

Burlington Planning Commission Long Range Planning Committee

Thursday, January 2, 2025, 4:00 PM

Remote & Virtual Meeting via Zoom

In person option available:

Bushor Conference Room (Room 102), 1st Floor of City Hall, 149 Church St.

To Join the Meeting on a Computer

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97941883790?pwd=bGZBNzNyV1liL3p5NkhIL2dqUFIzdz09>

Passcode: 658929

To Join the Meeting on a Phone

Number: +1 646 931 3860 US Meeting ID: 979 4188 3790

1. Agenda

2. Public Forum

3. Chair's Report

4. Long Range Planning Committee Scope

Subject	4.1. Staff to facilitate a discussion of the LRPC's scope and responsibilities.
Meeting	January 2, 2025 - Long Range Planning Committee - Thursday, January 2, 2025, 4:00 PM, Burlington Planning Commission Long Range Planning Committee
Category	4. Long Range Planning Committee Scope
Department	Planning
Type	
Recommended Action	

5. Election of LRPC Vice-Chair

6. Current and Upcoming Planning Efforts

Subject	6.1. Staff to present updates about planning efforts currently underway or set to begin in the near future across Burlington. Committee members are encouraged to ask questions and discuss these efforts.
Meeting	January 2, 2025 - Long Range Planning Committee - Thursday, January 2, 2025, 4:00 PM, Burlington Planning Commission Long Range Planning Committee
Category	6. Current and Upcoming Planning Efforts
Department	Planning

Type

Recommended Action

7. Committee Member Items

8. Adjournment

Long Range Planning Committee

2025.01.02

About the **Long Range Planning Committee**

- Made up of 4 – 5 members and includes:
 - 1 member of the Development Review Board
 - 1 member of the Planning Commission's Executive Committee
 - 2 at-large members of the Planning Commission
 - Appointee from the Design Advisory Board or Conservation Board
- Duties + Functions:
 - The development of an implementation plan for the Municipal Development Plan
 - Develop a process with a budget for each 8 year revision of the Municipal Development Plan
 - Review plans of other departments and the regional planning commission and provide comments to the Planning Commission
 - Other tasks assigned by the Planning Commission

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Goals of January LRPC Meeting

- Elect Vice-Chair of Long-Range Planning Committee
- Receive high-level update on upcoming citywide Comprehensive Plan
- Discuss and provide feedback on the following planning efforts:
 - planBTV: New North End
 - Burlington's Open Space Plan
 - preserveBTV: Burlington's Historic Preservation Plan

The Comprehensive Plan

Comp Plan? What is That?

Comprehensive Plans are the statutory and legal foundation for many things:

- Zoning regulations
- Subdivision regulations
- Official Maps
- Capital Budget and Program
- Impact Fees

Plans are the basis for bylaws and bylaws must be consistent with the plan and must have the purpose of implementing the plan

Comp Plan? **What is That?**

Legal framework is 24 V.S.A. chapter 117:

- Enacted in 1968
- Allows for establishment of Planning Commissions
- Provides option to develop plans and implement them through regulations and capital budgets and programs
- Specifies a process to develop, review and adopt municipal plans
- Includes guidelines and requirements for the content of plans and plan amendments

Comp Plan | Process

Planning Commission, City Council and CCRPC role:

- Municipal Plan is responsibility of the Planning Commission
- City Council may amend and ultimately must adopt
- Regional Planning Commission approval for the following:
 - Consistency with statewide planning goals
 - Compatibility with the Regional Plan (a process the RPC itself manages)
 - Compatibility with approved municipal plans within the region

RPC approval is not necessary, but confers important benefits:

- Access to state planning funds
- Ability to levy impact fees

Comp Plan | Required Elements

Required elements (24 V.S.A. § 4382):

1. Statement of Objectives, Policies and Programs
2. Land Use Plan and Map (Future Land Use Map)
3. Transportation Plan
4. Utility and Facility Plan
5. Conservation and Preservation
6. Schools and Public Education
7. Implementation Program
8. Statement on regional compatibility
9. Energy
10. Housing
11. Economic Development
12. Flood Resilience

VT requires a new comp plan every eight years

It doesn't have to completely re-written – much will remain!

But...a lot has changed since 2019

Comp Plan | VT State Planning Goals

24 V.S.A. 4302:

1. Compact Villages, Urban Centers separated by rural countryside
2. Strong, diverse and environmentally responsible economic dev.
3. Broad educational and vocational training opportunities for residents
4. Safe, economic, and energy efficient transportation systems
5. Identify, protect and preserve natural and cultural features
6. Maintain and improve quality of air, water, wildlife and natural resources
7. Energy systems: prioritize renewables and FF emissions reductions

Comp Plan VT State Planning Goals (there's more!)

