



City Council - Public Safety Committee

Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

When: Jul 24, 2025 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Public Safety Committee Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:
<https://zoom.us/j/94861953158>

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Webinar ID: 948 6195 3158

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/a1D2R6LK4>

1. Adopt the Agenda

1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda

2. Adopt Minutes

2.1. Motion to adopt draft minutes from June 26, 2025

3. Public Forum

Subject **3.1. PUBLIC FORUM - Verbal Comments**

Meeting July 24, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 3. Public Forum

Department

Type

4. Chiefs' Reports and Department Updates

Subject 4.1. BPD

Meeting July 24, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 4. Chiefs' Reports and Department Updates

Department

Type

Recommended Action

Subject 4.2. BFD

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Category 4. Chiefs' Reports and Department Updates

Department

Type

Recommended Action

5. North Beach - Community Safety/Quality of Life Concerns

Subject 5.1. North Beach - Community Safety/Quality of Life Concerns

Meeting July 24, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 5. North Beach - Community Safety/Quality of Life Concerns

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

6. Downtown Circle - City Council Presentation

Subject 6.1. Downtown Circle - City Council Presentation

Meeting July 24, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 6. Downtown Circle - City Council Presentation

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

7. State's Attorney Data

Subject 7.1. State's Attorney Data

Meeting July 24, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 7. State's Attorney Data

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

8. Community Safety Kiosk

Subject 8.1. Community Safety Kiosk

Meeting July 24, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 8. Community Safety Kiosk

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

9. Other Items and Next Meeting

Subject 9.1. Other Items and Next Meeting

Meeting July 24, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 9. Other Items and Next Meeting

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

10. Adjournment

Subject	10.1. Motion to adjourn
Meeting	July 24, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT
Category	10. Adjournment
Department	Council and Board
Type	
Recommended Action	

11. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

Subject	11.1. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. For more information on access, call Lori Olberg, Licensing, Voting and Records Coordinator (802-865-7136)(TTY 802-865-7142). Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate are encouraged to contact 802-865-7000 (voice) or 802-865-7142 (TTY) at least 72 hours in advance so that proper arrangements can be made. The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status, crime victim status or genetic information.
Meeting	July 24, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, July 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom and In-Person in the Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT
Category	11. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements
Department	Council and Board
Type	

Public Safety Committee
Thursday, June 26, 2025
Remote via Zoom/In-Person in Champlain Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, Burlington,
Vermont
DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Melo Grant (Chair), Mark Barlow, Buddy Singh

Staff Present: Hayley McClenahan (Assistant City Attorney), Michael Curtin (BFD Battalion Chief), Shawn Burke (Police Chief), Ingrid Jonas (Senior Advisor on Community Safety)

Public Present:

Meeting called to order at 5:32 PM by Councilor Grant.

1. Adopt the Agenda
1.01 Adopt the Agenda

Motion to Adopt Agenda as written.

Motion by Councilor Barlow, Seconded by Councilor Singh

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

2. Adopt Minutes
2.01 Motion to Adopt Draft Minutes from May 29, 2025

Motion to Adopt Agenda as written.

Motion by Councilor Barlow, Seconded by Councilor Grant

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

3. Public Forum
3.01 Verbal Comments

No action was taken.

Public forum closed at 5:33.

4. Fire Chief's Report
4.01 Fire Chief's Report

Chief Curtin reviewed the latest Fire Commission report from the Fire Department. No action taken.

5. BPD Check-in

5.01 BPD Check-in

Chief Burke reviewed the latest updates from BPD. No action was taken.

6. State's Attorney Case Data

6.01 State's Attorney Case Data

Councilor Grant reviewed the latest clearance and filing data from the State's Attorney's Office. No action was taken.

7. Situation Room

7.01 What is it, who is involved, and when will it start – Ingrid Jonas

Senior Advisor Jonas overviewed the Situation Table program Burlington will be launching soon. No action was taken.

8. Other Committee Business

8.01 Other business

The Committee discussed future review of updates to the Sheltering on Public Lands policy. Councilor Grant also mentioned having the lead park ranger attend a future meeting. No action was taken.

9. Adjournment

9.01 Motion to adjourn

The meeting was adjourned with no objection at 6:48 PM.

