

# Meeting Notes

## Ward 2 Neighborhood Planning Assembly (NPA)

October 9th, 2025 | 6:30-8:30pm | All are welcome



### Join in person:

ONE Community Center, 20 Allen Street

### Join remotely:

<https://zoom.us/j/93179389982>

### O.N.E. Community Dinner

5:30-6:30pm | Free | Donations welcome

**Fall Indian-inspired Feast:** Creamy Coconut Curry with Potatoes, Chick Peas, Kale & Carrots; Spiced Fennel & Cabbage; Masala-roasted Delicata Squash; Rice; Salad; and Chocolate Chip Pumpkin Bread for Dessert

**Music:** Ben Wang

**Facilitator:** Marc Stannard

**Notetaker:** Kason Hudman

### 6:30 pm Introduction

5 min Review and adopt/approve the agenda and previous minutes; introductions as time allows.

- Agenda adopted

### 6:35 pm Public Forum (2 minutes max per person)

- Ward 2 resident, mentions that the F-35s are being more frequent and louder, and expresses the opinion that we would like some relief.
- Megan Humphrey (she/her), Ward 2 resident, retired from the organization HANDS which provided food for elderly unhoused folks, but she has started making craft bags for unhoused kids in shelters. She is asking for help with craft supplies or donations. She asks for people to visit her at the meeting for more information
- Aurora Calderon, Mercy Connections, mentions that Mercy Connections is running the Mercy Marketplace Craft Fair on November 2nd and encourages folks to attend and points out the flyers at the entrance. 255 S. Champlain St Suite 8 is where Mercy Connections is located
- Lauren Ebersol, Ward 2 resident, mentions the Richard Kemp Center back to school event

### 6:45 pm Updates from the Library

15 min *Mary Danko, Library Director - Fletcher Free Library*

- Mary talks about libraries being grounded in intellectual freedom and freedom of speech, which help to make us a strong democracy. Mary mentions that there are multiple ways that the library helps do that, including the physical building and collections, but also through the digital services that the library provides. Ebooks, streaming, newspaper access, consumer reports, and more are all accessible via the library card. Mary mentions specifically the new Foundation Search
- Ward 2 resident asks what should be brought for a library card. Mary says you need to bring a proof of residence. Mary also mentions that if you work in Burlington, you are also eligible for a library card, you just need to bring proof of employment

- Charlie, Ward 2 resident, asks a question about the Carnegie Building Restoration work. Mary mentions that the work should be done in Mid December, with funding help from the National Park Service, the City of Burlington, and Friends of the Fletcher Free Library.
- Lauren Ebersol, Ward 2 resident, asks about the Green Mountain Book Festival. Mary says that she doesn't know specifics about it but encourages Lauren to check out the library website, and does mention that John Scalzi will be a featured speaker.
- Charlie asks about the long-term Library plan. Mary mentions that the housing crisis and climate crisis inspire a lot of the current library priorities to ensure that people with the most need are supported. Charlie further asks if the library has any plans for Halloween. Mary says that she doesn't think anything specific is planned for Halloween, but she does mention the great library displays are often themed, including the current theme centered around banned books. Mary says that it is important that libraries expand and uphold the power of freedom of speech.
- Comment from Ward 2 resident, she mentions that there is a Library community outreach coordinator named Julianna who comes to Decker Towers, where the commenter is a social worker, and it is much appreciated. Mary thanks the person for their comment
- Comment from Ward 2 resident, wants to express their deep gratitude for the work that the library does. Mary mentions that the library also now contracts with a Howard Center Outreach team member who is there at the library to help with social work needs. She mentions that this has made the library accessible to everybody.
- Question from Lauren, what is Mary's favorite banned book and favorite spooky book? Mary mentions that John Green is her favorite banned book author, and she says that spooky children's books are her favorite spooky books.
- Comment from Ward 2 resident, mentions that her child loves the sensory table, and thanks the library for having such a fun play area.
- Comment from Ward 2 resident, suggests that the library add a place to listen to the classical music collection at the library. Mary says that she will take the suggestion back to the library.

## **7:00 pm Updates from City Council**

20 min *Gene Bergman, Ward 2 City Councilor*

*Melo Grant, Central District City Councilor*

- Gene starts by mentioning the resolution passed a year ago about the F-35s, which has now run up against a very unsympathetic federal administration. Gene says that he is trying to set up a meeting with the congressional delegation, and he is asking for community support to call our congresspeople to pressure them into taking the meeting.
- Gene mentions the public safety updates, including the \$1500 given to the Peace & Justice Center to support the BTV Clean Up Crew and their syringe litter pickup program. Gene says that sometimes it feels like pulling teeth to get even very simple resolutions passed.
- Gene talks about the ordinance to introduce more strict signage requirements for parking lots since they are often confusing folks about what is actually public parking. Gene also mentions that they are looking to add rules to gas stations who hold debit cards before payments are processed.