24 V.S.A. 4302:

8. Maintain and enhance recreational opportunities
9. Encourage and strengthen agricultural and forest industries
10. Wise and efficient use of VT's natural resources
11. Ensure availability of safe and affordable housing for ALL Vermonters
12. Plan, finance and provide efficient public facilities systems
13. Safe and affordable child care
14. Flood resilient communities

The Comp Plan must demonstrate consistency with ALL of these goals

Comp Plan | CCRPC's Regional Plan

The ECOS Plan:

Environment

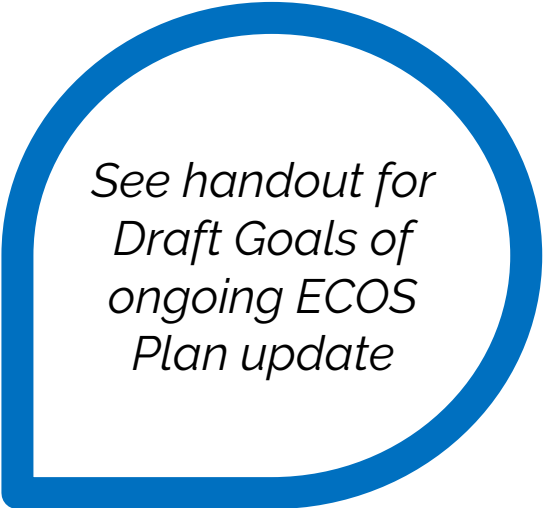
Community

Oppportunity

Sustainability

The ECOS Plan combines three plans in one:

1. Regional Plan
2. Metropolitan Transportation Plan
3. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy



*See handout for
Draft Goals of
ongoing ECOS
Plan update*

Comp Plan | **Approved Plans in our Region**

Status of plan approval in Chittenden County:

- South Burlington: Adopted 2024 (next update: 2032)
- Williston: 2016 (August 25, 2025)
- Winooski: 2019 (2027)
- Shelburne: 2019 (2027)
- Colchester: 2019 (2027)

planBTV | Our Current Plan



preserveBTV
Historic Preservation Plan

planBTV | Our Current Plan



a **dynamic** city.

It is a major growth center in Chittenden County and Vermont, despite occupying just 10 square miles. It will manage future growth by leveraging its unique identity while being nimble, creative, and purposeful in addressing its current needs and future challenges. It will prioritize innovative solutions that are environmentally, economically, and socially sound. *Learn more on page 44.*



an **inclusive** city.

It will grow in a way that meets the needs of and provides opportunity for all residents—current and future. It is part of a region that, together, shares in the responsibility of providing a diverse housing stock and a healthy job market. It is accessible, affordable, provides jobs for all skill levels, and offers meaningful opportunities for participation in decision-making. The city welcomes residents of diverse social, demographic, cultural, and economic backgrounds and of all abilities. *Learn more on page 56.*



a **distinctive** city.

It is an urban village, with a rich architectural legacy set within an exceptional natural setting. Together these characteristics provide the foundation for its vital economy, human-scale environment, and high quality of life. Burlington will remain the core of a regional population, economic and cultural center, and will grow in a way that allows it to meet its current and future needs without compromising these celebrated characteristics. *Learn more on page 32.*



a **connected** city.

It will grow through the benefit of a thoughtful and holistic understanding of the city's many and inter-connected physical, environmental, social, and economic systems, and through the careful coordination of land use and development policies and decisions. *Learn more on page 68.*

planBTV | Our Upcoming Opportunity

New Comprehensive Plan by EOY 2026 (OCP)