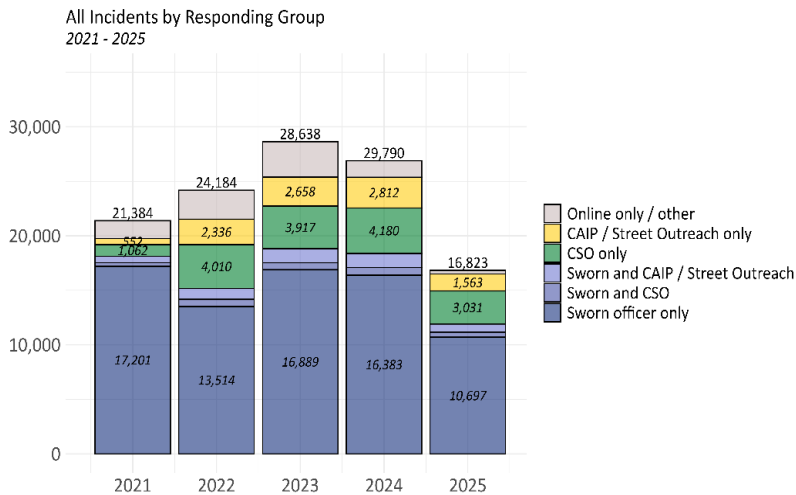


POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

July 22nd, 2025

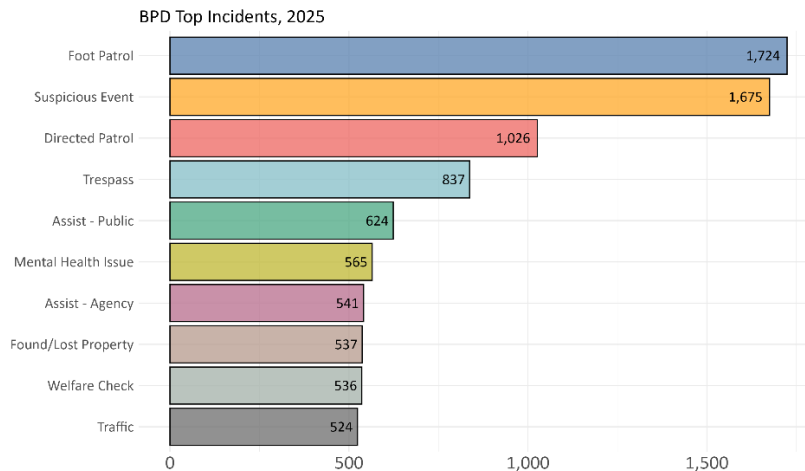
Chief’s Report – Burlington Police Commission

Operations: The department is leveraging all elements of the organization: Sworn Officers, Community Service Officers, Crisis Advocacy Intervention staff, and Street Outreach in response to calls for service. The data below illustrates how human resources have been deployed:



Data through 7/14/2025
'Stacked - No Response' incidents removed.

Another relevant data point - the top ten incident categories the organization is attending to:

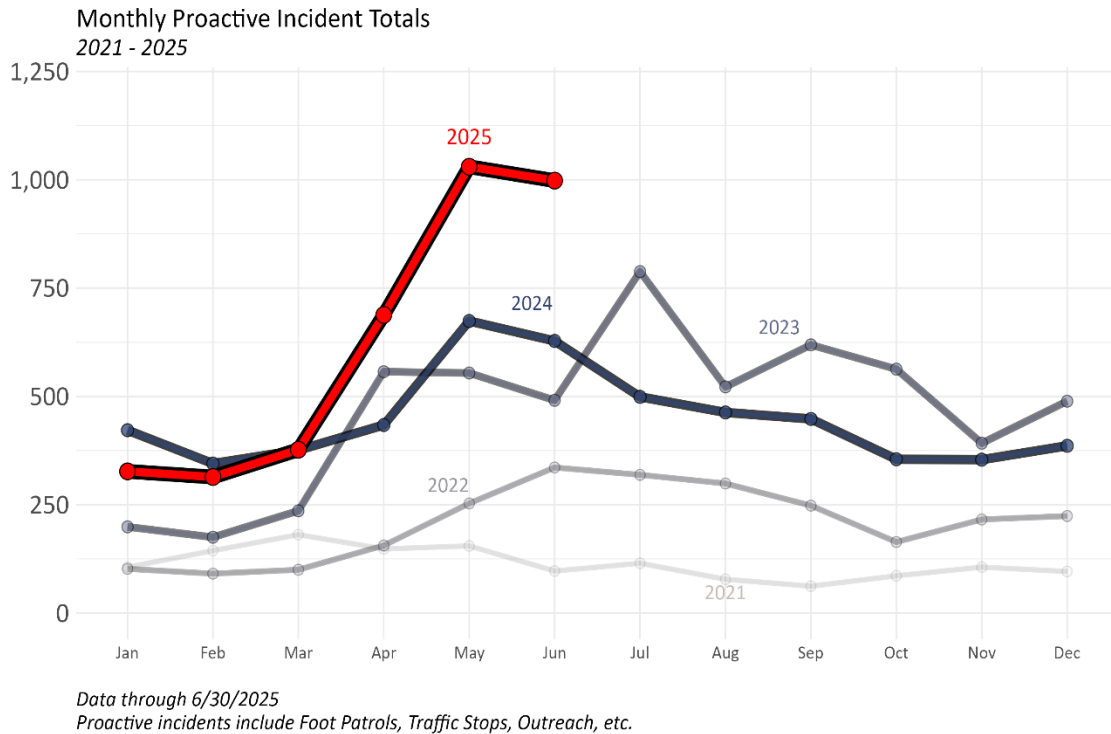


Data through 07/14/2025



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

The department has continued to maintain a strong focus on the downtown area of the city. This effort is measured by a few different incident categories that fall in the catchment of “proactive incidents”. Proactive incidents are simply a measure of how staff are using their discretionary time focused on areas of interest:



The community has been very receptive to the efforts staff are investing in keeping the downtown area safe. The underlying cause of much of the disorder downtown remains to be individuals with unmet social service needs who are treatment / service resistant.

The Mayor’s Office recently launched a new program to assist with addressing individuals at acute elevated risk of harm – the Situation Table. Burlington is the fifth community in Vermont to launch this program which is granted funded by the Department of Public Safety. The program is structured to evaluate individuals at greatest risk on a weekly basis, identify the interventions needed to best serve the individual, and to deliver an intervention within 24 to 48 hours. The table is not a duplication of work but rather a structure that improves efficiency and synchronization of services.



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

The table had its first meeting in mid-July where the first two situations were undertaken. The department is optimistic that this level of weekly intervention will be helpful in addressing the apparent mental health and substance use crisis in the community.

Personnel:

This month, we bid farewell to two dedicated members of our department as they enter a well-earned retirement.

Corporal Tom Chenette is retiring after 20 years of exemplary service. He has accepted a new position with the State of Vermont.

CorporalCarolynne Erwin is also retiring, having served the department with distinction for 21 years. She will be moving on to a new role in the private sector.

Both Cpl. Chenette and Cpl. Erwin have made lasting contributions to the Burlington community and will be deeply missed. We are proud to welcome them into the ranks of our retired personnel and thank them for their decades of service and commitment.

The department is proud to announce the appointment of **Jon Young** as the new **Deputy Chief of Operations**. With over two decades of distinguished service in law enforcement, Deputy Chief Young brings a wealth of experience, leadership, and dedication to his new role.

Deputy Chief Young has served in a variety of key leadership positions throughout his career with BPD, and has consistently demonstrated a commitment to community engagement, operational excellence, and public safety.

Deputy Chief Young will oversee the day-to-day operations of uniformed services, working closely with the command team, officers, and community partners to ensure effective and responsive policing throughout the city.

Lastly, the department will welcome a new police officer to our ranks on July 28th. Ratna Polk will spend one week of orientation before they attend the 120th session of the Vermont Police Academy.



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Policy / Direction: During the months of June and July the department has been focused on the following:

- Implementation of the formal recruitment plan.
- Focused foot patrol initiatives in City Hall Park and on Church Street – Uniform Services and CSO ranks.
- Improvements / Updates to the Police Department web site.
- Improved customer service greeting created for the BPD business phone lines.
- Engaged with the Hot Spot working group - City Attorney / Burlington Business & Workforce Development.
- Continued work with the City Data Team in developing products which illustrate our work, the overlap with social services, and Fire / EMS.
- Development of revised versions of DD 01 Law Enforcement Role & Authority, DD 14.1 Body Worn Camera, and DD 29 Online Reporting. These draft policies will be presented to the Police Commission soon.



BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

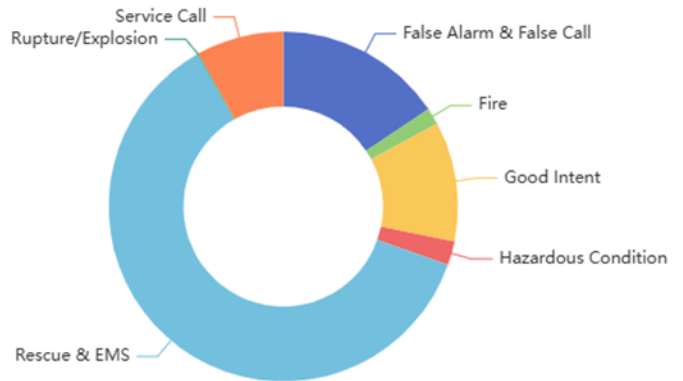
136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401
 Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387

Chief's Report to the Public Safety Committee: June Data Points July 24, 2025

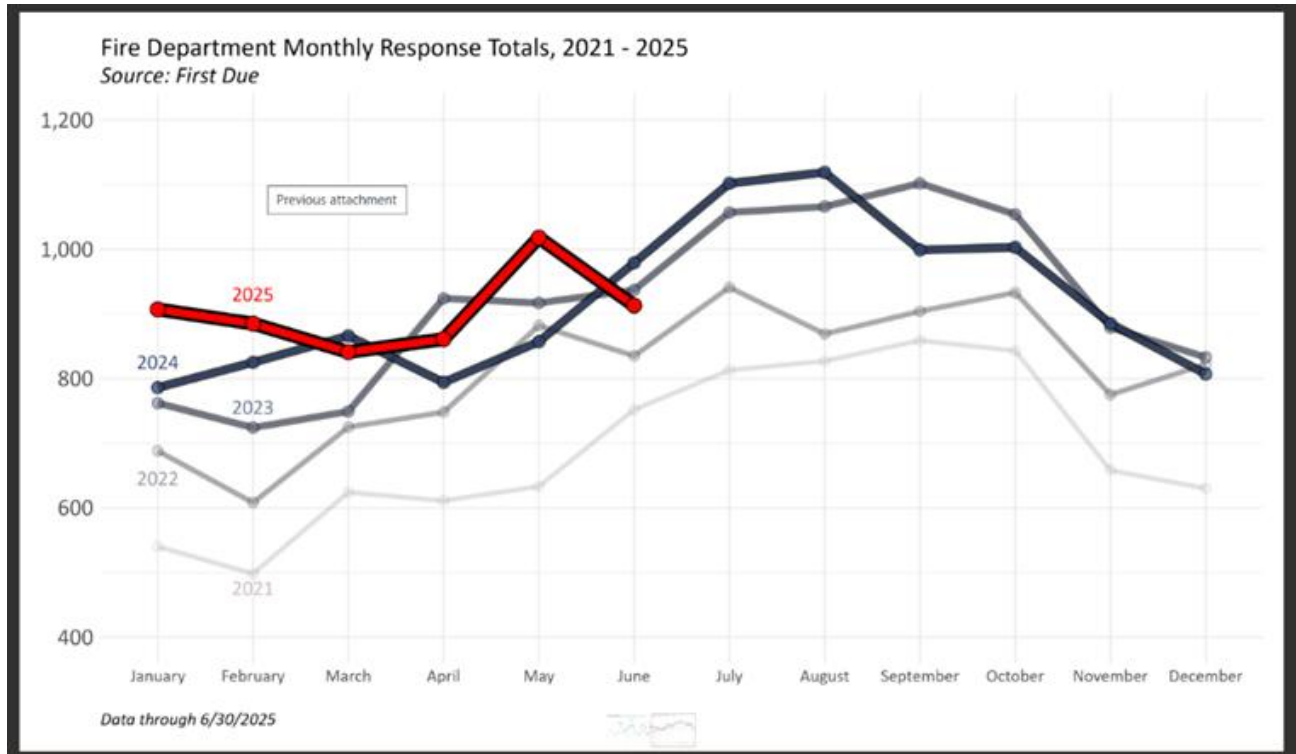
Call Volume & Activity Summary

Total Incidents for the month of June: **904**
 Total Incidents YTD: **6336** (As of 7/23/25 @ 20:00)

- Fire Incidents: **114**
- EMS: **555**
- Hazmat: **20**
- Service Call/Public Assist: **73**



During the same period in 2024, we responded to 979 incidents, a 7.6 % decrease for the month of June.





