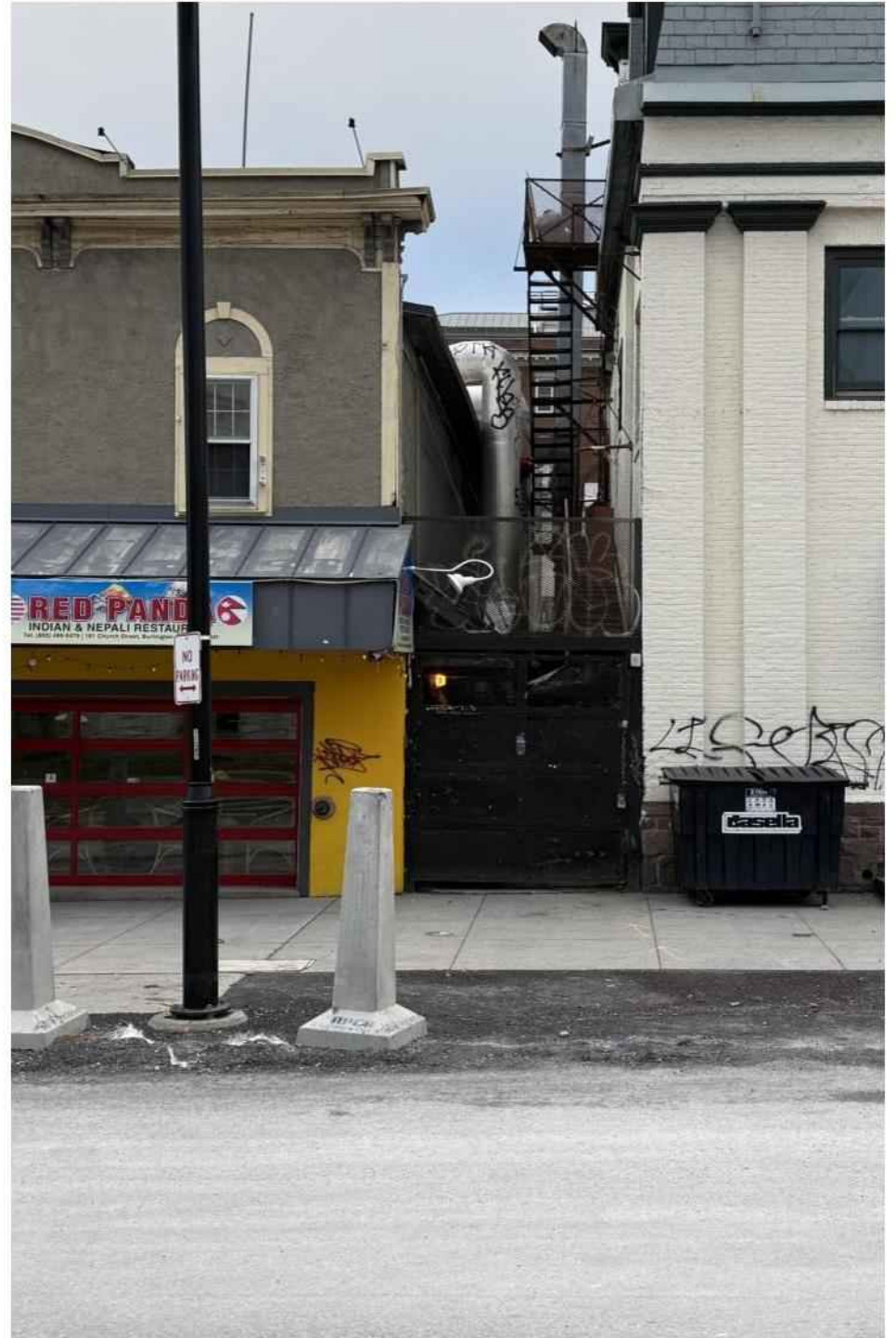
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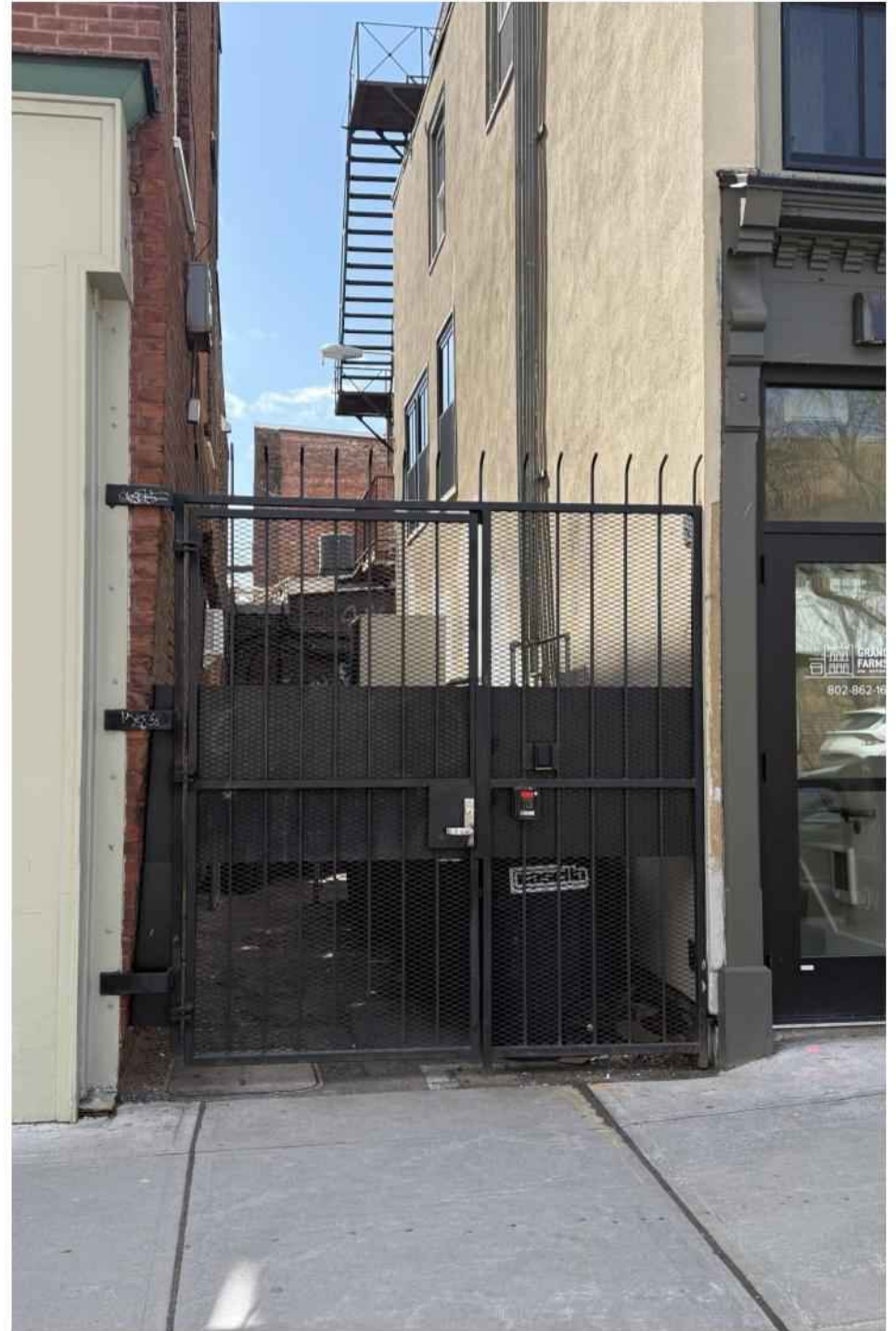