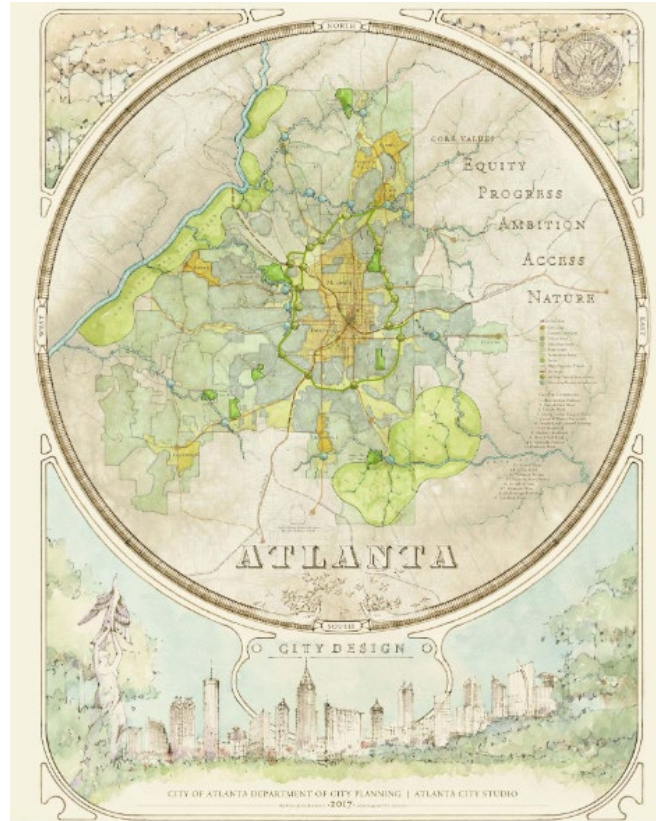
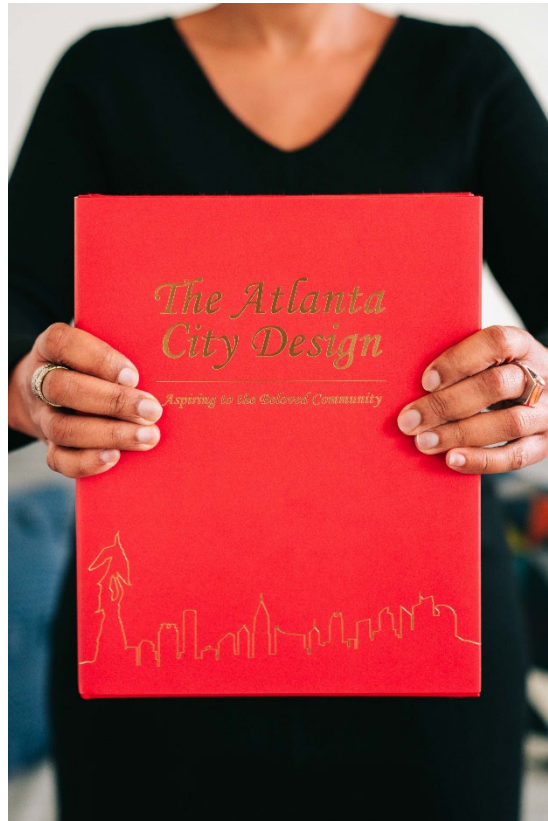
Comprehensive Transportation Plan (DPW)



Comprehensive Parks Plan (BPRW)

We may have a generational opportunity to coordinate these structural elements in a holistic revisioning of how Burlingtonians want to live and how we can be a just, fair, thriving and sustainable city

planBTV | Our Upcoming Opportunity



"Atlanta City Design is not a plan. It is an honest look at who we are as a city and our collective work towards achieving Dr. MLK Jr's vision of the beloved community. It is an aspiration for the future city that Atlantans can fall in love with, knowing that if people love their city, they will make better decisions about it."

Questions?



planBTV: **New North End**

Who's involved?



Who's involved?

City of Burlington:

- Charles Dillard, Director of City Planning
- Sarah Morgan, Planner

Role:

- General Plan Management
- Coordination with other plans
- Data analysis for deliverables
- Lead public engagement efforts
- Other tasks as needed



Who's involved?

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC):

- Eleni Churchill, Transportation Program Manager
- Kate McCarthy, Senior Planner
- Maya Balassa, Planner

Role:

- Assist with Plan management
- Financial Support: Planning effort is made possible through 80% funded by CCRPC



Who's involved?

Consultant Team: Utile

Urban Planning and Design, Engagement, and Management

- **Tim Love**, FAIA, Principal in Charge + Strategic Project Lead
- **Pete Robie**, Project Manager, Senior Urban Planner + Designer
- **Zoe Taft Mueller**, Zoning + Engagement Advisor, Senior Urban Planner
- **Alex Davis**, Architect
- **JT Keller**, Urban Planner
- **Courtney McCracken**, Urban Designer



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- **Alex Davis**, Architect
- **JT Keller**, Urban Planner
- **Courtney McCracken**, Urban Designer

*Working with **Samantha Dunn**, Strategic Advisor on Local Real Estate + Permitting



Who's involved?

Consultant Team: Nelson\Nygaard

Transportation

- Bethany Whitaker, Principal in Charge
- Alex Mercuri, Project Manager



Who's involved?

Consultant Team: Landwise

Real Estate Advisory

- Jon Trementozzi, Principal in Charge
- Amy Fater, Project Manager



Who's involved?