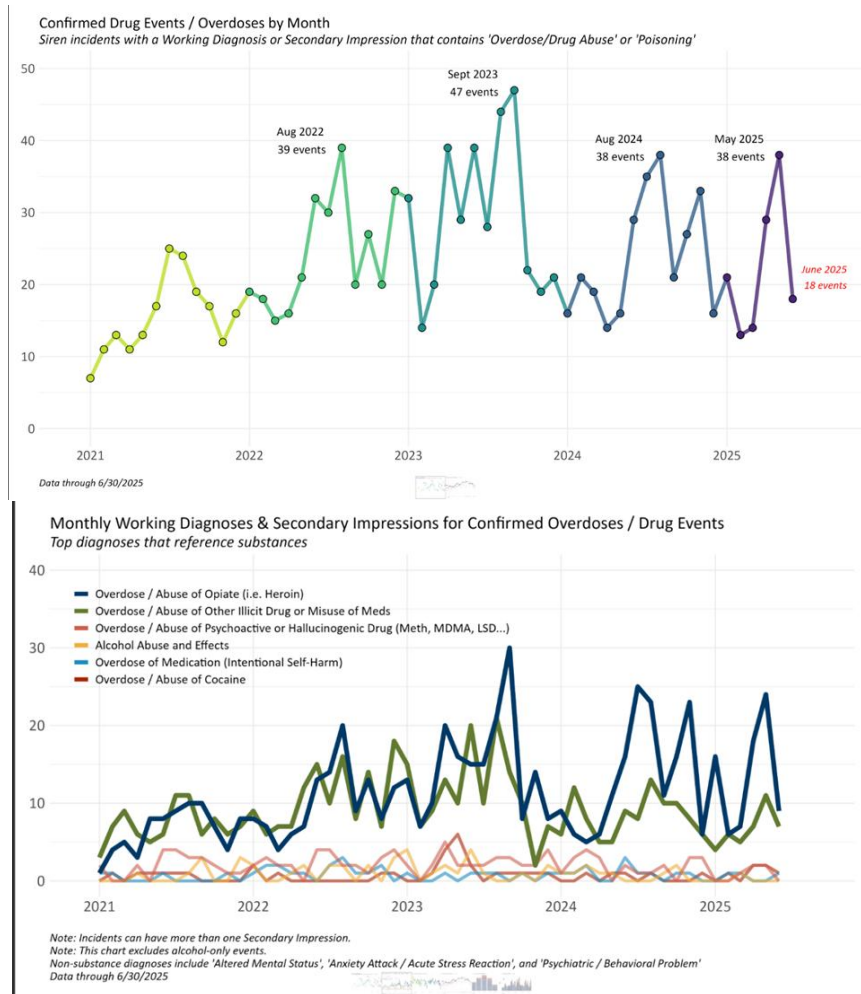
BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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EMS Data:

The following charts presents monthly data on EMS-confirmed overdose and drug-related incidents in our community from 2021 through June 30, 2025. It categorizes the top types of substances involved, based on working diagnoses and secondary impressions gathered in the field.



- Incidents involving opiate abuse (e.g., heroin, fentanyl) are consistently the highest among all substance types.
- The second most frequent category involves other non-opiate illicit drugs or misuse of medications. These are legal medications being used improperly (e.g., anti-anxiety meds, sleep aids, ADHD stimulants)



BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Personnel & Staffing

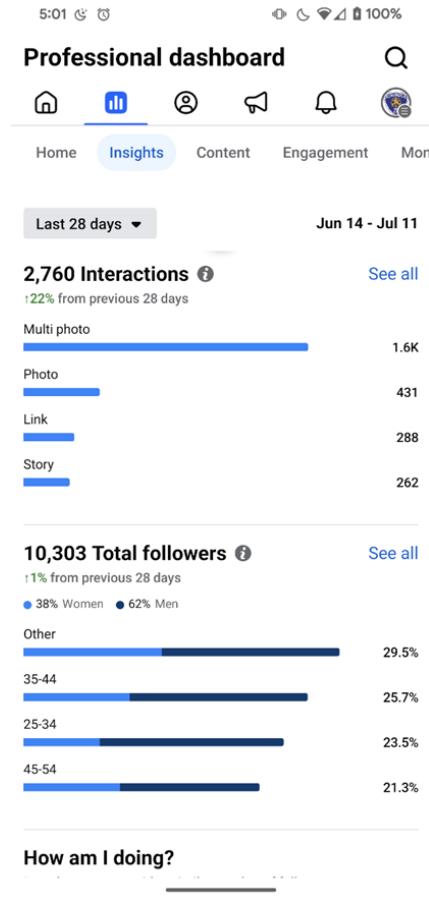
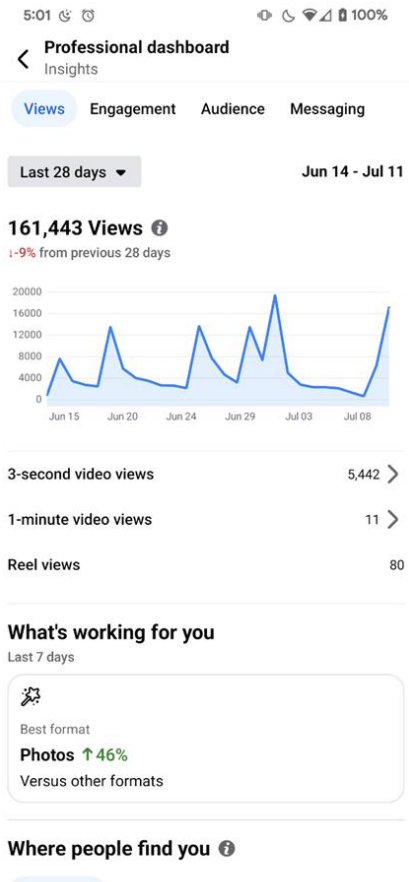
Total Department Staff: Uniformed Members **88** / Authorized **95**

- Minimum Daily Staffing: **22**
- Vacancies: **7**
- June Overtime Hours: Minimum Staffing: **556.5** Mandatory: **162** / June 2024: **666** Mando:**68**
- Injuries/LOA/FMLA: **2**

Opened the combined lateral and entry level application process that close 8/31. Currently have 9 applications for the lateral position and 35 for the entry level position.

Community Engagement

- Schiffiliti Park 75th Anniversary – Members of Ladder 4 and Ambulance 4 attended.
- BHS Students public safety class tour at Central firehouse.
- Engine 5 public education at 67 Scarff Ave. Tour of apparatus and engagement with grandparents and children.
- Fire Extinguisher Training conducted by FMO.
- Lithium Ion Battery Education with Locomotion and Director of City Planning
- Social Media :



North Beach

From Evan Litwin <elitwin@burlingtonvt.gov>

Date Tue 7/22/2025 3:50 PM

To Mark Barlow <mbarlow@burlingtonvt.gov>; Buddy Singh <bsingh@burlingtonvt.gov>; Melo Grant <megrant@burlingtonvt.gov>

Cc Allie Schachter <aschachter@burlingtonvt.gov>

Good Afternoon Public Safety Committee Members,

I won't be able to attend Thursday's PSC meeting but wanted to provide my thoughts in writing for the record and for you all to consider with regards to your agenda item on North Beach, which I thank you for agendizing this summer. After receiving some complaints I made 2 separate late evening visits around the 4th of July weekend at approximately 7:15pm and 8:00pm respectively. I spoke with BPRW seasonal staff present on both occasions, beachgoers, and the business owner of the Tiki Bar also came out to talk to me and thank me for my visit. I also spoke with a BPD Officer who was making a routine visit to the lot. Here are my observations and some recommendations for consideration:

1. I observed and was informed by every single person I spoke to about heavy binge drinking, particularly by young people. I saw glass bottles of hard liquor being consumed along with glass bottles of beer and liquor on the playground—which I observed while another family's children were trying to use the playground.
 - a. Anecdotally I received the following info from staff and BPD:
 - i. Police say pay at the gate being taken down is a big part of the problem because it is allowing for the same people to drive up and down doing liquor runs and picking up/dropping off friends all day and evening. He recommended returning to a model that would discourage that.
 - ii. Drunk driving is a shared concern and this is particularly worrisome given the presence of young children and the winding, dark, narrow roadway that goes through the heavily used campground. I would like to recommend a targeted DUI operation here at the end of the day as well.
 - iii. Staff told me instances where children were caught drinking with adults including a teenager who was blacked out on the beach and a 13-year-old who was playing beer pong. Staff have done their best to safely intervene but many seasonal staff are high school and college students and I remain concerned for their safety.
 - iv. I heard from several people that having BPD's "yellow shirts" would be helpful in the evening moreso than the day. I heard it was not helpful to have 3 of them showing up, standing around observing at 1pm when the real problems are occurring as the day gets later on. Yellow shirts have to be in a minimum of 2 but I'm not sure why I frequently see 3 together. It feels like a scheduling issue that could be addressed.
 - v. The rear parking lot to the playground is woodsy and out-of-sight. This has made it attractive to younger people who want to blast music out of their cars and use the playground area as a party space. I observed this myself.
 - a. I would highly recommend that we block off that parking lot with sawhorses each day and use it only as overflow parking as needed and close it earlier in the day with signage that says folks need to move their cars by 5:00pm. I believe this would cut down on overall

troubling behavior related to drinking and partying because the less out-of-sight people can be with their behavior the less attractive that behavior becomes at North Beach.

- b. I wonder if a CSL or CSO could be more present at North Beach during summer high season? The visible presence of a vehicle and occasional walk throughs may make families and beachgoers more comfortable while also making folks who are engaging in harmful behavior less comfortable being there.

Thank you for the consideration,
Evan

Evan Litwin (he/him)
Ward 7 City Councilor

Be Alert: Visit [SeeClickFix](#) or download the app to submit a wide variety of service needs around our city including street or sidewalk pavement issues, graffiti on public property, greenbelt violations, and dozens of other community concerns. Select "Parks Department Issue" to report encampments, down trees, or other issues in city parks.

Stay Informed: A huge amount of city business is discussed and worked out in committee first. Visit [CivicClerk](#) to view all public meetings and associated documents for City Council, boards, and committees. Once logged in, click the "Manage Subscriptions" button in the upper-righthand corner to get email alerts for any committee or board you are interested in when they post their agenda! Learn more about our various [Boards, Commissions, and Committees](#) and how to apply to join one.

Impacted by Conflict or Crime?: *Burlington Police Department:* Online reporting is no longer accessible, victims of crime should report incidents directly to a dispatcher. Other helpful resources include: understanding and accessing the array of services offered by the [Crisis, Advocacy, Intervention Programs](#) (CAIP), understanding the [BPD Priority Response Plan](#) created due to the severe officer staffing shortage, reporting suspected drug activity using the [Drug Tip Form](#), and if you had a positive or negative interaction with BPD you can use either the [compliment or complaint forms](#). ***Community Justice Center:*** Get assistance from the [Burlington Community Justice Center](#). They offer a wide array of programming and services, including if you've been a [victim of harm or crime](#), or are [struggling with neighborhood conflict](#).

Questions About Minimum Housing Codes: Property owners/managers are expected to meet our minimum housing code standards and to be aware of them. Anyone with questions about those requirements can refer to [Chapter 18 of our City Ordinances](#). Tenants who believe they may have a violation are encouraged to contact the [Department of Permitting and Inspections](#) so they can inspect the issue. These standards help keep everyone safe in a building, including your neighbors. Ward 7 residents should feel comfortable reaching out to me if they need additional support.

Renters Who Have Had Security Deposits Withheld: Burlington exercises its authority granted by the Vermont Legislature to hear cases and issue rulings where a tenant believes some or all of their security deposit was unfairly withheld. Tenants who wish to exercise this right following a move-out must [file a claim](#) within 30 days of receiving their itemized withholding statement (mailed within 14 days), or 44 days if no statement was ever provided. I encourage all property owners/managers and tenants to [review the requirements for withholding a security deposit](#) in Burlington, which varies from state standards in some ways.

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