REC302



REC303



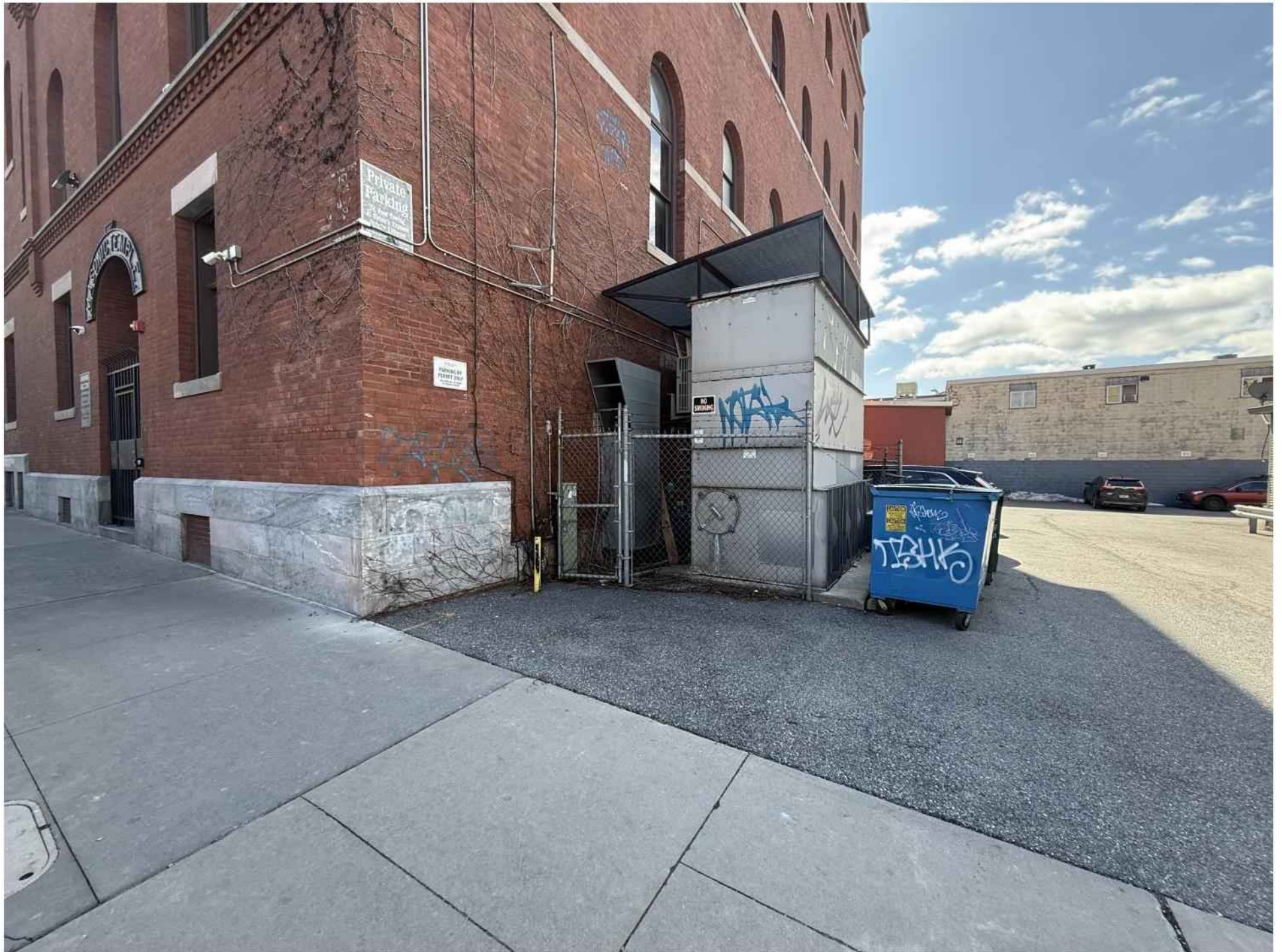


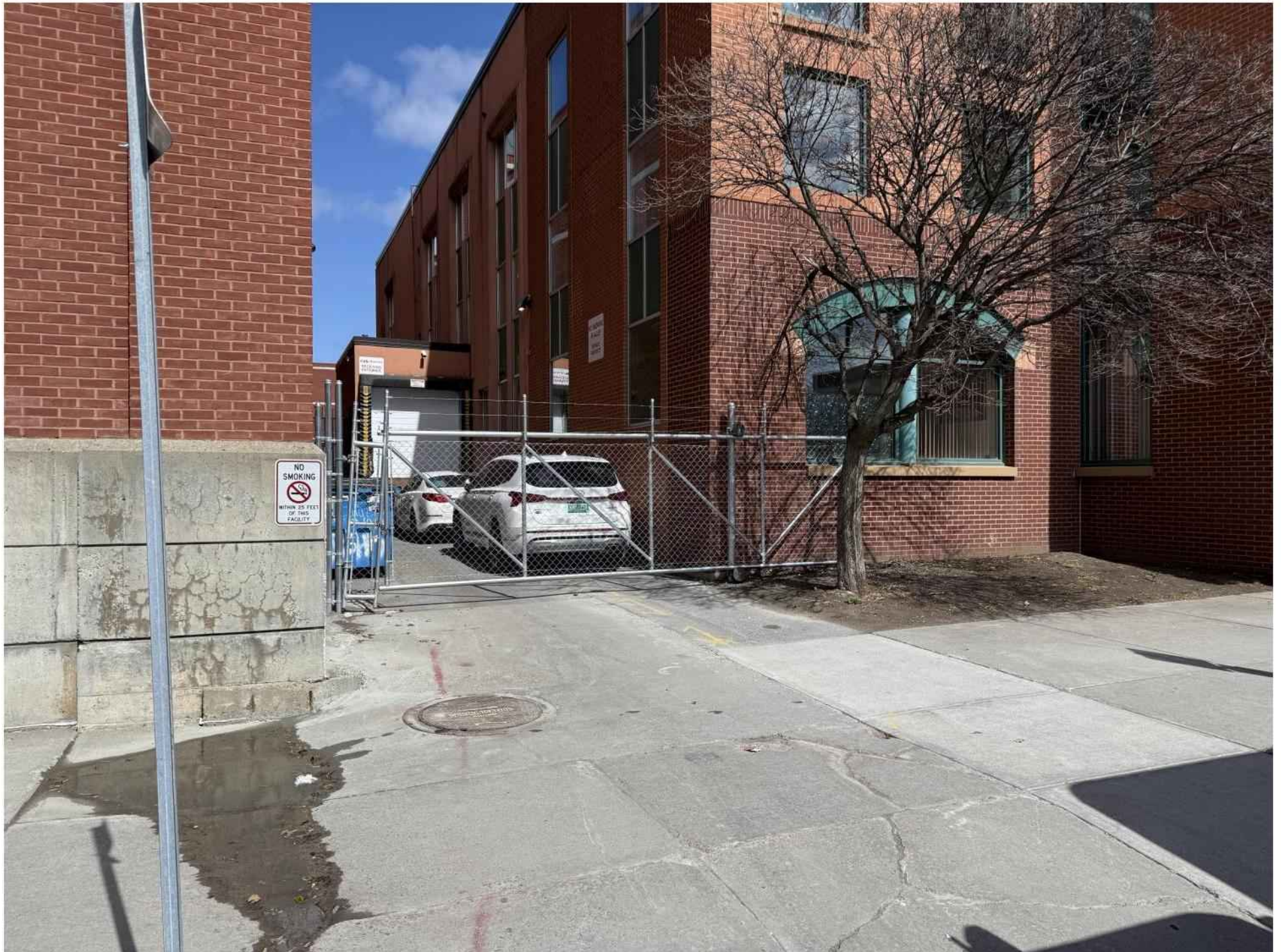


REC306

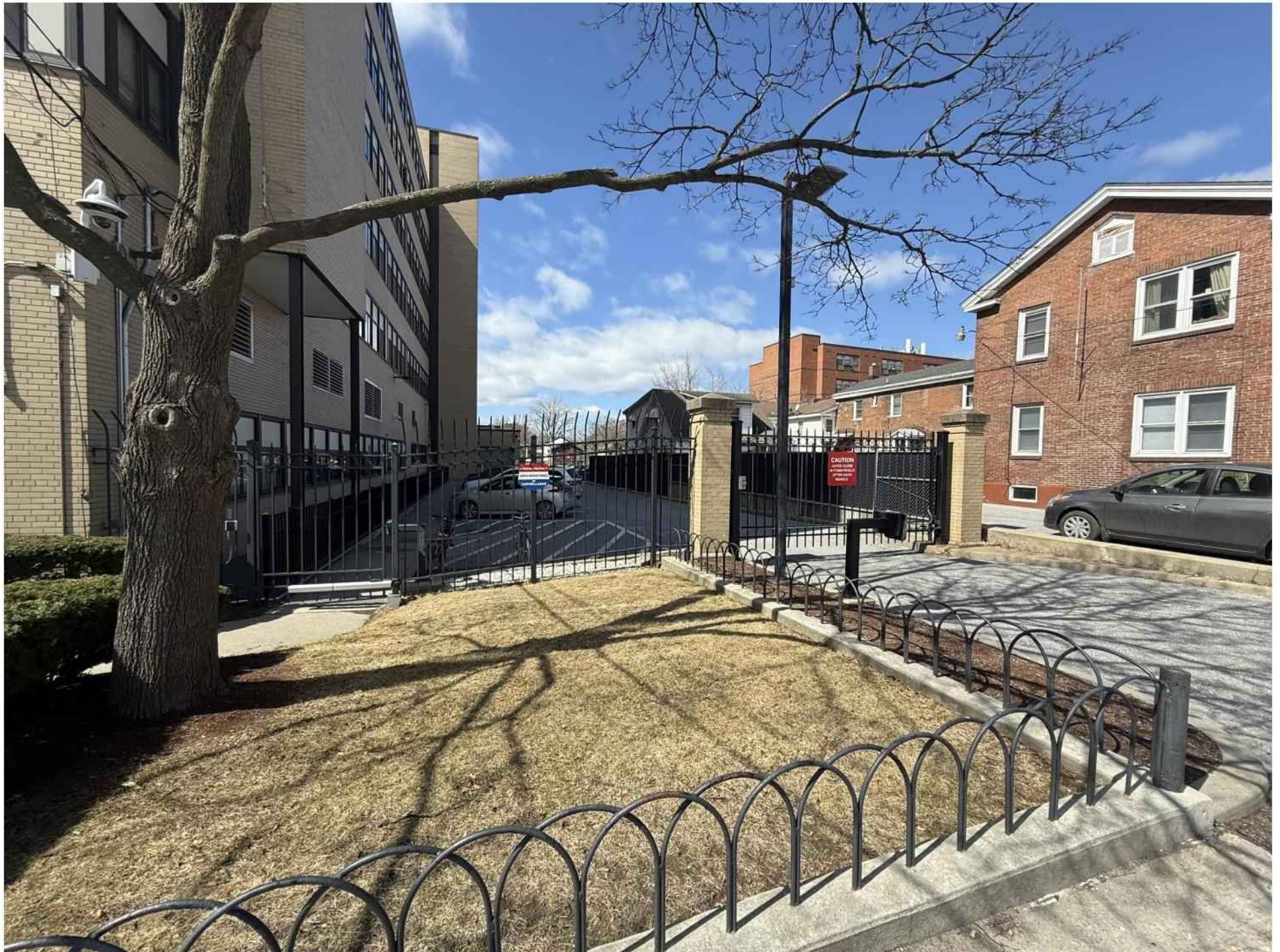


REC307

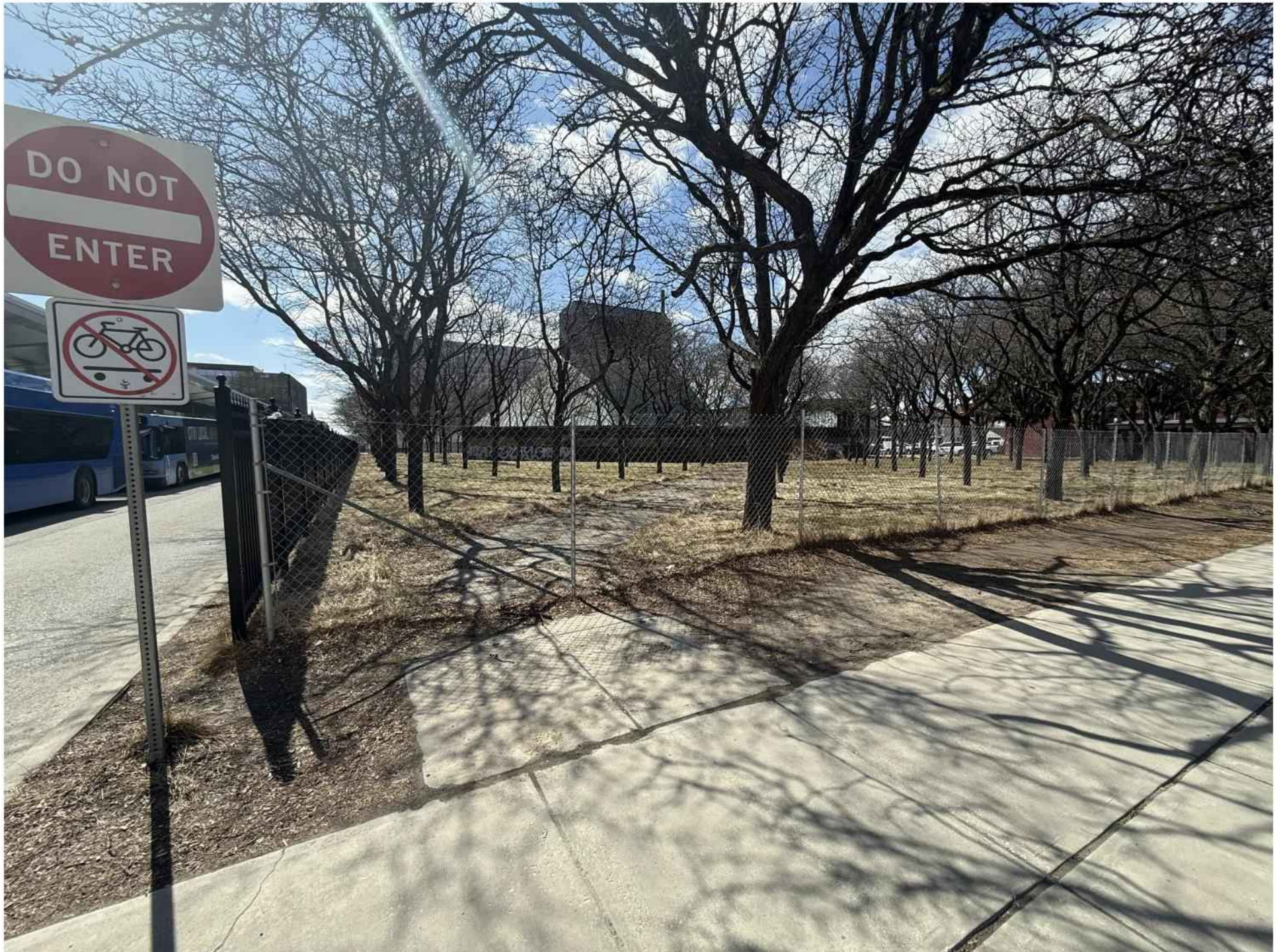




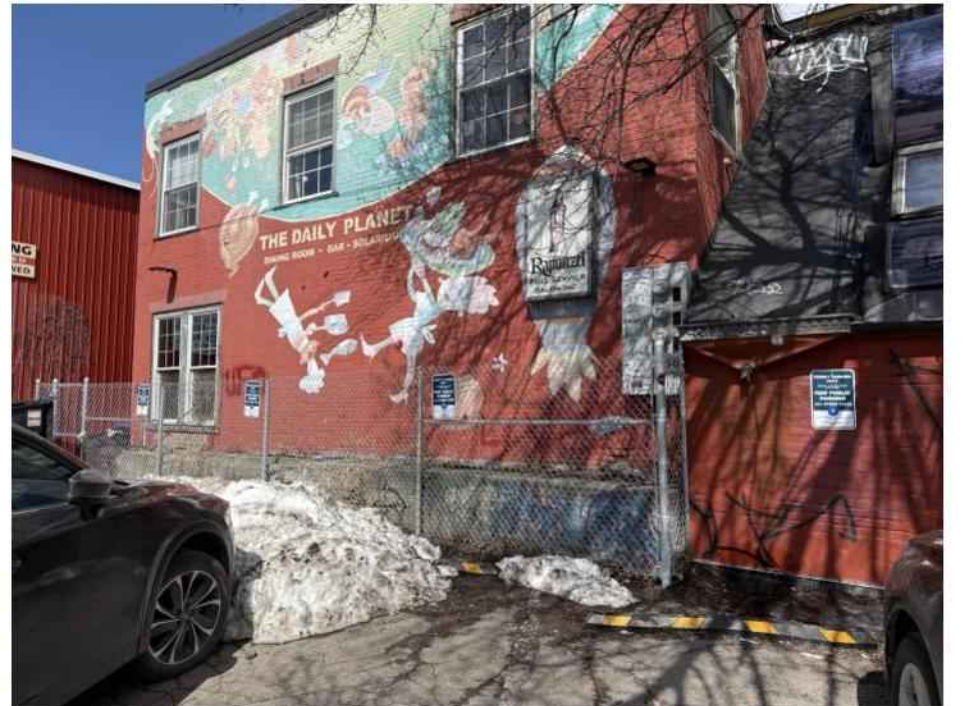
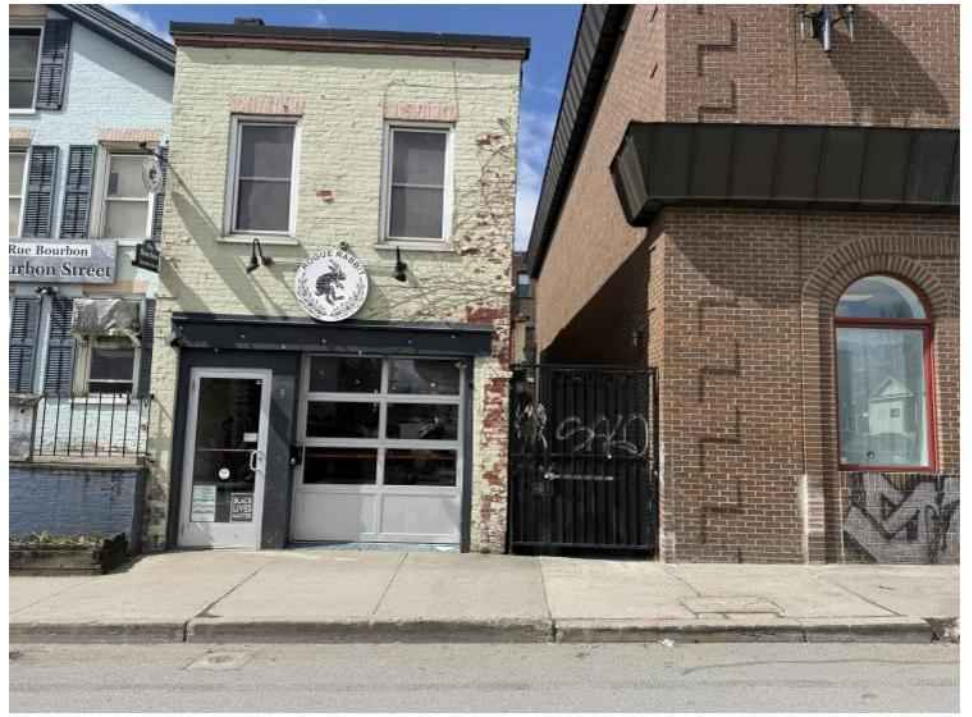
REC309



REC310



REC311



From: Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Saturday, April 12, 2025 9:16 AM EDT
To: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Other Alleyway Gates

Hi Ryan,

I will follow up by phone on Monday.

Mark



Mark Barlow
City Councilor, North
District
mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov
802.549.4433

From: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2025 4:53 PM
To: Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: FW: Other Alleyway Gates

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.
Good afternoon Ben and Mark,

We've been having a fun time dealing with the city about our gate securing the loading dock to CVS, which is apparently not up to the downtown code.

I'm forwarding this to you both as an FYI to see what it's like to deal with the City from our perspective. Happy to provide more context, but I thought you'd enjoy this exchange with Scott after our DRB Variance hearing on April 1st. Please feel free to share with others if you think it'd be helpful.

Feel like I'm taking crazy pills around here...

Hope you both have a nice weekend otherwise,

Ryan

From: Ryan Nick
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2025 4:43 PM
To: 'Scott Gustin' <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Other Alleyway Gates

I'd say our gate is in front of that portion of the building but is set back from the true 'front' of the building which is on the sidewalk. Also, the sliding style of gate is much more user-friendly than other styles.

I understand that we may not fit the exact letter of the code, but we're pretty close and bringing the gate into full compliance is causing some significant headaches with our property manager, amongst others in our office. I realize there were better ways of doing this, but I'd like to find a way to minimize the amount of cost and time we're all spending on this gate. Is there any world in which we remove the barbed wire and get the remaining gate approved and/or a way to apply for the building inspector's dangerous building provision? (The State building has a door into that alleyway, could we say that we're also securing that entrance?)

