



City Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/91724141970>

Phone one-tap:

+13052241968,,91724141970# US

Join via audio:

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Webinar ID: 917 2414 1970

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/adsDBhQjXV>

****CCTV link: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIjLFn4BZd2PwCge7lNoKug676jIf_iUA ****

1. Agenda

Subject	1.1. Motion to adopt agenda
Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	1. Agenda
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to adopt agenda
Subject	1.2. City Of Burlington Warning March 4th, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing

Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	1. Agenda
Department	Clerk/Treasurer's Office
Type	Information

Subject 1.3. Explanation by The City Attorney Town Meeting Day, March 4, 2025

Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	1. Agenda
Department	City Attorney
Type	Information

2. Approval Of School Budget For Fiscal Year 2026

Subject 2.1. Approval of School Budget for Fiscal Year 2026

Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	2. Approval Of School Budget For Fiscal Year 2026
Department	Burlington School District
Type	Information Presentation

3. Pledging The Credit Of The City To Issue General Obligation Bonds For The City's Five-Year Capital Plan

Subject 3.1. Pledging The Credit Of The City To Issue General Obligation Bonds For The City's Five-Year Plan

Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	3. Pledging The Credit Of The City To Issue General Obligation Bonds For The City's Five-Year Capital Plan
Department	Clerk/Treasurer's Office
Type	Information Presentation

4. Issuance Of Revenue Bonds For Wastewater And Stormwater Utility Projects

Subject 4.1. Issuance Of Revenue Bonds For Wastewater and Stormwater Utility Projects

Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	4. Issuance Of Revenue Bonds For Wastewater And Stormwater Utility Projects
Department	Public Works Department - Water Resources
Type	Information Presentation

5. Issuance Of Revenue Bonds For Drinking Water Utility Projects

Subject	5.1. Issuance Of Revenue Bonds For Drinking Water Utility Projects
Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Issuance Of Revenue Bonds For Drinking Water Utility Projects
Department	Clerk/Treasurer's Office
Type	Information Presentation

6. Charter Change Re: Ban On Firearms In Any Establishment With A Liquor License

Subject	6.1. Charter Change Re: Ban On Firearms In Any Establishment With A Liquor License
Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Charter Change Re: Ban On Firearms In Any Establishment With A Liquor License
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

7. Charter Change Re: Redistricting By City Council

Subject	7.1. Charter Change Re; Redistricting By City Council
Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	7. Charter Change Re: Redistricting By City Council
Department	Council and Board
Type	
Recommended Action	

8. Charter Change Re: City Council Authority To Regulate Rental Notifications And Notification Periods

Subject	8.1. Charter Change Re: City Council Authority To Regulate Rental Notifications And Notification Periods
Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	8. Charter Change Re: City Council Authority To Regulate Rental Notifications And Notification Periods
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

9. Adjournment

Subject	9.1. Motion to adjourn
Meeting	February 12, 2025 - March 4, 2025 Annual City Election Public Information Hearing - Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:30 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	9. Adjournment
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to adjourn

CITY OF BURLINGTON WARNING
March 4th, 2025 ANNUAL CITY ELECTION
PUBLIC INFORMATION HEARING

A **Public Information Hearing on the Public Questions to be voted on** at the Annual City Election will be held on **Wednesday, February 12th, 2025** at 5:30pm. The hearing will be held in Contois Auditorium, in City Hall, in Burlington, Vermont and will also be streamed via Zoom.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/91724141970>

Phone one-tap: +1 305 224 1968 US

Join via audio: +1 305 224 1968 US

Webinar ID: 917 2414 1970

Members of the public wishing to speak remotely may sign up in advance here:

<https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/citycouncil/publicforum>

The hearing will provide information on the following seven public questions that have been placed on the ballot, the full text of which can be found posted in the City Clerk's Office and on the City's webpage <https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/192/Sample-Ballots-Warnings-Notices> :

1. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026
2. PLEDGING THE CREDIT OF THE CITY TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR THE CITY'S FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN
3. ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS FOR WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER UTILITY PROJECTS
4. ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS FOR DRINKING WATER UTILITY PROJECTS
5. CHARTER CHANGE RE: BAN ON FIREARMS IN ANY ESTABLISHMENT WITH A LIQUOR LICENSE
6. CHARTER CHANGE RE: REDISTRICTING BY CITY COUNCIL
7. CHARTER CHANGE RE: CITY COUNCIL AUTHORITY TO REGULATE RENTAL NOTIFICATIONS AND NOTIFICATION PERIODS

For more information, contact the Burlington Clerk/Treasurer's Office, 802-865-7000 or burlingtontownclerk@burlingtonvt.gov

Explanation by the City Attorney
Town Meeting Day, March 4, 2025

The Annual Town Meeting Day city election has been warned for Tuesday, March 4, 2025. More information is available here: <https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/192/Sample-Ballots-Warnings-Notices>. On the date of the election, voters will have the opportunity to vote on the following six (6) City articles, in addition to other matters warned for the election:

Proposed Charter Amendments

Vermont's General Assembly has adopted a Charter for the City of Burlington, which describes the manner in which the City's government shall be organized and the powers that the City may exercise. Proposed amendments to the Charter may be submitted to voters by City Council resolution or by petition. If a proposed Charter amendment passes by a majority vote, then it is forwarded to the General Assembly. The General Assembly must first approve the amendment before it becomes part of the Charter.

Charter Amendment to Ban Firearms in Any Establishment with a Liquor License

The City Council has proposed adding a section to the City Charter relating to banning firearms in any Burlington establishment with a first-class liquor license. State statute, 24 V.S.A. §2295, prohibits municipalities from regulating the carrying of firearms; therefore, the City's Charter does not presently contain any provision allowing the City to regulate firearm possession within the City. To add a section to the Charter relating to regulating possession of a firearm in an establishment with a liquor license requires approval by the General Assembly, if passed by a majority of Burlington voters.

This amendment would prohibit any person from carrying or possessing a firearm, as defined by State statute, in any building or on any real property or parking area under the ownership or control of an establishment licensed to serve alcohol on its premises. Certain exceptions are included in the proposed amendment for law enforcement officers and members of the armed forces of the U.S. or the Vermont National Guard who are acting within the scope of their official duties; government officers, agents, or employees who are authorized to carry a weapon and who are acting within the scope of their official duties; and owners or operators of such establishments as long as that owner or operator is otherwise lawfully permitted to possess or carry a firearm.

Penalties for violation of the proposed new section of the Charter may include a Criminal conviction punishable by imprisonment and a fine, and/or a Civil Ordinance violation punishable by a fine and civil forfeiture of the weapon.

A "yes" vote means the proposed Charter amendment would be forwarded to the General Assembly, which could then enact the amendment. A "no" vote means that the Charter amendment would not be forwarded to the General Assembly for further consideration.

It should be noted that on Town Meeting Day in 2014, Burlington voters already approved this proposed Charter amendment. The General Assembly has not yet acted on the proposal, but members of the General Assembly have expressed willingness to sponsor legislation enacting it if approved again by voters this Town Meeting Day.

Charter Amendment to Regulate Rental Notifications and Notification Periods

State law (9 V.S.A., ch. 137) regulates residential tenancies and, among other matters, establishes rules regarding rental notifications. The City Charter, Article 19, Section 48(64) (A), (64) (B), and (65), allow the City Council to establish different rental notification periods than those that apply to other municipalities under state law. Specifically, as currently drafted, the Charter requires landlords to provide between 90 and 120 days' notice to terminate residential leases, based upon the duration of the tenancy. Tenants are required to provide two rental periods' notice to terminate, and rental increases require 90 days' notice from landlords.

The City Council has proposed amendments to Article 19, Section 48 (64) (A), (64) (B), and (65) of the City Charter. The proposed amendments would empower the City Council to establish, by ordinance, requirements that residential landlords provide tenants notice prior to termination of residential tenancies, including requirements for the contents and timing of such notices and also including special notice requirements for vulnerable populations including elderly tenants, tenants with disabilities, and low-income tenants. The amendments would also empower the City Council to establish, by ordinance, requirements that residential tenants provide landlords notice prior to termination of tenancies, including requirements for the contents and timing of such notices. The amendments would also empower the City Council to prohibit increases in rent or other changes in lease terms for rental housing within the City without advance notice. The timing, contents, and manner of giving such notice would be established by ordinance, which may include special notice requirements for vulnerable populations, including elderly tenants, tenants with disabilities, and low-income tenants. The amendments would eliminate the specific notification periods that are presently reflected in the Charter, thereby allowing the City Council discretion to determine the notification periods that would apply.

A “yes” vote means the proposed Charter amendments would be forwarded to the General Assembly, which could then enact the amendments. A “no” vote means that the Charter amendments would not be forwarded to the General Assembly for further consideration, and the existing rental notification requirements would remain in effect.

Charter Amendment Regarding Redistricting

Article 2, Section 2 of the City's Charter provides detailed legal descriptions of the boundaries of each of the City's eight wards and four City Council districts. From time to time, changes are required to these boundaries to address population changes to ensure the principle of one person, one vote. However, the legal effect of describing the boundaries of each ward and district in the Charter is that redistricting requires approval from the City Council, the City's legal voters, and the Vermont General Assembly. This process is unique among Vermont cities, whose charters

typically provide either for council elections at-large or for elections from wards whose boundaries are established by ordinance or similar means.

The proposed amendment would delete Article 2, Section 2 in its entirety and replace it with language requiring that: (1) the current boundaries last approved by the General Assembly will remain in effect until altered; (2) not more frequently than once every five years, the City Council may propose adjustments to ward and district boundaries based on U.S. Census Bureau data; and (3) these changes will take effect upon approval by voters. The effect of this amendment is that the General Assembly no longer would be required to approve redistricting plans for the City of Burlington.

A “yes” vote means the proposed Charter amendment would be forwarded to the General Assembly, which could then enact the amendment. A “no” vote means that the Charter amendment would not be forwarded to the General Assembly for further consideration, and the existing redistricting process would remain in effect.

Proposed Bond Measures

General Obligation Bond

Section 63 of the City Charter authorizes the City, with voter approval, to issue bonds, notes, and other debt instruments that will become a general obligation of the City. Voter approval must be by two-thirds vote. Such obligations are repaid from property tax assessments on the grand list.

The City has deferred maintenance and other capital needs, as outlined in its FY 2026 to 2023 Capital Plan, available for review here: <https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1746/32---FY26-30-Capital-Plan>. To help pay for these capital needs, the City Council is asking voters to approve the issuance of up to \$20 million in general obligation bonds or notes. These obligations would be issued from Fiscal Year 2026 through Fiscal Year 2028. More information about the proposed use of the bonds and cost to taxpayers may be found here: <https://burlingtonvt.portal.civicclerk.com/event/7181/files/attachment/7593>.

A “yes” vote would mean that the bond issuance would be authorized by the legal voters. A “no” vote would mean that bond issuance would not be authorized.

Lake Revenue Bond

The City’s Water Resources Department has identified needs for various capital improvements to its wastewater, stormwater, and pollution control system, including capital improvements to its treatment plants and collection systems, as part of Stage 1 of the Water Resources Sustainable Infrastructure Plan. The costs of such improvements are too great to be paid out of the ordinary annual income and revenue of the Wastewater and Stormwater enterprise funds, so that the City must borrow funds to meet the cost of the improvements. More information about the specific needs is available here: <https://burlingtonvt.portal.civicclerk.com/event/7181/files/attachment/7606>.

The City's Charter authorizes the City to issue revenue bonds to make improvements to wastewater and stormwater systems. Such bonds require approval of a majority of voters. These bonds are not a general obligation of the City because only the revenues of the Wastewater and Stormwater enterprise funds are pledged to secure repayment.

To fund the proposed improvements, the City Council is asking voters to authorize issuance of up to \$152 million in revenue bonds. This includes \$138 million for wastewater improvements and \$14 million for stormwater improvements.

A "yes" vote would mean that the bond issuance would be authorized by the legal voters. A "no" vote would mean that bond issuance would not be authorized.

Water Revenue Bond

The City's Water Resources Department has identified needs for various capital improvements to its drinking water reservoir and pump station, the water treatment plant, and the distribution system, including capital improvements to water mains, hydrants, and valves, as part of Stage 1 of the Water Resources Sustainable Infrastructure Plan. The costs of such improvements are too great to be paid out of the ordinary annual income and revenue of the Water enterprise fund, so that the City must borrow funds to meet the cost of the improvements. More information about the specific needs is available here: <https://burlingtonvt.portal.civicclerk.com/event/7181/files/attachment/7606>.

The City's Charter authorizes the City to issue revenue bonds to make improvements to the City's drinking water system. Such bonds require approval of a majority of voters. These bonds are not a general obligation of the City because only the revenues of the Water enterprise fund are pledged to secure repayment. To fund the proposed improvements, the City Council is asking voters to authorize issuance of up to \$20 million in revenue bonds.

A "yes" vote would mean that the bond issuance would be authorized by the legal voters. A "no" vote would mean that bond issuance would not be authorized.

City Council School Budget Update

January 27, 2025



Highlights

The most important information about the FY26 budget

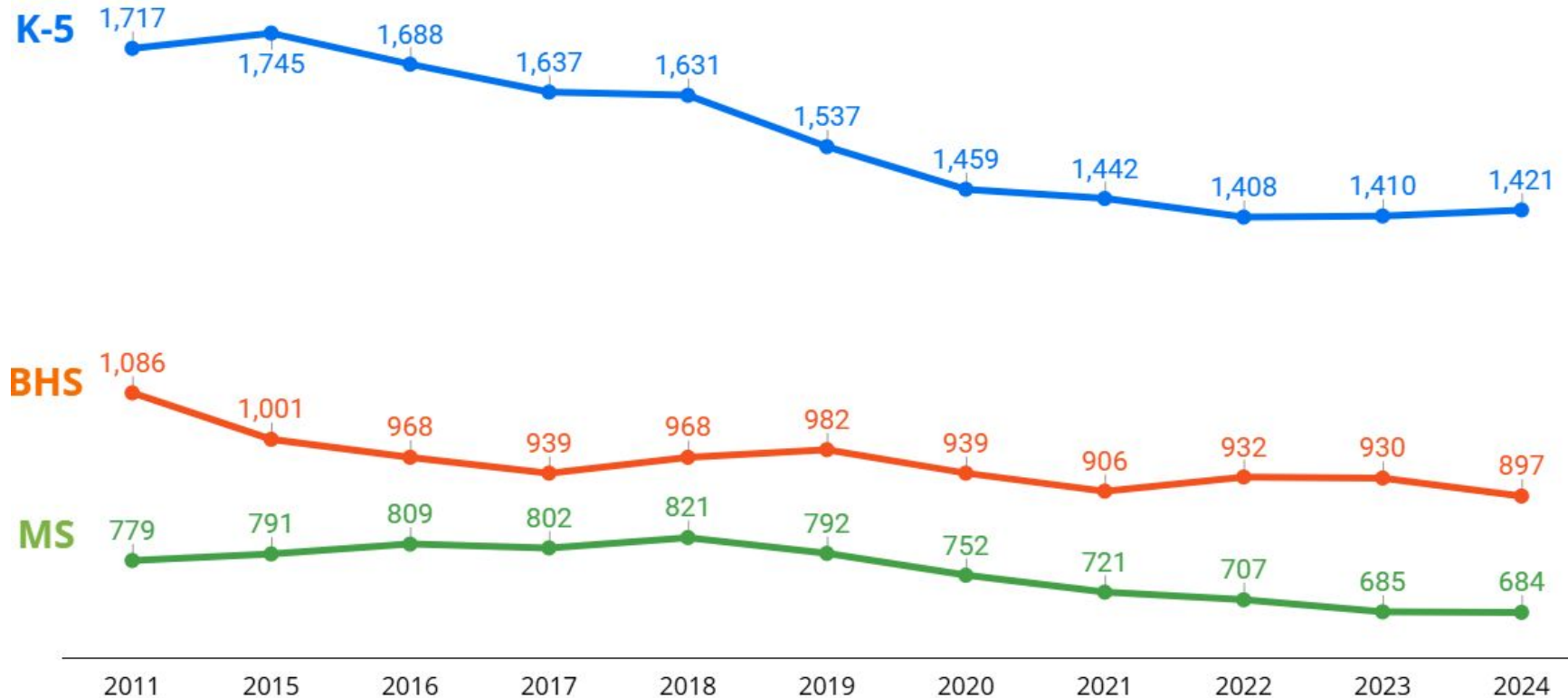
- **4% decrease in education property tax rates is projected from the proposed budget.**
- 12% reduction in the income cap is projected for income-sensitized taxpayers.
- The budget includes no new programs or positions.
- The budget continues our practice of aligning staffing to enrollment, both of which decrease slightly.
- The budget includes funds for capital improvements that do not create any future-year funding obligations.

Budgetary Headwinds

These items are increasing

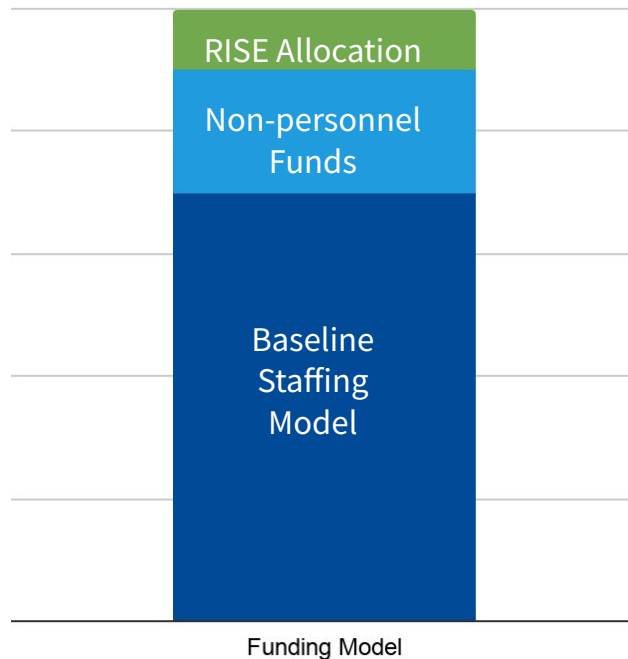
- Wages: Bargaining agreements are being renegotiated. Budget for wage settlements range from 2.4% (inflation) to 4%.
- Benefits: Health insurance premiums are estimated to increase by 11.9%.
- Debt Service: Associated with BHS/BTC and IAA projects.
- Grants: Personnel costs are increasing faster than grant revenues, requiring the General Fund to absorb these costs to maintain the current service level.

BSD Enrollment History



BSD's Equitable Budgeting Model

1. A **staffing model** will provide each school with its core staffing, using staff:student ratios (e.g. 1 counselor staff for every 200 students)
2. Non-personnel funds will be allocated based on a **per-student** basis
3. An Equity Allocation will provide additional funding using a **weighted student formula**.
 - In consultation with the School Advisory Boards, schools decide in how best using these funds.



FY26 School Board Guidance

1. Staffing must be responsive to enrollment changes.
2. Limit budget growth due to BHS/BTC costs.
3. Ensure funding to meet strategic plan objectives.
4. Continue to offer academically rigorous programming for all learners.
5. Budget wage and benefit increases commensurate with the fiscal reality of our community and state.
6. Find ways to reduce the cost per pupil.



BSD's Budget Recommendation to the Board

We are recommending a budget that maintains current services, and;

- Continues to align staffing to enrollment
- Drives funds toward students who need it most with updated RISE allocations
- Reduces central office budgets for a second year

And balances these reductions with funds to maintain buildings.

This proposal will result in an estimated 4% tax rate decrease

FY '26 Budget Proposal Notes

1. End St. Mark's and Sara Holbrook lease (\$200k savings)
2. Align staffing to enrollment - Flynn homeroom and BHS building sub reductions per budget model (\$150k savings)
3. Reduce central office operating budgets by 2% (\$100K savings)
4. Include approximately \$600k to ensure building maintenance obligations

Budget and Tax History

Year	Education Fund Spending	Other Funds (e.g., ESSR)	Overall Budget	Property Tax Impact	Education Spending Per Pupil/LTWADM
FY 23	\$74,097,698	\$31,338,421	\$105,436,119	-3.3%	\$19,310.46
FY 24	\$78,964,438	\$38,795,753	\$117,760,191	4.3%	\$21,325.14
FY 25	\$94,424,438	\$50,515,666	\$144,940,104*	10.4%	\$13,889.62
FY 26	\$103,360,823**	\$31,419,008	\$134,779,831	-4.0%	\$14,825.77

Next year's recommended budget is estimated to reduce property tax rates by 4%

** FY'25's overall budget includes significant funding from the federal government (including federal COVID funds that are expiring) and other sources that do not derive from property tax payers. We had previously reported a lower 'total-budget' amount that excluded these funds. For comparison purposes, this figure has been revised to better align the the Agency of Education' reporting methodology.*

*** The increase in Education Fund Spending from FY'24 to FY'26 is primarily due to the BHS/BTC construction project.*

Breakdown of Education Spending Increases

Proportion of Increased Spending

Wages & Benefits

- Salaries
- Health Insurance

Debt Service

- BHS/BTC new school
- IAA renovations

Capital Improvements

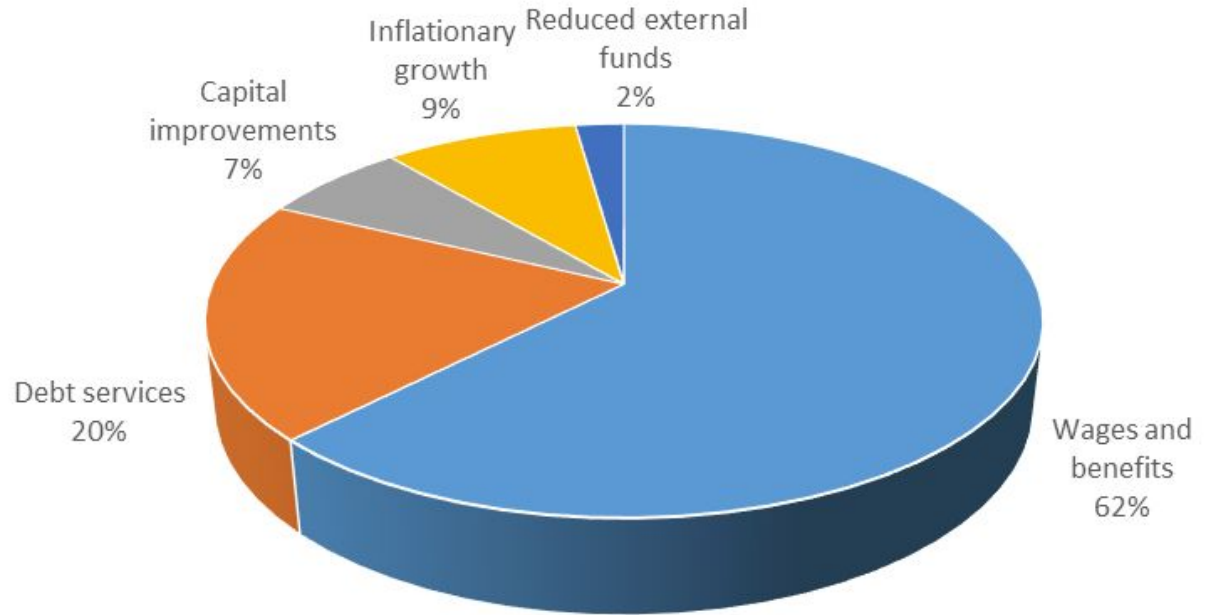
- \$600k facilities fundings

Inflationary Growth

- Lease increases
- Supplies
- Utilities
- Additional RISE funds

Reduced External Funds

- Impact fees
- Special education census grant



Tax Variable Estimates

Key Variables

Status

Education spending	\$103,360,823 (9.5% increase)
LTWADM	6,971.70 (2.6% increase)
Homestead dollar yield	\$8,553*
BSD Common Level of Appraisal	81.76% (7% decrease)*
Statewide CLA	72.36%

*A decrease in these variables increases the tax rate

Property Tax Estimates

Hypothetical Property Payer - \$370k example (avg value)	Property Tax Impact
Property rate change	-4.0%
Tax on \$370,000 homestead	\$5,676
Tax Difference from current rate	\$ -238

Hypothetical Property Payer - \$500k example	Income Tax Impact
Property rate change	-4.0%
Tax on \$500,000 homestead	\$7,671
Tax Difference from current rate	\$ -322

Figures reflect rounding. For education taxpayers who pay based on income, the impact will be reflected on the fiscal year 2026 property tax bill. Existing law provides additional property tax relief for households with incomes below \$47,000. This is known as a "circuit breaker." Once a taxpayer qualifies for the circuit breaker, additional school district spending does not increase the taxpayer's tax liability.

Income Adjustment Tax Estimates

Hypothetical Income Payer - \$370,000 housesite	Income Tax Impact
Income Rate change	-12.0%
Income-sensitized tax amount for \$50,000 household income	\$ 1,120
Tax Difference from current rate	\$ -165

Hypothetical Income Payer - \$370,000 housesite	Income Tax Impact
Income Rate change	-12.0%
Income-sensitized tax amount for \$120,000 household income	\$ 2,904
Tax Difference from current rate	\$ -396

Important Disclaimer: The actual impact on taxpayers receiving an adjustment based on their income varies for each individual case, and is a function of household income, and houseite value, and education tax rates from the prior tax year as well as the new tax year. The estimates included herein necessarily make assumptions about all of these variables to illustrate a hypothetical impact.

Summary Information

Total Budget	\$10.1 million decrease
Education Spending per LTWADM	6.7% increase
Actual Tax Rate (after CLA)	4.0% decrease
Income based tax cap	12% decrease

The recommended budget is estimated to reduce property tax rates by 4%

Factors driving the tax rate up: increased spending, decreased CLA

Factors pushing the tax rate down: increased dollar yield (driven by growth in statewide grand list, Education fund revenues and carry over)

Redefining the “Total Budget”

We’ve expanded our definition of total budget to better align with Agency of Education methodology from ACT 183

FY 25 “Total Budget” on March 2024 Ballot	\$119 million
FY 25 Costs Not Reflected in “Total Budget” on Ballot - \$11m ESSER/ARP - \$10m BTC Hangar Grant - \$2m Surplus for Buck Hard Field - \$2.9m Food Services	\$25.9 million
FY 25 Total Budget with NEW Methodology	\$144.9 million
FY 26 Total Budget on ballot - \$20.5 m ESSR, BTC Grant + \$10.3 m Increased annual costs (e.g., wages and benefits)	\$134.7 million

FY24 Audit and Fund Balance

FY24 Audit is in final phase of review

FY24 Audited Fund Balance

- Approximately \$2,400,000 available to support FY26 budget.
 - This surplus is in line with prior year results.
- Represents roughly 2% of the total budget.

Fund Balance is One Time Revenue

- Careful budget management should result in annual surpluses.
- Currently supports significant costs associated with rent for temporary spaces (DtBHS, BTC, etc.).