Consultant Team: Wagner Hodgson

Landscape, Placemaking

- Jeff Hodgson, Principal in Charge
- Amy Houghton, Project Manager

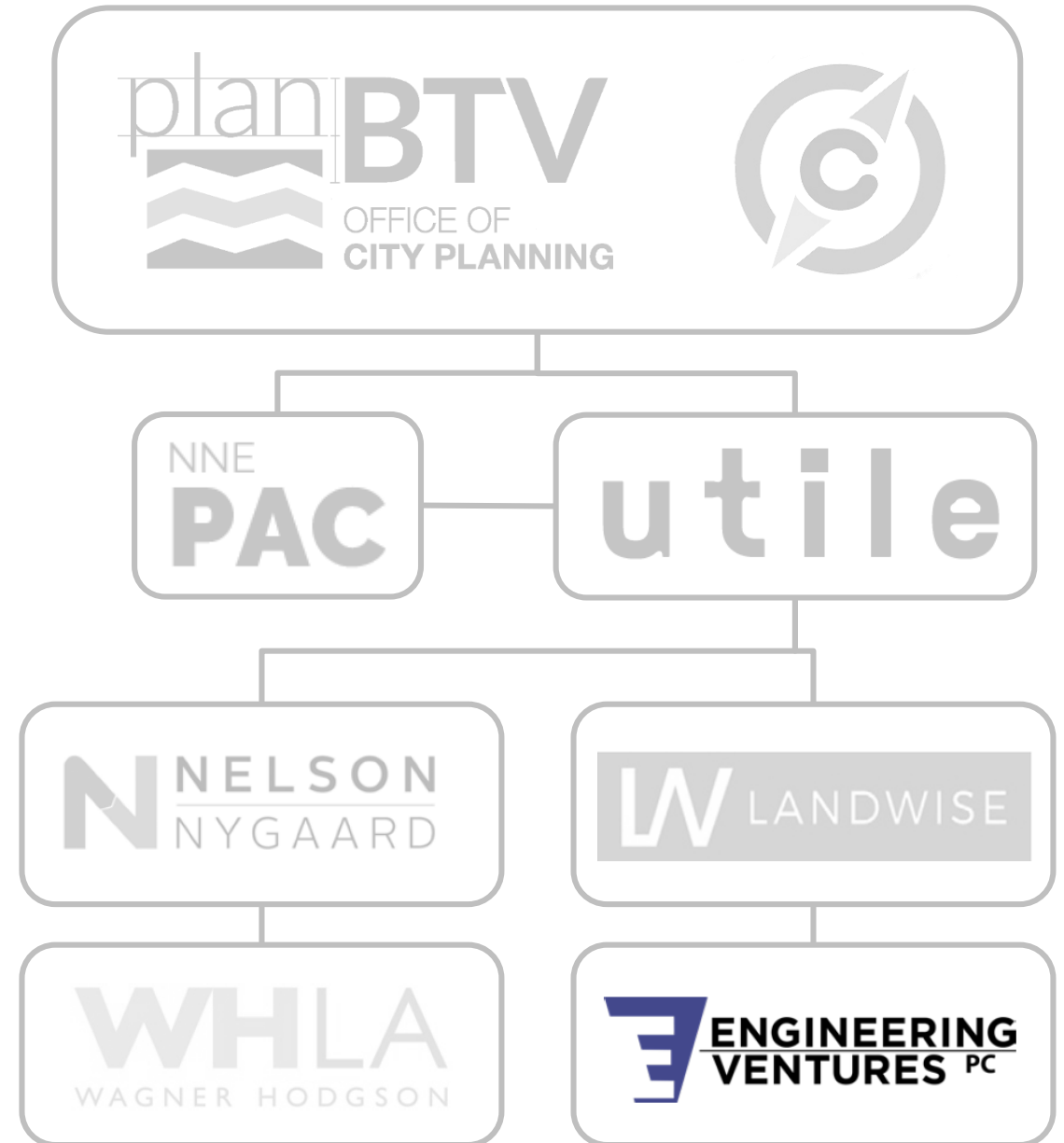


Who's involved?

Consultant Team: Engineering Ventures

Civil / Infrastructure

- Kevin Worden, PE, Principal in Charge
- Paul Boisvert, PE, Project Manager



Who's involved?

Planning Advisory Committee

Community Members + Stakeholders

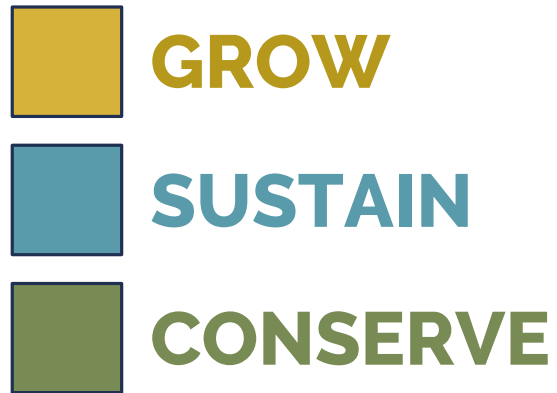
Role of the PAC:

- Provide community guidance and feedback throughout the planning process
- Review work at project milestones
- Help spread the word about the Plan by sharing information with their neighbors, groups they're involved in, and the community at large



planBTV's vision for the New North End

Burlington's Future Land Use
Framework from the *planBTV*:
Comprehensive Plan identifies areas in
Burlington where we are planning to...



planBTV's vision for the New North End

GROW our neighborhood centers,
along major thoroughfares, and in other
institutional areas



planBTV's vision for the New North End

SUSTAIN residential neighborhoods by
facilitating and encouraging incremental
change to increase housing options

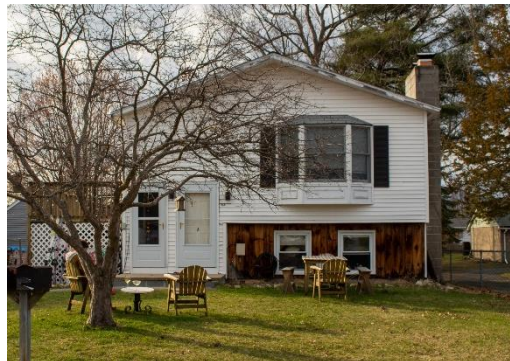
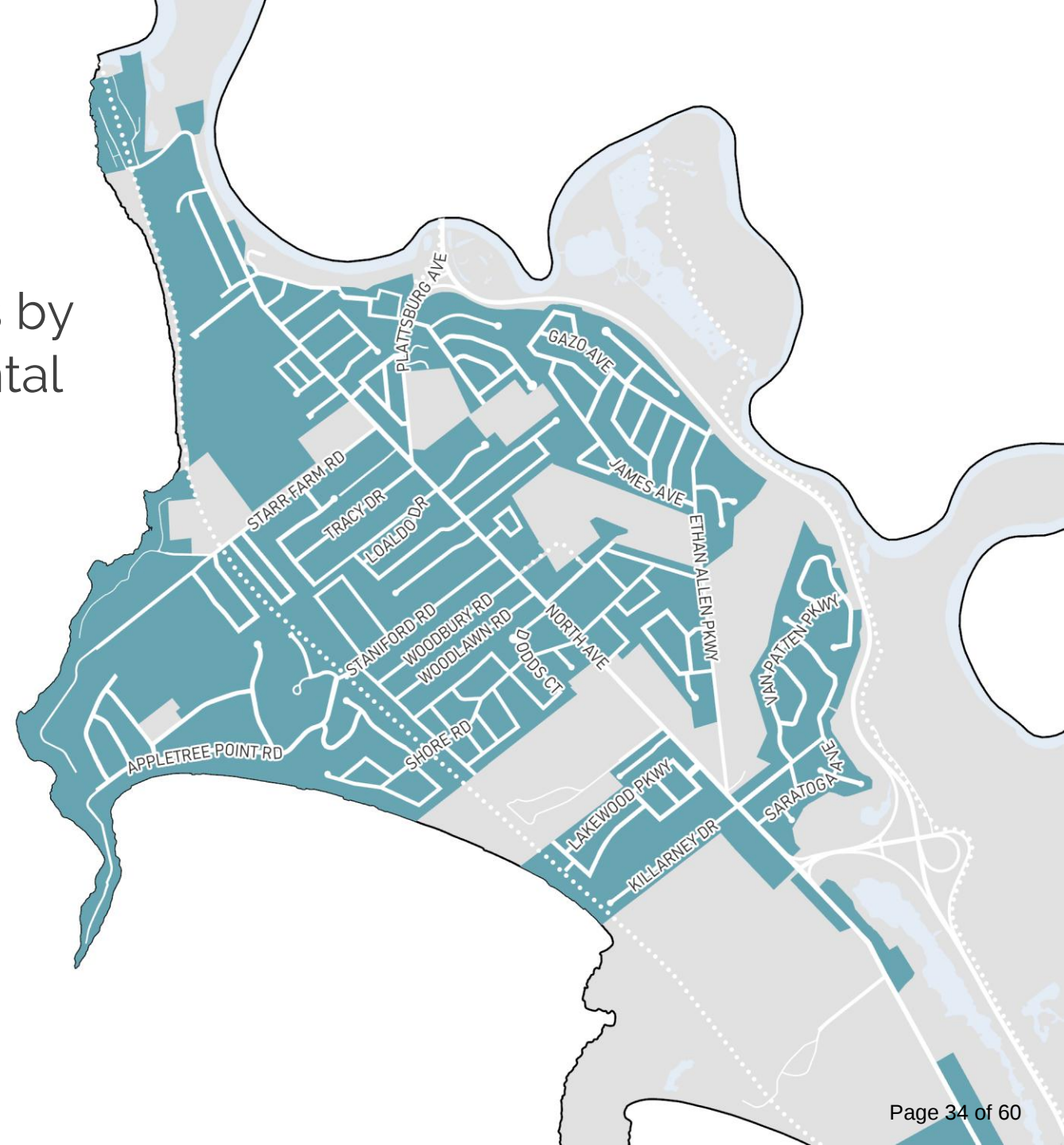