- Melo mentions that folks should listen to Chief Burke as he gives public safety updates at various meetings around town. According to Melo, Chief Burke showed data that proved that the City Hall Park resolution just displaced some of the crimes to surrounding areas. Melo also mentions the joint statement signed by the Mayor and the Democratic Caucus Leaders regarding respectfulness, and voices her frustration that some city councilors were subsequently insulted in that same meeting. Melo reminds everybody that the Mayor is holding meetups every week, she gives press conferences every month, and she is generally accessible. She encourages folks to meet with Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak, and to push back against folks who are saying that the Mayor isn't doing anything. Melo also mentions that she wants to thank Christian Berry for being the interim REIB director, and thank Kelli Perkins as the newly appointed director of REIB. Melo also mentions that the community should stay engaged in the process for siting the Overdose Prevention Center. Melo would like it to be Downtown.
- Gene mentions two charter changes that will likely be on the ballot in March, one that would make the REIB office a permanent chartered office in the city.
- Nora, Ward 2 resident, mentions that she has noticed a few parking meters around the city being out of service. She asks if that should be reported on SeeClickFix, and also wants to know if you can pay in one zone for parking in another. Gene answers that the DPW is in charge of parking enforcement, and he suggests calling the DPW to report any problems with parking payment.
- Ward 2 resident, has a satirical proposal regarding the F-35s. Gene loudly reminds the federal administration that it was a joke.

### **7:25 pm Overview of the City of Burlington Comprehensive Plan**

20 min *Sarah Morgan, Principal Planner - Dept of Planning, City of Burlington*

- Sarah starts, the city is combining many planning efforts (transportation, parks & recreation, economic development, etc) to craft a holistic long-term vision. This is overdue, as many of these plans date back to the early 2010s. This includes plans for more housing and increasing equity in housing access, more multi-modal transportation, and more.
- One of the things that is necessary to consider is the changes that occurred after the Covid-19 pandemic, which affected consumer patterns and socialization downtown. Many of the previous plans were drafted prior to the pandemic so are outdated and reflect old patterns.
- Sarah invites everyone to attend the Old North End visioning workshop on Thursday, October 23rd from 5:30-7:30pm at the Old North End Community Center.

### **7:45 pm Updates from Burlington Department of Public Works (DPW)**

45 min *Chapin Spencer, Director - Dept. of Public Works*

- Chapin starts, mentioning that the job of the DPW is to balance all the city's different assets and plans, including water treatment, roads, etc. Chapin thanks the public for approving the wastewater plant bond, the water reservoir bond, and the general obligation bond at the last Town Meeting Day. Chapin continues mentioning all the paving projects that happened in 2025, including the 1 mile of road paving that happened. Because of the bond that was approved on town meeting day, the city will be more likely to meet the demand of 4-5 miles

- of paving and 2-3 miles of sidewalk paving next year. Chapin details all the sidewalk paving projects that occurred in 2025, including on Howard St, North Avenue, and others.
- Chapin mentions that the Great Streets Main Street project is ahead of schedule on on budget, and the Champlain Parkway is also on time and on budget.
  - Chapin mentions the next major capital project reconnecting bank and cherry streets. They have started some of that work, but they won't be able to work extensively until the Burlington Square project is completed.
  - Chapin mentions that the Wastewater Treatment upgrades have started.
  - Chapin also mentions that there will now be a Fall Clean Sweep similar to the Spring Clean Sweep, as a method to decrease the amount of phosphorus entering Lake Champlain. They will also be running their Fall Leaf Pickup from November 10-14, if you leave out a bag of leaves, the DPW will pick it up.
  - Lucy, Ward 2 Resident, mentions that there are still dangerous potholes on North Street. Also mentions that the new bike lanes that have gone in are wonderful and well marked. Asks if there is a timeline for finish on the Main Street Great Streets project. Chapin mentions that the project should finish by June 2026, if not sooner. And there will be a winter construction shutdown from Thanksgiving-March/April, that will bring back open sidewalks and two-way traffic.
  - Ward 2 Resident mentions that the area between N. Winooski and Elmwood on North Street is a bit rough.
  - Ward 2 resident asks about the Fall Street Sweep project and if it will happen at night, Chapin mentions that it will happen at night.
  - Ward 2 resident asks about the 2-way bike lane on N. Champlain St, wondering why it only goes partially up the street. Chapin says that cost and connectivity are the main reasons, with the lanes meeting up with the Old North End Greenway.
  - Grace Sherwood, mentions that they appreciate the protected bike lanes, wonders if there are improvements that can be made to Battery St. Chapin mentions that Depot St will be repaved hopefully, and that road diet improvements to Battery St. are expensive but have been considered. Battery St will probably be repaved in the next 3 years as well.
  - Ward 2 resident, asks if it would be possible for bike racks to be placed in the transit center. Chapin says he will note that request.
  - Nora, Ward 2 resident, asks for an update on the Green Mountain Transit budget and planning. Chapin mentions that the good news on the finance committee of GMT is that it is likely that no more service reductions will be required through 2027.
  - Charlie, Ward 2 resident, asks a question about the speed bumps on Archibald, he finds them to be particularly large.