RISE Allocation

Nearly \$1.7m of School-directed, Equity-oriented Investments

RISE allocations are projected to increase by about \$200,000 based on increased student need measures, particularly the poverty measure

- This is likely due more to improved accuracy than significant changes in economic circumstances.
- Improved accuracy of the poverty count may increase BSD's long-term weighted average daily membership, thereby offsetting some of this spending increase.

RISE Allocation

RISE Allocation Amounts by School

Eagle Bay	\$50,282
Smith	\$90,477
SA	\$117,589
IAA	\$118,839
Champlain	\$129,691

Edmunds El	\$154,648
Flynn	\$155,687
Hunt	\$165,723
Edmunds M	\$204,272
BHS	\$505,798

RISE Allocation Themes

Nearly \$1.7m of School-directed, Equity-oriented Investments

- Elementary: Interventionists, Special Education positions, co-teaching PD.
- Middle School: Literacy, guidance positions, deeper learning PD and curriculum, social-emotional supports.
- High School: Reading specialist, mental health counselor, STEM interventionist, summer credit recovery, YES funding.
- Eagle Bay: Project based learning materials, specialized electives, professional learning for student centered practices.

BTC Budget

Tuition increase due to enrollment decline

FY26 Budget = \$3.7m

- \$130,000 budget reduction from FY25. Saving will result from ending leases and moving into the new airport facility.
- 120.78 “average” enrollment over six semesters, a 4% decrease from prior year.
- **Announced Tuition of \$24,934.** Since the program is half-day, the actual tuition cost is also halved.
 - i. This represents an 1.26% increase due to declining enrollment despite a lower budget.

Ballot Language

Shall the voters of the School District approve the School Board to expend \$134,779,831 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? Burlington School District estimates that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per pupil education spending of \$14,825.77, which is 6.74% higher than spending for the current year.

Spending at this level could produce a property tax rate decrease of 4% (current estimate).

Budget Development Timeline

3/4 Town Meeting Day budget vote



Full budget timeline available at:
<http://www.bsdrv.org/district/budget/>

Appendix



Cultivating caring, creative, and
courageous people. Join the journey!

Understanding the New Yield

- The "Dollar Yield" shown in the Tax Letter is a special number that gets adjusted by something called the CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) for the whole state. Because of this, the FY26 Dollar Yield looks smaller compared to the FY25 Dollar Yield.
- If we used the same method as last year to compare, the yield would have been \$11,879. This is a 20% increase, which helps keep tax rates down.

Tax Rates

Tax rates are the result of four major inputs

- Education Spending: amount of Education Fund support a district's budget requires - something a district controls!
- Long Term Weighted Average Daily Membership: enrollment that weighs factors such as poverty and English Learners.
- Dollar Yield: a state variable reflecting the amount of money in the education fund. Now adjusted by the statewide CLA.
- Common Level of Appraisal (CLA): a measure of property values in each community, adjusted by the statewide CLA.

Understanding the CLA

- Burlington's CLA is now adjusted based on the average CLA for the whole state.
- To figure it out, we divide Burlington's CLA (81.76%) by the statewide CLA (72.36%), which gives us an "Adjusted CLA" of 112.99%.
- Even though the adjusted CLA looks like it lowers Burlington's tax rate, it's actually because the new statewide CLA lowers the dollar.
- ***In the end, the change in the way the State uses the CLA doesn't have a big effect. Burlington's CLA dropped from 88% to 82%, which makes tax rates higher than they would have been without this change.***



\$20M GO Bond

Prioritizing Affordable Public Infrastructure

February 12, 2025



What to Expect Tonight

- Just a Quick Review
- Where to Find More Info





Prioritizing Affordable Public Infrastructure

What is the Need?



Why We Need \$20M Bond on TMD 2025

Impacts to Capital Assets WITHOUT the \$20M – relying on \$2M Annual Borrowing*

Fleet	1 Fire Truck, 1 Ambulance, 2 Plow Trucks, 1 Commercial Mower
Sidewalks	2 miles of sidewalk replaced/year
Streets	1.8 miles of street paved/year
Bridges	½ the local match need for the Winooski Bridge Project
Facilities	Deferred maintenance in the equivalent of 3 City Buildings
Parks	Deferred maintenance in the equivalent of 3 Parks
Traffic Safety	93 permanent and temporary projects



\$20M GO Bond Spend-out Projection

Revenue Source	FY26	FY27	FY28
Annual CIP	\$2M	\$2M	\$2M
\$20M GO Bond	\$7M	\$6.5M	\$6.5M
Total Revenue	\$9M	\$8.5M	\$8.5M



Focusing on Critical Infrastructure

Capital Asset Need

Fleet	\$3.3M need in FY26
Sidewalks	\$3M/year to replace 3 miles of Sidewalk
Streets	\$4.8M/year to pave 4 miles of Street
Bridges	\$4M of local match need for the Winooski Bridge
Transportation Safety	\$300K/year = 14 temporary/permanent traffic calming projects
Buildings	\$9.2M in critical projects
Parks	\$6.5M in critical projects





Proposed Allocation

Capital \$20M DRAFT Allocations for 1st Priority Need (FY26-28)*		
Asset	% of \$20M	Notes
Fleet	min 15%	Gets City back to regular replacement schedule
Sidewalks	25-35%	With Street Capital supplement, would hit 3 mi/year
Streets	25-35%	With Street Capital supplement, would hit 4 mi/year
Facilities	13-30%	13% could support deferred maintenance in the equivalent of 3 buildings
Parks	6-10%	10% could support deferred maintenance in the equivalent of 3 parks
Traffic Safety	1-3%	With Street Capital supplement, 3% could hit 75% of community requests
Local Matches	15-20%	20% would fully fund Winooski Bridge Local Match

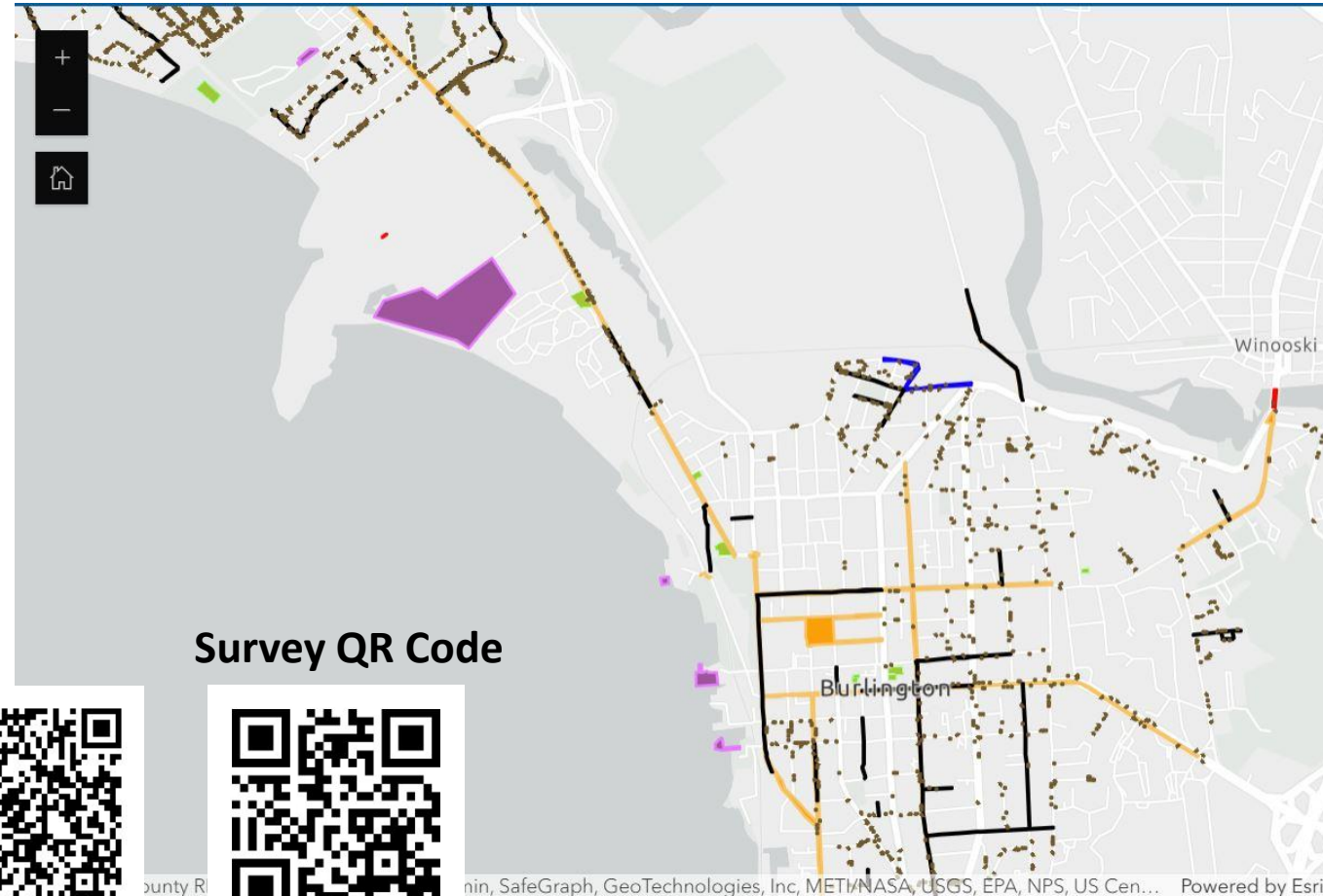
***Note:** No capital asset is guaranteed funding as the General Fund Capital Budget needs to be flexible and responsive to emergent needs, while also ensuring equitable implementation of infrastructure.



Prioritizing Critical Infrastructure

NEW Capital Planning Map: <https://bit.ly/BTVThrivesCapitalMap>

- Map depicts 6 years of GF Capital need across the City – no funding guarantees
- Long-term Planning tool
- Community Survey:
<https://bit.ly/BTVThrivesCapitalSurvey>
- Other City Prioritization Criteria:
Accessibility, Affordability, Efficiency, Equity, Sustainability, and Safety
- Map can be found on [City's Town Meeting Day Website](#)



Map QR Code



Survey QR Code

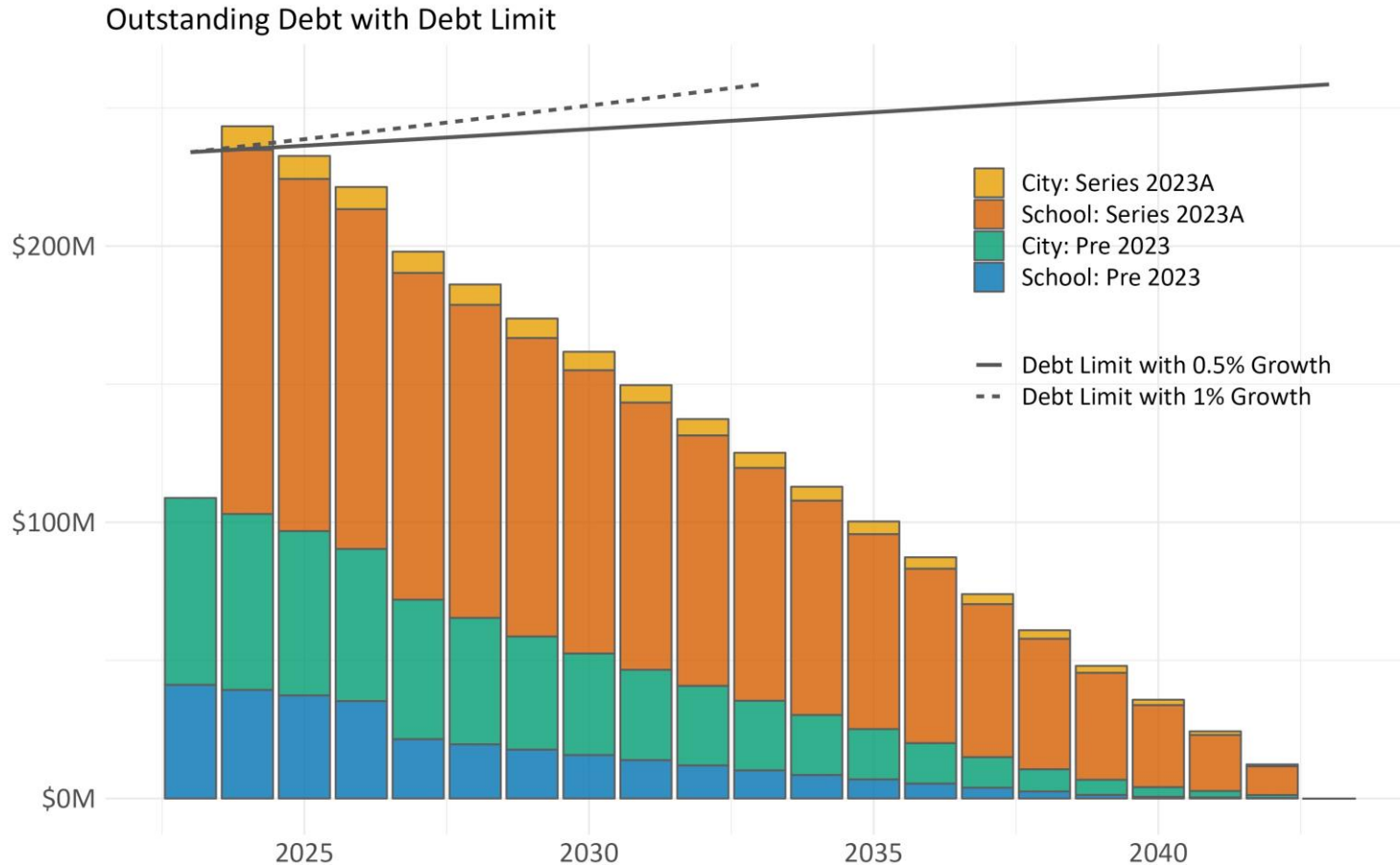


Prioritizing Affordable Public Infrastructure

What is the Tax Impact?



Phase Three: Fitting in with Debt Policy



- City recalculates existing debt annually per our policy
- Due to growth of grand list and paying down principal & interest faster than originally projected, there is now \$20M of debt capacity that has freed up



Effect on Tax Bills

- The \$20M bond would be repaid through a small increase in municipal property taxes starting in FY26.
- We anticipate the increase to be approximately:

Assessed Home Value	Monthly Expected Tax Increase	Annual Expected Tax Increase
\$300,000	\$6.92	\$83.04
\$500,000	\$11.58	\$138.96
\$700,000	\$16.18	\$194.16
\$900,000	\$20.83	\$249.96

\$20M GO Bond Spend-out Projection

Revenue Source	FY26	FY27	FY28
Annual CIP	\$2M	\$2M	\$2M
\$20M GO Bond	\$7M	\$6.5M	\$6.5M
Total Revenue	\$9M	\$8.5M	\$8.5M

- The effect from this bond will not be more than the amount listed on this slide; it could be less over a payback period of 20 years.



Next Steps

- The GO Bond needs a 2/3 vote to pass.
- If it passes, the City will borrow money incrementally, as needed over FY26-28.
- Approving this bond does not approve any specific projects. All proposed capital projects still need approval from the Capital Committee plus
 - if they are above \$250K they require BOF approval and
 - if above \$500K they require BOF and CC approval.





Questions?



Thank you!

For more information, please contact
Ashley Parker, Capital Program Director:
aparker@burlingtonvt.gov.

You can also visit the City's webpage and
click the [Elections button](#).



BTV Thrives: General Fund Capital Planning

Fact Sheet: Proposed \$20 million General Obligation Bond

Prepared for January 6, 2025 Town Hall

What: City staff are proposing to ask Burlington voters for the authority to borrow \$20 million using a General Obligation (GO) Bond to support needed general fund capital investments across City departments.

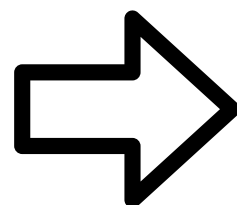
General Fund Capital: General Fund Capital includes the following:

- Fleet (vehicles & equipment)
- Streets, sidewalks, bridges, and transportation safety
- City Buildings/Central Facilities
- Parks
- Police and Fire
- Innovation & Technology

Current Identified Need in Each General Fund Capital Category:

- **Fleet:** The City owns and maintains 242 vehicles and pieces of equipment
 - 30% of fleet assets are in need of replacement
 - 45% of assets needing replacement support public safety (police, fire, snow removal)
 - Fleet asset replacement was deferred in FY2024, and FY2025
 - Estimated need in FY26 (beginning July 1, 2025): **\$3.3 million**
- **Streets, Sidewalks, Bridges, & Transportation Safety:**
 - **Sidewalks:** City maintains 133 miles of sidewalk, with a goal of replacing ~3 miles/year at ~\$1 million/mile. Currently, 17.2 miles are in poor or serious condition.
 - **Streets:** City maintains 88 miles of streets, with a goal of replacing ~4 miles/year at ~\$1.2 million/mile. Currently, 10.8 miles do not meet acceptable conditions.
 - **Bridges:** Currently three bridges in the 5-year capital plan; Winooski, Heineberg, & North Beach Overpass.
 - **Transportation Safety:** \$300,000/year achieves 14 different types of projects and could cover 75% of community requests for traffic calming over three years.

Learn More: burlingtonvt.gov/910/BTV-Thrives





BTV Thrives: General Fund Capital Planning

Fact Sheet: Proposed \$20 million Capital Bond

Current Identified Need in Each General Fund Capital Category: (cont'd)

- **City Buildings/ Central Facilities:** The City owns and maintains **19 buildings**
 - Total need across City buildings: **~\$13 million** (~\$684k/ building)
- **Parks:** The City owns and maintains 37 parks.
 - Total need across City parks: **~\$24 million** (~\$676k/park)
- **Local Match:** Local match is the amount of money the City contributes to a capital project that is supported by State and/or Federal money.
 - **Goal:** Invest \$20 million in City funds to leverage ~\$145 million in State and Federal grants
 - Ex: \$5.2 million from the last voter approved GO Bond leveraged \$74.5 million in grant funding to improve infrastructure in Burlington.
 - **Focus Project:** Winooski Bridge replacement

Why now? Currently, the City has \$2 million each year to support all general fund capital needs. In order to ensure good governance and timely maintenance, the City needs at least \$8-10 million each year.

- \$2 million could cover: ~2 miles of sidewalk per year **OR** ~1.8 miles of street paving

What is the Tax impact? The City would not borrow all \$20 million at once, but over the next three years. The maximum tax impact of this bond would be **~\$12/month on \$500k home.**

What comes next? City staff will continue community engagement throughout January and February, including NPAs & City Council. City Council will vote to put this question on the ballot on January 27.

How else can I engage? Tune in to City Council on January 13 and 27, and keep an eye on your NPA agenda for an upcoming presentation! And, use the QR codes below to see the City's interactive Capital planning map, and participate in a survey to share your priorities for the City's capital investments.



**Interactive
Capital Plan Map**

**Share your
Capital Investment
Priorities**



Learn More: burlingtonvt.gov/910/BTV-Thrives

Resolution Relating to

MARCH 4, 2025 ANNUAL CITY MEETING—
PLEDGING THE CREDIT OF THE CITY ISSUE GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS FOR CITY’S FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL
PLAN

RESOLUTION 8.10

Sponsor(s): Bd. of Finance

Introduced: 01/27/2025

Referred to: _____

Action: Adopted

Date: 01/27/2025

Signed by Mayor: 01/29/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, the City of Burlington (the “City”) has established a process to identify and address
2 challenges facing the City with respect to its public infrastructure and identified needs for various capital
3 improvements; and

4 WHEREAS, through that process, the City has developed a 5-Year Capital Plan in order to enhance the
5 ability to maintain and invest in the public infrastructure serving the City and its residents; and

6 WHEREAS, such Capital Plan is designed to bring greater rigor to decision-making regarding physical
7 assets, identify areas of under-investment, prioritize and coordinate all types of capital assets and manage the
8 cumulative cost of the infrastructure so that the impact on taxpayers is predictable and stable; and

9 WHEREAS, the City has determined in order to fund the costs of such capital improvements, it will be
10 necessary to finance such capital costs; and

11 WHEREAS, Section 63 of the City’s Charter, provides that, with a two-thirds vote of the City’s voters,
12 the City Council shall have the authority to pledge the credit of the City for any purpose by issuing its
13 negotiable orders, warrants, notes or bonds, for which authority has been given by the voters;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following question be placed on the ballot of the
15 Annual City Meeting to be held March 4, 2025:

16 “Shall the City Council be authorized to issue general obligation bonds or notes in one or more series
17 in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Twenty Million dollars and 00/100 (\$20,000,000.00) to
18 be borrowed in increments between Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2028 for the purpose of funding
19 capital improvement infrastructure projects of the City and its departments in furtherance of the City’s
20 5-Year Capital Plan?”

21
22
23 JB/Resolutions 2025/March 4, 2025 Annual City Meeting—Pledging the Credit of the City Issue General Obligation Bonds for City’s Five-Year
24 Capital Plan
25 1/23/25

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

Ashley Parker, C/T

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

MARCH 4, 2025 ANNUAL CITY MEETING --
PLEDGING THE CREDIT OF THE CITY
ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR

CITY'S FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN

Adopted by the City Council

January 27
....., 20.25.....

Bobby V. Viny
..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.25.....

Edward J. DeLo
..... Mayor

Vol. Page

Attest:

Lori Olberg

Lori Olberg
Licensing and Records Coordinator

* * * * *

Burlington Water Resources

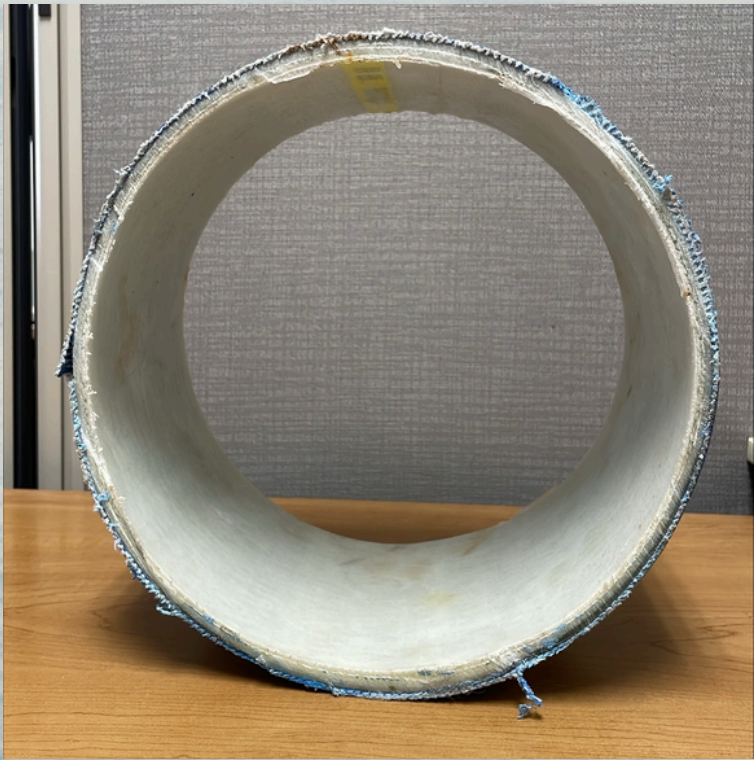
WATER & LAKE Bonds

2025 Town Meeting Ballot

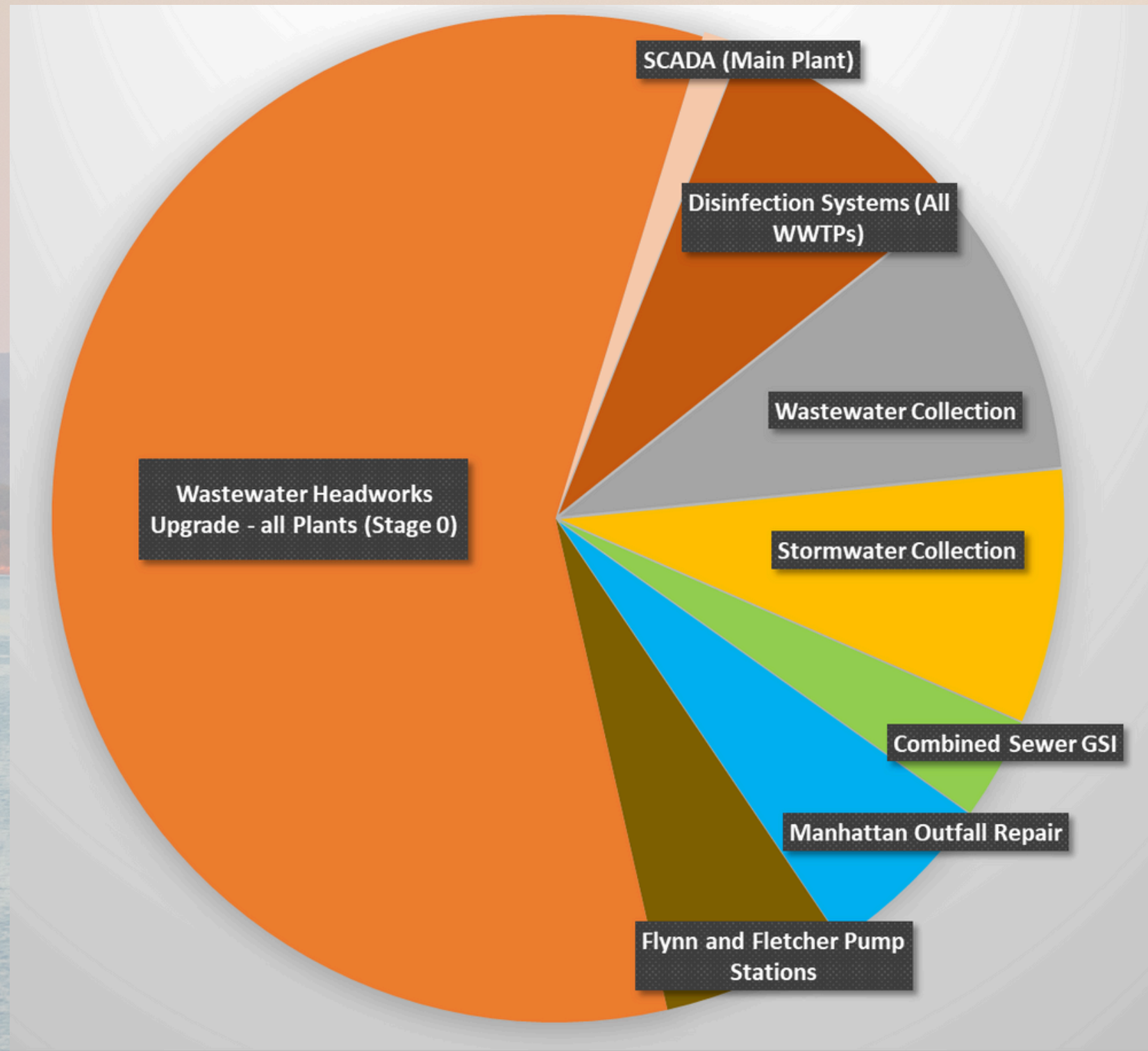


2016: \$8.34 M WATER BOND WATER WORK COMPLETED

Water Main Work	Miles
Replaced	2.21
Relined	7.08
Total	9.29



2018 CLEAN WATER BOND WATER WORK COMPLETED/UNDERWAY



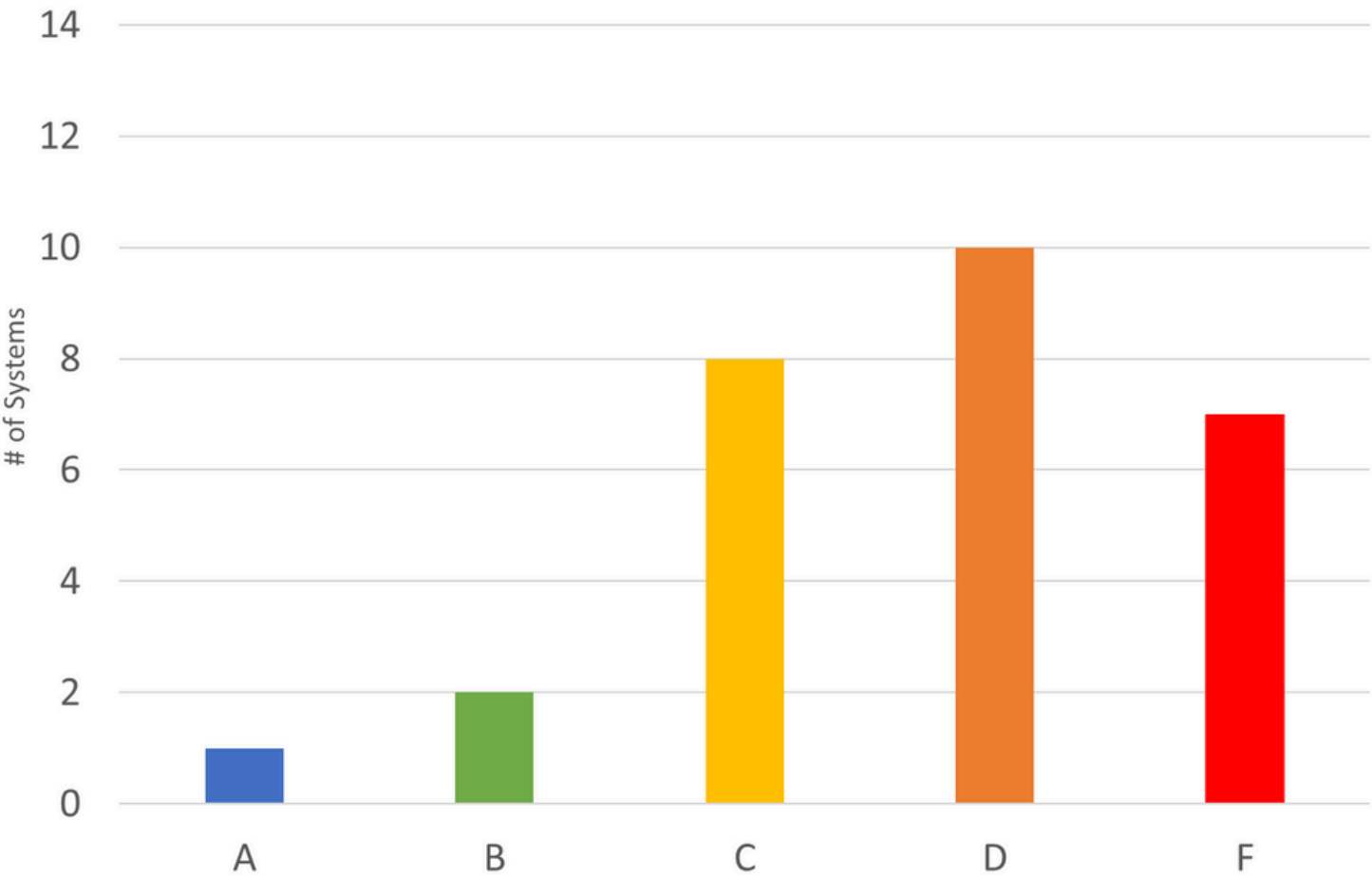
- Clean Water Resiliency Bond
 - \$29.958 M (92% approval)
- \$31.45 M investment
- \$1.735 M of bond authorization remaining due to \$3.23 M in grants and subsidy awards
 - Remainder to be held additional contingency on outfall project and towards Pine CSO reduction project

CLEAN WATER WORK: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Sewer & Storm Main	Miles
Replaced	0.68
Relined	7.97
Total	8.64

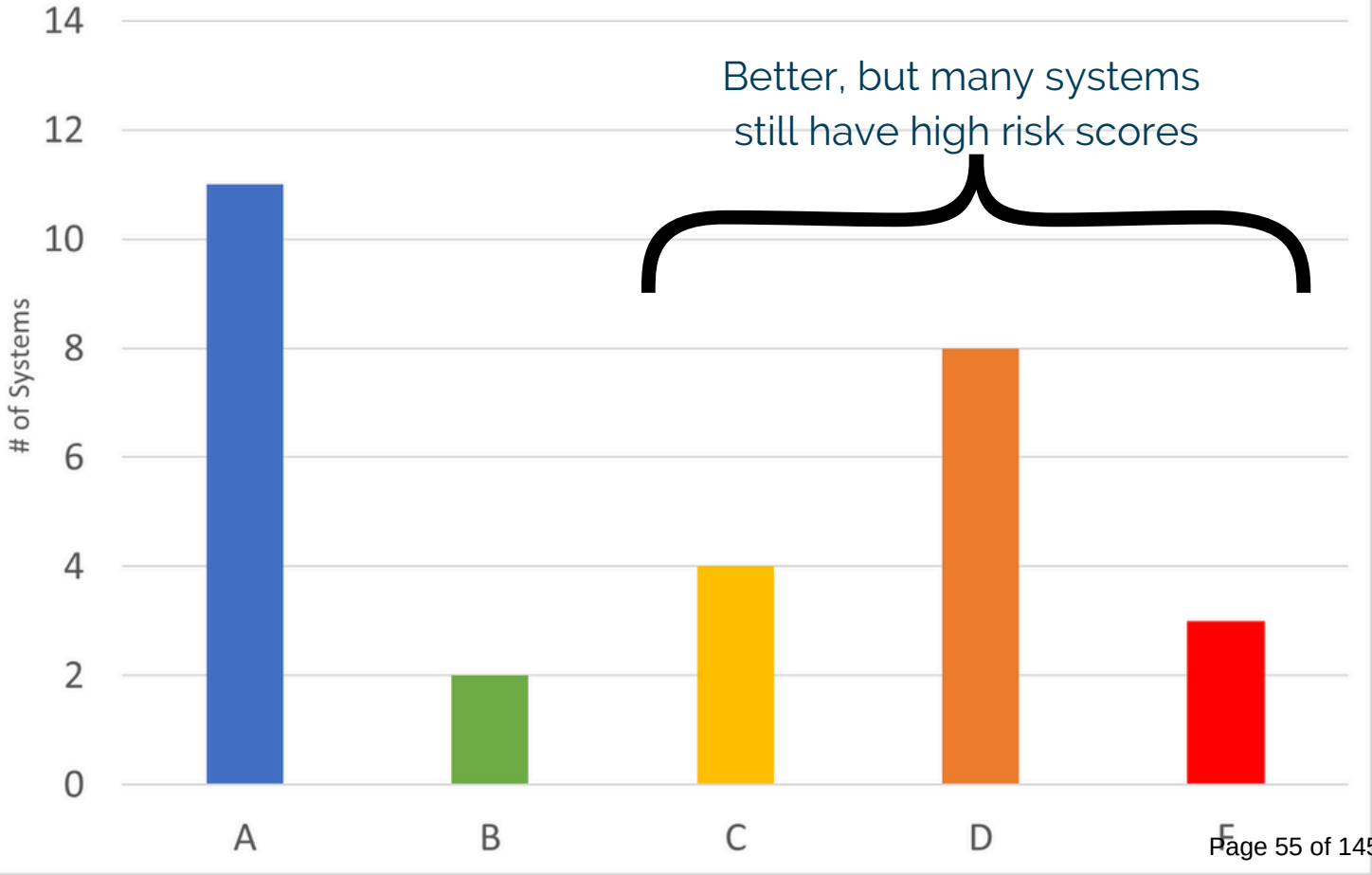


Burlington WWTF Systems Risk Scores 2018



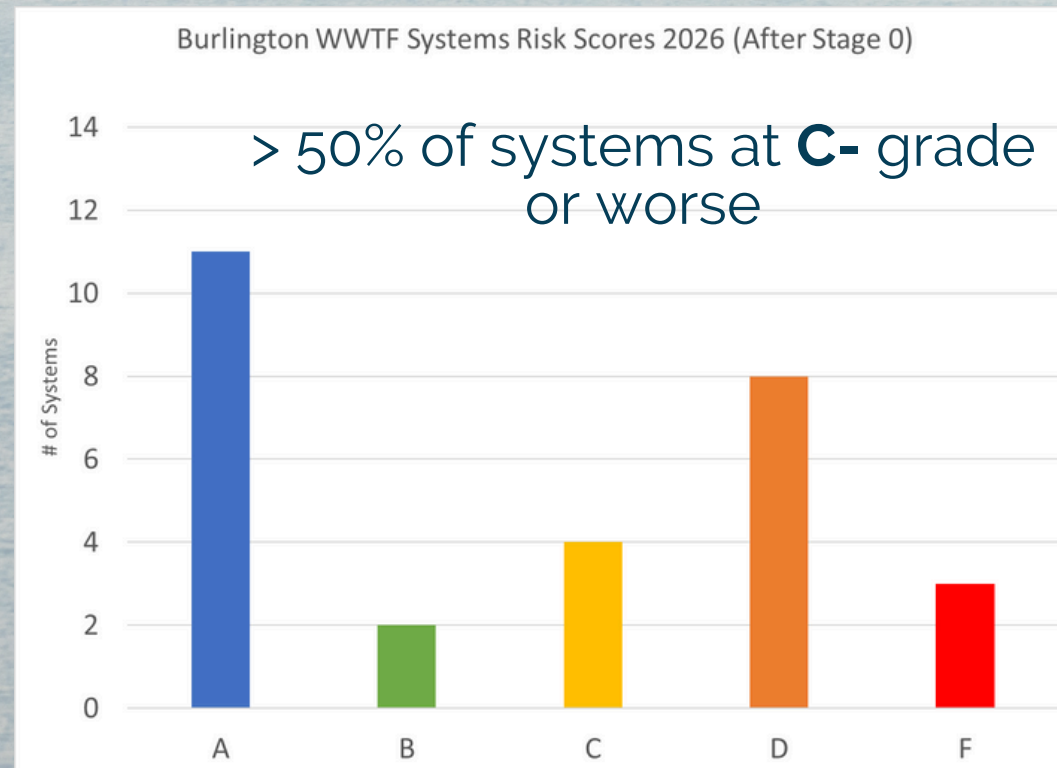
\$21.3 M

Burlington WWTF Systems Risk Scores 2026 (After Stage 0)



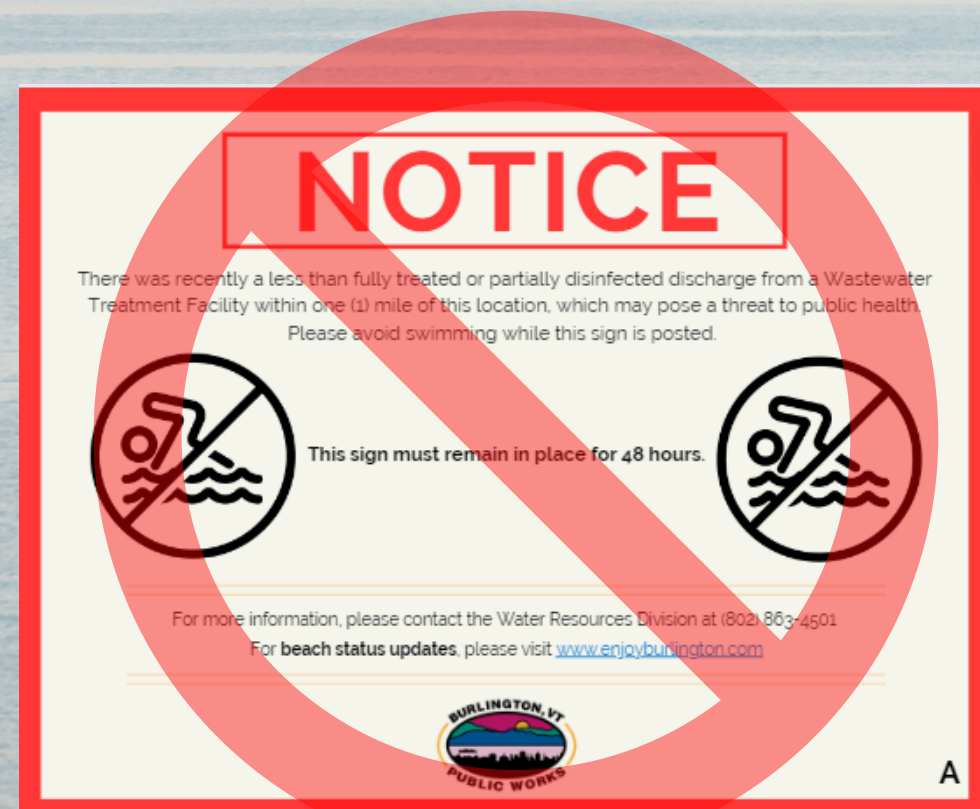
WHY IS MORE INVESTMENT NEEDED?

- To provide reliable and sustainable drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services to the **current** and **future** Burlington
 - Replace aged drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure that is at significant risk of failure
 - Ensure that there is sufficient capacity for housing and other growth
 - Improve resiliency against climate change
 - Address safety/code upgrades to protect and retain workers



WHY IS MORE INVESTMENT NEEDED?

- To protect the Lake by meeting/exceeding our water quality improvement requirements
 - Infrastructure resiliency and redundancy = meeting water quality standards = avoid **preventable** beach closures
 - Reduce phosphorus discharges from Burlington and help VT meet the Lake Champlain TMDL
 - Continue to reduce combined sewer overflows

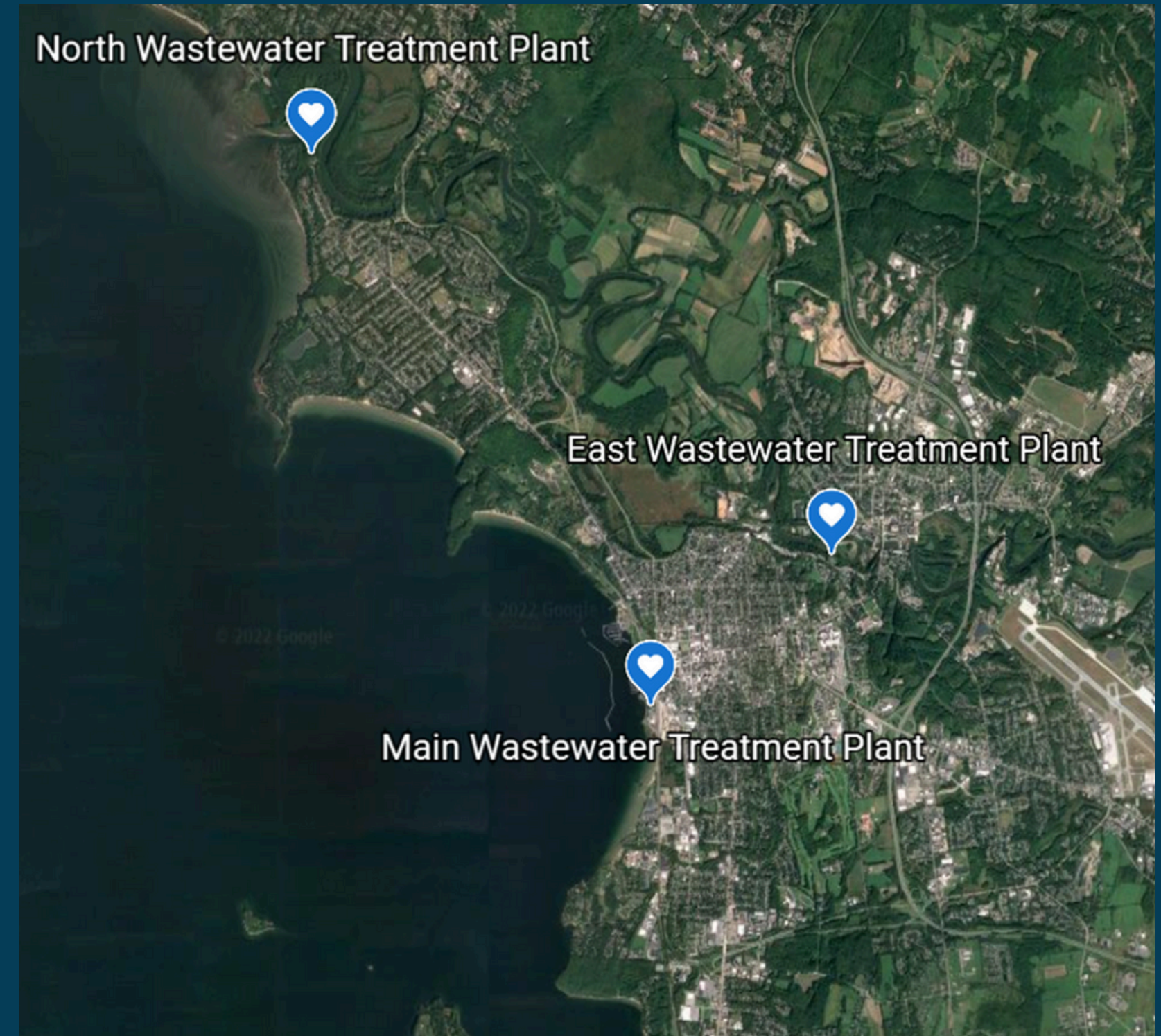


WWTP Improvements Project

Burlington's Commitment to the Lake and
Sustainable Housing Growth

BURLINGTON'S 3 WASTEWATER PLANTS

- Main W/WTP built in 1953
- North W/WTP built in 1961
- East W/WTP built in 1965
- Due both to increased regulations and the harsh impacts of the wastewater environment on equipment, all three plants were then subsequently upgraded in:
 - 1973 - improved pollutant treatment
 - 1994 - improved nutrient removal and added wet weather treatment to Main W/WTP

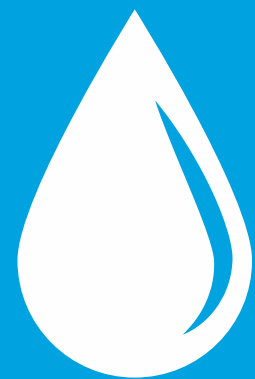


Improve and Modernize WWTFs for Burlington's Future



Resiliency

Ensure existing systems continue to function; Increase resiliency of critical wastewater equipment through improved design and redundancy



Environmental

Improve ability to meet water quality standards for Lake Champlain



Capacity

Increase capacity of Main WWTF to accommodate growth within the community



Work safety

Improve working conditions for City staff



Odors

Reduce off-site odors from Main WWTF

Reservoir Improvements Project

*Water Supply Resiliency
for Burlington*

BURLINGTON'S DRINKING WATER RESERVOIR AND HIGH SERVICE PUMP STATION

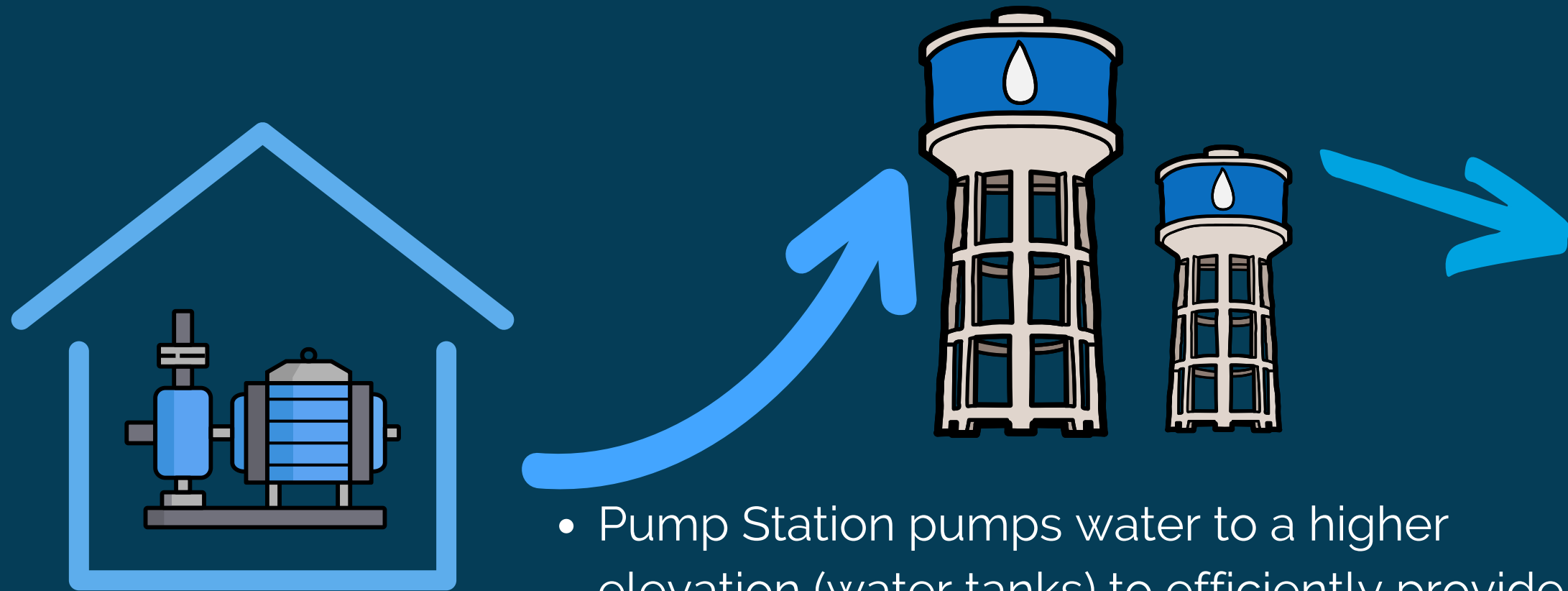


Figure 7.18: Main Street reservoir, drained of water and under renovation, circa 1890
(Courtesy Burlington Water Department)

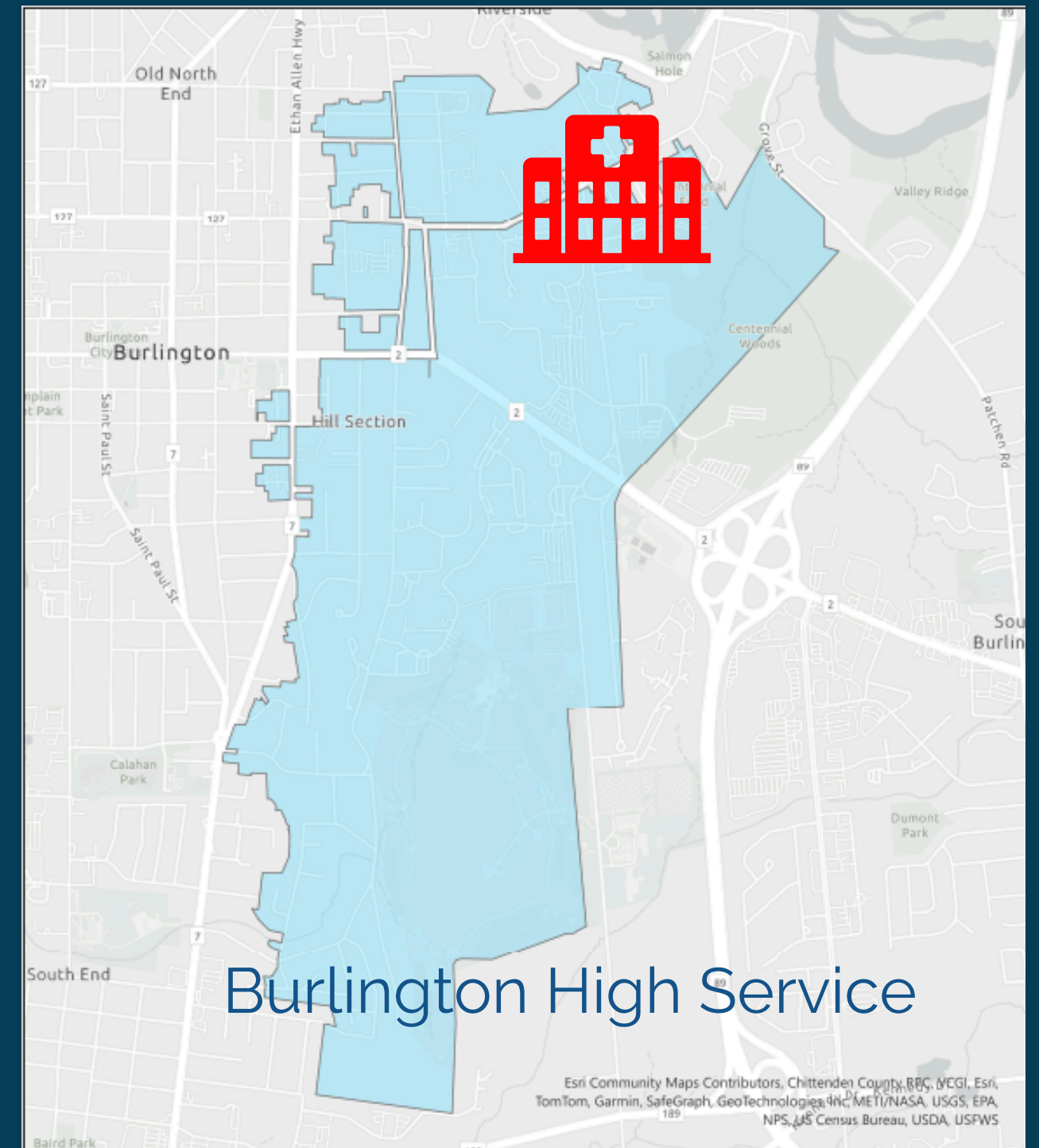


- 7 Million Gallon Treated Drinking Water Storage
 - Originally Built in 1867
 - Expanded in 1888 and lined with brick/stone
 - Covered in 1981
- 1867 Gate House Building
 - In service as a Pump Station starting in early 1880s