Image Source: New Frameworks



planBTV's vision for the New North End

CONSERVE areas like parks and other open spaces to promote joy, community, and public and ecological health



planBTV: New North End **Goals**

- Establish a long-term vision for Burlington's New North End and inform the Citywide Comprehensive Plan
- Guide future growth & infrastructure investments to create a vibrant, welcoming, accessible, and sustainable collection of distinct districts and neighborhoods
- Create benchmarks to measure the success of Plan implementation efforts and strategies

Three Phases:

- 1 **Visioning** the Future
- 2 **Planning + Urban Design**
- 3 Assembling **The Plan**

planBTV: New North End **Topics**

Identity of the New North End

How can the New North End become an evolving collection of distinct neighborhoods that have adequate access to a variety of services? What is the role of land use policy?

Transportation + Mobility Options

How can we create a more dynamic North Avenue corridor with multimodal (bicycle, pedestrian, accessible modes, and transit) amenities?

Balancing **Growth + Greenspace**

What are design, landscaping, and placemaking strategies that can positively impact both the New North Ends ecology while also allowing for necessary development?

Identifying **Growth Areas**

Where in the neighborhood should higher-intensity development occur?

1 Visioning the Future

2 Planning + Urban Design

3 Assembling The Plan

Task 1.1: Existing Conditions + Issue Identification

Sub-Task	Deliverables
Existing Conditions Analysis	Summary Assessment of Current and Future Conditions, including the Equity Assessment, maps, data visualization and other necessary materials
Equity Assessment	
Form Planning Advisory Committee	

Task 1.2: Establish Vision + Values

Sub-Task	Deliverables
Public Visioning Engagement	- Draft Vision Statement, Community values, and list of all Challenges + Opportunities. - Sub-Areas + Focus Areas Summary - Summary of all public engagement efforts
Establish Vision Statement + Community Values	
Establish Sub-Areas + Focus Areas	

Task 1.3: Consultant Onboarding

Sub-Task	Deliverables
Consultant Kick-Off with City + PAC	Public Engagement Plan
Create Public Engagement Plan	



1 Visioning the Future

2 Planning + Urban Design

3 Assembling The Plan

Task 2.1: Sub-Area Planning

Sub-Task	Deliverables
Infill Analysis	- Individual Sub-Area Plans incorporating the work of each sub-task. - Four Individual Focus Area Frameworks, including conceptual mobility infrastructure, public realm elements, and building scale and location. - Public Engagement Summary
Focus Area Frameworks	
Integrating planBTV: Walk Bike Action Plan Update	
Neighborhood TDM Planning	
Placemaking, Public Art and Open Space	
Water, Wastewater + Stormwater Infrastructure Field Assessment	

Task 2.2: Area-Wide Mobility Planning

Sub-Task	Deliverables
North Avenue Multi-Modal Concepts	- North Avenue Plan, including conceptual plans for major intersections + Focus Area access points. - Burlington Greenway Framework Plan - VT 127 Shared Use Path preferred connection - Public Engagement Summary
Burlington Greenway	
VT 127 Shared Use Path	

1 Visioning
the Future

2 Planning +
Urban Design

3 Assembling
The Plan

Task 3.1: New North End Plan Assembly

Sub-Task	Deliverables
Regulatory Review	• Regulatory Review Memo • Equity Impact Assessment Memo • Final work product in the form of full text and graphics for each plan chapter • Implementation Matrix
Summary Equity Assessment	
Draft Plan Content	
Implementation Matrix	

About Sub-Areas

- Sub-Areas are neighborhoods or groups of neighborhoods that will make the plan's place- and mobility-based planning goals a reality. Think of sub-areas as mini Area Plans within the larger NNE area plan.
- Determined by PAC to represent locals' sense of identity and NNE lifestyles



Recent Updates:

- **November 14th: PAC Kickoff Meeting**
 - Met with Planning Advisory Committee to introduce the Plan, scope, project team, and the role of the PAC



Recent Updates:

- November 14th: PAC Kickoff Meeting
- **December 17th: Neighborhood Visioning Workshop**
 - Precursor to the Plan Kickoff, opportunity to build momentum, discuss and identify community values, visions, and priorities with residents.



