



**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](http://www.burlingtonvt.gov)

**Councilor Mark Barlow, Chair**, *North District*  
**Councilor Gene Bergman**, *Ward 2*  
**Councilor Becca McKnight**, *Ward 6*  
**Councilor Marek Broderick**, *Ward 8*

**Inquiries:**  
**Rob Goulding**  
802.881-2278  
[rgoulding@burlingtonvt.gov](mailto:rgoulding@burlingtonvt.gov)

**Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council**  
**Wednesday, October 29, 2025 – 5:30PM**  
**--DRAFT MINUTES--**

See video for full meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwLRdCEsdJQ>

**Councilors absent: None**

**Councilors Present: Chair Barlow, Councilor Broderick, Councilor Bergman & Councilor McKnight via zoom**

**Chair Barlow** calls meeting to order at 5:32PM

**1. Agenda**

**Councilor Bergman** moves to approve the agenda as posted.

**Councilor Broderick** seconds.

**All in favor, Unanimous approval**

**2. Minutes of 9/30/25**

**Councilor Bergman** stated there are errors and wants minutes fixed notating that AI has a few errors.

**Councilor Broderick** seconds.

**All in favor, Unanimous approval**

**3. Public Forum**

**Kelton Bogesky** of Casella spoke about their recycling process.

**Jeff Comstock** – wants to introduce the new Plattsburg Ave Neighborhood Traffic Safety Work Group and share meeting notes.

**Jason Van Driesche** – Clarification about Pearl St paving issues & bike lanes.

**Jack Evans** – Thank DPW & Volunteers for the North Avenue Protected Bike Lane Project. Supports complete streets updates.

**Jack Tiano** - feels recycling initial cost savings not it would be as big as thought. Doesn't feel we are giving DPW the chance to succeed.

**Sharon Bushor (via zoom)**– spoke about concerns about 150' Setback of Parking & Recycling 7-year proposal.

**Councilor Evan Litwin (via zoom)** – Thanks and Echos Sharon Bushor for her comments about 150' setbacks & Recycling. Plattsburg Avenue Traffic Safety & frustration around

speeding. Consider flower pots to reclaim the road & Sunset Drive Light change to red as cars approach.

**Pike Porter (via zoom)** - Spoke about bike lanes, paperwork that was not attached to agenda, Recycling – why can't who ever use the current infrastructure.

**Jason Stuffle** – Plattsburg Ave get rid of slip lane & Pearl Street parking removal – people change their habits.

#### **4. Deliberative Agenda**

##### **4.1 Plattsburg Ave & RT 127 Traffic Safety**

**Phillip Peterson, Senior Transportation Planner & Laura Wheelock, City Engineer & Division Director of Technical Services** presented information.

**Councilors** asked if data collection was in one direction or both? Governor has offered resources from VT State Police – Are the Councilors open to make formal request to Chief Burke? How long would it take to get a CCRPC study? Interchange at North End at Plattsburg Ave part of accident cluster? Compare DPW & Neighbors ideas? Other steps that can be taken? How extreme is that speed?

**Public Comments** – Jeff Comstock asked that we take a look at their meeting notes. **Dave Hartnett** appreciates data but there is a reality that there is a problem at Plattsburg Ave and the beltline. **Nolan** Ward 3 resident stated a no cost project to eliminate the slip lane.

**AI generated minutes w/ slight staff revisions:** The committee discussed traffic safety concerns on Plattsburgh Avenue and the Beltline, with Councilor McKnight inquiring about speed data collection methods and Philip explaining that data was collected in both directions using federal highway equipment and speed feedback signs. The group explored potential solutions, including requesting temporary traffic enforcement support from the Vermont State Police, and discussed a planned CCRPC safety study for the Beltline expected to begin in June 2027. The committee agreed to have staff review neighborhood suggestions for short-term traffic improvements and report back at the next meeting, while also considering immediate actions like requesting a memo from Chief Burke regarding enforcement support.

#### **Information only**

##### **4.2 150' No Parking Setback on Streets Without Sidewalks**

**Phillip Peterson, Senior Transportation Planner** presented information.

**Councilors** asked if there was a list of streets right now? How many car parking spots is 150 feet? Do we have setbacks for commercial driveways?

**AI generated minutes w/ slight staff revisions:** Regarding parking setbacks, Phillip presented a proposal for up to 150-foot no-parking zones on streets without sidewalks, which would provide better stopping distance for drivers at 25 mph. The committee agreed to front-load public engagement efforts before implementation, with a tentative list of streets to be shared after further planning.

#### **Information only**

### **4.3 Rick Sharp Presentation**

**Rick Sharp** presented information about E - bikes.

**Councilors** asked where the rack is on Church St? What have communications been like with CATMA? Community input? CATMA relationship?

**AI generated minutes w/ slight staff revisions:** Rick presented an update on the city's e-bike rental program, highlighting its success and plans for expansion in 2025. He emphasized the program's utilitarian use for transportation and its cost-effectiveness compared to other modes of transport. Rick also expressed concerns about potential competition from out-of-state companies and requested support for an exclusive bike share agreement with the city. The committee discussed the program's current operations, including geofenced racks and battery management, and considered Rick's request for support against potential competitors.

### **Information only**

### **4.4 Recycling Next Steps**

**Chapin Spencer, Director of DPW & Lee Perry, Division Director of Maintenance** presented information.

**Councilors** asked for info related to specifics around financial improvements and reduction of injuries. What are the capital needs of the City's recycling program? If we went to a private hauler, would we have to replace the toters?

**AI generated minutes w/ slight staff revisions:** The council discussed the future of Burlington's recycling and solid waste collection system, with Councilor Broderick expressing opposition to privatization for 7 years and advocating for a fully consolidated municipal collection system. The council agreed to give more time for long-term planning while considering the current financial constraints and operational challenges. They also discussed the need to address immediate issues with the recycling program, including staffing shortages and equipment maintenance.

### **Information only**

### **5. Director's Report**

**Chapin Spencer, DPW Director** presented information regarding the first ever fall clean sweep.

**AI generated minutes w/ slight staff revisions:** They discussed the fall clean sweep program, which aims to reduce phosphorus in Lake Champlain by cleaning public right-of-ways and reminding residents not to rake leaves into the street. Councilor McKnight encouraged residents to leave leaves in their yards as a natural fertilizer and for pollinators. The group agreed to use Front Porch Forum announcements and other media to communicate the program details to the public.

## **6. Councilor Items**

**Councilor Bergman** – What are we going to be doing with the Colchester Ave & North Ave bike lane issues and if there can be engagement with the people who raised the issues?

## **7. Next Meeting**

November 25, 2025 at 645 Pine St at 4:00 pm

## **8. Adjournment**

**Chair Barlow** adjourns meeting at 8:25 pm.