Also, I know this is not a concern with the zoning office, but we've already spent a considerable sum on this gate, and to tear it down and rebuild a more inconvenient option would incur further expense and hassle to secure a loading dock servicing one of the last remaining pharmacies downtown, which gets robbed 40+ times a day as it is, not to mention the slow down of business throughout the downtown (Many stores are down 30-50% from the same time last year). To further compound the issue, the office market downtown has not recovered at all from the pandemic, and many of the remaining office users are looking to escape the mayhem around here making it exceedingly difficult to lease the 22,000+ SF of vacant office space at 29 Church St resulting in a significant loss of annual revenue. The perception we feel in this office is that the city is kicking us while we're down, we're sorry we installed the gate 6" in the wrong direction, but we're trying to secure our building and prevent our remaining tenants from leaving us as well.

Happy Friday,

Ryan

From: Scott Gustin <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2025 11:47 AM
To: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Subject: RE: Other Alleyway Gates

REC313

Hi Ryan,

The photo depicts the gate close to, but not in front of, the building. It is in the 2nd lot layer.

Your gate is in front of the building and would need to be changed to 4' tall or less and made of an acceptable material (i.e. like metal picket). There's more flexibility behind the front line of the building, but it would preclude a sliding gate. I've recently seen folding gates (like a sideways "Z") that could fit better into the alley space you've got. The DRB can't allow your gate as installed unless they somehow find basis to approve the variance.

Scott

Scott Gustin, AICP, CFM
Principal Planner & Zoning Division Manager
Dept. of Permitting & Inspections
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
