

Ward 1 Neighborhood Planning Assembly (NPA)  
Wednesday, June 11, 2025  
In-person at the Friends Meeting House, 173 North Prospect Street  
And Zoom online:  
<https://zoom.us/j/96245939050>  
Webinar ID: 962 4593 9050  
Or by phone: +1 929 205 6099 ID = 962 4593 9050

### Minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyhNSmLGlgg>

**Please note – Charts for the CDNR Working Group, OPC, and 436 Riverside Ave can be found here: <https://burlingtonvt.portal.civicclerk.com/event/8043/files/agenda/14189> . These charts substantially constitute the minutes for these agenda items.**

6:15 - Welcome and Food (Namaste Kitchen Express)

6:30 - Formal Start - project & review agenda  
Introductions: name, street

*Selene Colburn*

*Sam Doherty*

*Gretchen Platt*

*Rob Gutman*

*Carol Livingston*

*Angie Chapple-Sokol*

*Jonathan Chapple-Sokol*

*Richard Hillyard*

*Allie Schachter*

*Carter Neubieser*

*Katherine Verman*

*Catherine Bock*

*Sharon Bushor*

*Linda Bowden*

*Peter Lackowski*

*Kathy Olwell*

*Dave Cawley*

*Theresa Vezina*

*Matt Price*

*Troy Headrick*

*Caryn Long*

*Serrill Flash*

*Sophie Quest*

*Judy Dow*

*Doug Boyden*

*Lucas Boyden*

*Mark Demers*

*Erick Barbic*

*Ana Maria Robu*

*Melo Grant*

*Jeffrey Van*

*Doug Goulette*

*Breck Bowden*

*Sharyl Greene*

*Tom Derenthal*

*Gary Golden*

*Jess Kirby*

Announcements: share events, meetings, activities of interest to Ward 1 community.  
*Dave Cawley – Organizing monthly potluck at Schmanska this Summer – Last Thursday in June, July August. Lots of food, but consider bringing a dish! Set up at 5:30, start at 6PM*

*City Employee gratitude – kind words for Cindy Wight and a card to sign*

6:40 - Speakout - an opportunity to raise concerns & appreciations about Ward 1 community

*Carol Livingston -*

*(1) The City's Open Space Plan is going through its second round of outreach. There is a survey about future strategies open until June 27<sup>th</sup>*

<https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/288/Burlingtons-Open-Space-Plan>

**Survey:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZLBFSQ6>



*(2) City's draft 2025 housing & community development action plan open for public comment (June 23rd Public Hearing)*

<https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/civicalerts.aspx?AID=3748>

**Plan:**



*Melo Grant*

*Recruitment plan for sworn officers:*

<https://www.bpdcareers.com/>

<https://burlingtonvt.portal.civicclerk.com/event/8346/files/attachment/9231>

*Judy Dow*

*Working with Capstone students on Landslide research*

*Tom Derenthal*

*Mail Delivery (lack thereof) is a big problem.*

*General discussion –*

*Postal Carrier quits – route up for grabs or not. Unpopular routes are left vacant*

*Can go to Pine Street but USPS doesn't encourage it*

*USPS aiming for 2x weekly deliveries*

*Sharon Bushor*

*Concern about Open Space Plan – Need more direct contact with community than just a survey. Bring Sophie Sauve to a meeting*

*Richard*

*Traffic scofflaws. Not considered a priority*

*Remembering Susan Altman*

6:55 - School Commission update - Gary Golden and Matt Price

*Matt Price – Lots of uncertainty around final bill. Major concern about too much money going to privately owned schools – Bill has less money for public schools across Vermont. Impact on Burlington? Not completely clear. Vote on 6/16.*

7:05 City Council update - Carter Neubieser & Allie Schacter

*Project a modest residential tax decrease*

*6/23 final decision on budget at city council*

*Carter – given RIFS consider eliminating COLAs for Department and Division heads*

*Question regarding internal hires with reclassification rather than nationwide search for middle/upper management candidates. Yes there is work to develop talent internally*

*Right-sizing, consolidating, centralizing*

*Traffic safety and enforcement: Best approach is improving infrastructure – traffic calming – 100s of projects on the list.*

*Work with UVM police? Over summers?*

*Aging council needs rebuilding/reviving – more residents >65 than under 18 – 13% of population!*

*Activity to support Housing Trust Fund*

7:25 CDNR (Community Development & Revitalization) draft document clarifying City/NPA relationship - Jonathan Chapple-Sokol & Carter Neubieser

*See Presentation link, above. NPA voted to support the work of the CDNR/NPA working group (unanimous except for one 'no' vote -concern is holding City Council to the principles in resolution. Suggestion an annual beginning-of-term discussion at CDNR*

7:45 Overdose Prevention Centers project - Theresa Vezina, Jess Kirby

*See Presentation link, above*

*Funded by State Opioid Settlement funds for 2 years (\$2.2M)*

*Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform well positioned – they have relationships with many of the potential service users already – many justice-involved folks, but no one is turned away  
OPC will be just one component*

*OPC may grow folks at VCJR by ~100 (currently serves 300-350) – not a huge change*

*Metrics?*

*Client Satisfaction*

*Reduction in ODs*

*Neighborhood Impact Assessment – monthly, quarterly public input*

*Evaluation at end of project (funded through FY28)*

*Staffing?*

*ED; Implementation Manager; Medical Director; Nurse*

*Age Demographic? 30s and 40s*

*Funding? 15 years worth of Opioid Settlement*

*We are Pilot; Potential to replicate across the state*

*OPC is really a small add to existing syringe services currently offered*

8:15 Proposed U-Haul Storage Facility project - 436 Riverside Ave - Doug Goulette,

Bowman Development

*See Presentation link, above*

*30,000 square ft self service storage – 542 units. 2 stories. Much like in Williston*

*~Zero front yard setback (building w/in 7 ft of property line*

*Backs up against cliff*

*Entry parking in rear*

*When to DRB? TBD; concept design months down the road*

*Traffic impact? Minimal*

*Geo-Tech Assessment says things are stable*

*General consensus of assembly:*

*Housing would be better use of space (but zoning allows for storage)*

*Ground is infill; risk of falling into river*  
*Cliff is unstable; risk of ledge collapsing*

8:30 - Adjourn

Ward 1 NPA Steering Committee

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