THE RESERVOIR AND PUMP STATION ARE CRITICAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE

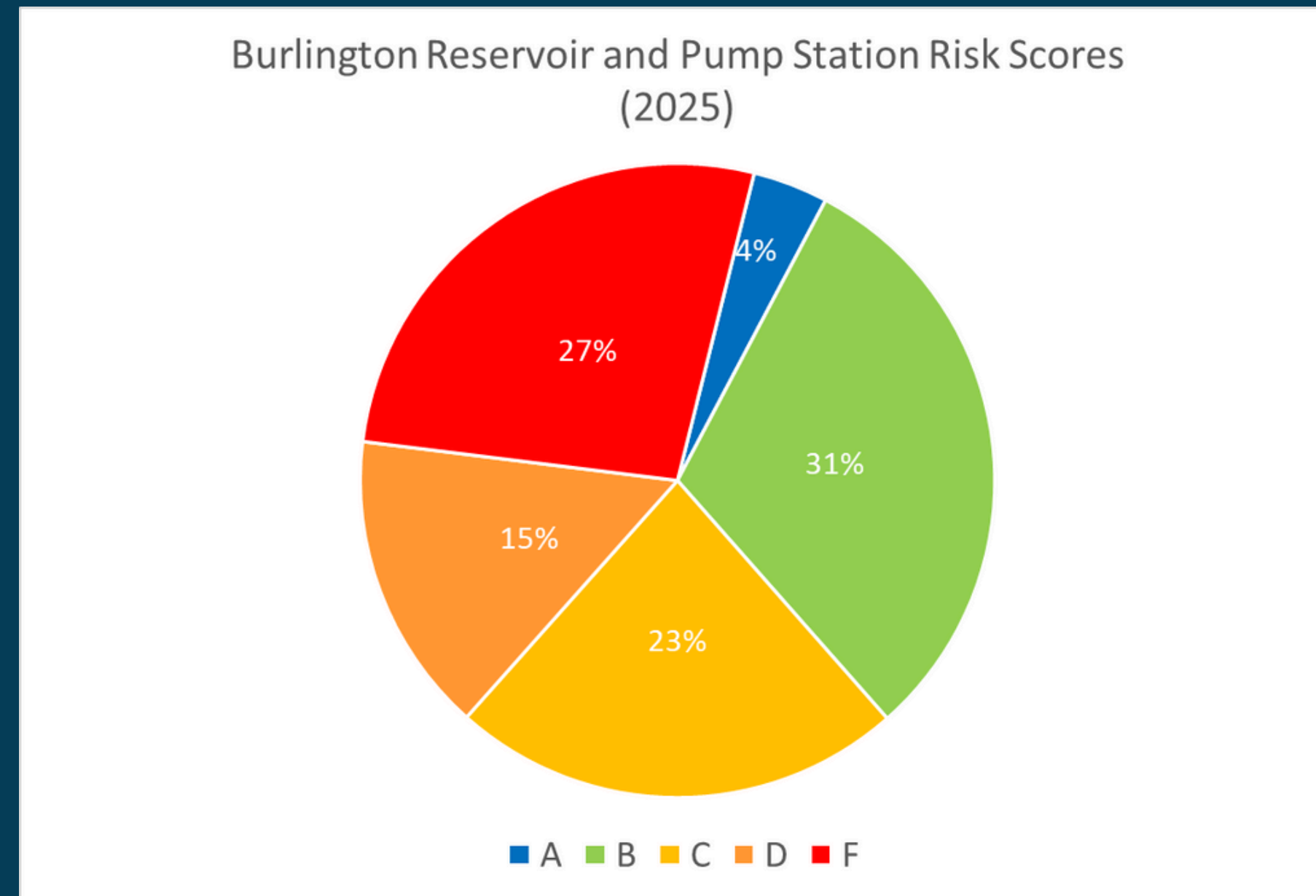


- Pump Station pumps water to a higher elevation (water tanks) to efficiently provide sufficient pressure to properties generally east of Willard Street
- **These pumps are REQUIRED for supplying water to the UVVMC** and rest of high service area
- The reservoir itself is critical to providing **demand fluctuation and emergency storage** for the rest of the City



RISK REPORT CARD

PUMP STATION AND RESERVOIR



Conclusion

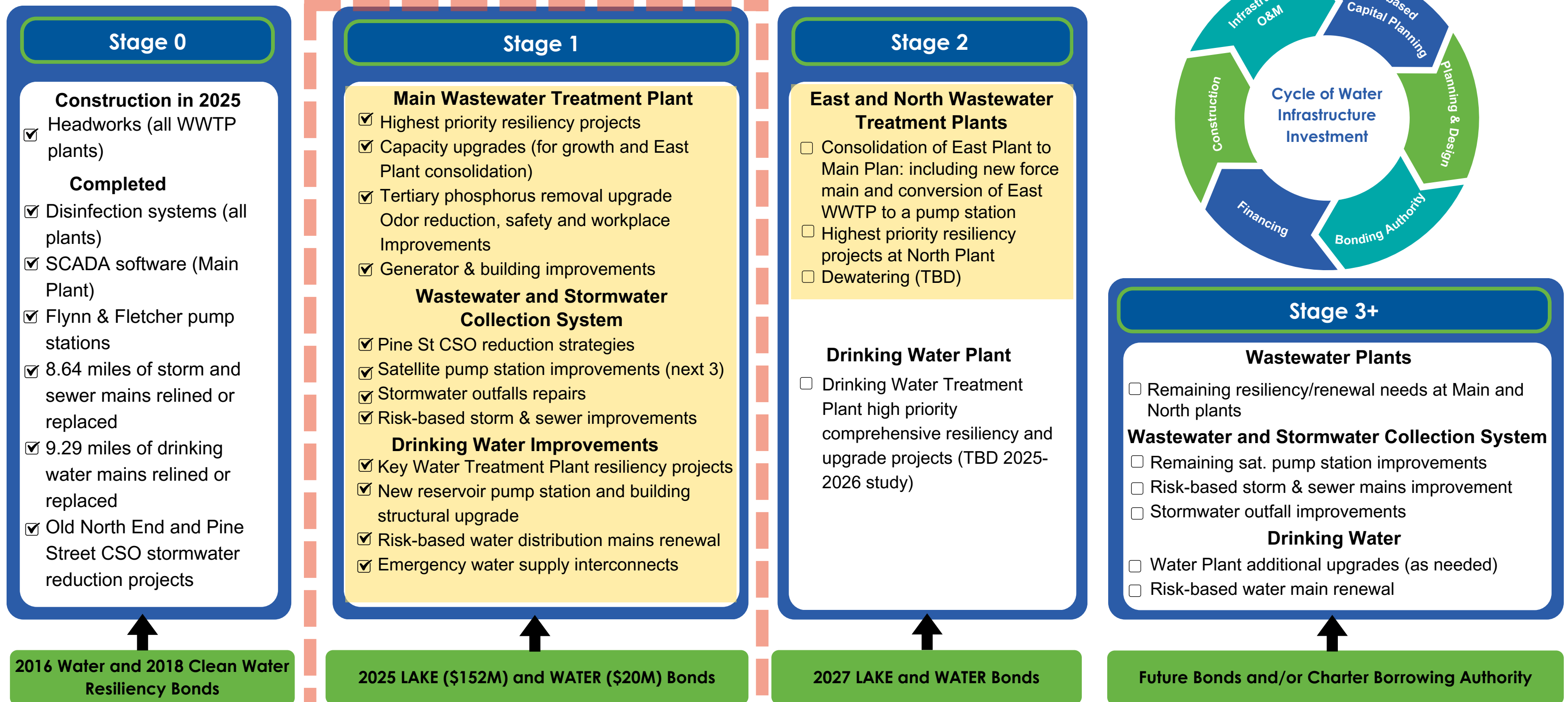
- 65% of systems are at a C grade or worse, with 42% at D (replacement needed in 1-3 years) or F (needs immediate replacement)
- This condition presents a great deal of risk for Burlington's ability to supply water to the high service

Water Resources

Sustainable Infrastructure Plan: The 2025 LAKE & WATER bonds

Original November Bond Proposal

How does this phase of investment fit in with the overall plan?



2025
Lake & Water Bonds

TOWN MEETING DAY 2025: HOW MUCH \$?

System	Final TMD 2025 Bond Request	Final <u>Cost/Borrowing</u> Determination
Drinking Water	\$21M \$20 M	Determination of other funding for City transportation projects; Congressionally Delegated Spending Grant Award
Wastewater	\$204M \$138 M	Final due diligence on WWTP costs; Determination of other funding for City Transportation Projects; Pollution Control Grants; NRBC grant; Pine Street CSO sewer separation final cost
Stormwater	\$14 M	Pine Street CSO reduction final cost; Determination of other funding for City transportation projects; Pollution Control Grants

\$152 M

HOW DID THE \$ DECREASE?

Memo details the risk and rationale of postponing certain items.
Below also forecasts additional scope items and costs where available.

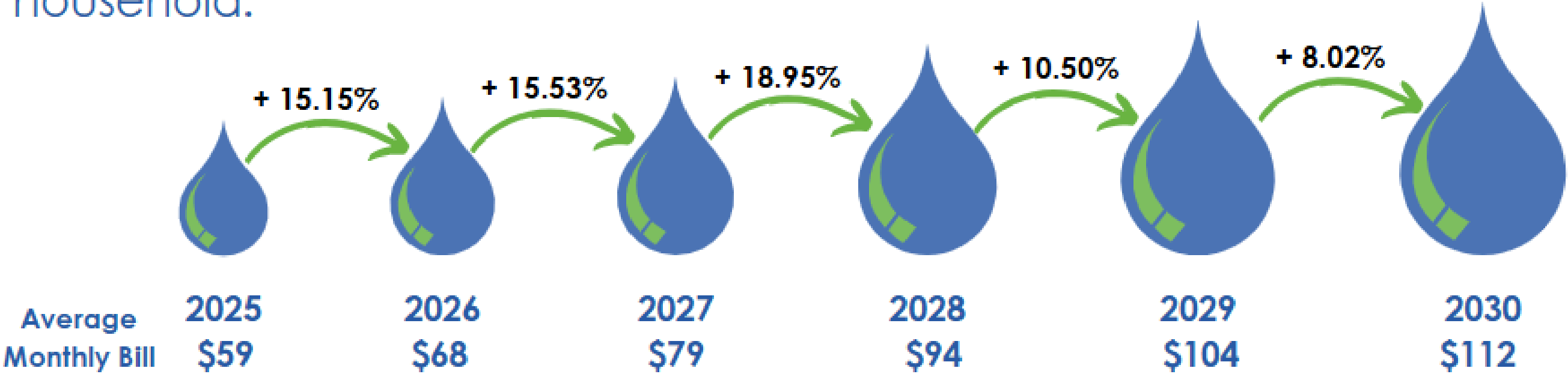
Projects Not Included in 2025 Bond ¹	Current Estimated Cost	Rationale for addressing later	Include in FY26-FY35 Rate Impact Projection
East Plant Consolidation	\$ 25,000,000	Construction scheduled for 2028; success of grants for Stage 1 may reduce ultimate bond need.	Yes
North Plant WWTP High Priority Upgrades	\$ 13,662,000	Construction scheduled for 2030; success of grants for Stage 1 may reduce ultimate bond need	Yes
North Plant Sewer Siphon	\$ 14,000,000	Eligible for FEMA funding	No
Dewatering Upgrade	\$ 8,700,000	Regulatory landscape for biosolids management unclear; wait for clearer picture to select best technology (costs could change depending on timing and regulations)	No
Remainder of Main and North Plant Renewal (Stage 3) ²	\$ 60,000,000	Items that can wait until ~2030; bidding environment for Stage 1 and grants may reduce this #	No
Additional Satellite Pump Station Renewal ²	\$ 7,100,000	Next round of Pump Station Renewal projects; condition of remaining 5 stations needing age related upgrades will be monitored and phased as necessary.	No
Comprehensive Water Plant Upgrade	TBD	Pending completion of preliminary engineering study for entire WTP (2025-2026)	No
Additional Storm and Sewer Renewal	TBD	Wastewater will be able to fund some renewal with annual capital funding generated due to debt coverage requirements. Additional work also pending a collection system master plan which may identify needed capacity upsize requirements	No
Additional Water Main Renewal	TBD	Additional work pending a distribution system master plan which may identify needed capacity upsize requirements.	No

Note 1: This is a list of known project needs, some of which were included in previous bond proposals. Additional projects maybe needed due to quicker than anticipated failure rates or regulatory changes.

Note 2: These cost estimates are in 2025 dollars. Future costs will likely be higher due to inflation depending on the timing of the project.

How will rates be affected?

Based on current forecasts, we estimate that water resources bills could increase up to 89% between 2025 and 2030. This would happen over a series of annual increases, and would look like this for a typical single family household.

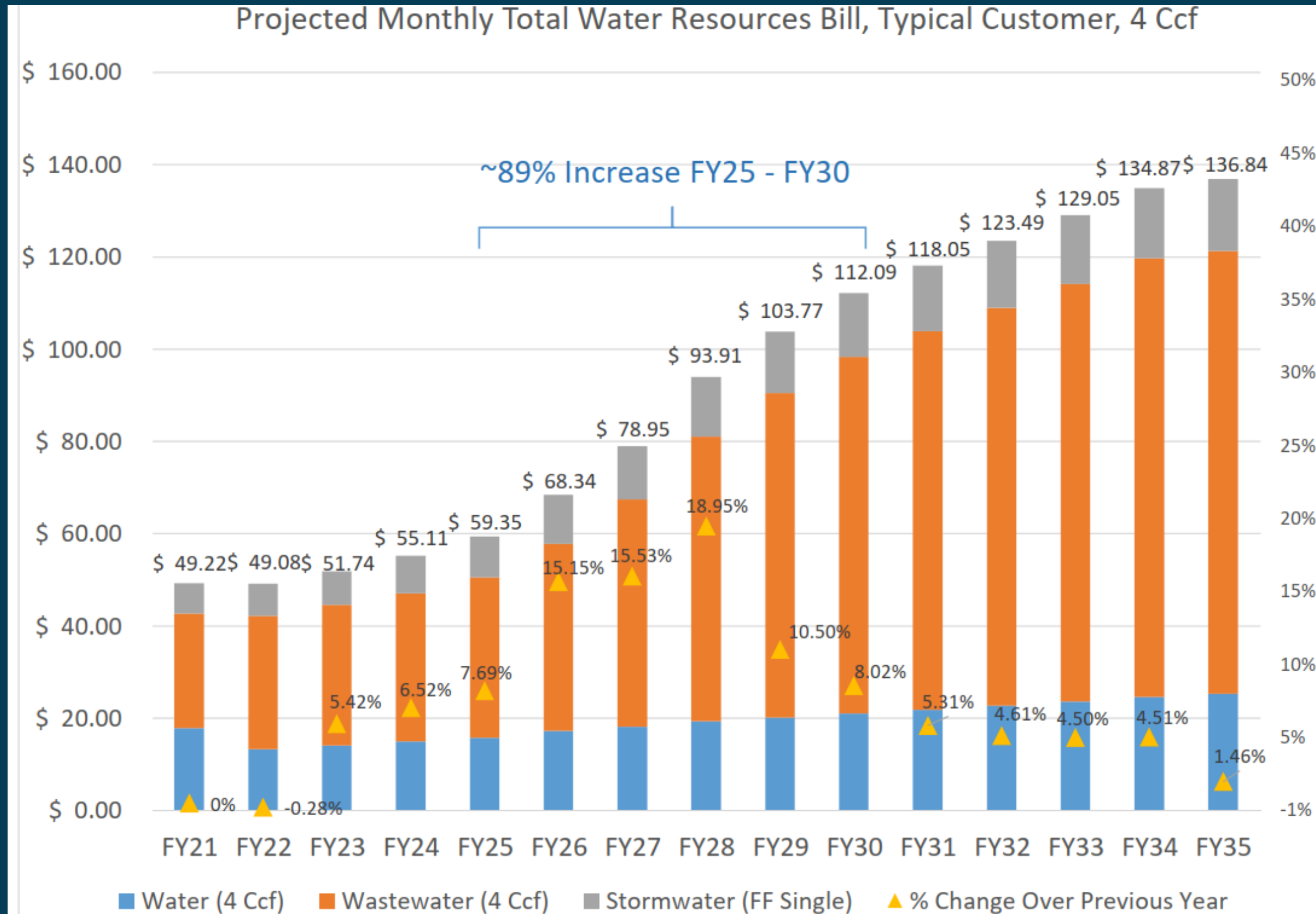


Bill estimates are for a single family home with a 5/8" meter using 400 cubic feet a month. Does not include the current 3.5% franchise fee assessed by the City on water and sewer charges.



Rate (%) increases are currently anticipated to be similar for other customer classes, with the exception of FY26 in which customers with private fire protection would have a slightly higher rate increase due to the last year of a 5 year phase in of that charge.

WATER, WASTEWATER, STORMWATER RATE IMPACTS



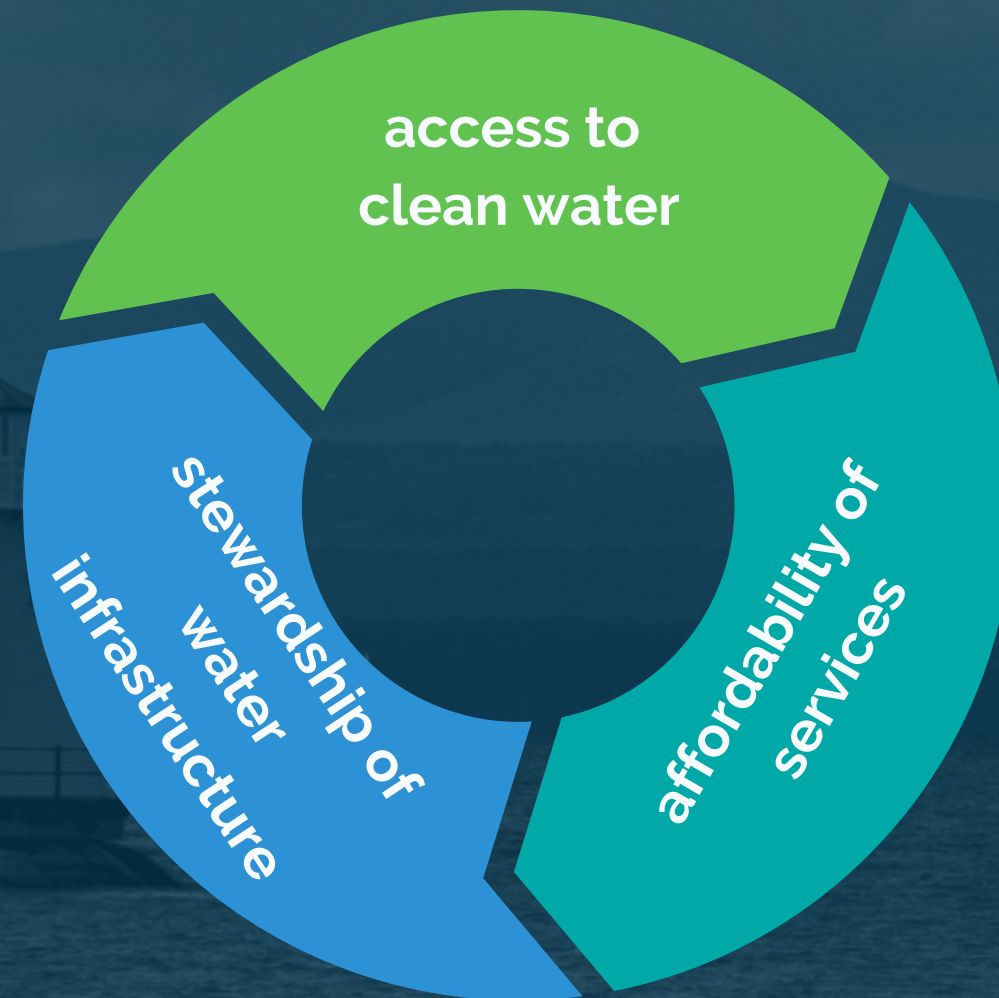
- **Conservative** estimate (based on best available information) of bill impacts:
 - Does not include possible grant funding
 - Does not include revenue from potential growth
- Final borrowing portfolio and availability of SRF loan will play a big role
- Includes Stage 2 Wastewater Treatment Plant costs
 - East Plant Consolidation
 - North Plant High Priority Resiliency Upgrades
- Debt service for included projects ramps up through FY2034, with the steepest rate increases in FY26 - FY 30.

CURRENT RATEPAYER AFFORDABILITY MEASURES

"...an affordable water bill is one that the household can regularly and successfully pay on time without compromising its ability to meet other essential needs." (NRDC Water Affordability Advocacy Toolkit)



- **Fixed Fee Waiver**
 - Low-income
 - 65+
 - Non-Profit Housing Organization
- **Rebates**
 - Sewer lateral inspections
 - WaterSense fixtures



RATE STRUCTURE ADJUSTMENTS

- **Lifeline** rate tier on water side
- **User class**-based rates

Water Resources will work with City Council to develop additional affordability and assistance programs for implementation prior to significant debt issuance.

CONTINUED OVERSIGHT AND UPDATES FOR THE WASTEWATER PLANT PROJECT

- Updates to Council and other public bodies at:
 - 90% Preliminary Engineering
 - 30% Final Design
 - 60% Final Design
 - 90% Final Design
- Comprehensive Peer Review of 60% Final Design and update to be provided to Council, well in advance of bidding of the project
- Update on or by August 4, 2025 on feasibility of using Construction Management at Risk (CMAR) methodology for construction phase



WORKING TO REDUCE THE IMPACT ON RATEPAYERS

- **Pursuit** of grants
 - Congressionally Delegated Spending (Reservoir Project on list for \$1 M)
 - Pursuit of Pollution Control Grant funding
 - Working with Legislature to increase Pollution Control Grant availability
 - Northern Borders Regional Commission (\$1 - \$3M)
- **Explore** Water Investment Finance and Infrastructure Act (WIFIA)
 - Lots of paperwork, but generally lower interest rates than bonds
- **Improve** Vermont State administration and legislative awareness about infrastructure funding gaps
 - Meeting with State Legislative delegation
 - Meetings with Vermont ANR Secretary and DEC Water Investment Division
 - Met with State Treasurer's office
 - **Ensuring sufficiency** of SRF (low interest, 2%) financing
 - **Increasing availability** of SRF financing



SUMMARY

- Request for ballot items in March 2025 for
 - Up to \$20M **WATER** bond
 - Up to \$152M **LAKE** bond
- Capital investment is necessary for a resilient Burlington with capacity for growth and a healthy Lake Champlain
- Typical residential bill projected to increase approximately 89% over next 5 years through a series of annual rate increases

Water reliability

Advancing water main replacement

Treatment plant improvements

Emergency supply contingency

Reservoir upgrades

Leverage modern technology

Advance & repair key infrastructure

Keep our federal & state commitments

Enhance water quality & worker safety

THANK YOU. QUESTIONS?

Megan Moir

Division Director Water Resources

mmoir@burlingtonvt.gov

Martin Lee

Water Resources Engineering Manager

mlee@burlingtonvt.gov

Chapin Spencer

DPW Director

cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov

<https://burlingtonvt.gov/2025waterbonds>



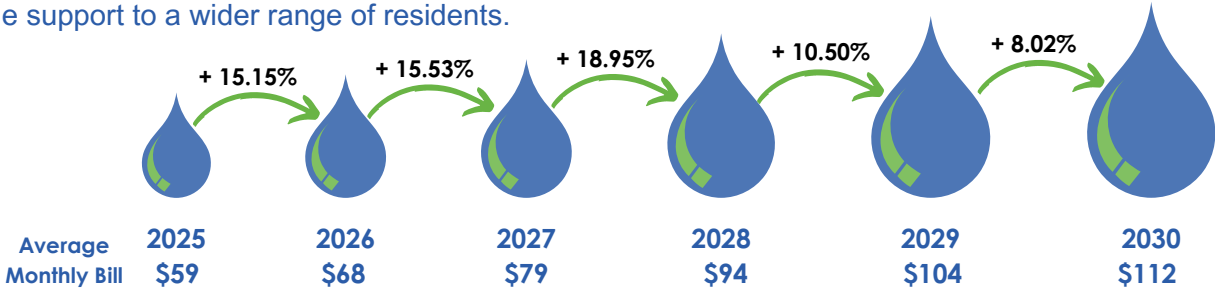
Water Resources Sustainable Infrastructure Plan

LAKE & WATER Bonds Brief

	LAKE	WATER
What	The LAKE bond prioritizes critical repairs and upgrades to our wastewater and stormwater systems to protect public health and Lake Champlain, now and in the future.	The WATER bond addresses high priority critical drinking water infrastructure to support reliable clean water access throughout the City.
Use type	Wastewater, Stormwater (runoff from rain)	Drinking Water
Why	Over 50% of our wastewater infrastructure has a high likelihood of failure within 3 years and will not be able to support current and future demands on the system.	The Reservoir/Pump Station system, which provides water to the high service area including UVMHC and to the rest of the City during water supply emergencies, is at risk of failure.
Amount	Up to \$ 152 Million	Up to \$ 20 Million
Big ticket items	Replacing Main Plant primary clarifiers, adding a secondary clarifier, tertiary treatment & other safety upgrades (\$127M), CSO Storage Tank (\$8M)	New pump station at Reservoir, building and reservoir structural repairs (\$9.75M), water main renewal (\$7.25M)
Future bond needs	East Plant consolidation and North Plant high priority upgrades (\$38M, included in current rate models), Dewatering upgrades (\$8M), Remaining Main & North Plants upgrades (up to \$60M)	Water Treatment Plant Comprehensive Upgrade (the plant hasn't been upgraded in 40 years and is undergoing an evaluation 2025 - 2026); water main replacement and renewal
Existing Affordability Programs	1. Bill discount program for low income people, seniors and non-profit housing organizations for the fixed sewer fee 2. Sewer lateral inspection rebates 3. Green stormwater rebates through BlueBTv	1. Bill discount program for low income people, seniors and non-profit housing organizations for the fixed water fee 2. Rebates for WaterSense fixtures

How will my rates be affected?

Rate increases include both bonds. Based on current forecasts, we estimate that water resources bills could increase up to 89% between 2025 and 2030. This would happen over a series of annual increases, and would look like this for a typical single family household. The City will work with the Council to enhance affordability programs to provide support to a wider range of residents.



Bill estimates are for a single family home with a 5/8" meter using 400 cubic feet a month. Does not include the current 3.5% franchise fee assessed by the City on water and sewer charges.