802-865-7189

From: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 11:44 AM
To: Scott Gustin <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Other Alleyway Gates

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.
Thanks Scott,

Maybe I'm confused about the lot layers as the Always Full gate seems to be right on the sidewalk/building façade (photo attached) ...let me know if I'm missing something...

As for the barn door style gate, it would be too tight to locate the posts for that gate within the alleyway. The trucks wouldn't be able to fit in the loading dock. It's already very tight and there's very little, if any, elbow room. Is it within the DRB's ability to allow the gate to be located at its current lot depth, given that we can't push it back into the loading dock? (Assuming we will very likely have to make other changes to the gate, like removing the barbed wire)

Appreciate it,

Ryan

From: Scott Gustin <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Saturday, April 5, 2025 3:51 PM
To: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Subject: RE: Other Alleyway Gates

Hi Ryan,

The Always Full gate was permitted in the 2nd lot layer. So far as I know, that's as it's been installed. A "barn door" gate (i.e. 2 pieces that swing out away from each other) would extend only half as far as a single gate.

The gate subject to your pending variance application was brought to my attention by another downtown property owner looking for improved security and pointed out "what about them?," similar to your pointing out the chain link around the former LL Bean building. I verified the presence of your gate following a court hearing down the street in December.

Scott

Scott Gustin, AICP, CFM
Principal Planner & Zoning Division Manager
Dept. of Permitting & Inspections
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
802-865-7189

From: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 3:43 PM
To: Scott Gustin <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Other Alleyway Gates

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.
Thank you for walking me through some of these examples, despite my frustration with the process generally, I do appreciate it.