Recent Updates:

- November 14th: PAC Kickoff Meeting
- December 17th: Neighborhood Visioning Workshop
- **Coming Soon - planBTV NNE Kickoff Event**
 - Thursday, January 23rd from 6 – 8pm at St. Mark's Entertainment Center



Questions?

Open Space Plan

Rewrite of the 25-year old plan & combination with Urban Forest Plan

Open Space Plan Team:

- ▶ A collaborative effort
 - ▶ UVM Spatial Analysis Lab
 - ▶ Agency Landscape & Planning
 - ▶ Permitting & Inspections, Office of City Planning, Parks & Rec

Foundational Areas:

- ▶ Natural areas
- ▶ Parks
- ▶ Working lands
- ▶ Water & wetlands
- ▶ Auxiliary green spaces
- ▶ Green infrastructure
- ▶ Tree canopy

Project Timeline:

- ▶ Kickoff, summer 2024
 - ▶ Needs and values assessments
- ▶ Envision the future, fall & winter 2024-2025
 - ▶ Round 1, solicit input to create a plan framework
 - ▶ Stakeholder discussions
 - ▶ Public engagement
 - ▶ Boards & commissions
- ▶ Create a roadmap, spring & summer 2025
 - ▶ Round 2, present draft and make refinements
 - ▶ Additional stakeholder discussions & public engagement
 - ▶ Plan review and adoption by Planning Commission and City Council

Stakeholder Groups:

- ▶ Education & outdoor recreation
- ▶ Urban agriculture and food systems
- ▶ Large landowners
- ▶ GSI & built environment
- ▶ State partners
- ▶ Land stewardship
- ▶ City team
- ▶ Inclusion, equity, & access (integrated throughout)

Emerging Themes:

- ▶ Connectivity and supportive frameworks
- ▶ Communities of care
- ▶ Balance and flexibility to do the work
- ▶ Challenges to successful open space

Some Key Considerations:

- ▶ Whether and how to revamp the Conservation Legacy Fund to support conservation infrastructure
- ▶ How best to shape our changing landscape in the coming years
- ▶ Climate change and resiliency
- ▶ Basis for a new Tree Ordinance
- ▶ Green design standards

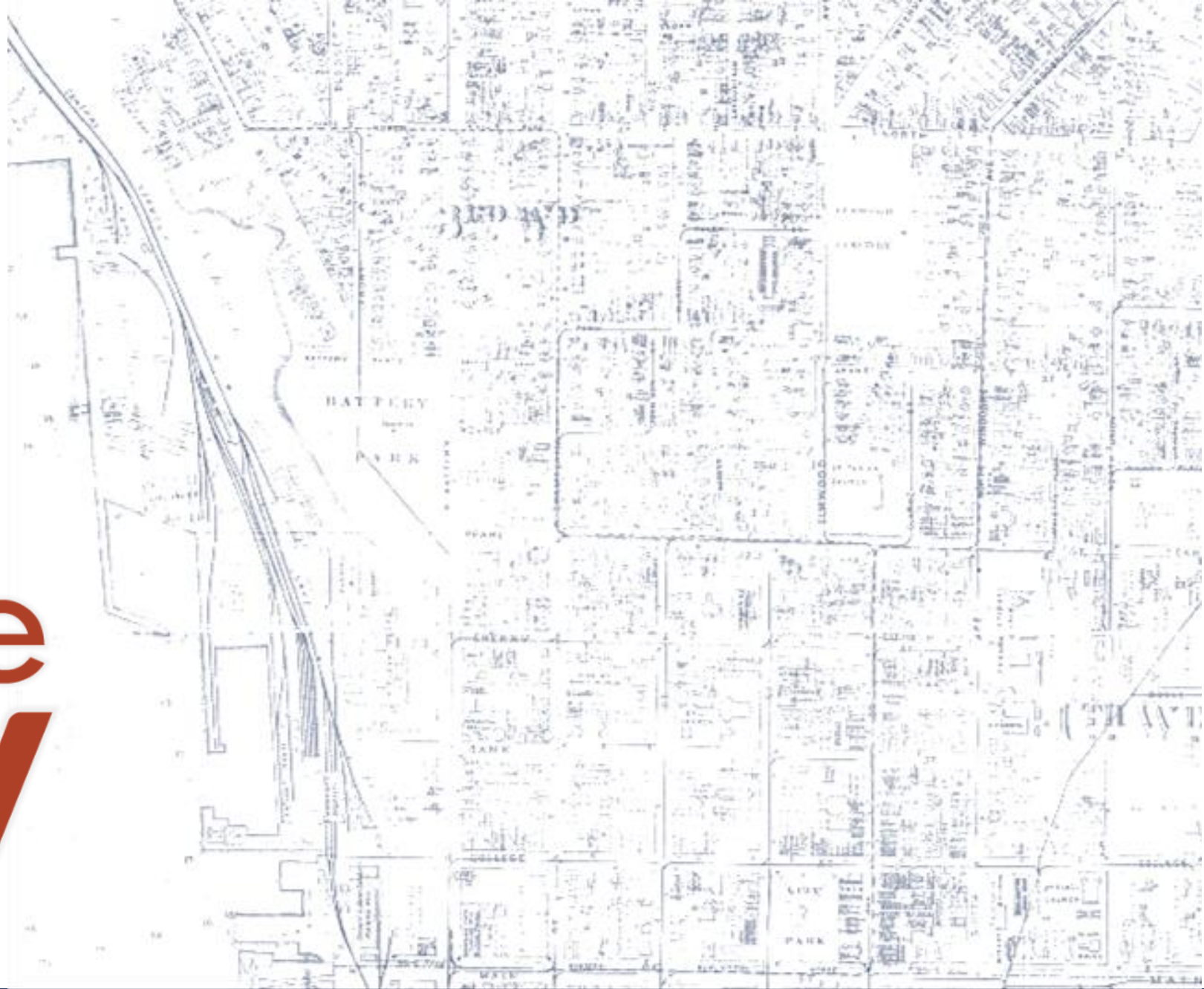
Upcoming Steps:

- ▶ Create a plan for public engagement
- ▶ Execute the plan for public engagement in a variety of formats
 - ▶ Presence at popular events like the winter farmers market and Wintervale
 - ▶ Pop-up event(s)
 - ▶ Traditional board and commission meetings
 - ▶ Online
- ▶ Draft outline
- ▶ Thoughts or recommendations from the LRPC?

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.

Questions?

preserve BTV



preserveBTV: Burlington's Preservation Plan

- Citywide visioning document that identifies priorities for preservation that will enable sustainable, long-term use of the city's historic structures.
- Led by Office of City Planning with support from Dept. of Permitting & Inspections

Recent Updates:

- RFP issued Nov. 14 and closed on Dec. 18
- 5 firms and 1 individual submitted proposals
- Staff reviewing proposals on January 3rd and aim to begin project in coming months
- Project will be completed no later than June 1, 2026

*preserve*BTv Goals

- 1 Create a **strategic roadmap** to advance adopted comprehensive plan goals to preserve and foster the City's distinctive identity **by protecting historic and archaeological resources**, while **encouraging adaptive reuse, infill, and redevelopment**.
- 2 **Review and align historic regulations** within the Comprehensive Development Ordinance with **identified preservation priorities** and appropriate municipal oversight.
- 3 Recommend **priorities and actions** for Burlington's preservation program moving forward, **providing clarity** on the identification, evaluation, and current status of surveyed areas.
- 4 **Explore benefits** to owners of historic properties, and incorporate recommendations that incentivize and support a **positive approach to preservation**.

preserveBTV Scope of Work

Task 1: Consultant Onboarding + Orientation

Sub-Task	Deliverables
1a: Kickoff Meeting	Stakeholder Engagement + Public Comment Work Plan, including but not limited to a meeting/event schedule
1b: Community Outreach + Education Plan	

Task 2: Analysis of Existing Regulatory Process

Sub-Task	Deliverables
2a: Review of Existing Regulatory Process and Past Planning Efforts	- Analysis and summary of findings to be presented to the internal project team and relevant City boards/commissions. - Summary of the assessment of the preservation program
2b: Assessment of City's Existing Preservation Program	

Task 3: Assessment of Existing Inventory and Potential Historic Resources

Sub-Task	Deliverables
3a: Audit of Existing Inventory	- Recommendations for revisions to listed historic districts (including additional resources where appropriate) to be conducted in future CLG work. - Summary of recommendations presented to the internal project team covering (1) future research and Historic Sites and Survey work and (2) potential historic resources, with photos and GIS data, identified by the consultant.
3b: Identify potential historic resources	

*preserve*BTv Scope of Work

Task 4: Draft Recommendations

Sub-Task	Deliverables
4a: Draft Vision Statement	• Draft vision statement • Summaries and meeting materials of all public meetings as part of this process • Recommendations regarding the city's CDO, non-regulatory policies, city staff, the Historic Preservation Review Committee, and the Design Advisory Board • Summaries and photos of historic resources determined to no longer be eligible to the district. • Draft language for revisions to the city's CDO • Implementation Matrix • Draft Historic Preservation Plan
4b: Regulatory & Non-Regulatory Recommendations	
4c: Draft Plan Content	
4d: Public Review of Draft Plan	

Task 5: Final Plan Documents

- Final historic preservation plan document
- All GIS data in shapefile format for the project

Questions?