**8:30 pm Door prize drawing + Adjourn!**

Our next meeting is Thursday, Nov. 13!

Scan the QR code ([or click here](#)) to: [Email us](#) • Go to [our website](#) • Watch meeting recordings on [CCTV's website](#) • Connect with us on [Instagram](#) • Request a time slot with [CEDO's request form](#) • Get to all links related to this meeting



# Appendix to the Agenda

## Ward 2 NPA Steering Committee

To contact the entire Ward 2 NPA Steering Committee, email [ward2npa@googlegroups.com](mailto:ward2npa@googlegroups.com)

Name	Email	Joined	Term expiration
Lauren Ebersol	lebersol27@gmail.com	2023	2027
Kason Hudson	kasonhudman@gmail.com	2024	2028
Charlie Giannoni	charliecpg@gmail.com	2024	2028
Marc Stannard	Marc.Stannard@outlook.com	2024	2028
Nora Aronds	noraaronds@yahoo.com	2025	2029
Grace Sherwood	Gsherwood703@gmail.com	2025	2029

## NPA Guiding Principles

- Operate through democratic principles and democratic procedures.
- Provide a safe and welcoming forum where residents can actively share their voices about issues that matter to them, and where they can learn from the voices of others.
- Cultivate involvement by a diverse spectrum of community members through active outreach and through eliminating barriers to participation.
- Operate in a manner that models respectful, inclusive, culturally, and economically aware practices.
- Be a fun, creative, and vital organization that provides value and benefit through the multitude of perspectives shared by those who participate.

## Ward 2 NPA Ground Rules

- Meetings should have **clearly defined agenda and roles**.
- **Honor time limits:** A best effort must be made to start on time, follow the agenda, and finish on time.
- **Listen to others:** Make efforts to be an open-minded member of the group.
- **Respect the agenda and the process:** Try to remain focused on the issue at hand.
- **Share your opinion respectfully:** Speak out, but not over, others' comments.
- **Treat people how you would like to be treated:** Be respectful of everyone, including guests.

## Elected officials representing Ward 2

### Mayor

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak	Progressive	mayor@BurlingtonVT.gov
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### City Councilors

Central District (Wards 2 & 3)	Melo Grant	Progressive	megrant@burlingtonvt.gov	802-310-0962
Ward 2	Gene Bergman	Progressive	gbergman@burlingtonvt.gov	802-598-3602

### School Board Members

Central District (Wards 2 & 3)	Jean Waltz	jwaltz@bsdvt.org	802-355-7856
Ward 2	Polly Vanderputten	pvanderputten@bsdvt.org	802-578-8653

### Vermont State House Representatives

Chittenden-15	Troy Headrick	Independent	theadrick@leg.state.vt.us	(802) 828-2228
Chittenden-15	Brian Cina	Progressive/Democrat	bcina@leg.state.vt.us	(802) 828-2228
Chittenden-16	Kate Logan	Progressive/Democrat	klogan@leg.state.vt.us	(802) 828-2228
Chittenden-16	Jill Krowinski	Democrat	jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us	(802) 828-2228
Chittenden-17	Abigail Duke	Democrat	aduke@leg.state.vt.us	(802) 828-2228

### Vermont State Senators

Chittenden-Central	Tanya Vyhovsky	Progressive/Democrat	tvyhovsky@leg.state.vt.us	(802) 828-2228
Chittenden-Central	Martine Gulick	Democrat	mgulick@leg.state.vt.us	(802) 828-2228
Chittenden-Central	Philip Baruth	Democrat/Progressive	pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us	(802) 503-5266



COMMUNITY DINNER & NPA

Date: 10/9/25

First Name	Last Name	Email (if not already on list)	WARD	Community Dinner	NPA	Add to email list?
Jasim	HORNE	GOT IT	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEBBIE	Krugpudi	Got on twice too	3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wendy	Co			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diana	Mason		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ELEANOR	DUNA	eleanor.duna@gmail.com	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bill	Rubison		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Andy	Martin	andy.lucie.m@gmail.com	3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gillian	Hansen		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mashar	Quarshi		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roger	Leban		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jessica	Morrison		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ben	Rathon		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deb	Rathon		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sarah	Ullie	ioschouke@gmail.com		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ari	Glasser			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Henry	Pedros			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sylvia	Z'citha	Sylvia.Z'citha@gmail.com		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trisha	Danbin			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Helen	Martin		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Camelia	Faves		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Isabel	Meera		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRED	SOVY		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cherise	Page			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regisus	Collange			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lyra	Collange			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kenny	Page			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kason	Hudman	kasonhudman@gmail.com	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IZZY	Brady		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Magpie	Adams		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gracie	Servino		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>