Is the Always Full one within the First Lot Layer? If we're gonna have to give up the barbed wire, we'd want to get the max height we possibly can. Also, I meant to get greater clarity on the 20% variation applicability...is it within the DRB's powers to grant relief on the lot layer demarcation? We really need to keep the 'rolling' style gate, as a swinging gate will likely impact the sidewalk and has a bad habit of swinging back into the trucks. Also, given that it's only a 6" difference and doesn't greatly impact the character of the neighborhood, it seems like this we're creating a problem where there isn't one.

Final question (for now), was there a complaint about the gate that began this process? Given the larger and more visible violation

directly across the street, we'd like to understand how this all started.

Thanks again, hope you have a great weekend,

Ryan

Ryan Nick
NAI/J.L. Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
802-316-5049

From: Scott Gustin <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 11:31 AM
To: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Subject: RE: Other Alleyway Gates

Hi Ryan,

There's no specific limit to a height variance. I think what Evan was getting at is the provision for "alternative compliance" that allows up to 20% variation on dimensional standards, subject to DRB approval.

The case you make for a variance is up to you, but the provision to allow chain link per the building inspector's orders is aimed at securing dangerous buildings. There is no barbed wire around Memorial Auditorium. I verified in-person this morning.

The BCA gate was permitted in 2005. Well before the form code standards, but it looks like it would be permissible today. The one behind Manhattan Pizza shows up in a 2010 zoning permit for other work. It may have been associated with more extensive work in the early 1990's, but I didn't dig through all of the project files. The punchline is that it predates the current standards. The one by Always Full was permitted in 2020 and is limited to 8' tall.

The federal property is fully exempt from zoning (but the "picket" style fence and gates are permissible, albeit too tall). The state properties you've noted are subject to limited zoning review, not inclusive of design standards.

Scott

Scott Gustin, AICP, CFM
Principal Planner & Zoning Division Manager
Dept. of Permitting & Inspections
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT
802-865-7189

From: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 9:50 AM
To: Scott Gustin <SGustin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Other Alleyway Gates

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Good morning Scott,

I wanted to follow up from yesterday about the loading dock gate at 29 Church Street to make sure I understood what the position of the DRB. The max height they could allow a variance up to was 56" correct? And could we qualify for that designated safety provision (?) under 14.6.8.b.5.b? (I think I got that right)

Also, I think the case could be made that the barbed wire on our gate protects the safety of individuals in much the same way that the barbed wire around Memorial does. Our building isn't falling down, but unauthorized access to our alleyway presents a danger to our employees, CVS's employees, the folks who pick up our trash/recycling, and the people who are using drugs back there.

Also, I wanted to check in about the other alleyway gates downtown. The one next to BCA (pg 4), the one behind Manhattan's Pizza (pg 4), and the one next to Always Full Market (pg 5) are all right on the building frontage and over 4', and maybe over 8'? In our potential redesign, could we use those metal spikes like the one behind Always Full (pg 5) and the Federal Building (pg 10)? In addition, are the gates around the Courthouse (pg 6 & 7) far enough back that they not within the first lot layer and/or is the Courthouse also exempt from local zoning rules?

Thank you for any clarity you can provide,

Ryan

Ryan Nick
NAI/J.L. Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
802-316-5049

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

REC315

From: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 8:53 PM EDT

To: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>

CC: Sinead Murray <smurray@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Connect

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

Hi Al -

I really appreciate you reaching out. I would welcome a chance to connect. As you can imagine, I am deeply in the middle of some intense budget work so it may take Sinead (my scheduler) a bit to find time on my schedule for a call. She will be in touch soon.

THanks! Peace, Emma

--

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (she/her)

Burlington, Vermont

From: Al gobeille <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 8:06 PM

To: Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Connect

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Mayor,

I trust that you are well. I realize the enormity of the issues that are landing at your desk. Please let me know if you want to connect.

Your friend,

Al Gobeille

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.



The Burlington Business Association, founded in 1978, is a non-profit, non-political membership organization with over 200 business and non-profit members.

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Al Gobeille, Vice Chair
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Rose Kenary
Lisa Kingsbury
Walter Judge
Ryan Nick
Heidi Stumpff
Jack Wallace

Kelly Devine
Executive Director

Sam Donnelly
Deputy Director

Zachary Cummings
Membership Coordinator

29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

May 25, 2023

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
Burlington City Hall
149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak,

I want to begin by expressing my appreciation for your dedication to the City of Burlington and, in particular, to our downtown. We share a deep love and concern for this community—its people, its public and private spaces, and its future. While we face undeniable challenges, we also see real opportunities, and I want to acknowledge your support of several initiatives that aim to meet this moment, including your public support of new development and your work to right-size city government.

That said, I'm writing today asking you also to support the Resolution in Support of Local Businesses and a Vibrant, Welcoming and Safe Downtown passed by the City Council on May 19th. I note that the Resolution was passed by a large majority of the Council, 8-4, with support from Progressive councilors. Mayor, will you publicly acknowledge the vital role small businesses play not only as contributors to our tax base, but as social and cultural pillars of our community by standing with us in support of this resolution?

The recent letter submitted by local business owners was not written lightly. In fact it posed a significant risk. Thank you for your statement this week asking to end the divisiveness. I know that this letter came from a place of genuine concern for the future of their small Vermont businesses and for the thousands of people they employ downtown, and for the vibrancy of our award winning downtown.

This letter, and others like it from residents over the past two years, points to a troubling trend: our downtown is struggling. It needs your help. We've seen long-standing businesses put on pause like Nectars, others have opened outside Burlington—Monelle, OGE and Farmhouse, and others putting out public calls for help. These are not isolated incidents. They are a clear signal.

We can change the course. The City Council's resolution passed on May 19th includes many of the necessary steps toward reclaiming our shared public spaces in a way that works for all community members.



29 Church Street, Suite 3-5
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-863-1175

May 25, 2023

One component that has generated the most public discussion is the "Food Not Cops" lunch program currently operating daily from the Marketplace Garage. I want to be absolutely clear: neither the Burlington Business Association (BBA), nor any downtown business we know of, has called for the elimination of the program. We understand the importance of ensuring that all members of our community, especially the most vulnerable, have access to food. Many of our businesses contribute to organizations like COTS, Spectrum, the Salvation Army, and Dismas House for this very reason.

The concern is not about feeding people—it's about where and how it's done.

As you yourself noted last July, it may be time to consider relocating the lunch to a more appropriate space. We agree. Here are three main reasons why:

1. **Lack of Sanitary Services:** The current location lacks access to basic facilities, such as fresh water and toilets. This isn't respectful or sustainable for the individuals being served, nor for the volunteers doing the serving.
2. **No Connection to Services:** Unlike organizations such as Spectrum or COTS, the program as currently structured does not facilitate connecting participants with mental health, addiction recovery, or housing services. We believe mutual aid should strive to do more than provide a meal—it should also offer a path forward.
3. **Impact on Public Use:** The lunch is hosted at a major downtown parking facility that is often the first stop for visitors and families. We don't need to shield people from the reality of our city's struggles, but we also don't need to place these challenges front and center in a way that deters people from using and enjoying our downtown.

We believe there is room for both compassion and practicality in our public spaces. The downtown can and must be a place where all people—whether they live, work, visit, or are seeking support—feel safe and welcome.

We've been disheartened by the response of the Food Not Cops group, who have called for business boycotts, personally targeted individuals, and dismissed any discussion of relocation as a threat. This is not the spirit of collaboration our community needs. Despite their claim of no outreach from the business community, a member of the BBA Board, alongside Councilor Grant, did meet with them over a year ago to explore alternate locations. These alternatives exist downtown—and in places better equipped to offer dignity, support, and access to services.

The BBA remains committed to working alongside the city. Just this week, we launched a new graffiti removal program, with 37 volunteers coming out to clean downtown buildings. Every small effort matters—but only collaboration will move us forward.



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May 25, 2023

The resolution passed by the City Council offers us a roadmap, and also constitutes a much-needed morale boosting signal to our struggling small local businesses. Let's use it. Let's restore public trust and safety, bring vitality back to our downtown, and create a shared space that welcomes everyone—residents, workers, visitors, and those in need.

We regularly hear from hotel guests, garage users, and downtown employees and residents who say they no longer feel safe or welcome. People are choosing to go elsewhere. In November 2023, over 1,500 Burlington residents signed a letter expressing concern about community safety. These voices cannot be ignored.

Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak, we hear you when you call for an end to the divisive rhetoric. We agree. Now is the time to act with unity, to seek solutions with open minds and open hearts. And as Mayor, you are uniquely positioned to guide us through this moment—not with ideology, but with action.

Let's move forward—together.

With appreciation and hope.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kelly Devine
(802) 863-1175
director@bbavt.org

From: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Friday, May 30, 2025 12:48 PM EDT

To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Subject: Automatic reply: Letter in Support of Council Resolution Supporting Downtown Vibrancy

Hello! I will be out of the office today, Friday, May 30th. Should you need anything in my absence, please email Sinead Murray, our Executive Assistant, at smurray@burlingtonvt.gov. Thank you!

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.



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802-863-1175

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That said, I'm writing today asking you also to support the Resolution in Support of Local Businesses and a Vibrant, Welcoming and Safe Downtown passed by the City Council on May 19th. I note that the Resolution was passed by a large majority of the Council, 8-4, with support from Progressive councilors. Mayor, will you publicly acknowledge the vital role small businesses play not only as contributors to our tax base, but as social and cultural pillars of our community by standing with us in support of this resolution?

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With appreciation and hope.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kelly Devine
(802) 863-1175
director@bbavt.org

From: Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2025 3:31 PM EDT
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
CC: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Letter in Support of Council Resolution Supporting Downtown Vibrancy

Good afternoon, Kelly,

Thank you for sharing this letter with our office. We appreciate the BBA and others who are stepping up in this moment in a spirit of collaboration.

The Mayor and the administration are in agreement with the Council on most of the actions outlined in the resolution, and we are committed to supporting vibrancy downtown in partnership with you and others. Support for downtown should not be a partisan issue, and we are hopeful that we can find a path forward with Councilors to bring the community together in service to a vibrant and thriving downtown. We have been engaging with Councilors ahead of the meeting on Monday, and will continue through the weekend.

While we face real challenges right now, there are opportunities and reason for optimism, especially when we are working together.

Thank you, and I hope you have a nice weekend.

Joe

Joe Magee (he/they)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
149 Church Street | Burlington, VT
+1.802.829.5289 | jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2025 1:07 PM
To: Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Letter in Support of Council Resolution Supporting Downtown Vibrancy

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.
Dear Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak:

Please accept this updated version of my earlier letter and disregard the prior one. We listed a s staff member who is no longer with the BBA in error.

In the interest of building a platform for cooperation and transparency, I wanted to let your team know that the BBA is sending you the attached letter asking for your support of the Resolution supporting downtown vibrancy. The BBA is ready to assist and support any and all action to improve the condition downtown. Please let us know how we can help.

As you are well aware, downtown is at a critical juncture right now. We believe that the resolution calls for swift action on some key steps to address the current challenges and on behalf of our membership we urge you to support this Resolution..

I am sending this letter to your attention and cc'ing the Burlington City Council before sharing with other key stakeholders or the media. We look forward to hearing from you as to how we can help move this forward.

All the best,

Kelly Devine
802-324-2748

Burlington Business Association
802-863-1175
director@bbavt.org
www.burlingtonbusinessassociation.com

□ □ □ □

From: Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 02, 2025 2:43 PM EDT

To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>

CC: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: RE: Letter in Support of Council Resolution Supporting Downtown Vibrancy

Hi all –

Just to weigh in here, a motion for reconsideration does not need to be formally warned on our agenda. A Councilor can raise it any point either at the meeting where the original action was taken or the succeeding meeting. At this point in time, I do not know whether any Councilor will be bringing such a motion, but I hope to confirm that before tonight's meeting if only for the sake of timing.

I also appreciate the ability to engage with the Mayor's Office over the weekend on what may be helpful as they work to balance the goals of timely relocation for certain mutual aid services, still allowing ongoing access for those in need, and not escalating any conflicts. While I do not think last week's resolution will be in any way changed tonight, I've offered the Mayor's Office my full support with whatever initiatives they think are reasonably necessary to accomplish these shared goals.

Thank you.

Ben

From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>

Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 2:32 PM

To: Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>

Subject: Re: Letter in Support of Council Resolution Supporting Downtown Vibrancy

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Dear Joe:

I appreciate the prompt and thoughtful reply and have shared it with my board.

I did not see a reconsideration item on the agenda. Do you know if that will be presented as an amendment to the agenda?

Also, just for your information. Ryan Nick, Melo Grant and one other councilor did meet with the Food Not Cops group a year ago to explore a new location. They met resistance. We are happy to help with any dialogue between local businesses and this group about this topic provided the group is open to a new location.

Thanks,

Kelly Devine

On Fri, May 30, 2025 at 8:31 PM Joe Magee <jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon, Kelly,

Thank you for sharing this letter with our office. We appreciate the BBA and others who are stepping up in this moment in a spirit of collaboration.

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Thank you, and I hope you have a nice weekend.

Joe

Joe Magee(he/they)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak

REC325

149 Church Street | Burlington, VT
+1.802.829.5289 | jimagee@burlingtonvt.gov

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From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2025 1:07 PM
To: Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak <emulvaneystanak@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Erin Jacobsen <ejacobsen@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joe Magee <jimagee@burlingtonvt.gov>; City Council <citycouncil@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Re: Letter in Support of Council Resolution Supporting Downtown Vibrancy

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Dear Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak:

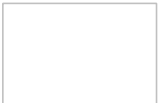
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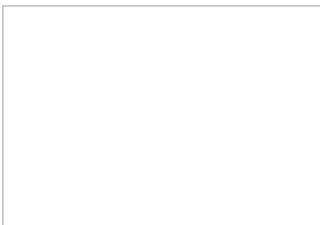
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I am sending this letter to your attention and cc'ing the Burlington City Council before sharing with other key stakeholders or the media. We look forward to hearing from you as to how we can help move this forward.

All the best,



Kelly Devine
802-324-2748



Burlington Business Association
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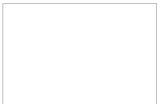
From: Lori Olberg <lolberg@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 02, 2025 3:25 PM EDT
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
CC: Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Could you post this in the public record for tonight?

I will place this on the 6/16 cc consent agenda so that it is part of the record Kelly.

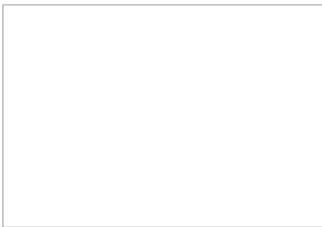
From: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>
Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 3:22 PM
To: Lori Olberg <lolberg@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Could you post this in the public record for tonight?

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

It has already been sent to councilors. Thanks



Kelly Devine
802-324-2748



Burlington Business Association
802-863-1175
director@bbavt.org
www.burlingtonbusinessassociation.com

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Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

Department of Permitting & Inspections

Zoning Division
645 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone: (802) 865-7188

William Ward, Director
Scott Gustin, AICP, CFM, Principal Planner
Mary O'Neil, AICP, Principal Planner
Garret King, Associate Planner
Joseph Cava, Planning Technician
Steve Cormier, Code Compliance Officer
vacant, DPI Administrator



TO: Development Review Board
FROM: Scott Gustin
DATE: April 1, 2025
RE: ZP-25-43; 29-35 Church Street

Note: These are staff comments only; decisions on projects are made by the Development Review Board, which may approve, deny, table or modify any project. THE APPLICANT OR REPRESENTATIVE MUST ATTEND THE MEETING.

Zone: FD6 Ward: 3

Owner/Applicant: Nick & Morrissey Development, LLC / Ryan Nick

Request: Variance request for height and materials of an after-the-fact fence/gate installation.

Applicable Regulations:
Article 12 (Appeals and Variances)

Background Information:

The applicant is seeking variance approval for a gate and section of fence that was installed without the required zoning permit. The date of installation is not noted in the application materials; however, zoning enforcement action commenced with a warning letter to the owners issued December 5, 2024 and a notice of zoning violation issued December 27, 2024. The owners applied for an after-the-fact zoning permit on January 3, 2025 but were notified by zoning staff that the fence and gate could not be approved due to height and materials. The application was placed on hold while a variance from the applicable standards was requested from the Development Review Board.

