

Meeting Agenda

Ward 2 Neighborhood Planning Assembly (NPA)

Dec 11th, 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

Menu: Winter Holidays Feast with Potato Kugel & Applesauce, Butternut Squash Soup, Quinoa Kale & Radicchio Salad with Cranberries and Citrus Vinaigrette, and Apple Cider Donut Cake

Facilitator: Grace Sherwood (she/her)

Notetaker: Kason Hudman

6:30 pm Introduction

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

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

10 min Please state your full name, pronouns, street, and ward, and follow the NPA ground rules.

6:45 pm Community Vote for Apartheid-Free Resolution

5 min *Duncan Kreps, Jill Clark-Gollub, Paul Fleckenstein - VT Coalition for Palestinian Liberation*
Vote to approve the open letter resolution to City Council to allow voter decision on Apartheid-Free pledge.

6:50 pm Overdose Prevention Center

25 min *Theresa Vezina- Special Assistant on OPC Implementation*
Hear about the Mayor's office's work on the city's first OPC and the Community Survey, with opportunity for questions.

7:15 pm Budget

15 min Vote on FY2026 Ward 2 NPA budget.

7:30 pm Listening Session with State Legislators

60 min Hear from your state legislators about their priorities for the upcoming Legislative Session. Share your priorities and questions!

8:30 pm Door prize drawing + Adjourn!

Our next meeting is Thursday, Jan. 8!

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 the [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

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

Ward 2 Neighborhood Planning Assembly (NPA)

Resolution Urging City Council to Place Apartheid-Free Community Pledge
Advisory Question on the 2026 Town Meeting Day Ballot

WHEREAS for two consecutive years, petitions were submitted to place the following non-binding advisory question regarding the Apartheid-Free Community Pledge on the 2024 and 2025 Town Meeting Day ballot: “Shall the voters of the City of Burlington advise the Mayor and City Council to adopt the following pledge? WE AFFIRM our commitment to freedom, justice, and equality for the Palestinian people and all people; and WE OPPOSE all forms of racism, bigotry, discrimination, and oppression; and WE DECLARE ourselves an apartheid-free community, and to that end, WE PLEDGE to join others in working to end all support to Israel’s apartheid regime, settler colonialism, and military occupation.”; and

WHEREAS, in both years, the City verified that the petitions contained a sufficient number of signatures to meet the requirements of 17 VSA § 2642 and Burlington City Charter § 6 (5% of the registered voters of the City); and

WHEREAS, in both years, the City Council voted to block the aforementioned ballot question from appearing on the Town Meeting Day ballot; and

WHEREAS, the City has discretion to include advisory questions on the ballot, and exercising such discretion “... furthers the Council’s ability to balance the efficient transaction of city business with the provisions of a local forum for discussing state and national issues”¹; and

WHEREAS, there is abundant precedent across Vermont for placing non-binding advisory questions about national or global issues on the Town Meeting Day ballot, including a call for a nuclear arms freeze passed in 155 Vermont municipalities in 1982, a vote opposing the Patriot Act passed in Waitsfield in 2003, a call to withdraw US troops from Iraq in 2005, and a measure opposing the basing of F-35 fighter jets in Burlington passed in 2018; and

WHEREAS, similar petitions to place the Apartheid-Free Community Pledge on the 2025 Town Meeting Day ballot were respected by municipal officials in Winooski, Brattleboro, Newfane, Thetford, Plainfield, Montpelier, Vergennes, Bristol, and Weybridge; and

WHEREAS, in April 2025, the City Council unanimously approved a resolution for protecting free speech on Palestine;

WHEREAS, the pre-condition of responsible and accountable local governance is free speech and democracy;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ward 2 Neighborhood Planning Assembly urges the City Council to place the aforementioned non-binding advisory question regarding the Apartheid-Free Community Pledge on the 2026 Town Meeting Day Ballot.

¹ Clift v. City of South Burlington 181 Vt. 571 (2007).