



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT

CITY COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

c/o Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Suite A
Post Office Box 849
Burlington, VT 05402-0849

802.863.9094 VOX
802.863.0466 FAX
802.863.0450 TTY
www.burlingtonvt.gov

Councilor Mark Barlow, Chair, *North District*
Councilor Gene Bergman, *Ward 2*
Councilor Evan Litwin, *Ward 7*
Councilor Marek Broderick, *Ward 8*

Inquiries:
Rob Goulding
802.881-2278
rgoulding@burlingtonvt.gov

Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 – 5:30PM

--DRAFT MINUTES--

Councilors absent: None

Chair Barlow calls meeting to order at 5:32 PM

1. Agenda

Councilor Bergman moves to adopt the agenda as amended.

Councilor Litwin seconds.

All in favor, Unanimous approval.

2. Minutes of 2/24/25

Councilor Bergman moves to adopt the minutes as drafted.

Councilor Litwin seconds.

All in favor. Unanimous approval.

3. Public Forum

Jeanne Keller- Resident of Ward 1 spoke about concerns of the TMD Study. Selling permits to commuters is irrational. What is peak time? Proposal contradicts both principles and should be rejected by the committee.

Richard Hillyard – spoke about concerns of TDM Study. Wards 1, 6, 8 and adjoining wards that are affected by the resident parking plan has been no public engagement. How is it going to be implemented? Not clear how this will work. Would like to come to a mutual solution with communication. We don't do traffic enforcement in the city.

Peter MacArsland –Resident of Ward 6 – August 22 joint meeting – Forestry proposal - question objectivity of it because of the relationship of the Chief forester and Don Holland the defender.

Nolan Rogers - Resident of Ward 3 – Great to discuss TDM Plan – would love for everybody to have an understanding of how many resources we are allocating to the TDM plan versus other transportation issues.

Nick Persanpieri – Has comments about McNeil Emissions Reductions Proposal of 11/20/23 that Analysis be done by contractor. Alternative fuels – skeptical that alternatives are going to be cost effective.

Chair Barlow suspended Public Comments until after the TDM Study presentation. Objection to change of agenda by **Councilor Litwin**. **Councilor Bergman** moves to suspend the rules to allow presentation by Director Dillard and questions and then continue with Public Comments. Seconded by **Councilor Broderick**. Chair Barlow, Councilor Bergman and Councilor Broderick – Aye. **Councilor Litwin** – No. **Ayes have approval.**

4. Deliberative Agenda

4.1 Transportation Demand Management Study

Charles Dillard AICP, Director Acknowledges the concerns about the residential parking permit program, particularly point 3 that suggests peak times are not being at 75% the proposal would make some of those spaces available. Wants to make sure that it's clear that we would not implement any action items without more engagement. Goal is to run through regulation action items. South Burlington & Winooski municipalities that have TDM programs in place by three tiers. Would love to make our communities goals and make them somewhat consistent with other municipalities. RPP program concerns will not be implemented without public engagement.

Public Forum – Continued

Sharon Bushor – Resident of Ward 1- inconsistencies with commute trip reduction policy but selling on street permits. Trying to point out that every area has unique advantages/disadvantages. Weak on pedestrian access. Fatal flaw selling permits in residential neighborhood with best intentions will spin out of control.

City Councilor Becca McKnight – Ward 6 - fully supports reducing single occupancy vehicle trips. Concern about residential parking permit on page 48. Received at least 25 emails about concerns about undoing all the work that has been done so far.

Barbara (online) – hopes we decide to not to implement 3rd bullet point– to sell on street parking to commuters. Would like Charles to talk to Ward 6. Focus on multimodal hub strategy. Ask UVM to come to Ward 1 & 6 NPA meetings to fully disclose their strategy to removing commuter parking from core campus and moving it to the closest campus districts. Feels it would be great to include guardrails in multimode hub.

Clare Wool – Appreciates plan & hard work that goes into it. Critical to speak to Ward 1, 6 and 8 because they are familiar with panic and sadness about more SOV'S. Concerned the most about selling residential parking.

Councilor Bergman doesn't feel TEUC should approve plan. Makes sense to keep the jurisdiction of the plan under TEUC. Not in favor of moving parking anything. Would like a representative of the DPW Commission be part of the engagement process. **Councilor Broderick** – 2nds Councilor Bergman and TDM should live with TEUC. **Councilor Litwin** –thought we were discussing the merits of R1-R6. All RPP should be removed. R2, R4 & R5 has problems. **Chair Barlow** has reservations on acting on this without more clarity. Possible work session for whole Council. Needs more engagement with residents of Wards 1 & 6.