The fence and gate are located at the top of the loading bay alley, in line with the front of the building. It is within the first lot layer. The exact height of the fence and gate is not specified; however, it clearly exceeds the 4 ft. maximum height permissible within the first lot layer in this downtown FD6 district per Sec. 14.6.8 (b) of the Comprehensive Development Ordinance. Similarly, the chain link material is prohibited along any frontage line. Barbed or razor wire is prohibited in any application.

Recommendation: Variance denial as per, and subject to, the following findings:

I. Findings

Article 12: Variances and Appeals

Sec. 12.1.1 Variances

(a) That there are unique physical circumstances or conditions, including irregularity, narrowness, or shallowness of lot size or shape, or exceptional topographical or other physical conditions peculiar to the particular property, and that unnecessary hardship is due to such

conditions, and not the circumstances or conditions generally created by the provisions of the zoning regulation in the neighborhood or district in which the property is located.

There are no unique physical characteristics of the lot dimensions or topography. It is an approximately rectangular downtown lot that is mostly covered by the building footprint. The alley with the subject fence and gate runs along the west side of the building, immediately adjacent to the state office building. The applicant requests the variance primarily to keep trespassers out of the alley. **(Adverse finding)**

(b) That because of such physical circumstances or conditions, there is no possibility that the property can be developed in strict conformity with the provisions of the zoning regulation and that the authorization of a variance is, therefore, necessary to enable the reasonable use of property.

There are no physical circumstances or conditions that prevent development of the property in conformity with the zoning code. In the second and third lot layers, permissible height increases to 8,' and chain link is permissible (but barbed wire is not). **(Adverse finding)**

(c) The unnecessary hardship has not been created by the applicant.

The request for a variance is driven by the applicant's desire to exclude trespassers from the alley. **(Adverse finding)**

(d) That the variance, if authorized, will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood or district in which the property is located, substantially or permanently impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property, reduce access to renewable energy resources, nor be detrimental to the public welfare.

The variance, if authorized, would enable chain link and barbed wire along the downtown street front. It would adversely impact the character of the district. There are better, more appropriate, options for securing spaces in the downtown. **(Adverse finding)**

(e) That the variance, if authorized, will represent the minimum variance that will afford relief and will represent the least deviation possible from the zoning regulation and from the plan.

The requested variance is significant. Authorizing the excess height would be inconsistent with several downtown fence applications that have been limited to the prescribed height or, with DRB's alternative compliance approval, slightly more. Chain link is inconsistent with downtown design standards, and barbed wire is prohibited citywide. **(Adverse finding)**

(f) The variance, if granted, will not result in the extension of a non-complying situation or allow the initiation of a nonconforming use of land.

If granted, the variance would result in a plainly nonconforming situation in full view of the public right-of-way. **(Adverse finding)**

II. Reasons for Denial

1. Per the adverse findings above.

Department of Permitting & Inspections

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vacant, DPI Administrator*



TO: Development Review Board
FROM: Scott Gustin
DATE: May 6, 2025
RE: ZP-25-43; 29-35 Church Street

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The DRB initially considered this request at their April 1, 2025 meeting. The Board continued the hearing to the first meeting in May to allow the applicant time to provide an alternative design for the fence and gate. It was understood that an acceptable design may be eligible for administrative approval. No design revisions have been provided by the applicant.

Recommendation: Variance denial as per, and subject to, the following findings:

I. Findings

Article 12: Variances and Appeals

Sec. 12.1.1 Variances

(a) That there are unique physical circumstances or conditions, including irregularity, narrowness, or shallowness of lot size or shape, or exceptional topographical or other physical conditions peculiar to the particular property, and that unnecessary hardship is due to such conditions, and not the circumstances or conditions generally created by the provisions of the zoning regulation in the neighborhood or district in which the property is located.

There are no unique physical characteristics of the lot dimensions or topography. It is an approximately rectangular downtown lot that is mostly covered by the building footprint. The alley with the subject fence and gate runs along the west side of the building, immediately adjacent to the state office building. The applicant requests the variance primarily to keep trespassers out of the alley. **(Adverse finding)**

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If granted, the variance would result in a plainly nonconforming situation in full view of the public right-of-way. **(Adverse finding)**

II. Reasons for Denial

1. Per the adverse findings above.

Burlington Development Review Board

645 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPI/DRB
Phone: (802) 865-7188

AJ LaRosa
Caitlin Halpert
Geoffrey Hand
Miles Waite
Brad Rabinowitz
Leo Sprinzen
Sean McKenzie
Evan Gould (Alt.)
Marina Campbell (Alt.)



Burlington Development Review Board Findings of Fact Deliberative Hearing Tuesday, May 6, 2025

In RE: ZP-25-43; 29-35 Church Street (Ward 3C, FD6) (Tax Lot No. 044-4-006-000)

Owner/Applicant: Nick & Morrissey Development, LLC / Ryan Nick

Request: Variance request for height and materials of an after-the-fact fence/gate installation

Members Present:

AJ LaRosa
Geoff Hand
Brad Rabinowitz
Caitlin Halpert
Leo Sprinzen
Sean McKenzie
Marina Campbell

Evidence Presented:

The Board examined the materials submitted in support of this request.

I. FINDINGS

Background Information:

The applicant is seeking variance approval for a gate and section of fence that was installed without the required zoning permit. The date of installation is not noted in the application materials; however, zoning enforcement action commenced with a warning letter to the owners issued December 5, 2024 and a notice of zoning violation issued December 27, 2024. The owners applied for an after-the-fact zoning permit on January 3, 2025 but were notified by zoning staff that the fence and gate could not be approved due to height and materials. The application was placed on hold while a variance from the applicable standards was requested from the Development Review Board.

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There are no physical circumstances or conditions that prevent development of the property in conformity with the zoning code. In the second and third lot layers, permissible height increases to 8,' and chain link is permissible (but barbed wire is not). **(Adverse finding)**

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The request for a variance is driven by the applicant's desire to exclude trespassers from the alley. **(Adverse finding)**

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If granted, the variance would result in a plainly nonconforming situation in full view of the public right-of-way. **(Adverse finding)**

II. MINUTES

The meeting minutes will be distributed separately upon review and approval by the Development Review Board.

III. MOTION

Motion: AJ LaRosa

I move that the Board deny the variance application for height and materials of an after-the-fact fence/gate installation at 29-35 Church Street, based on the findings in Section I above.

Seconded: Caitlin Halpert

Vote: 6-0-1, motion carried

Dated at Burlington, Vermont, this 8th day of May 2025

Respectfully Submitted,



AJ LaRosa, Development Review Board Chair

Please note that an interested person may appeal a decision of the Development Review Board to the Vermont Superior Court Environmental Division. (Zoning Ordinance Article 17, Section 17.1.7, Appeals of Development Review Board Decisions: An interested person may appeal a decision of the Development Review Board to the Vermont Superior Court Environmental Division. The appeal shall be taken in such a manner as the supreme court may by rule provide for appeals from state agencies governed by Sections 801 through 816 of Title 3). The Court rules may require that such an appeal be commenced within Thirty (30) days of the Board's decision.

29 Church Street – Loading Dock Gate Variance Application

29-35 Church Street is a 3-story commercial building located in the FD6 zone with retail and office space on the ground floor, offices on the second and third floor, and an educational institution on the lower level. There is a loading dock in the rear of the building with a curb cut on Cherry Street. We are trying to secure this loading dock with a gate to prevent people from injecting drugs, urinating, and defecating on our property which is unsafe and unsanitary for our tenants and service people. We are requesting that the installed gate be allowed to remain until the issue of public drug use, urination, and defecation has been solved by the city. We have owned this property for many years and have not had issues maintaining the cleanliness of the alleyway until the past few years where we have seen a marked rise in people trespassing on our property. We believe we should be granted this variance, because there is no other reasonable way to secure the alleyway against this unauthorized use.

From: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2025 12:50 PM EDT
To: Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: RE: Downtown Fence/Gate Ordinance
Attachment(s): "PlanBTV-Downtown-Code-PDF 14 6 8 b.pdf"

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Scott Gustin references Sec. 14.6.8 b). I've attached that page here.