Resolution Relating to

MARCH 4, 2025 – ANNUAL CITY MEETING ISSUANCE
OF REVENUE BONDS FOR WASTEWATER AND
STORMWATER UTILITY PROJECTS

RESOLUTION 8.8
Sponsor(s): Bd. of Finance
Introduced: 01/27/2025
Referred to: _____
Action: Adopted
Date: 01/27/2025
Signed by Mayor: 01/29/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, the City, acting through the Water Resources Division of the Department of Public
2 Works, has identified needs for various capital improvements to its wastewater, stormwater and pollution
3 control system, including capital improvements to its treatment plants and collection systems as part of Stage
4 1 of the Water Resources Sustainable Infrastructure Plan; and
5 WHEREAS, the City has determined that the costs of such improvements are too great to be paid out
6 of the ordinary annual income and revenue of the Wastewater and Stormwater enterprise funds and that it will
7 be necessary to incur indebtedness to fund the costs of such capital improvements; and
8 WHEREAS, the improvements will benefit ratepayers and City residents; and
9 WHEREAS, the City expects that a total of \$152,000,000 will be the estimated costs required to make
10 these Stage 1 capital improvements with approximately \$138,000,000 for the wastewater system and
11 approximately \$14,000,000 for the stormwater system; and
12 WHEREAS, while the Division’s existing rate affordability framework (enacted by City Council in FY22),
13 includes a bill discount program that will assist qualified customers with the impact of rate increases, the
14 Division commits to evaluating the need and mechanisms for expansions and enhancements of the
15 affordability program to 1) ensure that all customers are able to regularly and successfully pay their water
16 resources bill on time and without compromising their ability to meet other essential needs and 2) to
17 evaluating the need and mechanism for the establishment of an indirect assistance program to offset the impact
18 of water resources rate increases on rents; and
19 WHEREAS, the City Charter and other applicable law provides that, with at least a majority vote of
20 the City’s voters, the City shall have the authority to issue bonds, from time to time, for the purpose of
21 financing the cost of any improvement to the City’s public utility systems and revenue generating facilities,
22 including the City’s wastewater system and the City’s stormwater system, with such bonds payable from the
23 revenues of such public utilities and facilities; and
24 WHEREAS, the Board of Finance, at its January 27, 2025 meeting has approved and recommended
25 that the City Council advance the proposed revenue bonding for wastewater and stormwater system

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

.....
.....
.....

Adopted by the City Council

....., 20.....

..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

* * * * *

improvements for City-wide consideration and a public vote at the Annual City Meeting to be held on March 4, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the proposed financing of such capital improvements may be through a public or private issuance of bonds or notes, issuance through the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, through the State of Vermont environmental revolving loan fund, or any combination of these sources, and may be done in one or more series over multiple years; and

WHEREAS, while there is a critical need for improvements to the City’s wastewater, stormwater and pollution control system, the City Council also acknowledges the significant size of the requested investment and the fact that the third party peer review commissioned by the City of the 60% Preliminary Engineering Reports (PERs) for wastewater upgrades noted, among other findings, that: (1) the general details provided in the PERs did not yet allow for a “granular review” of actual cost estimates, (2) “the costs provided are very conservative,” and (3) the “City should consider a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) approach, a project delivery method that involves a construction manager (CM) who is responsible for keeping construction costs within a guaranteed maximum price (GMP)”; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following question shall be placed on the ballot of the Annual City Meeting to be held March 4, 2025:

“Shall the City be authorized to issue revenue bonds or notes in one or more series, in a principal amount not to exceed \$152,000,000 in the aggregate, to be issued pursuant to the City Charter and subchapter 2 of Chapter 53 of Title 24, Vermont Statutes annotated, on behalf of the Water Resources Division of the Department of Public Works and payable only by the net revenues of the wastewater system and stormwater system, as may be determined by the City Council, for the purpose of paying for (i) capital additions and improvements to the City’s wastewater and stormwater systems, including the City’s wastewater treatment plants, pump stations and collection system, the stormwater treatment and collection system, combined sewer overflow mitigation projects, stormwater outfall rehabilitation, and (ii) funding a debt service reserve fund and paying costs of issuance?”

Estimated total Project Costs for Wastewater System: \$138,000,000

Estimated total Project Costs for Stormwater System: \$14,000,000

City Share of Total Costs: \$152,000,000

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that given the size of the investment in the wastewater treatment plant portion of the project, the Water Resources Division will provide updates to the City Council on the status of

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DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

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.....

Adopted by the City Council

....., 20.....

..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

* * * * *

final design and project cost estimates at the 30%, 60% and 90% final design milestones and will produce a comprehensive third party review of the 60% Final Design to provide to the City Council, well in advance of proceeding to the bid phase for the project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before August 4, 2025, the Water Resources Division will provide the City Council an update on whether it intends on adopting the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) approach recommended by the third party peer review of the 60% PERs for wastewater upgrades, and will further report on any other steps it intends to take to provide the greatest value to this project and reduce construction costs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to bond financing, the Water Resources Division will pursue all reasonable options for securing new funding for bonded projects from sources other than Burlington ratepayers, between now and the completion of the bonded projects, including by, but not limited to, focusing on available State or Federal funding, and grant monies.

TM/Resolutions 2025/Name the Resolution
1/27/25

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

DPW - Water Resources

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

MARCH 4, 2025 -- ANNUAL CITY MEETING
ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS FOR
WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER UTILITY PROJECTS

Adopted by the City Council

January 27, 2025

B. J. Kelly Clerk

Approved *Jan 29*, 2025

Chris G. Hays Mayor

Attest:

Lori Olberg

Lori Olberg
Licensing and Records Coordinator

Vol. Page

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Burlington Water Resources

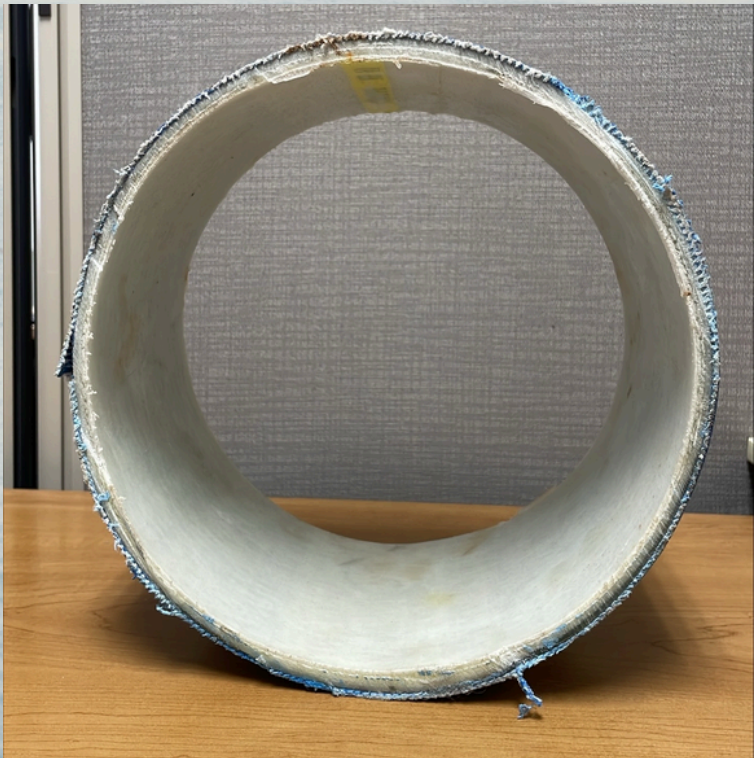
WATER & LAKE Bonds

2025 Town Meeting Ballot

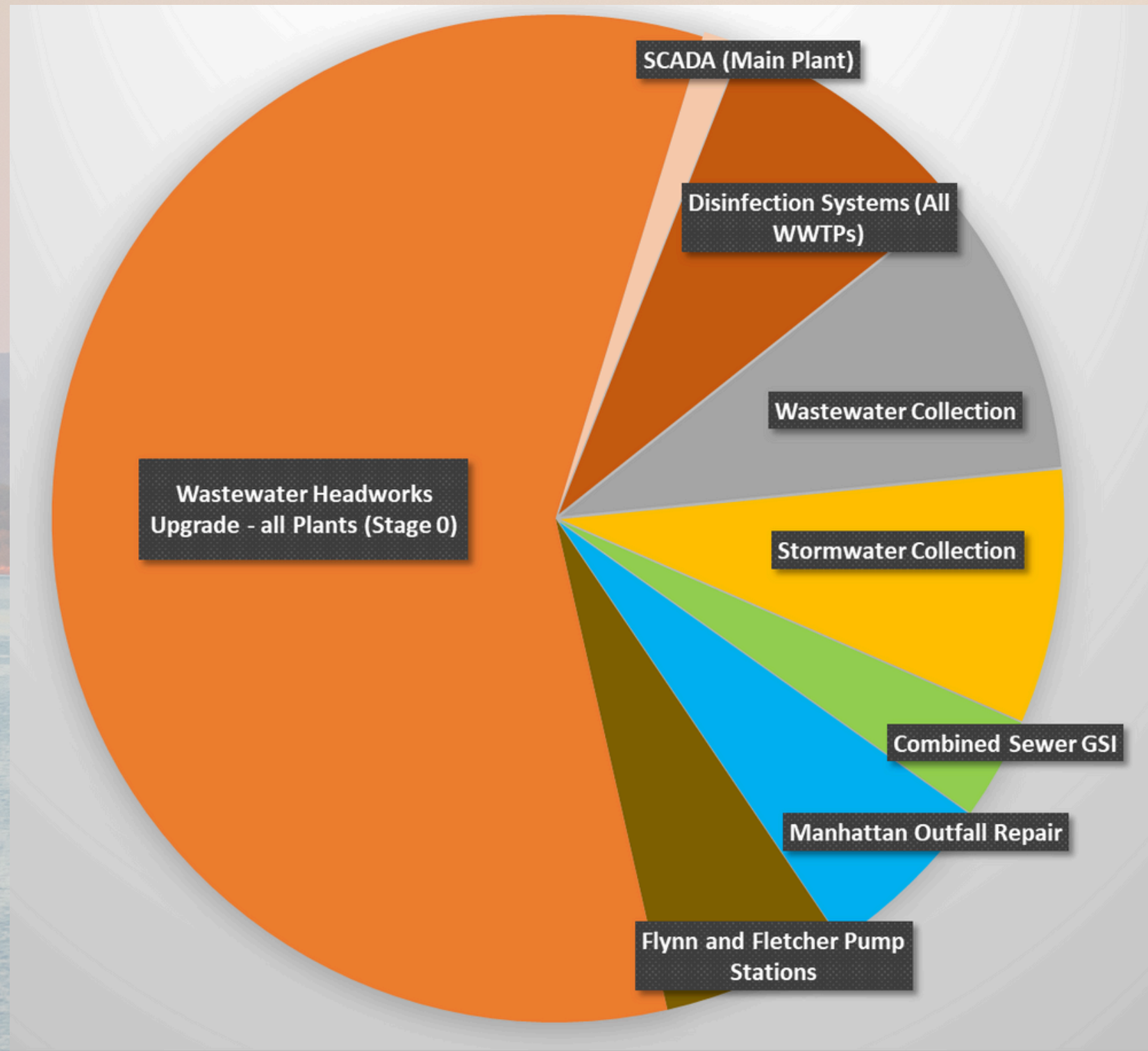


2016: \$8.34 M WATER BOND WATER WORK COMPLETED

Water Main Work	Miles
Replaced	2.21
Relined	7.08
Total	9.29



2018 CLEAN WATER BOND WATER WORK COMPLETED/UNDERWAY



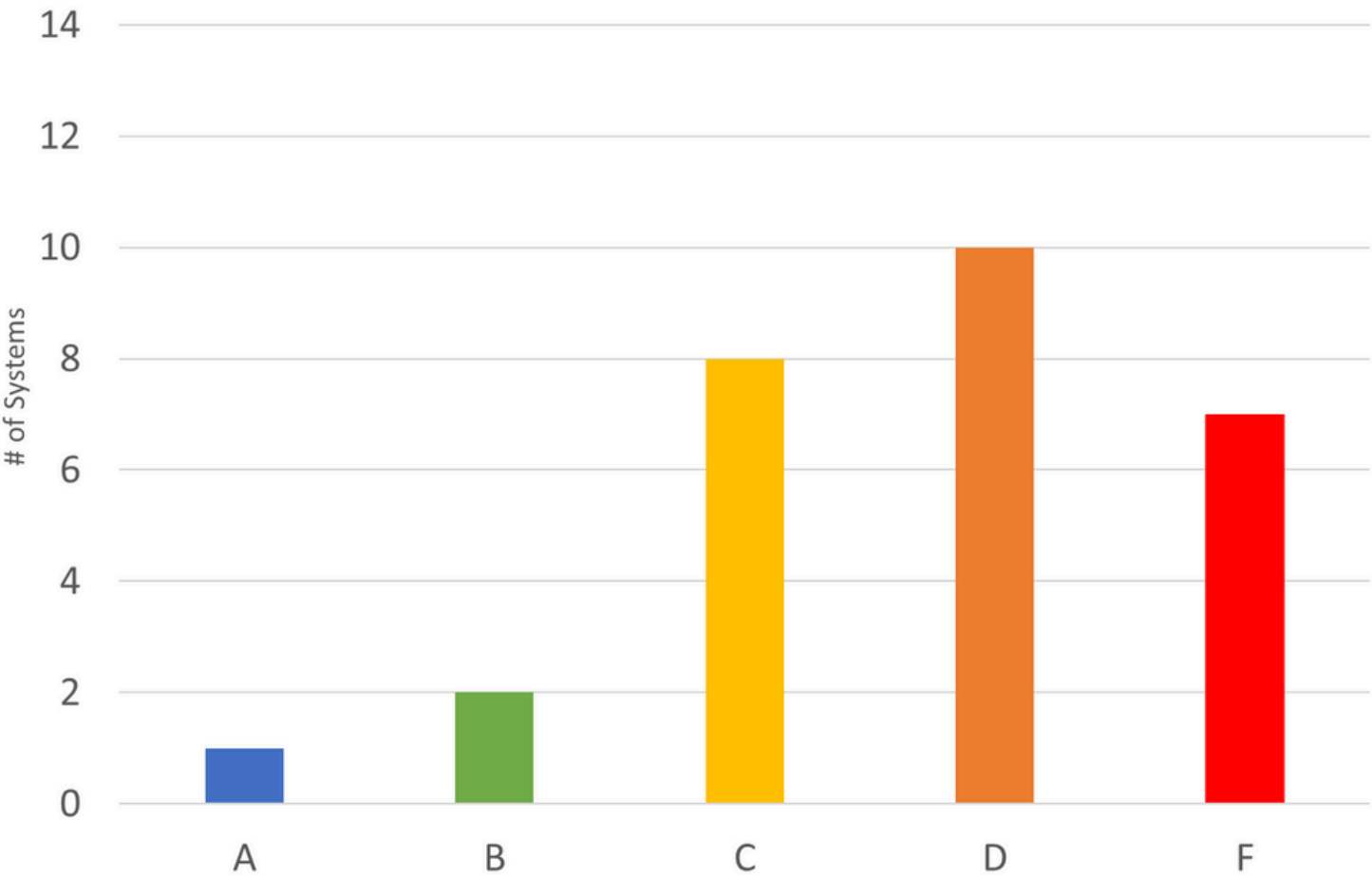
- Clean Water Resiliency Bond
 - \$29.958 M (92% approval)
- \$31.45 M investment
- \$1.735 M of bond authorization remaining due to \$3.23 M in grants and subsidy awards
 - Remainder to be held additional contingency on outfall project and towards Pine CSO reduction project

CLEAN WATER WORK: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Sewer & Storm Main	Miles
Replaced	0.68
Relined	7.97
Total	8.64

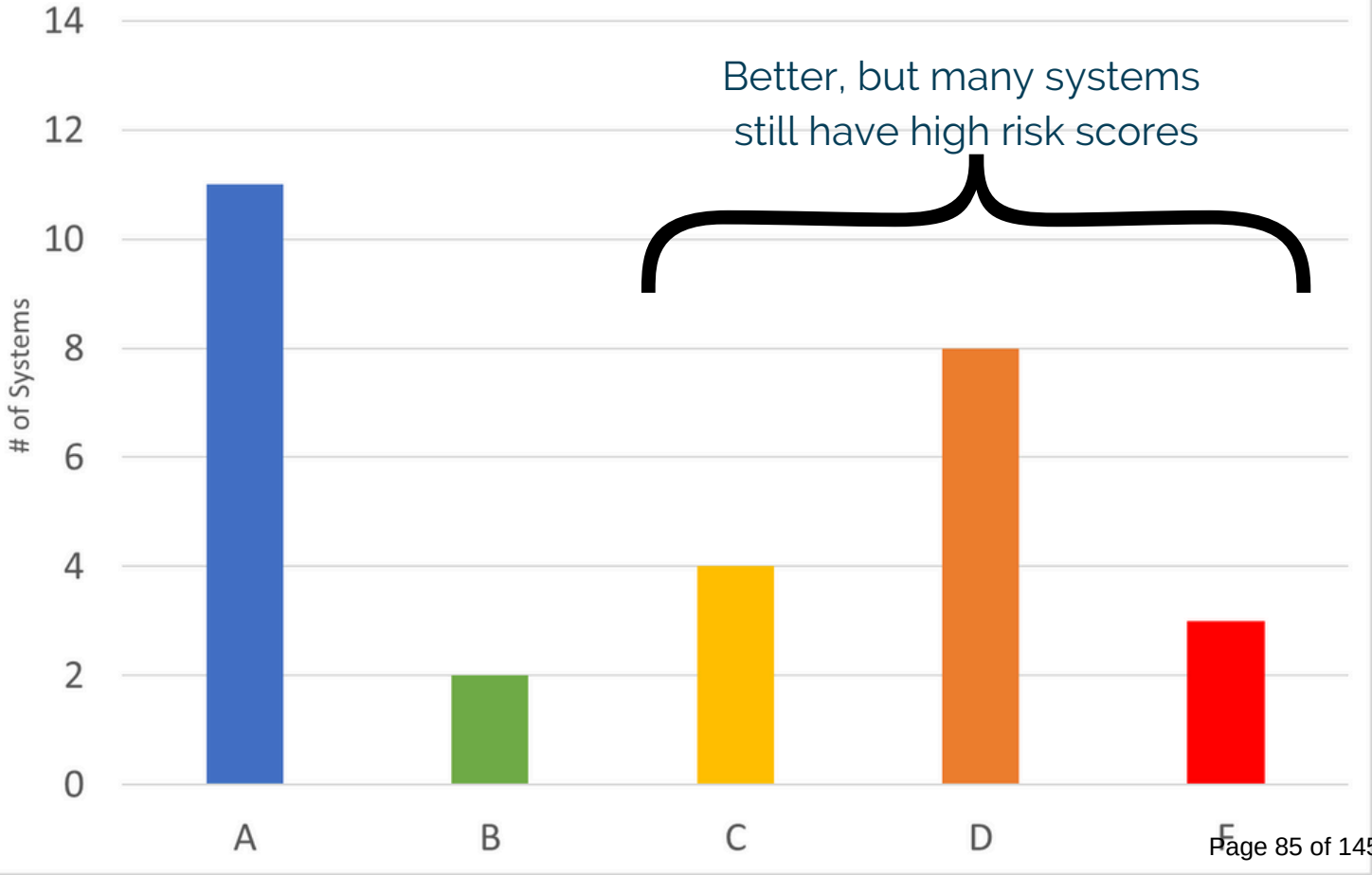


Burlington WWTF Systems Risk Scores 2018



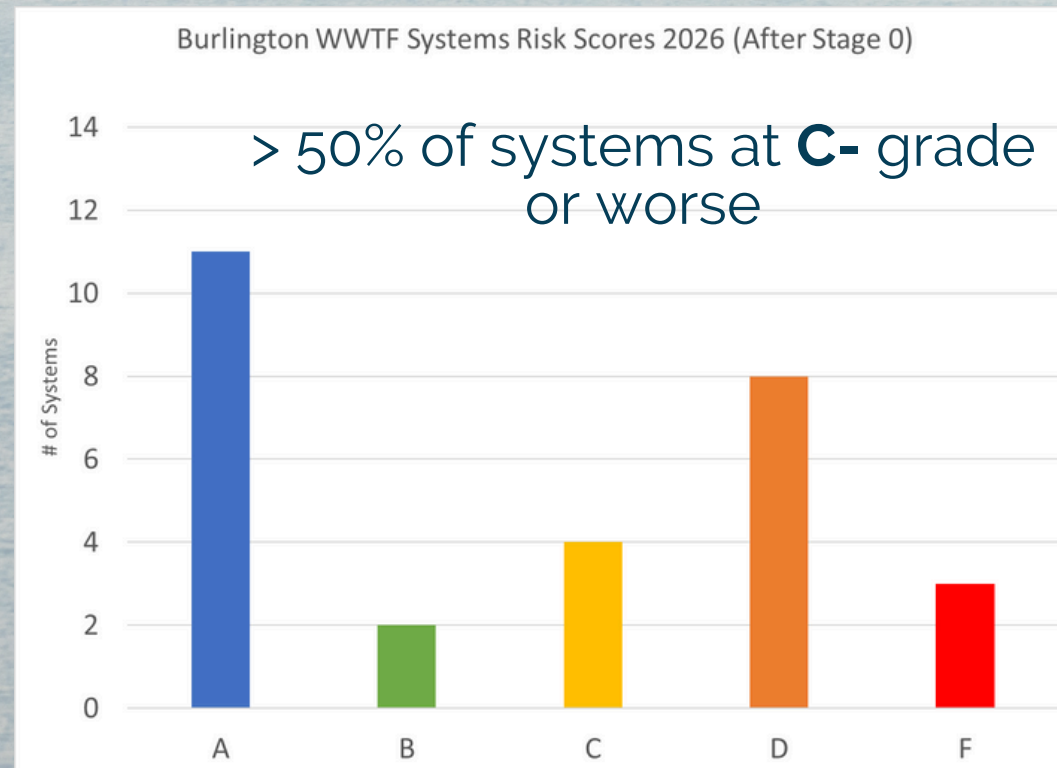
\$21.3 M

Burlington WWTF Systems Risk Scores 2026 (After Stage 0)



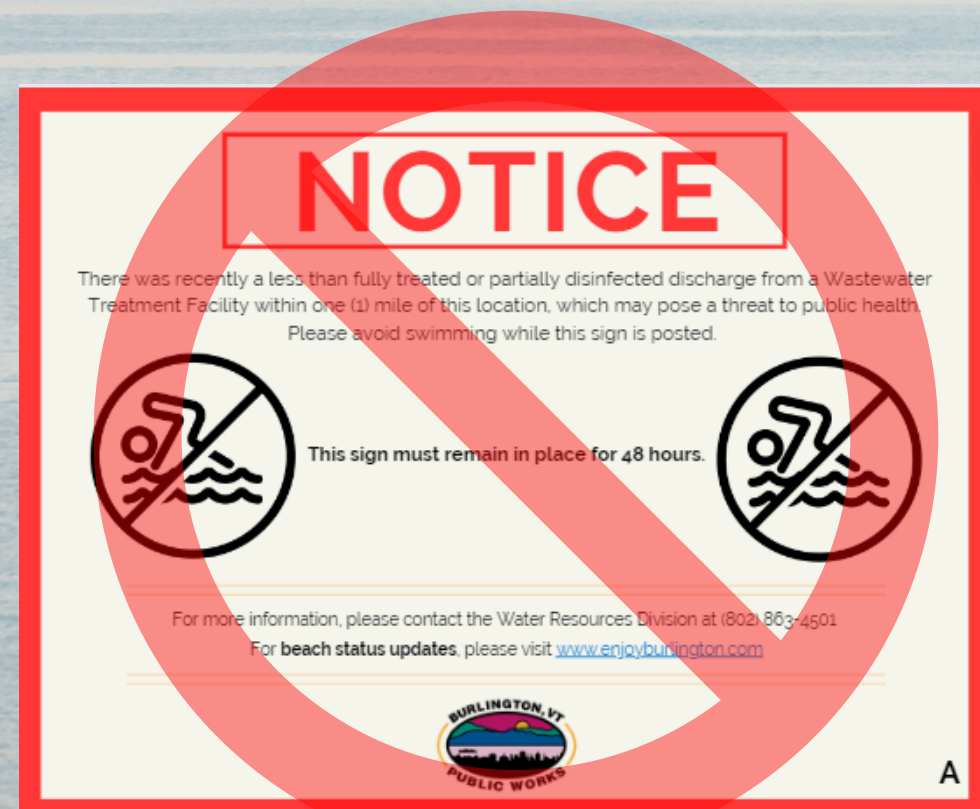
WHY IS MORE INVESTMENT NEEDED?

- To provide reliable and sustainable drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services to the **current** and **future** Burlington
 - Replace aged drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure that is at significant risk of failure
 - Ensure that there is sufficient capacity for housing and other growth
 - Improve resiliency against climate change
 - Address safety/code upgrades to protect and retain workers



WHY IS MORE INVESTMENT NEEDED?