Councilor Bergman made the motion to take up the TDM ordinance next meeting to request that Charles bring us all the materials which will be necessary to advance that conversation as far as we can and also to have Kim try to get a Full Council presentation of the entire plan and at least this first step so that we can get the rest of the Council familiar with the ideas that are being debated and perhaps in that context there will be a motion to ratify that we've got the jurisdiction to continue this process. **Councilor Broderick** seconded. Chair Barlow, Councilor Bergman and Councilor Broderick – Aye. **Councilor Litwin** – No. Ayes have approval.

.4.2 505 Riverside HGMP Application & Proactive Grant Acceptance

.Scott Gustin Permitting & Inspections Department Principle Planner – discussed the need for approval of the application to FEMA for removal of 505 Riverside Ave due to slope instability. City will acquire property and turn to green space. Similar project at 385 Riverside Ave. **Director Chapin Spencer** stated that these are 100% grant funds. **Cheryl & Scott Strenio** bought the property 10 years ago. Appreciates time and consideration of proposal.

Chair Barlow asked about camping. Will it be removed if people are in danger? **Director Spencer** stated we would follow Encampment removal policy.

Councilor Bergman moved to approve and recommend that Council approve the submission of a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application for the buy-out of 505 Riverside Avenue, and to also approve and recommend that the City Council authorize the acceptance of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program award, if granted, and to recommend that the City Council authorize the Mayor, the Director of Public Works and the Director of Permitting & Inspections to take such further actions and execute such further Instruments approved as to form by the City Attorney or designee as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the grant acceptance and property transactions contemplated hereby. **Councilor Broderick** seconded.

All in favor, Unanimous approval.

4.3 McNeil RFP Awards

Darren Springer General Manager of Burlington Electric - 11-20-23 District Energy Resolution called for two different analysis to be conducted to be included in FY2025 budget. Had a better response on Emissions reduction RFP. Reason why we are here now instead of a couple months ago is that it took three tries to get an adequate response within budget on the forestry RFP. If approved this evening then it will go to the full council.

Councilor Bergman asked to address RFP with language resolution lines 26. **Chair Barlow** asked if TEUC membership is needed in startup meeting. Would like consultant's available to answer questions. Forestry proposal will be a big travel expense. **Councilor Litwin** asked to have some sort of onboarding document prepared for counselor elects that will bring them up to speed.

Councilor Bergman moves to approve these two RFPs and recommend their approval by the whole City Counsel. **Councilor Broderick** seconded.

All in favor, Unanimous approval.

4.4 Burlington Segways 2025 Plans

Rick Sharp owner of Burlington Segways presented his plans for the 2025 summer bike season. He plans to deploy 12 ebikes to College Street, 10 at North Beach, 8 at Oakledge Park, 8 at racks near Ben and Jerrys on Church Street and 6 each at UVM and Champlain College this summer bringing the total to 50 and also providing the Parks Department with 10% of the gross rentals for use of the bike racks.

Councilor Bergman is interested in understanding how the non-bike path bike racks are working. **Chair Barlow** asked are your bikes able to go to the causeway? Are you working with CATMA?

5. Director's Report

Director Chapin Spencer thanked TUEC and Council members for the support on passing of bonds, Next meeting focus on Transportation plan, regarding recycling looking for ways to achieve staffing and financial needs along with the policy interests of the council. Main St – Preparing for Fridays meeting with business communities.

6. Councilor Items

Chair Barlow –longer term planning – made a list where topics fell into like transportation, BED/McNeil Ecosystem, rental weatherization and bureau, BTV Emissions. Will be reaching out to Plattsburg Ave accident owners.

- **April Meeting** - Transportation focus, ordinance work.
- **May Meeting** –BED/McNeil, engage on RFPs
- **June Meeting** – Update rental weatherization workforce work
- **July** – Update from Airport

Councilor Bergman – helpful to have hour each for TDM and transportation plan walk/bike – June symposium engaging business communities.

Councilor Litwin – Onboarding for new City Councilors to understand what's going on. Traffic calming – not to lose track of the beltline. Speed analysis of Plattsburg Avenue. Will be reaching out to owners.

7. Next Meeting

April 22, 2025 at 645 Pine St at 5:30 pm

8. Adjournment

Chair Barlow adjourns meeting at 7:59 pm.