I think the issue is both the height restriction of 4' in the first lot layer [14.6.8 b) v. A.], and the flexibility of materials [14.6.8 b) v. B. & C.]. I understand if the city wants a 'public facing' gate to look nice, but I don't think anyone's batting an eye at a loading dock...

I know A.J. Larosa also had some thoughts on the DRB's flexibility around granting variances.

I'm happy with either route as long as we can reasonably secure the alleyway.

Thanks,

Ryan

From: Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 12:31 PM
To: Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com>
Subject: Re: Downtown Fence/Gate Ordinance

I'm sure I can dig it out of the materials Evan provided but what I need to know is which specific ordinance is standing in way.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 4, 2025, at 9:57AM, Ryan Nick <RNick@jldavisrealty.com> wrote:

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Good morning Council President Traverse,

Councilor Litwin told me to reach out to you regarding our request to update the downtown fence ordinance. Please see my initial email outreach below.

We had to install a gate to secure the CVS loading dock and were told by the city that the gate we installed was not allowed under the current code. We're also not the only property owners with this issue, I understand the Ronald McDonald House is also trying to increase their fencing. Attached are some of the documents related to our request for a variance, which was denied. Happy to talk more about this issue and figure out a way forward.

Please let me know best next steps and if you need more information.

Thank you and I appreciate your service to our city,

Ryan

Ryan Nick
NAI/J.L. Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
802-316-5049

From: Ryan Nick
Sent: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 3:47 PM
To: elitwin@burlingtonvt.gov
Subject: Downtown Gate Ordinance

Councilor Litwin,

Thank you for speaking with me the other day about potential updates to the downtown fence ordinance. Given the

changes of the past few years, downtown property owners have found themselves needing to secure their properties against unlawful use and trespass. Unfortunately, many of these methods are incompatible with the current zoning code and what is allowed by the city. Attached is some information about the process we went through with the Department of Permitting and Inspections and our variance hearing at the DRB, which was denied.

It would be great to be great to work with you and your colleagues to update the relevant ordinances to allow for reasonable fencing to protect ourselves, our employees, and our tenants.

Please let me know best next steps and if you need more information.

Thanks again,

Ryan

Ryan Nick
NAI/J.L. Davis Realty
29 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Burlington, VT 05401
802-316-5049

<29-35_Church_Street_staff_report_Fri_Mar_21_2025_09-13-49.pdf>
<29-35_Church_Street_staff_report_Tue_Apr_22_2025_09-12-10.pdf>
<Church_St_29-35_ZP_25-43_FOF_Thu_May_8_2025_09-09-35.pdf>
<Gate Variance Letter.docx>

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.

14.6.8- SITE AND LANDSCAPE STANDARDS

- a) **Purpose and Applicability.** Landscaping shall be used to add visual interest, scale, and color to the development site and to provide specific functions and benefits to the uses and Buildings on the site. These include but are not limited to stormwater retention and erosion control, winter windbreaks and summer shade, recreational and habitat corridors, buffers and screening of parking areas, and creating privacy for and from adjacent property. The following are required in each Form District.
- b) **Site Standards:**
- i. All utility service connections shall be underground for new construction, and is recommended for existing Buildings undergoing Substantial Modification.
 - ii. The following items are prohibited in the First Lot Layer: electrical transformers, exhaust vents, HVAC, and other mechanical equipment unless they are placed underground; utility or gas meters; solar collection devices and wind turbines; antennas, satellite dishes, and other telecommunications equipment; solid waste containers, swimming pools, dog houses and runs, hot tubs, and spas.
 - iii. Ground level electrical transformers, HVAC, and other mechanical equipment; antennas, satellite dishes and other telecommunications equipment; and utility boxes and gas meters shall be designed so they do not Encroach on walkways or parking areas, and shall be screened from view from any Public Frontage. They shall not be obstructed by landscaping or hardscape such that meter readers and maintenance personnel are unable to open or Access utilities devices.
 - iv. Utility boxes and gas meters located Adjacent to Driveways, Parking Areas, Rear Lanes, Alleys, or Rear Access Easements, shall require 2 48-inch high, 6-in x 6-in bollards set in concrete to protect them from damage from vehicles.
 - v. Fences and Free-standing Walls:
 - A. Fences and Free-standing Walls placed within the First Lot Layer shall not exceed 4-feet in height. Fences and Free-standing Walls placed within the Second or Third Lot Layer shall not exceed 8-feet in height unless a different height limit is specified under the applicable Form District or Frontage Type.
 - B. Materials used for Fences and Free-standing Walls shall be limited to Brick and tile masonry; Native or sintered stone; Wood – panels, clapboard or shingles; Cementitious siding, metal, and woven or braided cable wire. Chain-link and welded-wire fencing shall not be used along any Frontage Line with the exception of the temporary 20 enclosure of a construction site, or where required by the Building Official to protect public safety. Barbed or razor wire shall not be used in any application. Alternate materials may be approved by the Administrative Officer after seeking input from the Design Advisory Board. Alternate materials must be considered equivalent or better than the materials listed above, and must demonstrate successful, high quality local installations. Regionally-available materials are preferred.
 - C. All fences and free-standing walls shall be installed so that a finished side faces outward towards the adjacent property or public Frontage.
- c) **Landscape Standards:**
- i. The installed landscape shall consist primarily of durable species tolerant of urban conditions, and pre-existing noxious or invasive plants species identified on the prohibited plant list shall be removed.
 - ii. The spacing and placement of all installed plants shall be adequate and appropriate for the typical size, shape, and habit of the plant species at maturity.
 - iii. Bare and exposed ground on the site and/or in landscaped areas shall be covered with live plant materials and/or Mulch, with the exception of naturally occurring dunes, creek beds, rock outcroppings, or similar landscape features typically lacking in vegetation; and clay or sand surfaces associated with recreation fields and facilities.
 - iv. Pervious paving materials are encouraged for any paved areas in order to increase storm water infiltration on site.
 - v. Constructed water features, such as fountains, streams, and ponds that operate with water recirculation systems, shall be designed to prevent seepage and leaks.
 - vi. Plantings should be placed at or slightly below grade, and not be mounded up, in order to provide opportunities for storm water infiltration on site.
 - vii. Ground vegetation or Shrub plantings with spines, thorns, or needles that may present hazards to pedestrians, bicyclists or vehicles are prohibited in the first 2 feet of the First Lot Layer.

From: Becca Brown McKnight <bbrownmcknight@burlingtonvt.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2025 10:53 AM EDT
To: Kelly Devine <director@bbavt.org>; Mark Bouchett <mark.homeport@gmail.com>; Kara Alnasrawi <kalnasrawi@burlingtonvt.gov>; Shop Local <shoplocalbtv@gmail.com>; Benjamin Traverse <btraverse@burlingtonvt.gov>; Patricia Pomerleau <[REDACTED]>; Ernie Pomerleau <EPomerleau@vermontrealestate.com>; Evan Litwin <elitwin@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Canadians coming to visit

Thought you would all appreciate seeing this
♥♥♥

1 V.S.A. 317(c)(7)

I wonder if we can set up some kind of Instagram/selfie opportunity with the new sign?

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lori Martin <[REDACTED]>
Date: June 19, 2025 at 10:17:46 AM EDT
To: Becca Brown McKnight <bbrownmcknight@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Canadians coming to visit

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Hello Miss Becca,

My name is Lori Martin and my husband and I are from Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

We just watched your interview with our CTV news station and we can't thank you enough for coming forward with what you had to say. It was very thoughtful of you to mention us Canadians and to name a street after Canada, even if it is temporary. These recent events have undoubtedly been very hurtful to us Canadians. We love our American neighbours and we want to keep it this way (I also have American family members).

My husband and I are coming to visit your city for the first time in mid-July. I have to tell you though, we were very skeptical about booking our stay and we were contemplating cancelling it. After watching your interview we feel much more at ease about coming to visit. Thank you so much for inviting us Canadians back and making us feel welcomed in these uncertain times.

We have a lunch boat tour booked on the Ethan Allen and I was not wanting to cancel that experience! We are looking forward to experiencing Burlington more so now and I'm definitely going to be taking a picture of us on Canada Street!

Thanks again - we hope we can remain best neighbours forever!

Lori Martin
[REDACTED]

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