- To protect the Lake by meeting/exceeding our water quality improvement requirements
 - Infrastructure resiliency and redundancy = meeting water quality standards = avoid **preventable** beach closures
 - Reduce phosphorus discharges from Burlington and help VT meet the Lake Champlain TMDL
 - Continue to reduce combined sewer overflows

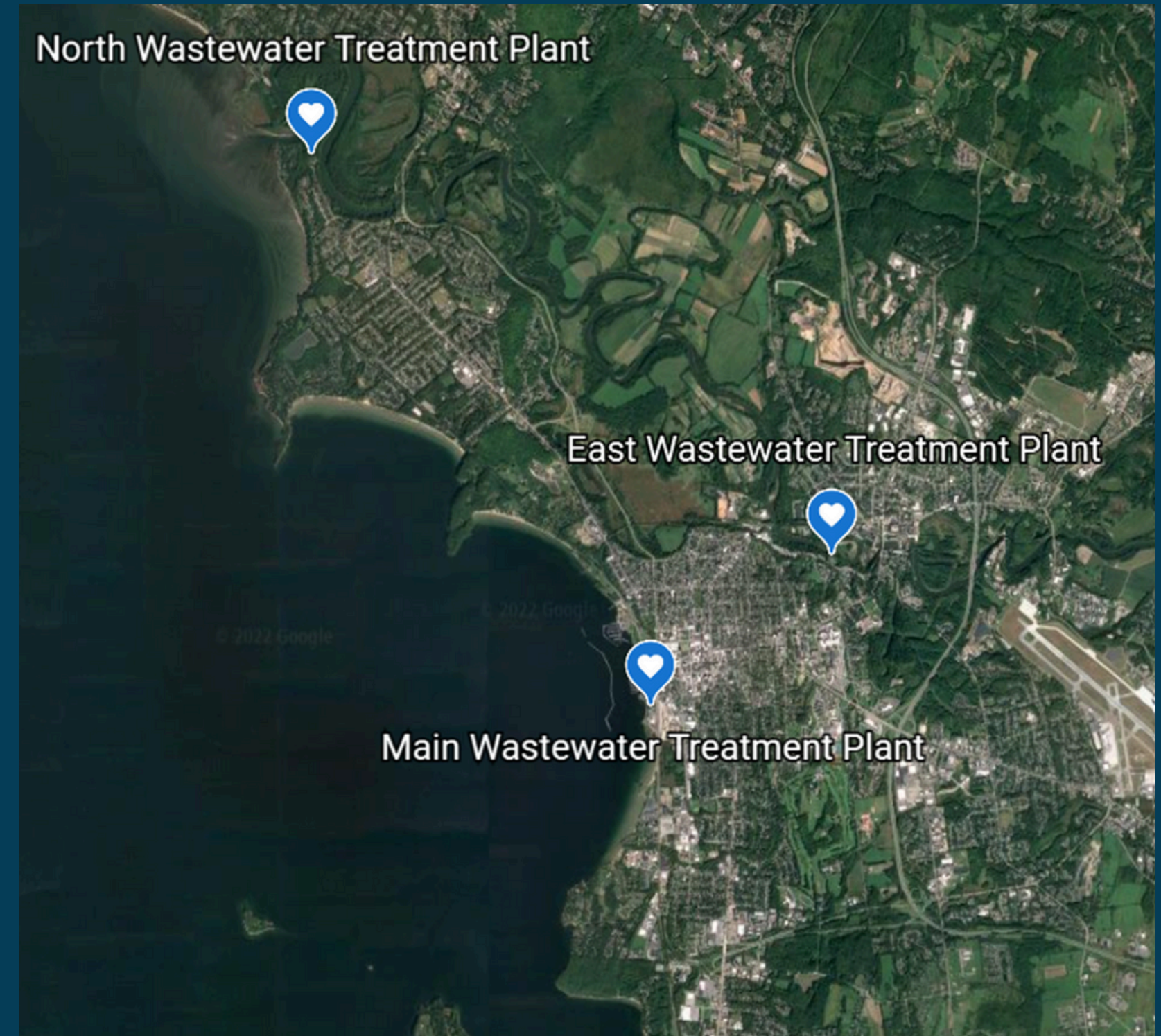


WWTP Improvements Project

Burlington's Commitment to the Lake and
Sustainable Housing Growth

BURLINGTON'S 3 WASTEWATER PLANTS

- Main W/WTP built in 1953
- North W/WTP built in 1961
- East W/WTP built in 1965
- Due both to increased regulations and the harsh impacts of the wastewater environment on equipment, all three plants were then subsequently upgraded in:
 - 1973 - improved pollutant treatment
 - 1994 - improved nutrient removal and added wet weather treatment to Main W/WTP

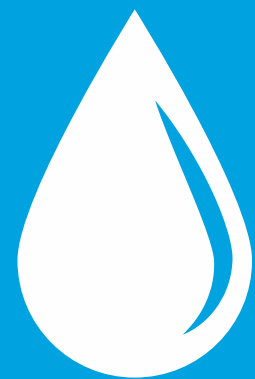


Improve and Modernize WWTFs for Burlington's Future



Resiliency

Ensure existing systems continue to function; Increase resiliency of critical wastewater equipment through improved design and redundancy



Environmental

Improve ability to meet water quality standards for Lake Champlain



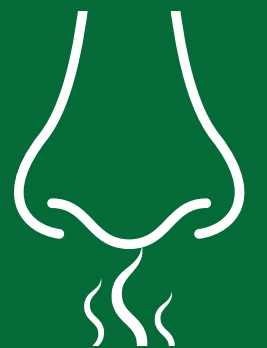
Capacity

Increase capacity of Main WWTF to accommodate growth within the community



Work safety

Improve working conditions for City staff



Odors

Reduce off-site odors from Main WWTF

Reservoir Improvements Project

*Water Supply Resiliency
for Burlington*

BURLINGTON'S DRINKING WATER RESERVOIR AND HIGH SERVICE PUMP STATION

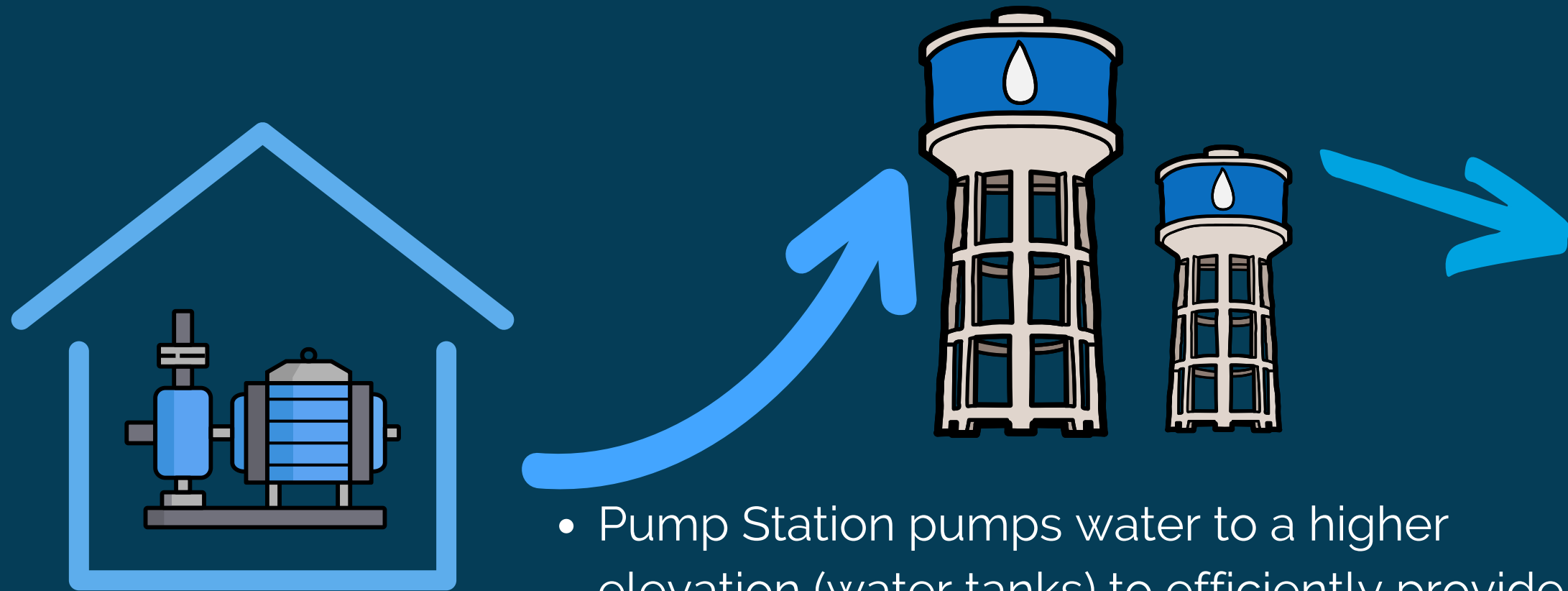


Figure 7.18: Main Street reservoir, drained of water and under renovation, circa 1890
(Courtesy Burlington Water Department)

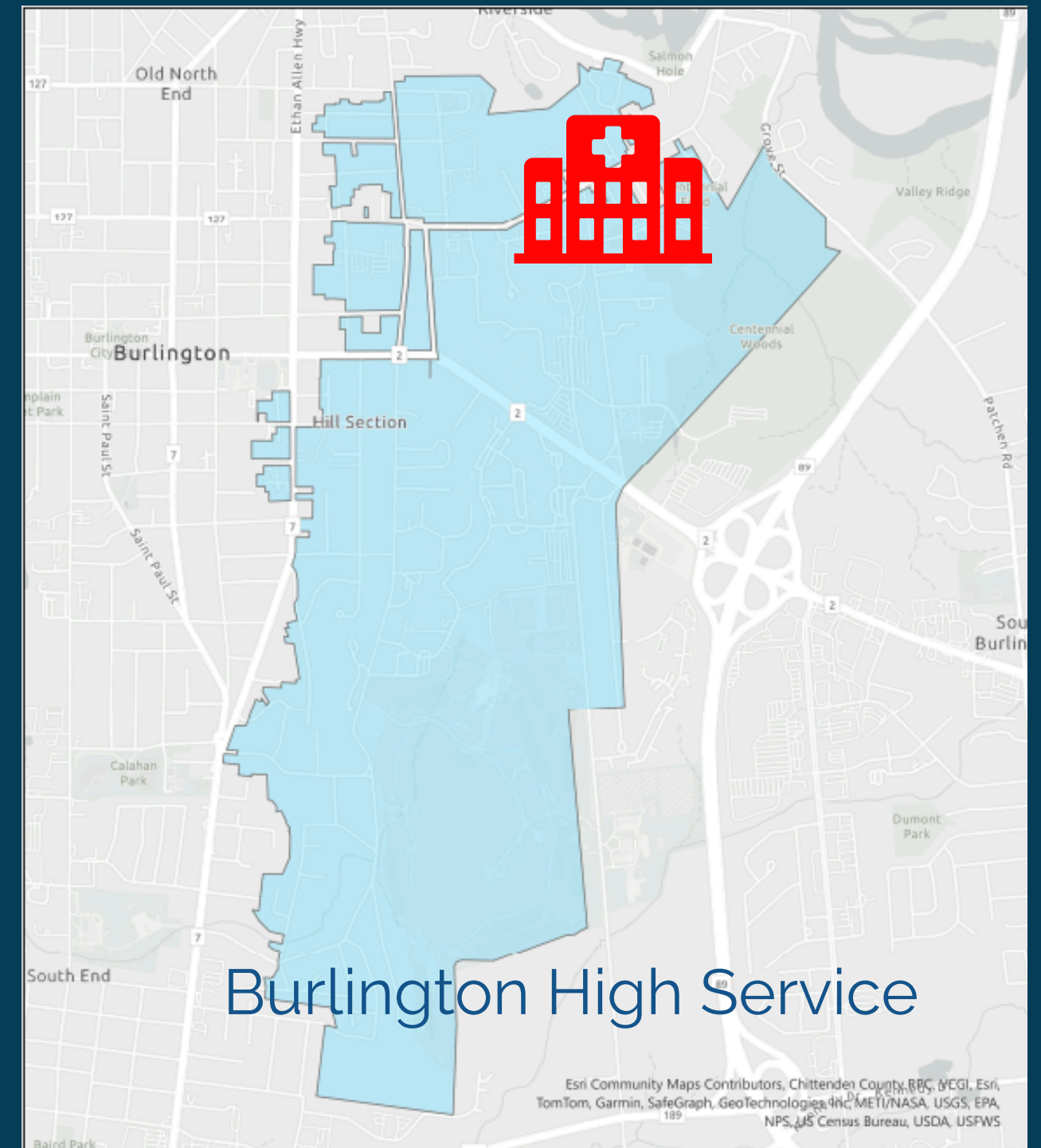
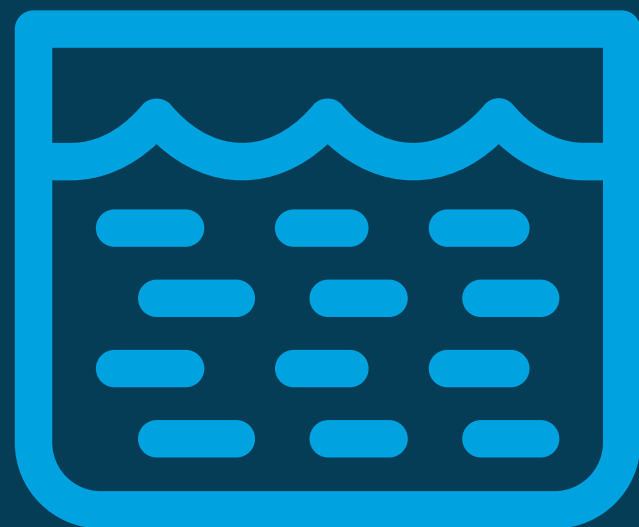


- 7 Million Gallon Treated Drinking Water Storage
 - Originally Built in 1867
 - Expanded in 1888 and lined with brick/stone
 - Covered in 1981
- 1867 Gate House Building
 - In service as a Pump Station starting in early 1880s

THE RESERVOIR AND PUMP STATION ARE CRITICAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE

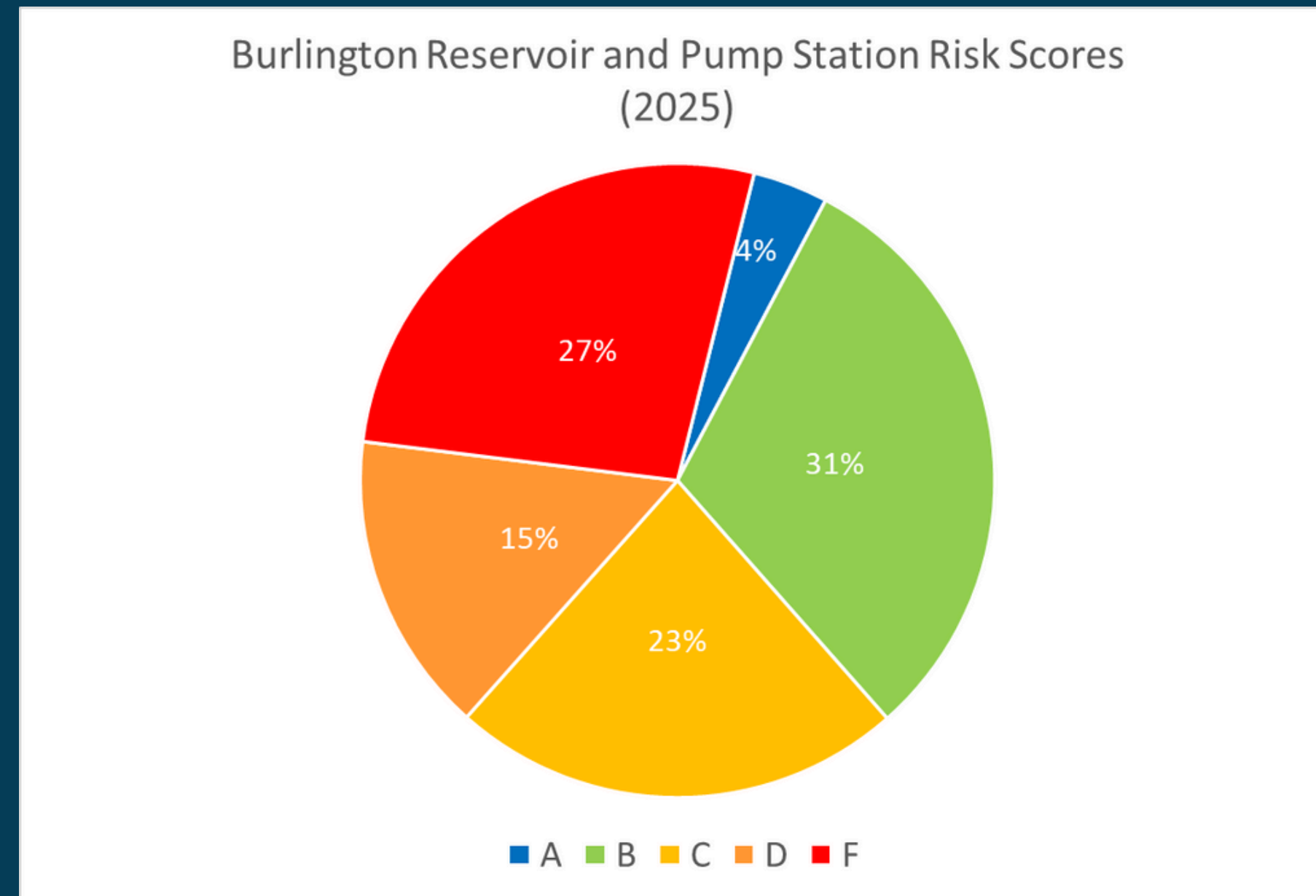


- Pump Station pumps water to a higher elevation (water tanks) to efficiently provide sufficient pressure to properties generally east of Willard Street
- **These pumps are REQUIRED for supplying water to the UVVMC** and rest of high service area
- The reservoir itself is critical to providing **demand fluctuation and emergency storage** for the rest of the City



RISK REPORT CARD

PUMP STATION AND RESERVOIR



Conclusion

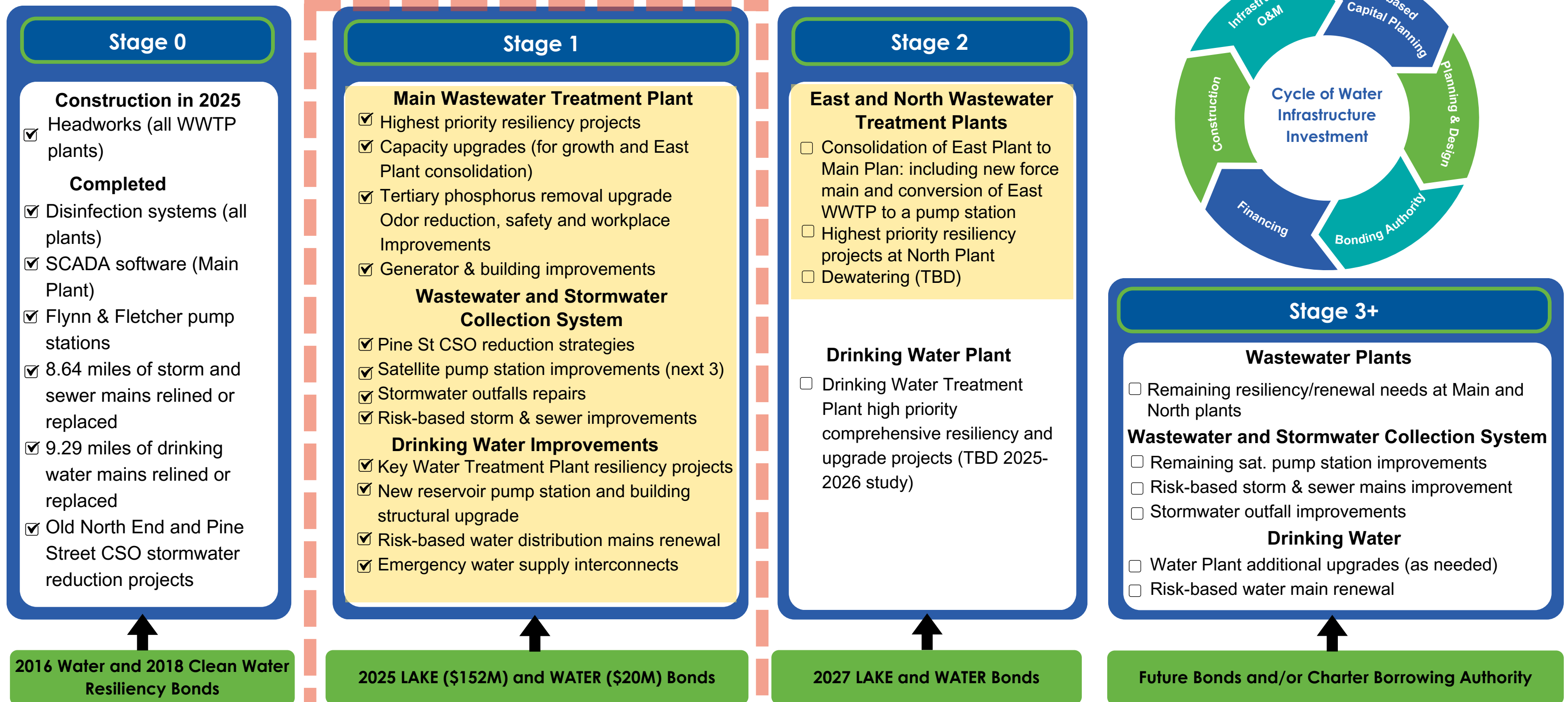
- 65% of systems are at a C grade or worse, with 42% at D (replacement needed in 1-3 years) or F (needs immediate replacement)
- This condition presents a great deal of risk for Burlington's ability to supply water to the high service

Water Resources

Sustainable Infrastructure Plan: The 2025 LAKE & WATER bonds

Original November Bond Proposal

How does this phase of investment fit in with the overall plan?



2025
Lake & Water Bonds

TOWN MEETING DAY 2025: HOW MUCH \$?

System	Final TMD 2025 Bond Request	Final <u>Cost/Borrowing</u> Determination
Drinking Water	\$21M \$20 M	Determination of other funding for City transportation projects; Congressionally Delegated Spending Grant Award
Wastewater	\$204M \$138 M	Final due diligence on WWTP costs; Determination of other funding for City Transportation Projects; Pollution Control Grants; NRBC grant; Pine Street CSO sewer separation final cost
Stormwater	\$14 M	Pine Street CSO reduction final cost; Determination of other funding for City transportation projects; Pollution Control Grants

\$152 M

HOW DID THE \$ DECREASE?

Memo details the risk and rationale of postponing certain items.
Below also forecasts additional scope items and costs where available.

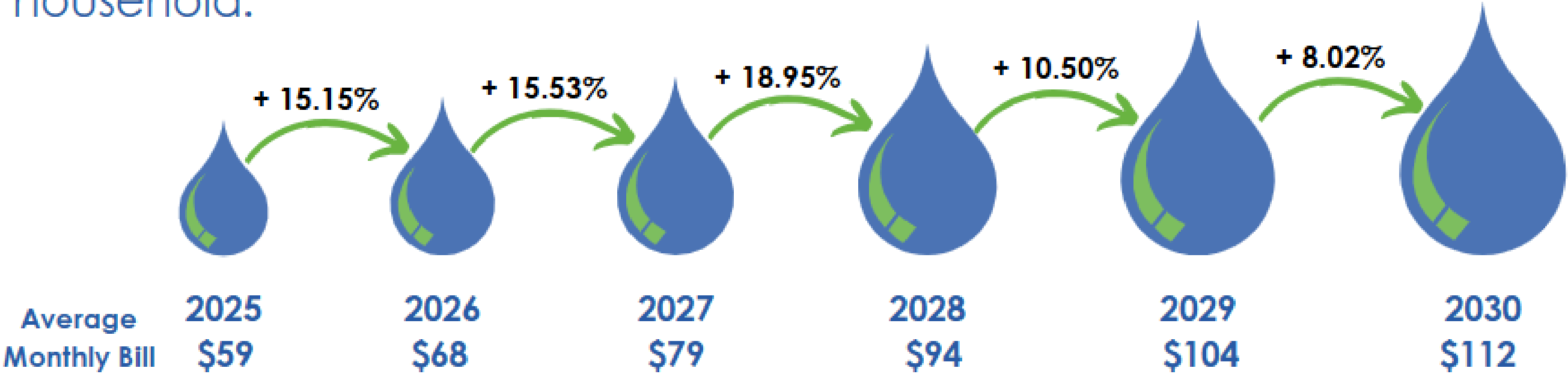
Projects Not Included in 2025 Bond ¹	Current Estimated Cost	Rationale for addressing later	Include in FY26-FY35 Rate Impact Projection
East Plant Consolidation	\$ 25,000,000	Construction scheduled for 2028; success of grants for Stage 1 may reduce ultimate bond need.	Yes
North Plant WWTP High Priority Upgrades	\$ 13,662,000	Construction scheduled for 2030; success of grants for Stage 1 may reduce ultimate bond need	Yes
North Plant Sewer Siphon	\$ 14,000,000	Eligible for FEMA funding	No
Dewatering Upgrade	\$ 8,700,000	Regulatory landscape for biosolids management unclear; wait for clearer picture to select best technology (costs could change depending on timing and regulations)	No
Remainder of Main and North Plant Renewal (Stage 3) ²	\$ 60,000,000	Items that can wait until ~2030; bidding environment for Stage 1 and grants may reduce this #	No
Additional Satellite Pump Station Renewal ²	\$ 7,100,000	Next round of Pump Station Renewal projects; condition of remaining 5 stations needing age related upgrades will be monitored and phased as necessary.	No
Comprehensive Water Plant Upgrade	TBD	Pending completion of preliminary engineering study for entire WTP (2025-2026)	No
Additional Storm and Sewer Renewal	TBD	Wastewater will be able to fund some renewal with annual capital funding generated due to debt coverage requirements. Additional work also pending a collection system master plan which may identify needed capacity upsize requirements	No
Additional Water Main Renewal	TBD	Additional work pending a distribution system master plan which may identify needed capacity upsize requirements.	No

Note 1: This is a list of known project needs, some of which were included in previous bond proposals. Additional projects maybe needed due to quicker than anticipated failure rates or regulatory changes.

Note 2: These cost estimates are in 2025 dollars. Future costs will likely be higher due to inflation depending on the timing of the project.

How will rates be affected?

Based on current forecasts, we estimate that water resources bills could increase up to 89% between 2025 and 2030. This would happen over a series of annual increases, and would look like this for a typical single family household.

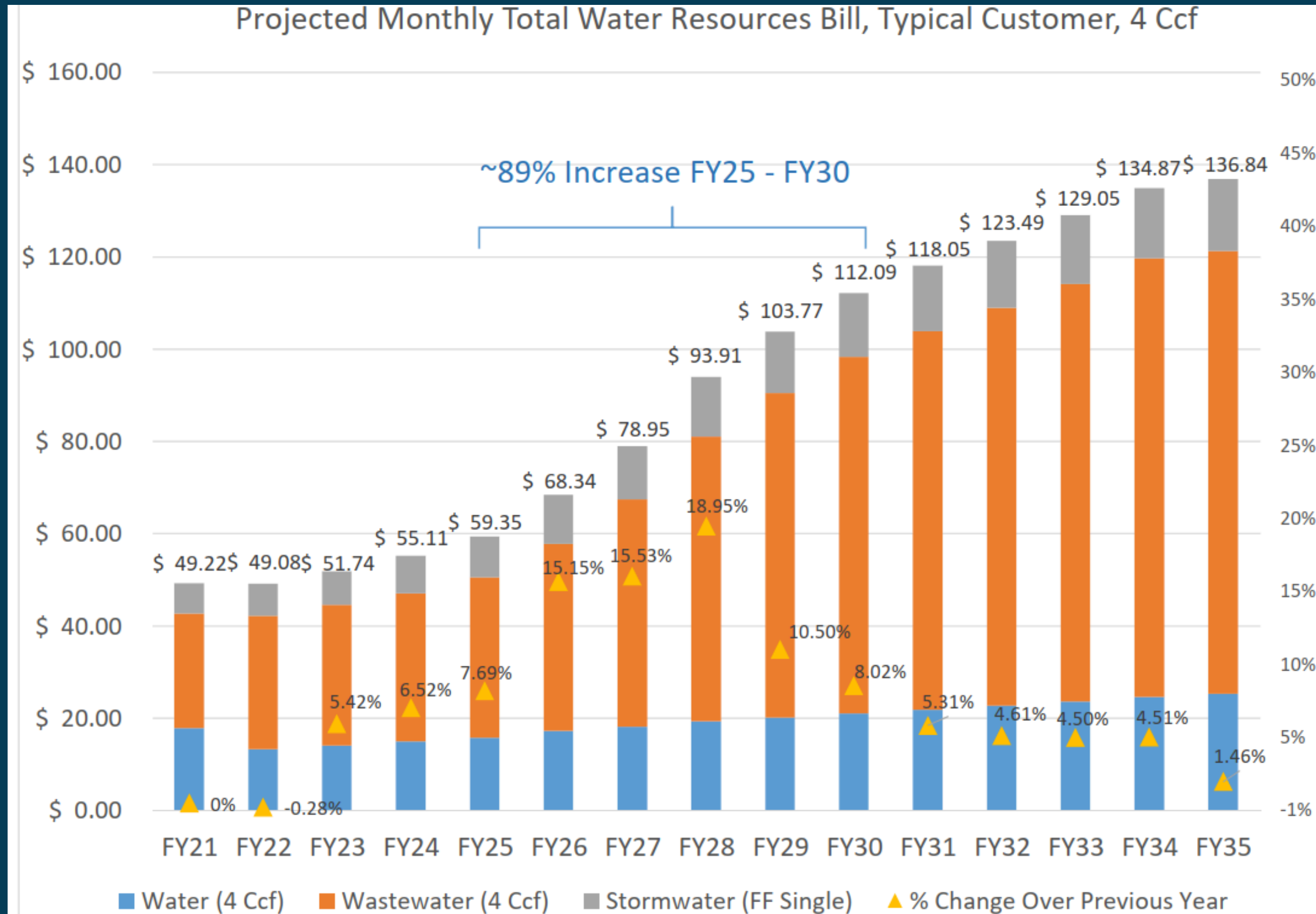


Bill estimates are for a single family home with a 5/8" meter using 400 cubic feet a month. Does not include the current 3.5% franchise fee assessed by the City on water and sewer charges.



Rate (%) increases are currently anticipated to be similar for other customer classes, with the exception of FY26 in which customers with private fire protection would have a slightly higher rate increase due to the last year of a 5 year phase in of that charge.

WATER, WASTEWATER, STORMWATER RATE IMPACTS



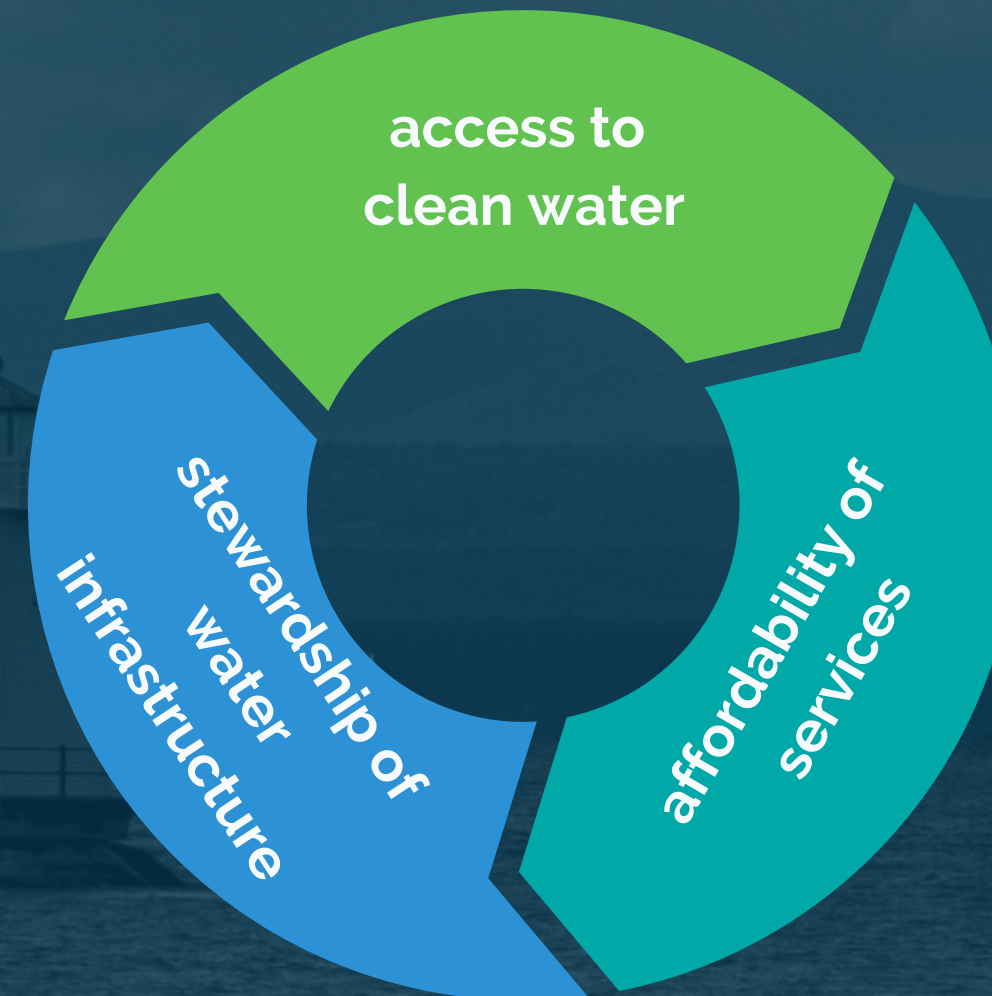
- **Conservative** estimate (based on best available information) of bill impacts:
 - Does not include possible grant funding
 - Does not include revenue from potential growth
- Final borrowing portfolio and availability of SRF loan will play a big role
- Includes Stage 2 Wastewater Treatment Plant costs
 - East Plant Consolidation
 - North Plant High Priority Resiliency Upgrades
- Debt service for included projects ramps up through FY2034, with the steepest rate increases in FY26 - FY 30.

CURRENT RATEPAYER AFFORDABILITY MEASURES

"...an affordable water bill is one that the household can regularly and successfully pay on time without compromising its ability to meet other essential needs." (NRDC Water Affordability Advocacy Toolkit)



- **Fixed Fee Waiver**
 - Low-income
 - 65+
 - Non-Profit Housing Organization
- **Rebates**
 - Sewer lateral inspections
 - WaterSense fixtures



RATE STRUCTURE ADJUSTMENTS

- **Lifeline** rate tier on water side
- **User class**-based rates

Water Resources will work with City Council to develop additional affordability and assistance programs for implementation prior to significant debt issuance.

CONTINUED OVERSIGHT AND UPDATES FOR THE WASTEWATER PLANT PROJECT

- Updates to Council and other public bodies at:
 - 90% Preliminary Engineering
 - 30% Final Design
 - 60% Final Design
 - 90% Final Design
- Comprehensive Peer Review of 60% Final Design and update to be provided to Council, well in advance of bidding of the project
- Update on or by August 4, 2025 on feasibility of using Construction Management at Risk (CMAR) methodology for construction phase



WORKING TO REDUCE THE IMPACT ON RATEPAYERS

- **Pursuit** of grants
 - Congressionally Delegated Spending (Reservoir Project on list for \$1 M)
 - Pursuit of Pollution Control Grant funding
 - Working with Legislature to increase Pollution Control Grant availability
 - Northern Borders Regional Commission (\$1 - \$3M)
- **Explore** Water Investment Finance and Infrastructure Act (WIFIA)
 - Lots of paperwork, but generally lower interest rates than bonds
- **Improve** Vermont State administration and legislative awareness about infrastructure funding gaps
 - Meeting with State Legislative delegation
 - Meetings with Vermont ANR Secretary and DEC Water Investment Division
 - Met with State Treasurer's office
 - **Ensuring sufficiency** of SRF (low interest, 2%) financing
 - **Increasing availability** of SRF financing



SUMMARY

- Request for ballot items in March 2025 for
 - Up to \$20M **WATER** bond
 - Up to \$152M **LAKE** bond
- Capital investment is necessary for a resilient Burlington with capacity for growth and a healthy Lake Champlain
- Typical residential bill projected to increase approximately 89% over next 5 years through a series of annual rate increases

Water reliability

Advancing water main replacement

Treatment plant improvements

Emergency supply contingency

Reservoir upgrades

Leverage modern technology

Advance & repair key infrastructure

Keep our federal & state commitments

Enhance water quality & worker safety

THANK YOU. QUESTIONS?

Megan Moir
Division Director Water Resources
mmoir@burlingtonvt.gov

Martin Lee
Water Resources Engineering Manager
mlee@burlingtonvt.gov

Chapin Spencer
DPW Director
cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov

<https://burlingtonvt.gov/2025waterbonds>



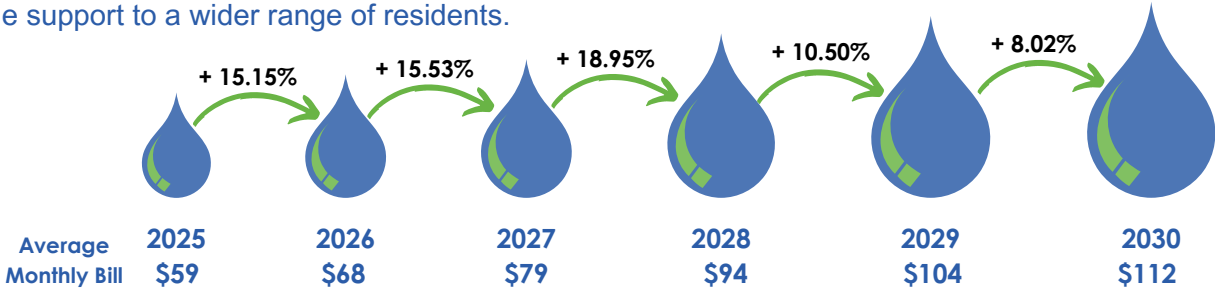
Water Resources Sustainable Infrastructure Plan

LAKE & WATER Bonds Brief

	LAKE	WATER
What	The LAKE bond prioritizes critical repairs and upgrades to our wastewater and stormwater systems to protect public health and Lake Champlain, now and in the future.	The WATER bond addresses high priority critical drinking water infrastructure to support reliable clean water access throughout the City.
Use type	Wastewater, Stormwater (runoff from rain)	Drinking Water
Why	Over 50% of our wastewater infrastructure has a high likelihood of failure within 3 years and will not be able to support current and future demands on the system.	The Reservoir/Pump Station system, which provides water to the high service area including UVMHC and to the rest of the City during water supply emergencies, is at risk of failure.
Amount	Up to \$ 152 Million	Up to \$ 20 Million
Big ticket items	Replacing Main Plant primary clarifiers, adding a secondary clarifier, tertiary treatment & other safety upgrades (\$127M), CSO Storage Tank (\$8M)	New pump station at Reservoir, building and reservoir structural repairs (\$9.75M), water main renewal (\$7.25M)
Future bond needs	East Plant consolidation and North Plant high priority upgrades (\$38M, included in current rate models), Dewatering upgrades (\$8M), Remaining Main & North Plants upgrades (up to \$60M)	Water Treatment Plant Comprehensive Upgrade (the plant hasn't been upgraded in 40 years and is undergoing an evaluation 2025 - 2026); water main replacement and renewal
Existing Affordability Programs	1. Bill discount program for low income people, seniors and non-profit housing organizations for the fixed sewer fee 2. Sewer lateral inspection rebates 3. Green stormwater rebates through BlueBTv	1. Bill discount program for low income people, seniors and non-profit housing organizations for the fixed water fee 2. Rebates for WaterSense fixtures

How will my rates be affected?

Rate increases include both bonds. Based on current forecasts, we estimate that water resources bills could increase up to 89% between 2025 and 2030. This would happen over a series of annual increases, and would look like this for a typical single family household. The City will work with the Council to enhance affordability programs to provide support to a wider range of residents.



Bill estimates are for a single family home with a 5/8" meter using 400 cubic feet a month. Does not include the current 3.5% franchise fee assessed by the City on water and sewer charges.

Resolution Relating to

MARCH 4, 2025 – ANNUAL CITY MEETING ISSUANCE
OF REVENUE BONDS FOR DRINKING WATER UTILITY
PROJECTS

RESOLUTION 8.9

Sponsor(s): Bd. of Finance

Introduced: 01/27/2025

Referred to: _____

Action: Adopted

Date: 01/27/2025

Signed by Mayor: 01/29/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, the City, acting through the Water Resources Division (WRD) of the Department of
2 Public Works, has identified needs for various capital improvements to its drinking water reservoir and pump
3 station, the water treatment plant, and the distribution system, including capital improvements to water mains,
4 hydrants and valves as part of Stage 1 of the Water Resources Sustainable Infrastructure Plan; and

5 WHEREAS, the City has determined that the costs of such improvements are too great to be paid out of the
6 ordinary annual income and revenue of the Water enterprise fund and that it will be necessary to incur
7 indebtedness to fund such capital costs;

8 WHEREAS, the improvements will benefit ratepayers and City residents; and

9 WHEREAS, the City expects that a total of \$20,000,000 will be required to make these Stage 1 capital
10 improvements of the Water Resources Sustainable Infrastructure Plan; and

11 WHEREAS, while the Division's existing rate affordability framework (enacted by City Council in
12 FY22), includes a bill discount program that will assist qualified customers with the impact of rate increases,
13 the Division commits to evaluating the need and mechanisms for expansions and enhancements of the
14 affordability program to 1) ensure that all customers are able to regularly and successfully pay their water
15 resources bill on time and without compromising their ability to meet other essential needs and 2) to
16 evaluating the need and mechanism for the establishment of an indirect assistance program to offset the impact
17 of water resources rate increases on rents; and

18 WHEREAS, the City Charter and other applicable law provides that, with at least a majority vote of
19 the City's voters, the City shall have the authority to issue bonds, from time to time, for the purpose of
20 financing the cost of any improvement to the City's public utility systems, including the City's drinking water
21 system, with such bonds payable from the revenues of such public utilities; and

22 WHEREAS, the Board of Finance, at its January 27, 2025 meeting has approved and recommended
23 that the City Council advance the proposed revenue bonding for the waterworks system improvements for
24 City-wide consideration and a public vote at the Annual City Meeting to be held on March 4, 2025; and

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

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.....
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Adopted by the City Council

....., 20.....

..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

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WHEREAS, the proposed financing of such capital improvements may be through a public or private issuance of bonds or notes, issuance through the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, through the State of Vermont environmental revolving loan fund, or any combination of these sources, and may be done in one or more series over multiple years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following question shall be placed on the ballot of the Annual City Meeting to be held March 4, 2025:

“Shall the City be authorized to issue revenue bonds or notes in one or more series, in a principal amount not to exceed \$20,000,000, to be issued pursuant to the City Charter and subchapter 2 of Chapter 53 of Title 24, Vermont Statutes annotated, on behalf of the Water Resources Division of the Department of Public Works and payable only by the net revenues of the waterworks system for the purpose of (i) paying for capital additions and improvements to the waterworks system, including the City’s drinking water reservoir and pump station, the drinking water treatment plant, underground pipe and water distribution system, and (ii) to fund debt service reserve funds and pay costs of issuance?”

Estimated total Project Cost: \$ 20,000,000;

City Share of Costs: \$20,000,000.

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

DPW - Water Resources

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

MARCH 4, 2025 -- ANNUAL CITY MEETING
ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS FOR DRINKING
WATER UTILITY PROJECTS

Adopted by the City Council

January 27....., 20.25.....

Bob V. V. V...... Clerk

Approved..... Jan 29....., 20.25.....

Edmund S. S...... Mayor

Attest:

Lori Olberg

Lori Olberg
Licensing and Records Coordinator

Vol. Page

* * * * *

Resolution Relating to

SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE
CHARTER AMENDMENT RE: BAN ON FIREARMS IN
ANY ESTABLISHMENT WITH A LIQUOR LICENSE

RESOLUTION 8.4

Sponsor(s): Councilor Bergman

Introduced: 01/27/2025

Referred to: _____

Action: Adopted

Date: 01/27/2025

Signed by Mayor: 01/29/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, at the March 4, 2014 Annual City Meeting, the voters of the City of Burlington voted by a
2 margin of 68% to 32% in favor of a Charter amendment to ban possession of firearms in any establishment with
3 a first-class liquor license; and

4 WHEREAS, the General Assembly did not take action to approve the proposed Charter amendment
5 relating to guns in bars; and

6 WHEREAS, gun violence continues to end, maim, and negatively impact human lives in our City,
7 including a homicide on August 23, 2024, involving a gun carried into a downtown bar by the alleged assailant;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, without a change to state law or a Charter amendment, 24 V.S.A. §2295 prevents the City
10 from adopting a ban on firearms at establishments with first-class liquor licenses; and

11 WHEREAS, at its September 9, 2024 meeting, by resolution, the City Council renewed its call that the
12 General Assembly adopt the voter-approved Charter amendment and also adopt statewide legislation prohibiting
13 firearms in establishments with liquor licenses or authorizing any Vermont municipality to enact such a
14 prohibition by ordinance; and

15 WHEREAS, on November 18, 2024, the City Council approved the proposed Charter amendment that
16 was previously placed before voters in 2014; and

17 WHEREAS, pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2645(a)(7), the City Council determines that because the full text
18 of the Charter amendment is too long or unwieldy to be shown in the amendment form and determines that the
19 printed ballot should use a short form;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the short form of the proposed Charter amendment shall
21 read as follows on printed ballots:

22 *Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, be further*
23 *amended to add Article 99. General Weapons Requirements Sec. 510 entitled "Ban on Firearms*
24 *in any Establishment with a First-Class Liquor License" the legal effect thereof being to move*
25 *the Vermont General Assembly to adopt the voter-approved Charter amendment that will add*
26 *provisions that do the following?*
27

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

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.....
.....

Adopted by the City Council

....., 20.....

..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

* * * * *

SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE
CHARTER AMENDMENT RE: BAN ON FIREARMS IN
ANY ESTABLISHMENT WITH A LIQUOR LICENSE

The *Ban on Firearms in Any Establishment with a First-Class Liquor License* will supersede 24 V.S.A. §§2291(8) & 2295 and will authorize the City to regulate the possession and carrying of firearms by prohibiting any person from carrying or possessing a firearm, as defined by 13 V.S.A. §4016(a)(3), in any building or on any real property or parking area under the ownership or control of an establishment licensed to serve alcohol on its premises. Under specified circumstances, exceptions to the prohibition will be included for law enforcement officers, members of the U.S. armed forces or members of the VT National Guard, government officers, agents, or employees authorized to carry weapons, and an owner or operator of such an establishment who is lawfully allowed to possess firearms. Violation of this section will be considered a Criminal Offense punishable by imprisonment and a fine and may also be considered a Civil Ordinance Violation punishable by a fine and civil forfeiture of the weapon.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with the requirements of 17 V.S.A. 2645(a)(6)(B)(ii), the public is advised that a complete copy of the proposed charter amendment shall be available for inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, and that a copy of the proposed charter amendment shall be made available to members of the public online and otherwise upon request.

JB/Resolutions 2025/Short form of ballot question for banning firearms in any establishment with a liquor license
January 27, 2025

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
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ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE
CHARTER AMENDMENT RE: BAN ON FIREARMS
IN ANY ESTABLISHMENT WITH A LIQUOR LICENSE

Adopted by the City Council

January 27....., 20 25

Barbara Kelly..... Clerk

Approved..... Jan 29, 20 25

Glenn J. Mayor

Attest:

Vol. Page

* * * * *

Resolution Relating to

MARCH 4, 2025 ANNUAL CITY MEETING – CHARTER
CHANGE RE: BAN ON FIREARMS IN ANY
ESTABLISHMENT WITH A LIQUOR LICENSE

RESOLUTION 8.11

Sponsor(s): Bergman, Traverse

Introduced: 11/18/24

Referred to: _____

Action: adopted

Date: 11/18/24

Signed by Mayor: 11/19/24

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Four.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, at the March 4, 2014 Annual City Meeting, the voters of the City of Burlington voted by
2 a margin of 68% to 32% in favor of a Charter change to ban possession of firearms in any establishment with
3 a first class liquor license; and

4 WHEREAS, the General Assembly did not take action to approve the proposed Charter change
5 respecting guns in bars; and

6 WHEREAS, gun violence continues to end, maim, and negatively impact human lives in our City,
7 including a homicide on August 23, 2024, involving a gun carried into a downtown bar by the alleged
8 assailant; and

9 WHEREAS, without a change to state law or a Charter amendment, 24 V.S.A. § 2295 prevents the
10 City from adopting a ban on firearms at establishments with first class liquor licenses; and

11 WHEREAS, at its September 9, 2024 meeting, the City Council adopted a resolution that, among other
12 matters, called upon the General Assembly to adopt the voter approved Charter change respecting guns in
13 bars, and to take other actions to prevent violence in our community and statewide; and

14 WHEREAS, the City Council renews its call and encourages the General Assembly not only to adopt
15 the voter approved Charter change, but also to adopt statewide legislation prohibiting firearms in
16 establishments with liquor licenses or authorizing any Vermont municipality to enact such a prohibition by
17 ordinance; and

18 WHEREAS, the City Council desires to place the 2014 Charter change on the ballot to provide the
19 community the opportunity to express its commitment to the proposal a second time;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves the proposed Charter
21 amendment attached hereto as Attachment A, which was previously placed before voters in 2014, and requests
22 that the Mayor warn the question therein and place it on the ballot for the Annual City Meeting to be held on
23 March 4, 2025, and that the City Clerk set public hearings on this question in accordance with § 303 of the
24 City Charter and 17 V.S.A. § 2645, said hearings to be warned for the 15th and 21st of January, 2025, or
25 otherwise as soon as necessary or convenient and in accordance with applicable law.

26 ER/ Resolutions 2024/Charger Change re firearms in bars
27 November 12, 2024

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

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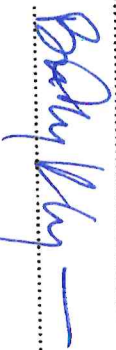
RESOLUTION RELATING TO

March 4, 2025 Annual City Meeting-Charter Change Re; Ban On Firearms In Any Establishment With A Liquor License.

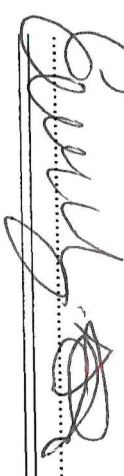
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Adopted by the City Council

November 18, 2024

 Clerk

Approved Nov 19, 2024

 Mayor

Vol. Page

* * * * *

Attest:

MARCH 4, 2014 ANNUAL CITY MEETING

**PROPOSED CHARTER CHANGE RE BAN ON FIREARMS IN ANY
ESTABLISHMENT WITH A LIQUOR LICENSE
—Article 99, Section 510**

Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298 as amended be further amended to add Article 99. General Weapons Requirements Sec. 510 entitled “Ban on Firearms in Any Establishment with a First Class Liquor License” thereto to read as follows:

Sec. 510. Ban on Firearms in Any Establishment with a First Class Liquor License.

- (a) This act expressly supersedes 24 V.S.A. §§ 2291(8) & 2295 and authorizes the City of Burlington to regulate the possession and carrying of firearms in the manner indicated below.
- (b) Ban. Within the City of Burlington, no person may carry or possess a firearm, as defined by Section 4016(a)(3) of Chapter 13 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, in any building or on any real property or parking area under the ownership or control of an establishment licensed to serve alcohol on its premises.
- (c) Exceptions. This provision shall not apply to
 - (1) any federal, state, or local law enforcement officer acting within the scope of that officer’s official duties;
 - (2) any member of the armed forces of the United States or the Vermont National Guard acting within the scope of that person’s military duties;
 - (3) any government officer, agent, or employee authorized to carry a weapon and acting within the scope of that officer’s duties;
 - (4) the owner or operator of such establishment, as long as that person is not prohibited from possessing or carrying that weapon under any other federal, state, or local law.
- (d) The penalty for any violation of this section shall be as follows:
 - (1) Criminal Offense. Any violation of this Article may be considered a criminal offense, which shall be punishable by a fine of no more than \$1,000 and/or by imprisonment for not more than ninety (90) days.

- (2) Civil Offense. Any violation of this Article may also be considered a civil ordinance violation punishable by a fine of no less than \$200 and no more than \$500 and civil forfeiture of the weapon as provided below.
- (3) Forfeiture. Upon probable cause that a person is in violation of this provision, a law enforcement officer may seize the weapon involved in the violation. The person from whom the weapon is seized, or the owner of the weapon (if different), may appeal the forfeiture of the weapon within thirty (30) days of the seizure to the Vermont Superior Court, Civil Division, pursuant to Chapter 102 of Title 12 of the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 74 of the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure. In any appeal, the burden of proof shall rest upon the City to establish the violation by a preponderance of the evidence. If the City fails to establish the required burden of proof, the items shall be returned to the person from whom they were seized. If no appeal is taken within thirty days, or if the City prevails in the superior court proceedings, the items so seized shall become the property of the City of Burlington.

* Material underlined added.

Resolution Relating to

SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE
CHARTER CHANGE TO ARTICLE II, SEC. 2 OF THE
CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON

RESOLUTION 8.3

Sponsor(s): Councilor Bergman

Introduced: 01/27/2025

Referred to: _____

Action: Adopted

Date: 01/27/2025

Signed by Mayor: 01/29/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, the City of Burlington's Charter currently describes the boundaries of City Council districts
2 and wards in explicit geographic terms, so that any redistricting to accommodate changes in population require
3 a Charter change approved not only by the voters, but also by the Vermont General Assembly; and

4 WHEREAS, the foregoing circumstance has the practical effect of slowing the process of redistricting;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, to eliminate this concern while also maintaining a fair and reasonable process for
7 redistricting, consistent with the charters of other Vermont communities, on November 18, 2024, the City
8 Council proposed a Charter change to the voters for the March 4, 2025 Town Meeting Day ballot, which would
9 replace Section 2 of the Charter in its entirety with the following language:

10 "The election area boundaries established in 2023 pursuant to Act M-7 shall remain
11 in effect until changed by the City Council which is hereby authorized to make
12 changes from time to time to the boundaries of the election areas in order to provide
13 an equal division of population among them in accordance with data produced by
14 the U.S. Census Bureau. Election areas changes shall not be made more frequently
15 than once in five years. Such changes shall be approved by the voters at an annual
16 or special meeting of the City and shall become effective immediately upon
17 approval unless a later date is established therein."; and
18

19 WHEREAS, pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2645(a)(7), the City Council determines that because the full text
20 of the Charter change entails deletion of an existing lengthy section of the Charter, inclusive of legal descriptions
21 of each existing district and ward, the text is too long or unwieldy to be shown in the amendment form and
22 determines that the printed ballot should use a short form;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the short form of the proposed Charter change shall read
24 as follows on printed ballots:

25 *Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, be further*
26 *amended by amending and restating Title I, Article II, Section 2, to read in its entirety as follows,*
27 *the legal effect thereof being to eliminate the need for the Vermont General Assembly to approve*
28 *any City Council redistricting adopted by Burlington voters from time to time?;*
29

* * * * *

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Adopted by the City Council

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

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Resolution Relating to SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE
 CHARTER CHANGE TO ARTICLE II, SEC. 2 OF THE
 CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON

The election area boundaries established in 2023 pursuant to Act M-7 shall remain in effect until changed by the City Council which is hereby authorized to make changes from time to time to the boundaries of the election areas in order to provide an equal division of population among them in accordance with data produced by the U.S. Census Bureau. Election areas changes shall not be made more frequently than once in five years. Such changes shall be approved by the voters at an annual or special meeting of the City and shall become effective immediately upon approval unless a later date is established therein.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with the requirements of 17 V.S.A. 2645(a)(6)(B)(ii), the public is advised that a complete copy of the proposed charter change shall be available for inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, and that a copy of the proposed charter change shall be made available to members of the public online and otherwise upon request.

ER/Resolutions 2025/Short form of ballot question for redistricting charter change
January 9, 2025

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

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RESOLUTION RELATING TO

SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE
CHARTER CHANGE TO ARTICLE II, SEC. 2
OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON

Adopted by the City Council

January 27
....., 20.25.....

[Signature]
..... Clerk

Approved..... Jan 29, 20.25.....

[Signature]
..... Mayor

Attest:

Vol. Page

* * * * *

Resolution Relating to

MARCH 4, 2025 ANNUAL CITY MEETING
PROPOSED CHARTER CHANGE REGARDING
REDISTRICTING BY CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 8.6
Sponsor(s): Councilor Bergman
Introduced: 11/16/24
Referred to: _____
Action: adopted
Date: 11/18/24
Signed by Mayor: 11/19/24

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Four.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, the City of Burlington’s charter currently describes City Districts and Wards in
2 explicit enumerated and geographical terms in Article 2 (City Election Areas Defined), Section 2 (Election
3 Boundaries); and

4 WHEREAS, as the charter is currently written, to alter the number or geography of City Districts and
5 Wards a charter change must be enacted, a process consisting, among other procedural steps, of the review,
6 possible further amendment, and confirmation by the Vermont State Legislature; and

7 WHEREAS, this process involving the Vermont State Legislature has the practical effect of slowing the
8 City’s redistricting process at the local level; and

9 WHEREAS, it is the goal of the City to accelerate any redistricting processes, while maintaining fair,
10 equitable, and reasonable processes for redistricting; and

11 WHEREAS, the City aims to achieve this goal by removing the descriptions of the number and
12 geography of City Districts and Wards in Article 2 (City Election Areas Defined), Section 2 (Election
13 Boundaries) and replacing this with a procedure equipping the City to unilaterally preform redistricting without
14 needing further charter changes and involvement by the Vermont State Legislature; and

15 WHEREAS, the charters of other Vermont municipalities, including Montpelier, are written as to not
16 require a charter change to effectuate an alteration to the number or geography of city districts and wards; and

17 WHEREAS, the Charter Change Committee held meetings on the 1st and 30th of October, 2024, to
18 receive public comment, considered the referred proposed charter language, and amended this language; and

19 WHEREAS, on October 30, 2024, the Committee voted to refer the charter change language back to the
20 Council to be placed on the March 4, 2025 ballot;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves the amendments to the city
22 charter recommended by the Charter Change Committee and requests the Mayor to place the following question
23 on the ballot of the Annual City Meeting to be held on March 4, 2025 and the City Clerk to set public hearings

* * * * *

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

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on this question in accordance with Charter §303 and 17 V.S.A. §2645, said hearings to be warned for the 15th and 21st of January, 2025, or otherwise as necessary and convenient and in accordance with applicable law:

“Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298 as amended be further amended to amend Section 2 to Article 2 as follows:

ARTICLE 2. CITY ELECTION AREAS DEFINED

§2. Election boundaries.

~~(a) City districts described. For the annual meeting of 2024 and all City elections thereafter, the City of Burlington is divided into four electoral districts, constituted as follows:~~

~~(1) East District. The East District shall include all that part of said City lying easterly and northerly of the following described boundaries: Beginning at the common boundary between the Cities of Burlington and Winooski in the Winooski River beneath the Central Vermont Railway bridge downstream of the Lower Winooski Falls and Salmon Hole; thence westerly in the centerline of said railroad tracks for 406.6 feet to a point where the centerline of Intervale Road extended northerly intersects said railroad track centerline (approximately 73.2028 longitude, 44.4911 latitude); thence southerly along the extension of the centerline of Intervale Road, crossing Riverside Avenue until the centerline intersects with that of the Archibald Street centerline extended easterly; thence westerly along the Archibald Street centerline until the intersection of the Archibald Street centerline and the North Willard Street centerline; thence southerly along the North Willard Street Centerline until the intersection of the North Willard Street centerline and the Pearl Street Centerline; thence westerly along the Pearl Street centerline until intersecting with the South Winooski Avenue centerline; thence southerly along the South Winooski Avenue centerline until intersecting the Maple Street centerline; thence easterly along the Maple Street centerline for 1573.5 feet to a point where the eastern property boundary of 315 Maple Street extended northerly intersects Maple Street (approximately 73.2064 longitude, 44.4739 latitude); thence southerly along the eastern property boundary of 315 Maple Street for 276.5 feet (approximately 73.2064 longitude, 44.4734 latitude); thence 281.4 feet westerly to a point where the southern property boundary of 315 Maple Street extended westerly intersect with the western boundary of 251 South Willard Street extended northerly (approximately 73.2071 longitude, 44.4733 latitude), thence 723.7 feet 177° southerly to a point where it intersects the southern property boundary of 285 South Willard Street extended westerly (approximately 73.2071 longitude, 44.4719 latitude); thence easterly along the southern boundary of 285 South Willard Street for 696.5 feet until intersecting with the South Willard Street centerline (approximately 73.2051 longitude, 44.472 latitude); thence northerly along the South Willard Street centerline for 220.9 feet (approximately 73.2052 longitude, 44.4724 latitude); thence easterly along the southern property boundary of 262 South Willard Street for 557.6 feet (approximately 73.2037 longitude, 44.4725 latitude); thence northerly along the eastern property boundary of 262 South Willard Street for 89.6 feet to a point where the Juniper Terrace centerline extended westerly intersects the eastern property boundary of 262 South Willard Street (approximately 73.2037 longitude, 44.4726 latitude); thence following the Juniper Terrace centerline easterly until intersecting with the Summit Street centerline (approximately 73.2021 longitude, 44.4727 latitude); thence northerly along the Summit Street centerline until reaching the centerline of Main Street thence following the Main Street centerline easterly 2339.6 feet (approximately 73.1964 longitude,~~

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

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44.4753 latitude); thence southwesterly 214° for 136.1 feet (approximately 73.1966 longitude, 44.4751 latitude); thence southeasterly 98.2 feet (approximately 73.1964 longitude, 44.4749 latitude); thence southwesterly by 213° for 770 feet (approximately 73.1975 longitude, 44.4737 latitude); thence southeasterly by 123° for 477.4 feet until intersecting with the University Heights centerline (approximately 73.1964 longitude, 44.4732 latitude); thence southerly along the centerline of University Heights Road 1221.65 feet until intersecting with the PFG Road centerline, thence westerly by 79° until intersecting with the common boundary between the Cities of Burlington and South Burlington.

(2) Central District. The Central District shall include all that part of the City bounded as follows: On the east, beginning at the common boundary between the City of Burlington and Town of Colchester in the Winooski River at a point intersecting with the centerline of Institute Road extended northeasterly (approximately 73.2147 longitude, 44.5089 latitude); thence southerly along the common boundary between the City of Burlington and Town of Colchester in the Winooski River to a point beneath the Central Vermont Railway bridge downstream of the Lower Winooski Falls and Salmon Hole; thence westerly along the East District northern boundary for 406.6 feet to its intersection with the westerly boundary of the East District; thence southerly along the westerly boundary of the East District to its intersection with the centerline of Archibald Street, then southerly along the East District western boundary to the intersection with the centerline of Pearl Street; thence westerly along the northern boundary of the East District to the intersection with the centerline of South Winooski Avenue; thence southerly along the western boundary of the East District to the centerline of Maple Street; thence westerly along the centerline of Maple Street until its intersection with the centerline of South Champlain street; thence northerly along the South Champlain Street centerline until its intersection with the centerline of King Street; on the south along the centerline of King Street extended westerly to Lake Champlain; on the west by Lake Champlain; on the north, beginning at the intersection of the common property boundary between 87 North Avenue and 9 Lakeview Terrace extended westerly to Lake Champlain (approximately 73.2252 longitude, 44.4832 latitude); thence northeasterly along the extended property boundary between 87 North Avenue and 9 Lakeview Terrace to its intersection with the centerline of the Central Vermont Railway railroad track (approximately 73.2239 longitude, 44.4837 latitude); thence northerly and easterly along the centerline of the Central Vermont Railway railroad track, crossing North Avenue and the Burlington Beltline, to its intersection with the centerline of Spring Street extended northwesterly (approximately 73.2183 longitude, 44.4912 latitude); thence northwesterly along the extension of the centerline of Spring Street to its intersection with the centerline of Institute Road extended northeasterly (approximately 73.2281 longitude, 44.4995 latitude); thence northeasterly along the extension of the centerline of Institute Road extended to its intersection with the common boundary between the City of Burlington and Town of Colchester in the Winooski River (approximately 73.2139 longitude, 44.5077 latitude).

(3) South District. The South District shall include all that part of the City south of the southern boundaries of the East and Central Districts.

(4) North District. The North District shall include all that part of the City north of the northern boundary of the Central District.

(b) Wards described. Each of the City of Burlington's four electoral districts set forth in subsection (a) of this section hereby comprises two wards, each of which is constituted as follows:

(1) East District — Ward 1 and Ward 8.

* * * * *

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

Attest: Mayor

Vol. Page

* * * * *

~~(A) The East District is divided into two wards by the following boundary: Beginning at the center of the intersection of Brooks Avenue and South Willard Street; thence easterly along the Brooks Avenue centerline until intersecting with the centerline of North Prospect Street; thence southerly along the centerline of North prospect Street to the intersection of the centerline of Colechester Avenue to the intersection of the centerline of Mary Fletcher Drive; thence southerly along the centerline of Mary Fletcher Drive for 331.58 feet (approximately 73.196 longitude, 44.4802 latitude); thence southerly along the western side and easterly along the southern side of the UVM Medical Center building for 1854.5 feet until a point at the center of the intersection of Beaumont Avenue and Mary Fletcher Drive (approximately 73.1932 longitude, 44.4788 latitude); thence south along the Beaumont Avenue centerline to the intersection of Carrigan Drive; thence following Carrigan Drive westerly for 199.1 feet (approximately 73.1932 longitude, 55.5756 latitude); thence travelling southwest for 821.3 feet along the UVM service road on the eastern border of the southeastern wing of the UVM Jeffords Hall until a point at the intersection of the service road and the centerline of University Heights extended northeasterly (approximately 73.1947 longitude, 44.4751 latitude); thence southwest along the centerline of University Heights 977.3 feet (approximately 73.1962 longitude, 44.4735 latitude); thence continuing southeasterly along the centerline of the driveway bounding the western side of the UVM Living/Learning Commons for 404.3 feet (approximately 73.1952 longitude, 44.4731 latitude); thence continuing south along the eastern side of UVM's University Heights dorms until intersecting with PFG Road; thence continuing easterly along the western extension of the PFG Road centerline for 601.2 feet until intersecting with the common boundary between the Cities of Burlington and South Burlington.~~

~~(B) Ward 1 lies to the north and east of the boundary described in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (1), and Ward 8 lies to the south and west.~~

~~(2) Central District — Ward 2 and Ward 3.~~

~~(A) The Central District is divided into two wards by the following boundary: Beginning at the intersection of the common property boundary between 85 North Avenue and 9 Lakeview Terrace extended westerly to Lake Champlain (approximately 73.2252 longitude, 44.4832 latitude); thence northeasterly along the extended property boundary between 87 North Avenue and 9 Lakeview Terrace to its intersection with the centerline of the Central Vermont Railway railroad track (approximately 73.224 longitude, 44.4837 latitude); thence southeasterly along the centerline of the Central Vermont Railway railroad track to a point intersecting with the northwestern property boundary of 300 Lake Street extended southwest (approximately 73.2234 longitude, 44.4832 latitude); thence northeasterly to a point at the intersection of the northwestern property boundary of 300 Lake Street extended northeasterly with the centerline of Depot Street (approximately 73.2223 longitude, 44.4837 latitude); thence northerly along the centerline of Depot Street to the intersection with the centerline of Lakeview Terrace; thence easterly along the centerline of Lakeview Terrace extended westerly until intersecting with the centerline of North Avenue; thence northerly along the centerline of North Avenue to its intersection with the centerline of North Street; thence easterly along the centerline of North Street until intersecting with the North Union Street centerline; thence southerly following the North Union Street centerline until intersecting with the Loomis Street centerline; thence easterly along the Loomis Street centerline to the intersection of the centerlines of Loomis Street and South Willard Avenue.~~

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Adopted by the City Council

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

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~~(B) Ward 2 lies to the north of the boundary described in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (2), and Ward 3 lies to the south.~~

~~(3) South District—Ward 5 and Ward 6.~~

~~(A) The South District is divided into two wards by the following boundary: Beginning at the intersection of the centerlines of Maple Street and Church Street; thence southerly along the centerline of Church Street to the intersection with the centerline of Adams Street; thence westerly along the centerline of Adams Street to the intersection with the centerline of Saint Paul Street; thence southerly along the Saint Paul Street centerline to its intersection with the centerline of Shelburne Street; thence southerly along the centerline of Shelburne Street to its intersection with the centerline of Flynn Avenue; thence easterly along the centerline of Flynn Avenue extended easterly to the common boundary between the Cities of Burlington and South Burlington.~~

~~(B) Ward 5 lies to the west of the boundary described in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (3), and Ward 6 lies to the east.~~

~~(4) North District—Ward 4 and Ward 7.~~

~~(A) The North District is divided into two wards by the following boundary: Beginning at the centerline of Institute Road extended southwest to Lake Champlain; thence northeasterly to the intersection of Institute Road with the centerline of North Avenue; thence northerly along the centerline of North Avenue to its intersection with the centerline of Fairfield Drive; thence westerly along the centerline of Fairfield Drive to its intersection with the western property boundary of 39 Westward Drive extended southerly (approximately 73.2685 longitude, 44.5257 latitude); thence northerly along the western property boundary of 39 Westward Drive, until intersecting with the centerline of Westward Drive; thence southwest along the centerline of Westward Drive to the intersection with the Northshore Drive centerline; thence northerly along the Northshore Drive centerline until intersecting with the Clair Pointe Road centerline (point); thence westerly along the southern property boundary of the Claire Pointe condominium development (approximately 73.2686 longitude, 44.5286 latitude), and then extended to Lake Champlain.~~

~~(B) Ward 4 lies to the west of the boundary described in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (4), and Ward 7 lies to the east.~~

~~(5) Ward map reference. Reference is also made to a map entitled “Ward Redistricting, 8 Wards—4 Districts, 12 Councilors, Approved Map (December 2 V1.3), Map Date: December 8, 2022” located in the Burlington Chief Administrative Officer’s office in further aid of the description of the wards set forth in this subsection.~~

The election area boundaries established in 2023 pursuant to Act M-7 shall remain in effect until changed by the City Council which is hereby authorized to make changes from time to time to the boundaries of the election areas in order to provide an equal division of population among them in accordance with data produced by the U.S. Census Bureau. Election areas changes shall not be made more frequently than once in five years. Such

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

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Page 6 Resolution Relating to

MARCH 4, 2025 ANNUAL CITY MEETING
PROPOSED CHARTER CHANGE REGARDING
REDISTRICTING BY CITY COUNCIL

201	changes shall be approved by the voters at an annual or special meeting of the City and shall become effective
202	<u>immediately upon approval unless a later date is established therein.</u>
203	
204	* Material underlined added.
205	** Material stricken out deleted.
206	
207	EK/KS/Resolutions 2024/March 4, 2025, Annual City Meeting Proposed Charter Change Regarding Redistricting by City Council
208	November 14, 2024

* * * * *

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has been sent to the following
department(s) on

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

March 4, 2025 Annual City Meeting Proposed Charter Change Regarding Redistricting

By City Council

Adopted by the City Council

November 18, 2024

Barry V. Kelly Clerk

Approved Nov. 19, 2024

Ed Y. ... Mayor

Attest:

Vol. ... Page ...

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Resolution Relating to

SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE
CHARTER CHANGE RE: AUTHORITY TO REGULATE
RENTAL NOTIFICATIONS AND NOTIFICATION
PERIODS

RESOLUTION 8.2

Sponsor(s): Councilor Bergman,
Litwin

Introduced: 01/27/2025

Referred to: _____

Action: Adopted

Date: 01/27/2025

Signed by Mayor: 01/29/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, the City has a significant population of renters, and ensuring fair, transparent, and equitable
2 housing practices is essential to promoting stability and wellbeing within the community; and

3 WHEREAS, the City Charter prescribes limited authority for the City Council to regulate rental
4 notifications and notification periods to increase rent or to terminate a tenancy; and

5 WHEREAS, specifically, Section 48(64)(A) requires landlords to provide 90-days' notice to terminate
6 a tenancy without cause if the tenancy has been less than two years and 120 days if the tenancy has been longer,
7 Section 48(64)(B) requires tenants to provide two rental periods' notice to terminate a tenancy unless
8 inconsistent with a lease provision, and Section 48(65) requires 90 days' notice of a rental increase; and

9 WHEREAS, these notice periods are in addition or in excess of those required by general state law,
10 including 9 V.S.A. §§4456(d) and 4467(c), and facilitate the City in addressing the unique needs of its rental
11 market; and

12 WHEREAS, the notice periods prescribed by the City Charter are inadequate to allow the City to respond
13 to specific and changing rental housing market conditions; and

14 WHEREAS, granting the City greater flexibility to enact rental notice regulations will allow the City
15 Council to enhance tenant stability, to foster more transparent landlord-tenant relations, and to mitigate negative
16 impacts from sudden evictions or lease terminations, particularly for vulnerable populations; and

17 WHEREAS, at its October 24, 2024 meeting, the Community Development and Neighborhood
18 Revitalization Committee ("CDNR") of the City Council referred a motion to the City Council proposing a
19 Charter Change amendment that would grant the City Council greater control to regulate rental notifications and
20 notification periods; and

21 WHEREAS, on October 28, 2024, the City Council referred CDNR's recommendation to the Charter
22 Change Committee; and

23 WHEREAS, the Charter Change Committee held a meeting on October 30, 2024, to consider the
24 proposed charter change and to receive public comment, and voted to recommend in favor of the change;

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I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
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ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

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Adopted by the City Council

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

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SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE
CHARTER CHANGE RE: AUTHORITY TO REGULATE RENTAL
NOTIFICATIONS AND NOTIFICATION PERIODS

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2024, the City Council proposed a Charter change to the voters for the March 4, 2025 Town Meeting Day ballot, which would amend Section 48 as follows:

§48. Enumerated:

The City Council shall have the power:

(1) to (63) *As written.*

(64) (A) ~~Where there is no written rental agreement and notwithstanding 9 V.S.A. § 4467(e), to prohibit, by ordinance, a landlord from terminating a tenancy of rental housing within the City for no cause unless the landlord provides to the tenant written notice of at least 90 days when the tenancy has been less than two years and of at least 120 days when the tenancy has been two years or more. Notwithstanding 9 V.S.A. § 4467 or any other law, to establish, by ordinance, requirements that residential landlords provide tenants notice prior to termination of residential tenancies, including requirements for the contents and timing of such notices. Such requirements may include special notice requirements for vulnerable populations, including elderly tenants, tenants with disabilities, and low-income tenants.~~

(B) ~~Unless inconsistent with a written rental agreement or otherwise provided by law, and notwithstanding the provision of 9 V.S.A. § 4456(d), to require, by ordinance, tenants who wish to terminate a residential tenancy to give actual notice to the landlord at least two rental periods prior to the termination date specified in the notice. Notwithstanding 9 V.S.A. § 4456(d) or any other law, to establish, by ordinance, requirements that residential tenants provide landlords notice prior to termination of tenancies, including requirements for the contents and timing of such notices.~~

(65) ~~Notwithstanding any other law, to~~ prohibit increases in rent ~~or other changes in lease terms~~ for rental housing within the City without advance written notice. The timing, contents and manner of giving such notice shall be established by ordinance of at least 90 days. Such ordinance may include special notice requirements for vulnerable populations, including elderly tenants, tenants with disabilities, and low-income tenants.

*Material underlined added.

** Material stricken deleted.

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Adopted by the City Council

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

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SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE
CHARTER CHANGE RE: AUTHORITY TO REGULATE RENTAL
NOTIFICATIONS AND NOTIFICATION PERIODS

WHEREAS, pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2645(a)(7), the City Council determines that because the full text of the Charter change includes deleted sections of the existing Charter language, the text is too long or unwieldy to be shown in the amendment form and determines that the printed ballot should use a short form;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the short form of the proposed Charter change shall read as follows on printed ballots:

Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, be further amended by amending Title III, Article 19, Section 48 (64)(A), and (64)(B), and amending and restating Title III, Article 19, Section 48 (65), the legal effect thereof being to empower the City Council to establish, by ordinance, the requirements for notice of termination of residential tenancies or changes in lease terms by either landlord or tenant, notwithstanding a written rental agreement to the contrary, and to empower the City Council to include in such ordinance special notice requirements for vulnerable populations, including elderly tenants, tenants with disabilities, and low-income tenants?

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with the requirements of 17 V.S.A. 2645(a)(6)(B)(ii), the public is advised that a complete copy of the proposed charter change shall be available for inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, and that a copy of the proposed charter change shall be made available to members of the public online and otherwise upon request.

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ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

SHORT FORM BALLOT LANGUAGE RE CHARTER
CHANGE RE: AUTHORITY TO REGULATE RENTAL
NOTIFICATIONS AND NOTIFICATION PERIODS

Adopted by the City Council

January 27, 2025

Reggie Kukley Clerk

Approved Jan 29, 2025

William J. ... Mayor

Attest:

Vol. Page

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Resolution Relating to

MARCH 4, 2025 ANNUAL CITY MEETING – CHARTER
CHANGE RE: CITY COUNCIL AUTHORITY TO
REGULATE RENTAL NOTIFICATIONS AND
NOTIFICATION PERIODS

RESOLUTION 7.5

Sponsor(s): CDNR, Charter Change
Committee

Introduced: 11/12/24

Referred to: _____

Action: adopted

Date: 11/12/24

Signed by Mayor: 11/19/24

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Four.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, the City has a significant population of renters, and ensuring fair, transparent, and
2 equitable housing practices is essential to promoting stability and wellbeing within the community; and

3 WHEREAS, the City Charter prescribes limited authority for the City Council to regulate rental
4 notifications and notification periods to increase rent or to terminate a tenancy; and

5 WHEREAS, specifically, Section 48(64)(A) requires landlords to provide 90 days' notice to terminate
6 a tenancy without cause if the tenancy has been less than two years and 120 days if the tenancy has been
7 longer, Section 48(64)(B) requires tenants to provide two rental periods' notice to terminate a tenancy unless
8 inconsistent with a lease provision, and Section 48(65) requires 90 days' notice of a rental increase; and

9 WHEREAS, these notice periods are in addition or in excess of those required by general state law,
10 including 9 V.S.A. §§ 4456(d) and 4467(c), and facilitate the City in addressing the unique needs of its rental
11 market; and

12 WHEREAS, the notice periods prescribed by the City Charter are inadequate to allow the City to
13 respond to specific and changing rental housing market conditions; and

14 WHEREAS, granting the City greater flexibility to enact rental notice regulations will allow the City
15 Council to enhance tenant stability, to foster more transparent landlord-tenant relations, and to mitigate
16 negative impacts from sudden evictions or lease terminations, particularly for vulnerable populations; and

17 WHEREAS, at its October 24, 2024 meeting, the Community Development and Neighborhood
18 Revitalization Committee ("CDNR") of the City Council referred a motion to the City Council proposing a
19 Charter Change amendment that would grant the City Council greater control to regulate rental notifications
20 and notification periods; and

21 WHEREAS, on October 28, 2024, the City Council referred CDNR's recommendation to the Charter
22 Change Committee; and

23 WHEREAS, the Charter Change Committee held a meeting on October 30, 2024, to consider the
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Adopted by the City Council

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Attest:

Vol. Page

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves the amendments to the City Charter recommended by CDNR and the Charter Change Committee and requests that the Mayor warn the following question and place it on the ballot for the Annual City Meeting to be held on March 4, 2025, and that the City Clerk set public hearings on this question in accordance with § 303 of the City Charter and 17 V.S.A. § 2645, said hearings to be warned for the 15th and 21st of January, 2025, or otherwise as soon as necessary or convenient and in accordance with applicable law:

"Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1948, No. 298, as amended, be further amended as follows:

§ 48. Enumerated:

The City Council shall have power:

(1) to (63) *As written.*

(64) (A) ~~Where there is no written rental agreement and notwithstanding 9 V.S.A. § 4467(c), to prohibit, by ordinance, a landlord from terminating a tenancy of rental housing within the City for no cause unless the landlord provides to the tenant written notice of at least 90 days when the tenancy has been less than two years and of at least 120 days when the tenancy has been two years or more. Notwithstanding 9 V.S.A. § 4467 or any other law, to establish, by ordinance, requirements that residential landlords provide tenants notice prior to termination of residential tenancies, including requirements for the contents and timing of such notices. Such requirements may include special notice requirements for vulnerable populations, including elderly tenants, tenants with disabilities, and low-income tenants.~~

(B) ~~Unless inconsistent with a written rental agreement or otherwise provided by law, and notwithstanding the provisions of 9 V.S.A. § 4456(d), to require, by ordinance, tenants who wish to terminate a residential tenancy to give actual notice to the landlord at least two rental periods prior to the termination date specified in the notice. Notwithstanding 9 V.S.A. § 4456(d) or any other law, to establish, by ordinance, requirements that residential tenants provide landlords notice prior to termination of tenancies, including requirements for the contents and timing of such notices.~~

(65) Notwithstanding any other law, to prohibit increases in rent or other changes in lease terms for rental housing within the City without advance written notice. The timing, contents, and manner of giving such notice shall be established by ordinance of at least 90 days. Such ordinance may include special notice requirements for vulnerable populations, including elderly tenants, tenants with disabilities, and low-income tenants.

*Material underlined added.

** Material stricken deleted.

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RESOLUTION RELATING TO

March 4, 2025 Annual City Meeting - Charter Change Re: City Council Authority To
Regulate Renta; Notifications And Notification Periods

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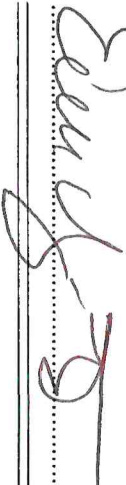
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Adopted by the City Council

November 12, 2024

 Clerk

Approved..... Nov 19, 2024

 Mayor

Attest:

Vol. Page

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